People bereaved by suicide constitute a remarkable proportion of the population with an increased risk of experiencing complicated courses of grief. This hidden cohort of suicide-exposed people may be, themselves, at risk for psychopathology and suicide. Exposure to suicide may pose independent risk for suicidal thoughts and behaviors and could, in turn, contribute to the family transmission of suicidal behavior. There is a significant gap between the support needs of people bereaved by suicide and the provision and quality of professional support services. General practitioners and mental health professionals, in particular, should screen patients who have lost a loved one to suicide for suicidal ideation and behavior. High-risk patients should then be referred to those who are trained to provide suicide-focused treatment. This conference will address the effects of suicide exposure and bereavement on mental health, suicide risk among the bereaved, therapeutic interventions for people bereaved by suicide and the hope for post-traumatic growth (PTG).

Biography
Melinda Moore, PhD, is a Licensed Psychologist and Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology at Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond, Kentucky. She is in private practice in Lexington, Kentucky and routinely trains clinicians in suicide-focused treatment. Dr. Moore serves on the board of the American Association of Suicidology as the chair of the Clinical Division and is the co-leader of the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention’s Faith Community Task Force. She recently published The Suicide Funeral: Honoring their Memory, Comforting their Survivors with her co-author Rabbi Dan Robert. She conducts suicide bereavement research at Eastern Kentucky University with an emphasis on Posttraumatic Growth (www.posttraumaticgrowth.com). She received her PhD from The Catholic University of America.

Registration
Print conference brochures and online registration (www.mcdes.org) will be available by March 1, 2019. As is the case with all MCDES conferences, seating is limited to 175 registrants. CEU’s will be available for professionals in Psychology, Marriage and Family Therapy, Social Work, Behavior Health and Therapy, and MN Nurses.