The following book review has been prepared by SERA Collaborative member; Leah Casuto, MD,

Staff Child, Adolescent and Adult Psychiatrist at the Lindner Center of HOPE located in Mason, Ohio.

**Managing Suicidal Risk:  A Collaborative Approach (CAMS)**

By David A Jobes

Jobes presents a treatment guide that is evidence-based yet practical and easily implemented.  He describes a dimensional model for suicide in which factors such as psychological pain (psych-ache), stress and agitation culminate in heightened risk for suicidal acts.  He proposes a collaborative method which trains clinicians to be more effective as ‘hope vendors.’

The method described by Jobes is particularly effective in assisting suicidal adolescents.  Suicidal behaviors are often utilized as a desperate form of communication in this age group.  This method enhances intervention success with teens who are struggling to have autonomy while negotiating many untenable aspects of their life which are still outside of their control.

A key instrument in this process is the Suicide Status Form.  This allows a quick deconstruction of risk into essential components.  Then, an empathic alternative plan other than suicide is co-authored with interventions that are well-targeted and patient-directed supporting reasons for living and undermining reasons for dying.

Interactions with suicidal patients, is one of our most difficult and frightening challenges.  This is an essential and highly recommended text for any therapist who is attempting to help suicidal patients.  It greatly enhances an empathic stance and builds confidence in these anxiety provoking and difficult clinical circumstances.