CONSTRUCTION WORKING MINDS SUMMIT

A holistic approach to Job-site Safety

Industry-specific mental health promotion & suicide prevention

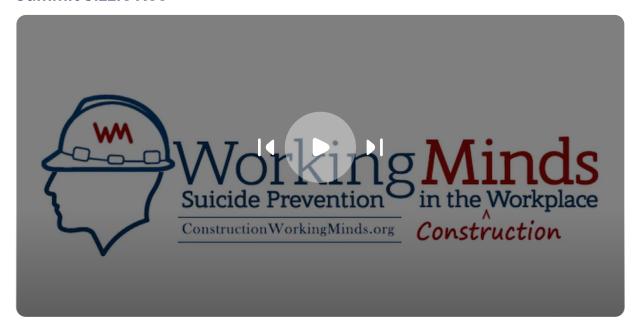


www.constructionworkingminds.org/summit

OVERVIEW

On May 17 and 18, 2022, over 200 international participants gathered in Denver, Colorado, for the inaugural Construction Working Minds Summit. This summit was hosted by the Construction Industry Alliance for Suicide Prevention and United Suicide Survivors International.

Summit Sizzle Ree



The original vision was simple, set by Co-Chairs Dr. Sally Spencer-Thomas and Cal Beyer: Bring together the early visionaries for the mental health movement in construction, pull together our lessons learned thus far, and cast a bold vision for the future. The event turned into something much bigger and more inspiring than they ever imagined.

Keynotes by construction mental health advocates Cal Beyer and Australian Jorgen Gullestrup set the stage for how suicide prevention and well-being promotion efforts have evolved over the past two decades. Closing keynotes by the inspirational Brent Darnell reminded us of the importance of compassion and well-being as part of a holistic approach to job site safety.

Interaction, engagement, and networking among attendees was fostered by three distinct aspects of the program:

Breakouts featured emerging best practices like peer support, communication strategies, training methods, critical incident response and postvention, and culturally responsive mental health services.

Panels highlighted case studies and stories from executives, peer allies, mental health providers, and organizations like the Construction Industry Alliance for Suicide Prevention.

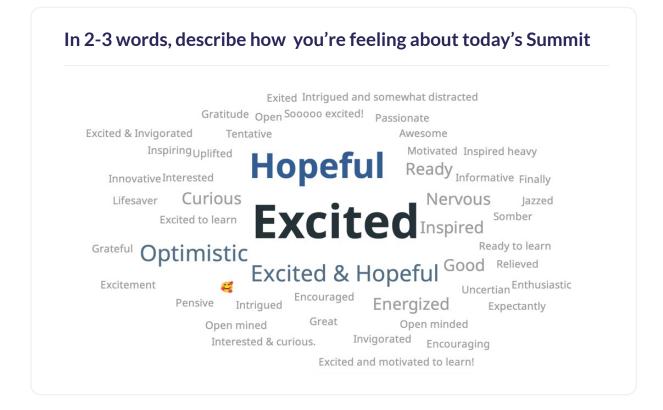
Roundtables allowed people to share their insights into root causes, barriers, successes, and future opportunities.

Outcomes from these conversations will be compiled into a revised "Construction Industry Blueprint for Worker Well-Being" white paper to be published later in 2022.

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During the opening keynote <u>"Catalyzing and Unleashing the Movement"</u> by Cal Beyer, multiple interactive polling questions captured the background and mood of the audience.

Below is a word cloud highlighting the collective optimism, hope, and excitement of the attendees.



About the Attendees

- > Number of attendees: 182
- > Number of countries represented: 4 (Australia, Canada, UAE, and US)
- Number of participants who earned the Construction Working Minds (now VitalCog) Train-the-Trainer Certificate: 33
- > Number of unique organizations represented: 115
- > Number of sponsors: 35
- > For 62% of attendees, this suicide prevention summit was their first
- > 52% of attendees flew in from out of state

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CONSTRUCTION WORKING MINDS SUMMIT

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\$1000



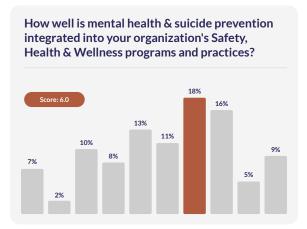




LESSONS LEARNED FROM CONSTRUCTION WORKING MINDS SUMMIT

Where is your organization currently on its mental health and well-being journey?

