



Legal Services for Homeless Veterans and Veterans At-Risk for Homelessness (LSV-H) Grant Program

FY24 Grantee Onboarding Day 3
August 15, 2024

Recording: <https://veteransaffairs.webex.com/recording/service/sites/veteransaffairs/recording/playback/803ef8973d5e103dabe9d2a79f302644>

Password: Homeless1!



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Legal Services for Veterans Team



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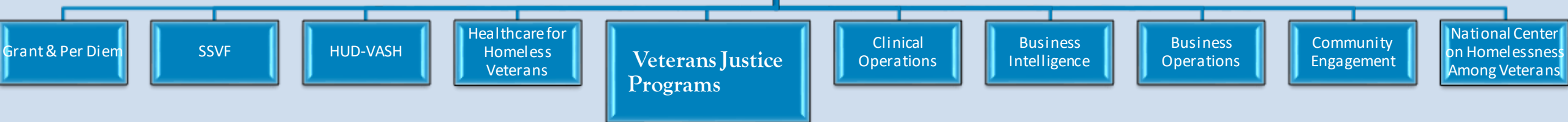
Agenda

- Organizational Structure
- Suicide Prevention
- Outreach
- Resources
- Next Steps



Organizational Structure

VA Homeless Programs Office (HPO)



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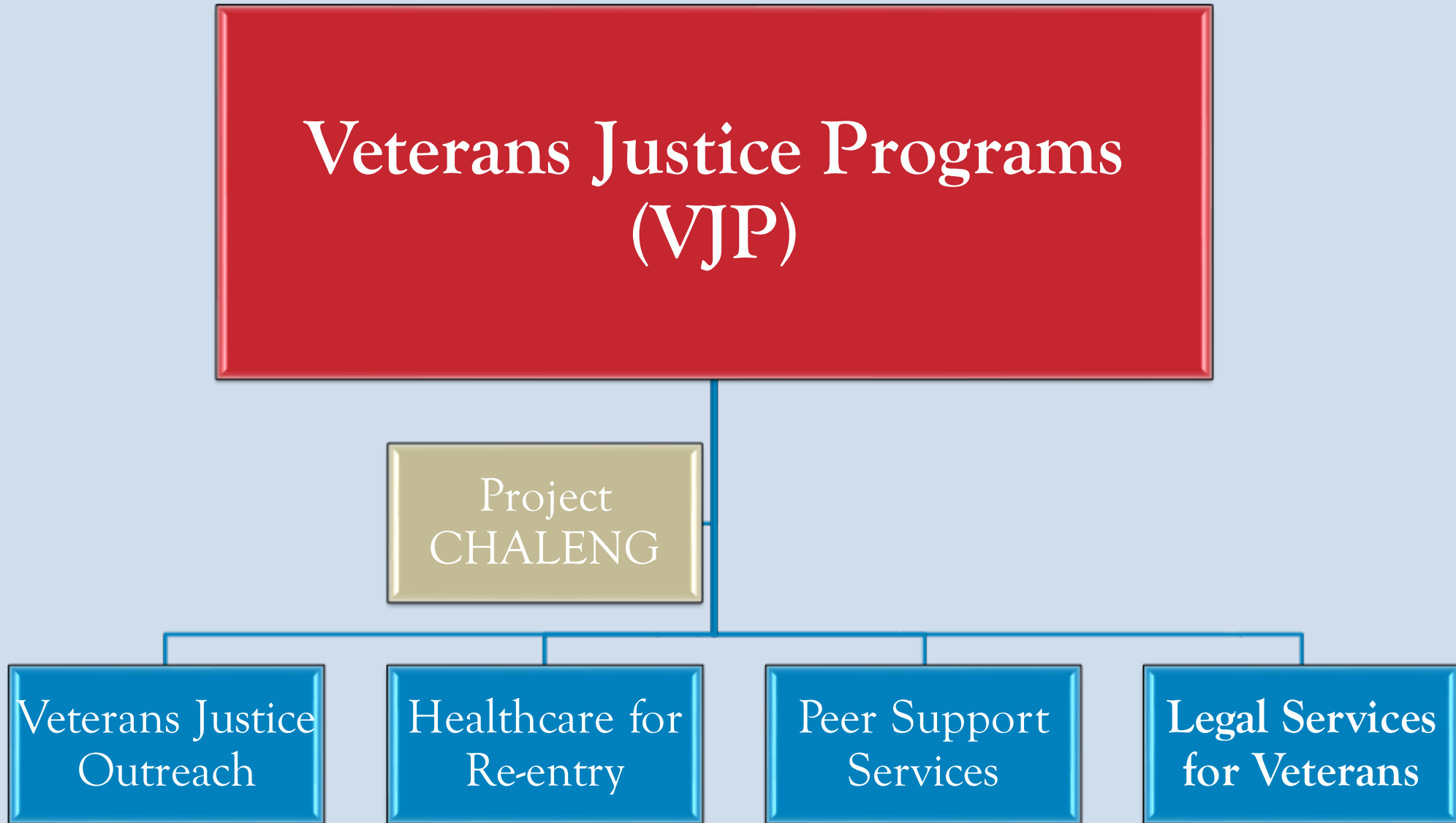


