

TUESDAY April 25 & WEDNESDAY APRIL 26, 9am to 5pm



<https://www.livingworks.net/programs/asist/>

Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) is a two-day interactive workshop in suicide first aid. ASIST teaches participants to recognize when someone may have thoughts of suicide and work with them to create a plan that will support their immediate safety. Although ASIST is widely used by healthcare providers, participants don't need any formal training to attend the workshop—anyone 16 or older can learn and use the ASIST model.

Since its development in 1983, ASIST has received regular updates to reflect improvements in knowledge and practice, and over 1,000,000 people have taken the workshop. Studies show that the ASIST method helps reduce suicidal feelings in those at risk and is a cost-effective way to help address the problem of suicide.

Learning goals and objectives

Over the course of their two-day workshop, ASIST participants learn to:

- Understand the ways that personal and societal attitudes affect views on suicide and interventions
- Provide guidance and suicide first aid to a person at risk in ways that meet their individual safety needs
- Identify the key elements of an effective suicide safety plan and the actions required to implement it
- Appreciate the value of improving and integrating suicide prevention resources in the community at large
- Recognize other important aspects of suicide prevention including life-promotion and self-care

Workshop features:

- Presentations and guidance from two LivingWorks registered trainers
- A scientifically proven intervention model
- Powerful audiovisual learning aids
- Group discussions
- Skills practice and development
- A balance of challenge and safety

TO REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT VISIT: <http://www.cyak.org/asist.html>

SPEAKERS for THURSDAY, APRIL 27

Beth Seversen, ECC, Director of Evangelism: <http://www.covchurch.org/blees/>



“I’m passionate about continuing Jesus’s mission of bringing people to new life in Christ, of transforming individuals and communities from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of light, of pushing back powers that bind and destroy, of restoring and healing all that is broken in the world, and of reconciling people to God and one another through Jesus’s death and resurrection.”

Seversen previously served as associate pastor at Elmbrook Church in Brookfield, Wisconsin, and at Hillcrest Evangelical Covenant Church in Prairie Village, Kansas. She and her husband, Mark, planted Meadowbrook Church in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin. She also served on the national evangelism team for InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. Most recently Beth was associate director of the Masters in Evangelism and Leadership and the Masters in Missional Church Movements program and adjunct faculty at Wheaton College and Graduate School. She earned a master of divinity from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Deerfield, Illinois, and is pursuing a doctorate in intercultural studies with a minor in education. She is researching ECC churches who are effective in reaching and retaining unchurched and de-churched millennials. She has written journal articles, Bible study guides, and devotionals including contributing to *The Women’s Devotional Bible* (Zondervan).

Yvonne DeVaughn, Advocates for Victims of Abuse (AVA): <http://www.yvonnede Vaughn.com/>



Yvonne DeVaughn has been active in faith community for more than 40 years expressing her gifts and talents in a variety of areas including: Music—singing, composing, playing piano and organ; Teaching—as a Bible teacher and pulpit minister; Creative Arts – composing and publishing praise and worship songs as well as creating Afrocentric ceramic arts. Yvonne has composed many praise and worship songs that are sung throughout the country including: Rain on Me and Temporary Situation. She recorded her Quiet Times of Prayer and Praise CD.

Yvonne has led praise and worship seminars teaching praise and worship teams and diverse congregations how to worship in a Biblical manner. Her teaching ministry has allowed her to minister in diverse evangelical settings including prayer and women retreats, conferences, seminars, missionary trips to Africa, Colombia and Venezuela. She is currently the Director of the AVA (Advocacy for Victims of Abuse) ministry for the Evangelical Covenant Church (see covchurch.org/abuse).

She shares her story about childhood sexual assault and how she has overcome this dark past. Through her transparency she gives hope to those struggling with similar traumatic experiences and provides encouragement for others to begin the journey of personal self-discovery and healing. Yvonne loves sharing the truths of God’s love and the Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and song to diverse groups. She believes that as individuals apply God’s truth to their lives they grow or begin the journey of personal self-discovery and healing. It is Yvonne’s heart’s desire to see individuals receive and experience God’s love so that they become change agents in their own communities. She truly believes that “...the truth will set you free!” (John 8:32)

Courtney Eppler, AFACT: <http://www.anchoragefact.org/>



Courtney was born and raised in Anchorage, Alaska. She received her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Oklahoma City University and her Masters of Arts in Justice and Mission from Denver Seminary.

She is the lead organizer for the local non-profit AFACT (Anchorage Faith and Action- Congregations Together) where she works with faith communities to empower their people to bring positive change to quality of life issues that affect them.

She has been married to her husband, Justin, for five years. They are members of First Covenant Church in Anchorage and enjoy skiing, hiking, and camping in Alaska's great outdoors.

Rev. Dr. Soong-Chan Rah, North Park Theological Seminary: <http://www.profrac.com/>



Rev. Dr. Soong-Chan Rah is Milton B. Engebretson Professor of Church Growth and Evangelism at North Park Theological Seminary in Chicago, IL and the author of *The Next Evangelicalism* (IVP Books, 2009); *Many Colors* (Moody, 2010); *Prophetic Lament* (IVP Books, 2015); co-author of *Forgive Us* (Zondervan, 2014); and *Return to Justice* (Brazos, 2016).

Rah is formerly the founding Senior Pastor of Cambridge Community Fellowship Church (CCFC), a multi-ethnic church living out the values of racial reconciliation and social justice in the urban context. He currently serves on the board of World Vision and Evangelicals 4 Justice. He has previously served on the board of Sojourners and the Christian Community Development Association.

Soong-Chan and his wife Sue and their two children, Annah and Elijah live in Chicago.