Many of the organizations that attended were the early adopters of the mental health movement. As such, it was not unexpected that they self-reported having made significant headway in "baking it into" their health and safety programs and HR practices and benefits.





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What was also not surprising is that most of the programs offered are in the less stigmatized areas of stress reduction. Fewer were in more taboo specialties like substance use disorders, addiction, overdose, and suicide.



AWARDS AND MEDIA COVERAGE

Award Winners



Mental Health Visionary: Company Award Hensel Phelps

Jerry Shupe, Corporate Safety Director, Hensel Phelps Photo credit: Colorado Public Works Journal

Video of Mike Choutka, CEO of Hensel Phelps https://youtu.be/PnrcMdHgWuk



Mental Health Visionary: Union Award Sheet Metal Workers' International Association (SMART) & Sheet Metal Occupational Health Institute Trust (SMOHIT)

Chris Carlough, SMART Photo Credit: Colorado Public Works Journal

Video of Chris Carlough and Randy Krocka of SMART/SMOHIT https://youtu.be/z-AO4-_BI7I



Mental Health Visionary: Trade Association [National] Award — Construction Financial Management Association (CFMA)

CFMA Leader David James Photo Credit: Colorado Public Works Journal

Video of Stuart Binstock, President & CEO of CFMA: https://youtu.be/b GHg-saQlc



Mental Health Visionary: Regional Organization Award Construction Suicide Prevention Partners (CSPP)

CSPP Leaders Max Margolis and Natalie Cordova Photo Credit: Colorado Public Works Journal

Video of Max Margolis and Bill Barr of CSPP https://youtu.be/yWyd77-LMVo



Research Award Dr. Jodi Frey, University of Maryland's School of Social Work

Video of Dr. Jodi Frey https://youtu.be/CnHScweGQqU



Shining A Light Media Award Scott Blair - Engineering News-Record (ENR)

Scott Blair of ENR Photo Credit: Colorado Public Works Journal

Video of Scott Blair of ENR https://youtu.be/WVX5u_D3kUc



Mental Health Champion Recognition Eli Baccus, SMART Union

Eli Baccus

Video: Eli Baccus of SMART https://youtu.be/-z6Yx9I1N_l

Judges and Judging Criteria

- > Instituted (Date initiated and duration of commitment) 20%
- > Innovation (Ingenuity/inventiveness) 10%
- > Initiatives (Breadth and depth of offerings) 30%
- > Impact (Total reach and effectiveness of adoption) 40%

■ Thank You Judges!



Tricia Kagerer,Executive Vice President in Risk Management at Jordan Foster Construction, Dallas, TX



Judy Cushing,CEO Emeritus of Lines for Life,
Portland, OR



Dr. John Gaal,Director of Worker Wellness
Program at Missouri's AFL-CIO,
St. Louis, MO



Barb Sheedy,
President and Owner of MKE Iron
Erectors, Inc., Waukesha, WI



Tim Irving,Deputy Director and Directorate of Construction with the US
Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Washington, DC

Media Coverage

9 News "First of its kind conference works to change sobering suicide statistics in construction industry"

NEX.

First of its kind conference works to change sobering suicide statistics in construction industry

The CDC consistently ranks construction as one of the top two industries with the most suicide deaths.



https://www.9news.com/article/news/local/next/conference-suicide-statistics-construction-industry/73-79176787-9b3a-4686-a872-6149f41a98c9

The Colorado Sun "THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY HAS A HIGH SUICIDE RATE. EXPERTS GATHERED IN DENVER TO FIND A SOLUTION"

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HEALTH

The construction industry has a high suicide rate. Experts gathered in Denver to find a solution.

Depression, anxiety, substance use disorders and other mental health issues are, too, a major concern in the industry.





Construction workers at a job site on June 1, 2022, in Denver. (Hugh Carey, The Colorado Sun)

https://coloradosun.com/2022/06/03/construction-mental-health/

Engineering News-Record (ENR) Firms Formulate Strategies to Reduce Industry Suicide Rates

Firms Formulate Strategies to Reduce Industry Suicide Rates



Industry leaders looked for next steps in bringing suicide awareness to jobsites.

