

### **Suicide Prevention & Resources**

VA Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention (OMHSP) Suicide Prevention Program 603-624-4366 **Ext. 2150** 

Suicide Prevention Coordinator: LaShanta Petroski-Ackley, LICSW Community Engagement & Partnership Coordinator: Justin Moeling, LICSW

### The Steps of VA S.A.V.E.



### VA S.A.V.E.: Teaching Communities How to Help Veterans at Risk for Suicide

VA S.A.V.E. will help you act with care and compassion if you encounter a Veteran who is in suicidal crisis.

- Signs of suicidal thinking should be recognized.
- Ask the most important question of all.
- Validate the Veteran's experience.
- Encourage treatment and Expedite getting help.



### **New Lethal Means Safety Resources**



Reducing Firearm & Other
Household Safety Risks Brochure

provides best practices for safely storing firearms and medications along with advice for loved ones on how to talk to the Veteran in their life about safe storage. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention

#### Reducing Firearm & Other Household Safety Risks for Veterans and Their Families



Firearm safety is an important public health issue that can affect your health and your family's well-being.

If you own a firearm, or live in a household where there are firearms, the following information can help keep you and those around you safe. Similarly, reducing access to other household risks, like medications, can help ensure your family's safety.





### Free, Confidential Support 24/7/365



Veterans

- Family members
- Service members
   Friends







Launched online chat

2009



Introduced Veterans Crisis Line branding

2010



Launched text 838255

2011



Increased number of responders by 50%

2012



Opened second and third call centers; Increased staff

2016 & 2018



Started Caring Letters program

2020



More than
6.4 million
calls



More than 269,000 texts



More than 772,000 chats



More than
1.2 million
referrals to VA
suicide prevention
coordinators

More than

248,000

dispatches of emergency services

Data last updated 10/2022

# Mental Health Mobil Apps. Mobile Apps - PTSD: National Center for PTSD (va.gov)





## Community Based Interventions for Suicide Prevention (CBI-SP)





### **Suicide Prevention is Everyone's Business**





### Focused Priority Areas Across CBI-SP Unifying Model



Identify Service Members, Veterans, and their Families and Screen for Suicide Risk



Promote Connectedness and Improve Care Transitions



Increase Lethal Means Safety and Safety Planning



### **New Hampshire Veteran Suicide Prevention Coalitions**

Lakes Region Veterans Coalition: LRVC is a coalition hosted by Camp Resilience in Gilford, NH. Membership includes Veterans and non-Veterans. Represented at our meetings are corrections, VFW, NH DHHS, PPH, VA CBOCs, the NH State Veterans Home, and Easter Seals. LRVC is arranging training on suicide prevention in the Lakes Region and they have received grant money from the PPH to provide technical assistance to coalition building efforts in other parts of NH. Coordination with NH DHHS, VA, and LRVC allowed LRVC to train the Emergency Medical Services program at the Lakes Region Community College.

Contact: Kurt Webber <a href="mailto:kurt-webber@camp-resilience.org">kurt-webber@camp-resilience.org</a>

**Stronger Together** is a coalition for Veteran suicide prevention for the greater Nashua area. It is based out of Milford, NH at the Addiction Recovery Coalition of NH. Members include: The PPH, Harbor Care, Greater Nashua Mental Health, Easter Seals, VFW, a private therapist, first responders, community members both Veterans and non-Veterans. They are promoting Ask the Question, providing regular prevention trainings for the community, and planning networking and social events for Vets.

Contact: Kate Choquette <u>kchoquette@arcnh.org</u>

**Greater Manchester Veteran Suicide Prevention Coalition:** Hosted by ForgeVFR, the Manchester coalition has just started meeting. Their coalition includes law enforcement, correction, mental health providers, and non-profit agencies that support Veterans. The Manchester coalition is looking for more members.

Contact: Sean Kilbreth <u>skilbreth@forgehealth.org</u>



### **New Hampshire Veteran Suicide Prevention Coalitions**

**Sullivan County Veteran Suicide Prevention Coalition:** Hosted by West Central Behavioral Health several local providers, the White River Junction VA, the Vet Center, and several others are about to have their first meeting. They too, are seeking new members.

Contact: Bill Metcalfe <u>wmetcalfe@wcbh.org</u>

**Seacoast Veteran Suicide Prevention Coalition:** Hosted by the Seacoast Public Health Netowrk this coalition is in the process of conducting a needs assessment and is looking to recruit new members to their team. Contact: Maria Reyes <a href="mailto:mreyes@seacoastphn.org">mreyes@seacoastphn.org</a>

Samantha Areson <a href="mailto:sareson@seacoastphn.org">sareson@seacoastphn.org</a>

**Capitol Area Veteran Suicide Prevention Coalition:** Hosted by the Capitol Area Public Health Network this coalition has just gotten started.

Contact: Ashley Sullivan <u>ashley.sullivan@graniteuw.org</u>

The Central Area and Strafford County have begun talking about creating coalitions we are seeking hosts for the North Country, South Central, Greater Monadnock areas.





### **Questions?**