

# NYC COUNCIL BRIEFING

May Mental Health Awareness Month 2025

## Lead Sponsors

Committee on Mental Health, Disabilities & Addiction  
Chair Linda Lee  
Council Member Erik Bottcher

### BRIEFING

With the proposed federal cuts to suicide prevention and mental health services, now more than ever, it's crucial to equip Council Members and staff with the knowledge and tools YOU need to help New Yorkers in crisis. As one of seven members of the National Council for Suicide Prevention, we will share the latest and best prevention practices with you.

### WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Council Members, Chiefs of Staff, Legislative & Budget Directors, Communications Directors, Constituent & Community Liaisons, etc. Speaker staff working with the Committees on Aging, Criminal Justice, Education, Children & Youth, Finance, General Welfare, Health, Higher Education, Immigration, Mental Health, Disabilities & Addiction, Veterans, Women & Gender Equity, and more.



Virtual Event hosted on Zoom  
Register at  
[bit.ly/SAMS-Council-Briefing2025](https://bit.ly/SAMS-Council-Briefing2025)  
to receive the link!



Tuesday, May 20, 2025  
3-4 PM

### OVERVIEW

- ◆ In NYC 2x as many people die by suicide each year than from car accidents.
- ◆ Someone dies by suicide every 16 hours in NYC (DOHMH, 2023).

### BRIEFING TOPICS INCLUDE

- Understanding suicide as a public health issue.
- Communicating with the press and the public about suicide.
- How to respond to an individual who is in distress or talking about suicide.
- Determining an individual's *degree of risk*, level of danger involved and how to help.
- Issues to consider when developing mental health policies.

REGISTER TODAY!

[bit.ly/SAMS-Council-Briefing2025](https://bit.ly/SAMS-Council-Briefing2025)

Contact Fiodhna O'Grady at [Fogrady@samaritansnyc.org](mailto:Fogrady@samaritansnyc.org) or call (917) 536-3849

[samaritansnyc.org](https://samaritansnyc.org)