Photo by Scott Blair for ENR

https://www.enr.com/articles/54183-firms-formulate-strategies-to-reduce-industry-suicide-rates

Denver Channel 7: Construction industry has the highest suicide rate

Construction industry has the highest suicide rate





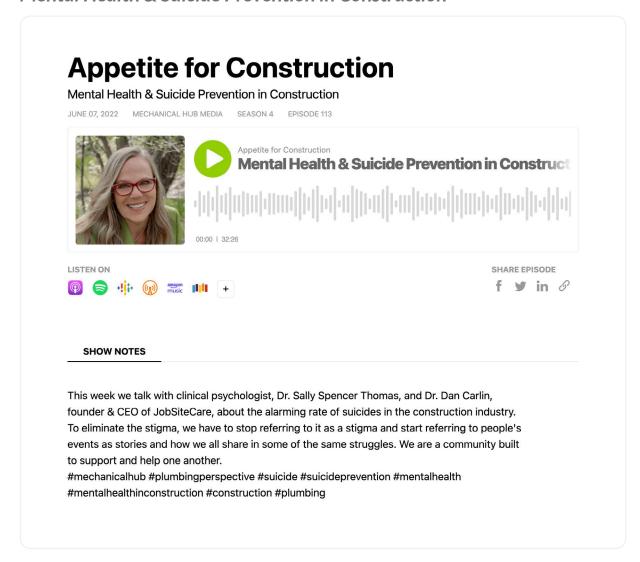
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Watch live AM news with Nicole Brady on Denver7 | Stream headlines here anytime



https://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/national/construction-industry-has-the-highest-suicide-rate

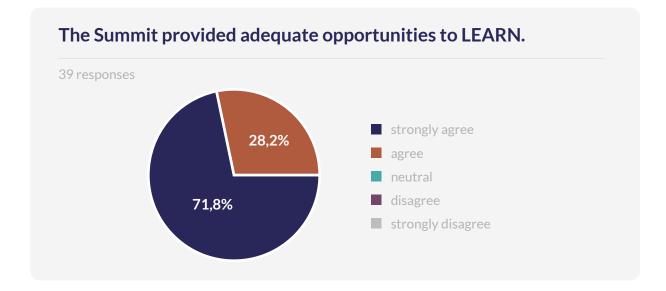
Mental Health & Suicide Prevention in Construction



https://www.buzzsprout.com/1203956/10751978

SUMMIT IMPACT AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE SUMMITS

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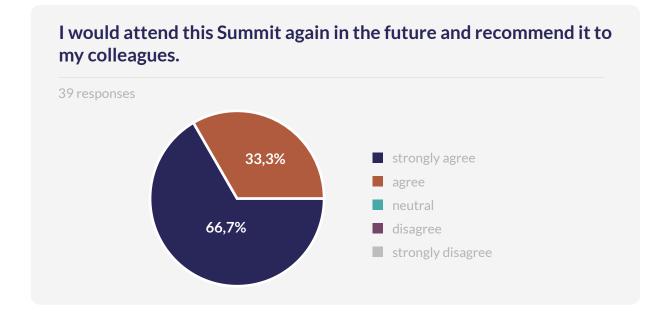


What were your main takeaways from the summit?

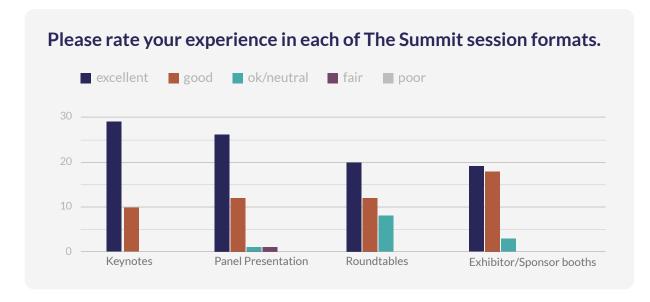
- "This summit created an opportunity to look at the big picture and real challenges with mental health. Mental health difficulties are tangible, and we don't have much time act in the industry as we are already late in the race."
- "Companies are committing to addressing this problem, and it was incredible to see the momentum for the movement."
- "I have never been part of a summit where everyone was so passionate, open, and willing to help others as it relates to mental health. I can't wait to attend the next one!"
- Sharing personal stories has the greatest impact."

Additional Feedback

- "Great central location with easy access and parking; inside of facility was clean, easy to use, easy to hear, and had great food."
- "Drove from Arizona to attend the Wednesday summit; was SO worth the drive (and the gas!!) to attend and be a part of this journey. Thanks to all who pulled this together!!"
- \checkmark "The venue was more than acceptable, easy to get to, and well-maintained."



