

SUICIDE AND SOCIAL MEDIA: SEIZING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUPPORT

Jeff Collins

After School Vice President



“ Suicide is a layered, complex issue. It’s not simple, and we all need to work together.

~~~~~ Jonathan Frecceri



*After School*

is...



# After School's Approach to Digital Citizenship and Cyberbullying Prevention

Proactive moderation: human and technical

One-report removal

Strict user verification

Enforceable community guidelines

Civic engagement opportunities

Live crisis counseling support

Partnerships

Student resources



A photograph of three women celebrating joyfully, with their arms raised and confetti falling around them. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The woman on the left is wearing a white lace top and sunglasses. The woman in the center is wearing a patterned halter top. The woman on the right is wearing a white top with a circular pattern. The background is bright and out of focus, suggesting an outdoor event.

# Opportunities



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“ WHEN PEOPLE COMPLIMENT  
ME ON HERE IT MAKES ME  
FEEL LIKE THE HAPPIEST  
ALIVE ”

posted by anonymous

...ay, someone cares

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“ TO ALL THE GIRLS THAT DON'T  
FEEL BEAUTIFUL! YOU ARE  
BEAUTIFUL ”

posted by anonymous

...at the way, someone cares

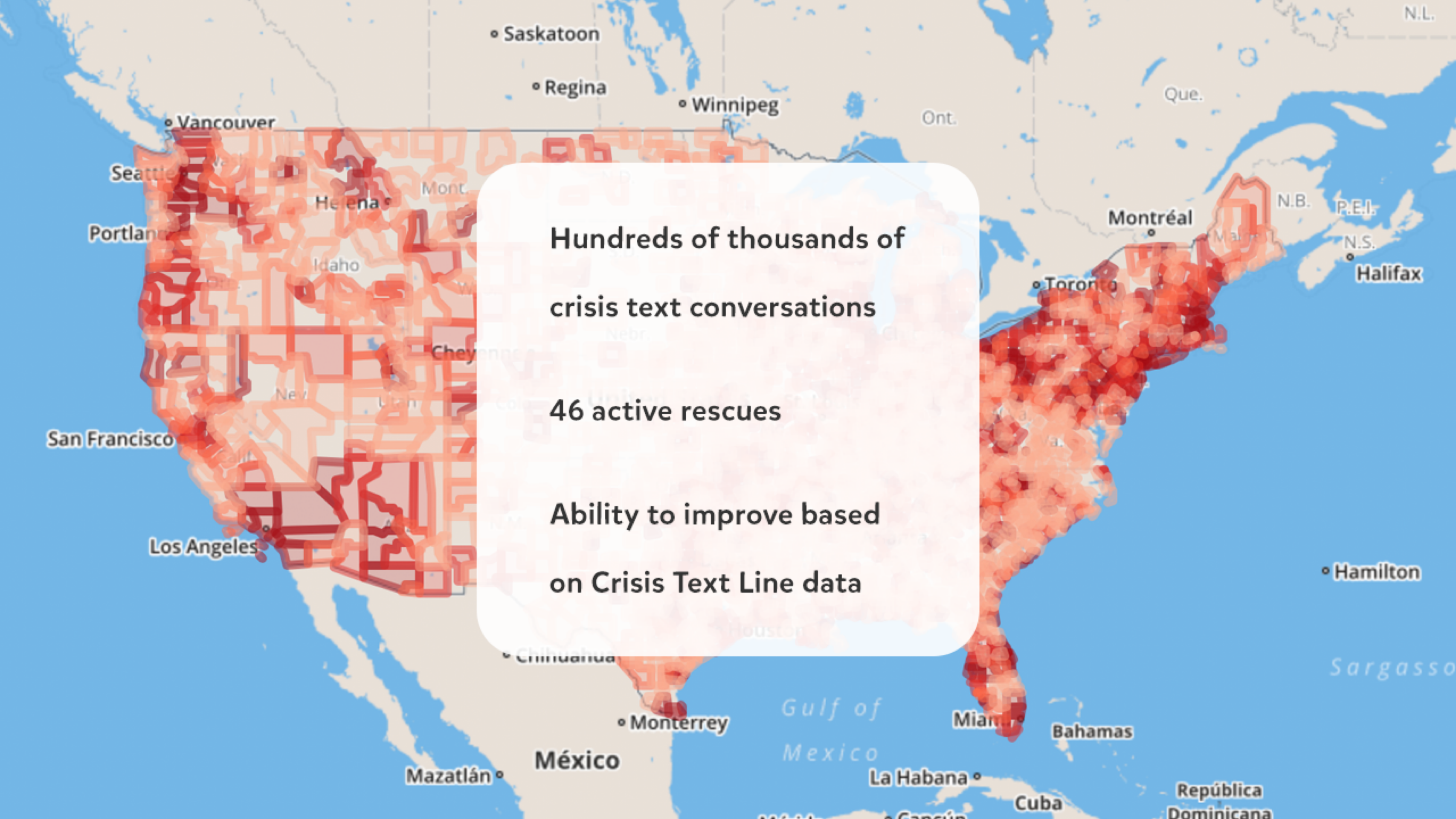
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“ CHLOE UNDOUTEDLY TAKES  
THE BEST SELFIES ”

posted by ano

Don't think that way, so





**Hundreds of thousands of  
crisis text conversations**

**46 active rescues**

**Ability to improve based  
on Crisis Text Line data**



A photograph of two young women with long hair, seen from behind, embracing each other. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The woman on the left is wearing a light-colored, ribbed tank top, and the woman on the right is wearing a dark-colored, ribbed tank top. They are standing outdoors, with a blurred background suggesting a beach or park setting.

