



Samaritans Southcoast

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Stand Up for Suicide Prevention Comedy Show to Support Lifesaving Services

Samaritans Southcoast, the region's 988 suicide prevention hotline, will host *Stand Up for Suicide Prevention*, a comedy fundraiser, on Friday, February 28, 2025. This event aims to raise funds for critical services, including the organization's crisis hotline and support for loss survivors.

Event Details

Date: Friday, February 28, 2025

Time: 6 PM cocktail hour; 7 PM comedy show

Location: White's of Westport, 66 State Road, Westport, MA

Join over 225 attendees for an evening of laughter with three nationally recognized comedians: Matthew P. Brown, Mike Donovan, and headliner Michael Petit. The event will focus on raising awareness about suicide prevention and combating the stigma surrounding mental illness.

"All of our services, from the hotline for anyone experiencing an emotional crisis to support groups for survivors of suicide loss, are free of charge," said Samaritans Southcoast's Executive Director, Darcy Lee. "Funds raised at our comedy show will help us maintain these services."

About Samaritans Southcoast

Samaritans Southcoast answers the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline for Bristol and Norfolk Counties and provides backup services for Barnstable, Dukes, Nantucket, Plymouth, and Worcester Counties. As part of the Massachusetts Behavioral Health Roadmap, the center operates 24/7. Trained crisis counselors answered 38,000 calls last year and are on track to answer 44,000 this year.

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Crisis counselors offer confidential support to callers in need, coordinate rescues for those at imminent risk, and assist third-party callers seeking help for loved ones. They also bridge the gap for the seriously mentally ill between therapy appointments, hospitalizations, and outpatient programs.

"Our hotline integrates with agencies statewide, streamlining access to mental health services," said Lee. "We also offer free virtual support groups twice monthly for survivors of suicide loss. Safe Place, led by volunteer facilitators and loss survivors, provides a supportive community for those experiencing this unique grief."

Event Highlights

Tickets for Stand Up for Suicide Prevention are \$30 each or \$240 for a table of eight. Attendees will enjoy a cocktail hour, the comedy show, a silent auction, a complimentary "late night" donut bar, a cash bar, and food available for purchase. PLUS, attendees can participate in our Wine and Win! by purchasing a premium bottle of wine, and they'll win a gift card of \$25 or more from one of our area's restaurants or retailers.

All proceeds benefit Samaritans Southcoast's suicide prevention hotline and support services. Event sponsors include First Congregational Church Fall River, the Tyler Joseph Leonard Memorial Fund, Merrow, Arbella, BayCoast Bank, BayCoast Insurance, Fall River Municipal Credit Union, Spindle City Auto Glass, and Starck Architects.

"Humor has the incredible ability to unite people and initiate essential dialogues about mental health. When we come together for a night of laughter, we reinforce our dedication to mental health advocacy," said Lee.

For tickets and more information, visit White's of Westport's website <https://www.simpletix.com/e/stand-up-for-suicide-prevention-comedy-fun-tickets-202829> or Samaritans Southcoast's website <http://www.samaritanssoco.org>.

If you or someone you know is experiencing thoughts of suicide, please call or text 988, available 24/7.

About the Samaritans Southcoast: Established in 1983, our mission is to reduce and prevent future suicides from occurring, to bring attention to the causes of suicide, to eliminate the stigma of suicide, and to support the survivors of suicide victims.

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