As a clinical psychologist, mental health advocate, faculty member, consumer of mental health services, and survivor of her brother’s suicide, Dr. Sally Spencer-Thomas sees issues of suicide prevention and mental health promotion from many perspectives.

The Carson J Spencer Foundation (www.CarsonJSpencer.org) is named after her brother, a Denver business leader who died by suicide after a difficult battle with bipolar disorder.

Known nationally and internationally as innovators in social change, the Carson J Spencer Foundation helped start up multiple large-scale, gap filling efforts in mental health including Man Therapy (www.ManTherapy.org) and Working Minds (www.WorkingMinds.org). She is the President of the Suicide Prevention Coalition of Colorado and also holds leadership positions (Board of Directors or Task Force/Committee Chair) for the International Association of Suicide Prevention, the American Association of Suicidology, the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention.

In the fall of 2014 she was an invited attendee at the White House’s and the World Health Organization’s (Geneva) mental health briefings. She has won multiple awards for her advocacy including the 2015 Farberow Award from the International Association of Suicide Prevention, the 2014 Survivor of the Year from the American Association of Suicidology, the 2014 Invisible Disabilities Association Impact Honors Award, and the 2012 Alumni Master Scholar from the University of Denver. She lives in Conifer, Colorado with her partner and three sons.

“Sally is a wonderful person who truly wants to make a difference in the world and has done that by working diligently to keep the suicide prevention movement going forward. She is an awesome speaker who knows how to connect with an audience.”

– Michelle Linn-Gust,
President, American Association of Suicidology

“Sally’s message is compelling as she effectively blends personal passion with professional expertise,”

– Bob VandePol,
Crisis Care Network

“[Sally is a] great instructor with deep knowledge of a narrow, specialized field of great importance to human life. She is able to inspire audiences to action and uses her leadership skills to great effect,”

– Dr. Paul Quinnett,
CEO & Founder, QPR Institute

Speaking Topics

Keynote Addresses (usually 45 minutes to 1 hour)

- Be a Shining Light of Hope: Everyone Plays a Role in Suicide Prevention
- Up on the High Wire: Promoting Resiliency During Tough Times
- After a Suicide: Honoring Loss and Healing Together
- The Light Goes On: After Death Communications among People Bereaved by Suicide
- Man Therapy®: An Innovative Approach to Mental Health for Working Aged Men (one hour to full day workshop)
- Making Suicide Prevention a Health and Safety Priority at Work
Workshops

- Hope Illuminated: A Community Approach to Suicide Prevention (one hour to full day)
- Suicide and Spirituality (one hour to half-day)
- Working Minds: Suicide Prevention and Postvention in the Workplace
  - Regular training (2 or 4 hours, cost per trainee)
  - Train-the-trainer full-day ($595 per participant, minimum of 10 trainees)
- Suicide Postvention: How to Prepare for the Worst (1 hour)
- QPR Suicide Prevention Gatekeeper Training – Train-the-trainer Certification Course (8 hours – $495 per person, minimum of 10 trainees)
- Suicide Prevention Advocacy: Creating a Tipping Point of Change (1 hour)
- Healing Ceremonies (1 hour)

Selected List Of Previous Engagements

International

European Symposium on Suicide and Suicidal Behavior – Tallinn, Estonia and Rome, Italy

International Association for Suicide Prevention World Congress – Montreal, Canada | Oslo, Norway | Beijing, China | Montevideo, Uruguay | Killarney, Ireland

Invited Plenary Addresses, 4th Contact International Suicide Prevention Conference: What Works? Titanic Conference Center, Belfast, Northern Ireland

Invited keynote address at Ireland’s National Suicide Prevention Conference in Dublin, Ireland

Keynote speaker at Inaugural Construction Industry Mental Health Conference. Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Keynote speaker at Sunshine Coast workplace forum, “On the Job: Suicide Prevention in the Workplace” Caloundra, Queensland, Australia

Keynote speaker at the Western Australia workplace forum, “Suicide Prevention in the Workplace: Whose Responsibility is it?” Perth, WA

National

Keynote speaker at the American Association of Suicidology conference in Austin, TX.

Keynote speaker at the Navy’s Suicide Prevention Conference

Workplace suicide prevention training for the U.S. Department of Energy

Plenary panel presentation at the 30th Annual National Conference on Law and Higher Education in Orlando, FL.

Keynote speaker at the Active Minds Annual Conference in Washington, D.C.

International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrator’s Annual Conference

Suicide and Law Enforcement Conference, FBI Academy, Quantico, Virginia

Fire-Rescue International Conference

State

Kentucky Adanta Behavioral Health Conference

Featured presentation, Texas Suicide Prevention Symposium San Marcos, TX.

Keynote speaker at NAMI Utah State Conference

Keynote speaker at Arizona’s state suicide prevention conference

Keynote speaker at the 11th Annual Massachusetts Suicide Prevention Conference

Keynote speaker at the Colorado Behavioral Health Conference

Keynote speaker at the Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network’s 10th Anniversary Symposium

Keynote at Missouri’s Partners in Prevention Conference

For information and booking:

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