- ✓ "The small breakouts were awesome, although not without discomfort! (Which is good.) Neat to see folks lean in and share experiences and feedback."
- "Great experience. I hope to keep coming to these for years to come."
- "I would highly recommend it to others. Hopefully, my schedule will allow for participation in '23."



- "Cal Beyer is an amazing asset to mental health! Thank you for the summit and speakers, it was very uplifting."
- "It was very encouraging to meet so many people from all sectors of construction with the same mission."
- ✓ "Can't wait to come back! This is something I would love to help at in any small way I can, and I will for sure be spreading the word about."

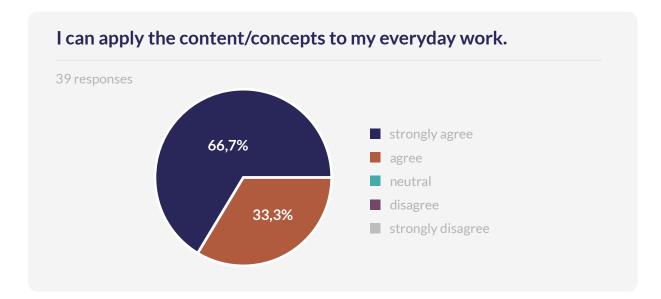
✓ "There were people that approached me afterwards asking how I found out about the Summit because they would have loved to come."

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- "It is the only event that can bring all trades together, union and nonunion."
- ✓ "It was a lot for one day. I learned a TON but almost wish it were a 2-day event."

How would you describe this event to a colleague who would consider attending next year?

- "Impactful, eye-opening, and a unique experience. You don't want to miss this opportunity."
- "Networking opportunities and learning from competitors was great."
- "This event is a "boots on the ground" deep dive into suicide prevention in our industry."
- "It will change your life and your view on suicide prevention."
- "A great opportunity to learn from strong, experienced, and excellent advocates of mental health and suicide prevention in the construction industry."
- "This event will be informative and inspiring and help you with a better grasp of how to engage in this work for yourself and your company/organization."
- ✓ "Excellent opportunity to learn about mental health and strategies that work in our industry."



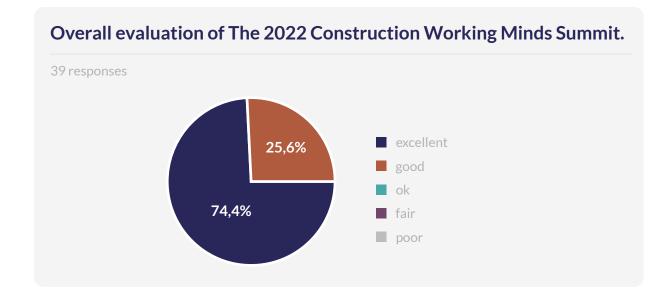
What is one top thing we could do to make it even better next year?

- "Highlight more companies that have excelled at this."
- "Provide a packet or info sheet on some of the stats as well as all the resources you listed."

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✓ "I think there needs to be more people that work in the field on construction sites there. The forepersons, superintendents, and employees."

- "Expand to a bigger venue and bring more awareness to the event sooner. Do a panel with contractors and include HR department folks so they share what is working for them vs. what isn't working."
- ✓ "2-day event with more time to connect and share stories."



CONSTRUCTION WORKING MINDS SUMMIT

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CONCLUSION

From April 2016 through the end of 2019, there were approximately 25 events across the US that were described as local or regional summits for mental health and suicide prevention in the construction industry. The Denver Summit was intended to be the first true inaugural national event to unify the various stakeholders engaged in what has become a social movement in the US construction industry.

The Denver Summit achieved several important objectives, as it:

- **1.** Shared a deeper understanding of the history of the movement.
- **2.** Highlighted major strategic initiatives and interventions that various stakeholders have undertaken.
- 3. Promoted, recognized, and celebrated early adopters in the movement.
- **4.** Galvanized leadership support from all major industry stakeholders to continue advancing the cause of mental health and suicide prevention in the construction industry.
- **5.** Identified opportunities and vital next steps to further expand the industry's ongoing efforts in these key areas.

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Save-the-Dates for the 2nd **Construction Working Minds** Summit in 2023

The Second Annual National Summit will take place in the greater metro area of Kansas City, Missouri, from March 27–29th. Preliminary planning for venue selection is underway. More information will be sent in the near future.



Photos from the event