# Challenges

Teen language and sentiment is ever-changing

Need to be relevant in our design and approach

Misinformation

# **The Blue Whale Challenge**



Justin Patchin @justinpatchin · 22h

Dear @RossowEsq: Your opinion piece on the Blue Whale Challenge in @Forbes only serves to encourage others to participate in a game that doesn't exist. I challenge you to cite a bona fide example of a suicide linked to participation.



**Cyberbullying Taken To A Whole New Level: Enter The 'Blue Whale ...**

Imagine being trapped in a world with no escape. A world that lasts for 50 days, ending with you taking your own life. Welcome to the Blue Whale  
[forbes.com](https://forbes.com)

1 1 3



Justin Patchin

@justinpatchin

Follow

Here are the facts as we knew them a year ago. Nothing has changed since





## PARENTING

# Dangerous Russian 'Blue Whale Challenge' Pushes Teens to Commit Suicide

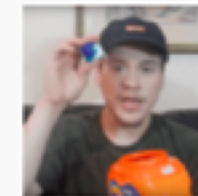


BY JEFF REYNOLDS FEBRUARY 6, 2018

2 COMMENTS

*(Image via YouTube)*

## EDITOR'S CHOICE

**Why Eating Tide Pods May be 'Entirely Rational'**

27 COMMENTS

**Necco Mania: Fans Begin Hoarding the Chalky Wafers**

16 COMMENTS

**Bathroom Hand Dryers Are Shooting Out Poo**

35 COMMENTS



» GRAB THAT POPCORN! Oh man, we can't WAIT for Joy Reid to explain THESE [pics]

» D'OH! Jim Acosta tries to spin his remarks about Trump supporters, digs own grave EVEN DEEPER

» 'NO CONSEQUENCES'? Fresno State gives Randa Jarrar a pass, but what about THIS?

» PRICELESS: Bernie Sanders' goal of federal employment for all sparks #BernieJobs hilarity

» TAKE COVER! What Kanye West just tweeted

# **Teen Suicide “Caused” by Social Media**



A group of diverse people are gathered in what appears to be a library or bookstore, with bookshelves visible in the background. They are all smiling and giving a group high-five, with their hands raised in the center of the frame. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter.

**It Takes A Village: The Need  
To Work Together**

# THANK YOU!



**Jeff Collins**

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