SUICIDE: COST TO THE NATION

- Suicide takes the lives of more than 30,000 Americans every year.

- Every 18 minutes another life is lost to suicide.

- Every day 80 Americans take their own lives and over 1,900 Americans visit Emergency Departments for self-inflicted injury (National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, total 706,000).

- Suicide is now the 11th leading cause of death in Americans.

- For every two victims of homicide in the U.S. there are three persons who take their own lives.

- There are now twice as many deaths due to suicide as to HIV/AIDS.

- Between 1952 and 1995, the incidence of suicide among adolescents and young adults nearly tripled.

- In the month prior to their suicide, 75% of elderly persons had visited a physician.

- Over half of all suicides occur in adult men, aged 25-65.

- Many who attempt suicide never seek professional care.

- Males are four times more likely to die from suicide than are females.

- More teenagers and young adults die from suicide than from cancer, heart disease, AIDS, birth defects, stroke, pneumonia and influenza, and chronic lung disease, combined.