

Jerry Reed, Ph.D., M.S.W.
Vice President and Director
Education Development Center
Center for the Study and Prevention of Injury, Violence and Suicide
Suicide Prevention Resource Center

Jerry Reed began serving as the Director of the national Suicide Prevention Resource Center in the United States in July 2008. In this role he oversees the federally funded Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC). Through this work he provides state and local officials, grantees, policymakers, interested stakeholders and the general public with assistance in developing, implementing and evaluating programs and strategies to prevent suicide. Additionally, Dr. Reed serves as the Director of the Center for the Study and Prevention of Injury, Violence and Suicide overseeing a staff of 40 and directs the work on multiple projects.

Prior to this appointment, Dr. Reed served for five years as Executive Director of the Suicide Prevention Action Network USA (SPAN USA) a national non-profit created to raise awareness, build political will, and call for action with regard to advancing, implementing and evaluating a national strategy to address suicide. He spent 15 years as a career civil servant working in both Europe and the United States as a civilian with the Department of the Army developing, implementing and managing a variety of quality of life programs including substance abuse prevention and treatment, family advocacy, child and youth development programs, social services and the range of morale, welfare and recreation programs. Selected as a Congressional Fellow in 1996, Dr. Reed worked in the Office of U.S. Senator Harry Reid (NV) serving as senior advisor on health care, mental health, suicide prevention and aging issues.

Dr. Reed speaks nationally and internationally on the topic of suicide prevention. His interests include geriatrics, mental health, suicide prevention, global violence prevention and public policy. He serves on the Board of the International Association for Suicide Prevention as Chair of the Council of Organizational Representatives and is a member of the Violence Prevention Alliance Steering Committee operated with the World Health Organization in partnership with international partners.

Dr. Reed received a Ph.D. in Health Related Sciences with an emphasis in Gerontology from the Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond in 2007. His research topic addressed variation among states in crude rates of older adult male suicide. He also received a Masters of Social Work degree with an emphasis in Aging Administration from the University of Maryland at Baltimore in 1982.