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HPO Grants Comparison

LSV-H	SSVF
Authorized by Public Law 116-315	Authorized by Public Law 110-387
Focus on the Provision of Legal Services to remove barriers to housing stability	Focus on Housing Prevention & Rapid Re-housing
No income threshold	Must be eligible for SSVF (income below 80% AMI)
Veteran must be homeless or at-risk of experiencing homelessness	Veteran must be homeless or at imminent risk of experiencing homelessness
Veteran* only, with a focus on women Veterans	All members of the Veteran* household may be eligible
No cost to Veteran	Veteran <i>could</i> cost share for legal services
Administered through <u>VJP Legal Services for Veterans National Office</u>	Administered through <u>Supportive Services for Veteran Families National Office</u>

Organizational Structure: VJP



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Project CHALENG - VA Homeless Programs

The screenshot shows the VA website's Project CHALENG page. At the top, the VA logo and "U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs" are on the left, and "Search", "Contact us", and "Sign in" buttons are on the right. Below the header, navigation links for "VA Benefits and Health Care", "About VA", and "Find a VA Location" are visible. A left sidebar contains a dropdown menu "I AM A..." with options: "For Veterans", "For Family Members & Spouses", "For Employees", "For Business", "Forms & Publications", "Jobs", "Volunteer or Donate", and "Public & Intergovernmental Affairs". The main content area features a breadcrumb trail "VA » VA Homeless Programs » Project CHALENG" and a large heading "VA Homeless Programs" above a photo of a group of people. Below the photo is the "Project CHALENG" section, which includes the sub-heading "The CHALENG Process: Identifying and Meeting the Needs of Homeless Veterans". The text describes the process as involving community homeless service providers, advocates, Veterans, and citizens to meet the needs of homeless Veterans. A callout box on the right states "The 2024 CHALENG survey on Veteran homelessness is open" and includes a "TAKE THE SURVEY" button. At the bottom of the page, it notes that since 1994, CHALENG has built thousands of partnerships.



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2023 CHALENG Survey Fact Sheet



U.S. Department
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Fact Sheet

Office of Public Affairs | Washington, DC 20420
Media Relations | (202) 461-7600
www.va.gov

C. Ranking of Veteran Need, All responses (One to four scale, with one equals unmet and four equals met)

Top Ten Highest Unmet Needs

Rank	Highest Unmet Needs: All responses	Mean Score
1	Housing for Registered Sex Offenders	2.16
2	Legal Assistance for Credit Issues/Debt Collection	2.28
3	Legal Assistance to Expunge a Criminal Record	2.32
4	Family Law (i.e., divorce, child custody)	2.35
5	Child Care	2.36
6	Tax Issues	2.39
7	Legal Assistance for Child Support Issues	2.41
8	Legal Assistance for Outstanding Warrants and Fines	2.46
9	Discharge Upgrade Appeals	2.51
10	Financial Guardianship	2.52

Top Ten Highest Met Needs

Rank	Highest Met Needs: All responses	Mean Score
1	Medical Services	3.48
2	Case Management	3.38
3	Food	3.30
4	Personal Hygiene (shower, haircut)	3.27
5	HIV/AIDS Testing and Treatment	3.22
6	Services for Emotional or Psychiatric Problems	3.22
7	Substance Abuse Treatment	3.21
8	Eye Care and Glasses	3.19
9	Clothing	3.18
10	Emergency/Immediate Shelter	3.16



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Legal Services for Veterans Program (LSV)

- Outreach, training and coordination designed to expand equitable access to legal service to Veterans
- Further Veterans' legal service access through the continued growth of Medical Legal Partnership (MLP) model within the VHA
- Establish and administer Veterans Health Administration's (VHA) new legal services grant programs



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Office of Suicide Prevention



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Suicide Prevention and Veterans Justice Outreach

Dr. Stacie Kalvels

National Manager for Innovations

Office of Suicide Prevention

August 15, 2024

Objectives

- Provide background of suicide, specifically, the public health approach to suicide prevention
- Gain knowledge of demographics of suicide risk in specific Veteran populations.
- Describe lethal means safety and the impact of lethal means safety in a crisis.
- Define what actions learners can take in suicide prevention, including resources available for Veterans.
- Understand resources are available for Veterans in crisis, regardless of eligibility for VA care.
- Learn about legislative requirements of suicide prevention.

