



## **CONTACT Pittsburgh, Inc.**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **CONTACT Pittsburgh To Offer Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training To Local Community**

*Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) will now be offered by local nonprofit organization CONTACT Pittsburgh. ASIST is an internationally recognized best practice model designed for caregivers who want to feel more comfortable, confident and competent in helping to prevent the immediate risk of suicide to persons at risk. Worldwide over 750,000 caregivers have participated in this two-day, highly interactive, practical, practice-oriented workshop.*

Pittsburgh, PA, November 6, 2008 – Allegheny County is now host to trainers of Applied Suicide Intervention Skills, an evaluation based best practice in suicide intervention. James Doyle and Mary Witzig of CONTACT Pittsburgh will offer this training at least four times a year to volunteers of the 24-hour hotline and to the Pittsburgh region.

This two-day 16-hour training is designed to prepare caregivers to deal with and prevent the immediate risk of suicide to persons at risk. Participants will learn how to recognize invitations for help, reach out and offer support, review the risk of suicide, apply a suicide intervention model and link people with community resources.

“I would recommend this training to everyone no matter what their contact with suicidal individuals may be,” said Jonathan Kralic of the re:solve Crisis Network and an attendee at a previous training. “One of the most interesting and enjoyable trainings I have ever attended.”

Upcoming trainings will be held on November 20 and 21 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Mount Lebanon Public Safety Building and January 10 and 11 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Ross Township Police Department.

This training is open to all persons over the age of 18. The cost of this training is \$120, continuing education credits (CEU’s) available at additional cost.

CONTACT Pittsburgh offers immediate emotional support and crisis intervention services through a volunteer hotline, outreach and educational programs.

For registration and more information, please contact James at 412.820.0100 or [jdoyle@contactpgh.org](mailto:jdoyle@contactpgh.org).

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For more detailed information on Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training or to schedule an interview, please contact James Doyle at 412.820.0100 or e-mail [jdoyle@contactpgh.org](mailto:jdoyle@contactpgh.org).