

Dr. Kelly Posner Gerstenhaber

Dr. Kelly Posner's work is saving lives in 45 nations on 6 continents. The President of the American Psychiatric Association noted her work could be *“like the introduction of antibiotics.”* **The U.S. Department of Defense said that her work is “nothing short of a miracle,”** is central to their National Strategy, and stated "her effective model of improving the world will help propel us closer to a world without suicide." Consequently, Dr. Posner recently received **The Secretary of Defense Medal for Exceptional Public Service**, the second highest award presented by the Secretary of Defense to a private citizen. The CDC said that her work is **“changing the paradigm in suicide risk assessment in the US and worldwide.”**

Dr. Posner's work has been noted in a **keynote speech at the White House, in Congressional hearings, and she presented in a U.S. Senate forum on school safety.** Through her advocacy, she has changed local, national and international policy, which in turn has helped achieve reductions in suicide across all types of public health settings. Israeli government officials said her work “is not only saving millions of lives but in Israel it is **literally changing the way we live our lives.**”

She gave the invited presentation on tackling depression and suicide at the **first European Union high level conference on mental health**, was recognized as the **Most Distinguished Alumna of her graduate school at Yeshiva University in the past 50 years**, and received the **New York State Suicide Prevention Award**. She was named one of *New York Magazine's* **“Most Influential”** and received the **Angel Award of New York's “100 Socially Responsible”**.

Dr. Posner's work has been adopted or recommended by the CDC, FDA, DoD, and NIMH. She was commissioned by the FDA to develop a scientific approach that **has become the gold standard** for suicide monitoring and is **ubiquitous across the U.S and many international agencies**. A lead article in *The New York Times* called this work **“one of the most profound changes of the past sixteen years** to regulations governing drug development.” Dr. Posner's scholarly work has been included in the compendium of the most important research in the history of the study of suicide.