Facts About Veteran Suicide

Suicide is a National Public Health Issue

- Suicide is a national issue, with rising rates of suicide in the general population.
- For every death by suicide, approximately 135 individuals are impacted.

Suicide is a Complex Issue with No Single Cause

- Suicide is often the result of a complex interaction of risk and protective factors at the individual, community, and societal levels.
- Risk factors are characteristics that are associated with an increased likelihood of suicidal behaviors. Protective factors can help offset risk factors.
- To prevent Veteran suicide, we must maximize protective factors while minimizing risk factors at all levels, throughout communities nationwide.

Risk and Protective Factors

Risk

- Prior suicide attempt
- Mental health issues
- Substance abuse
- Access to lethal means
- Recent loss
- Legal or financial challenges
- Relationship issues
- Unemployment
- Homelessness

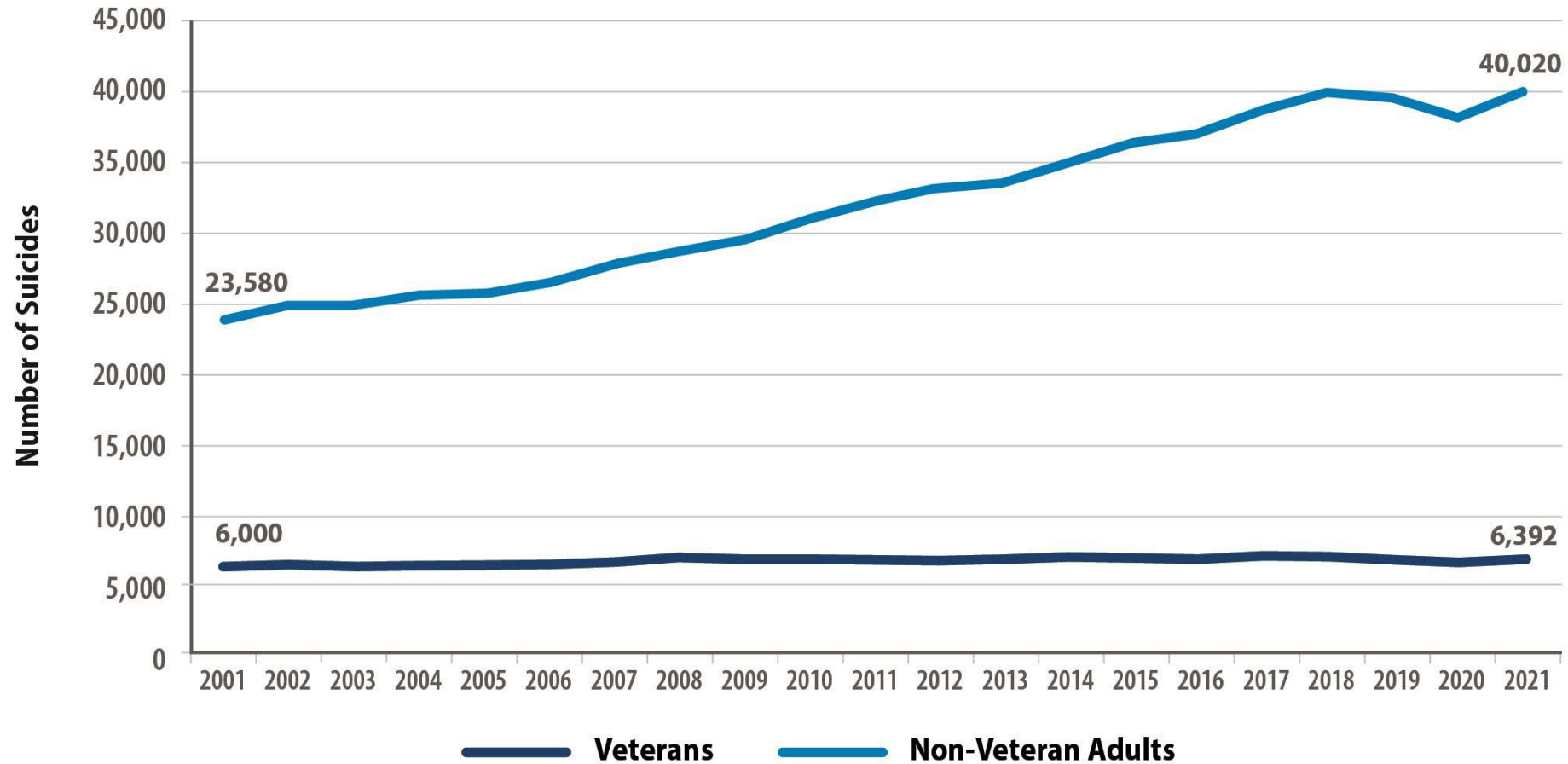
Protective

- Access to mental health care
- Sense of connectedness
- Problem-solving skills
- Sense of spirituality
- Mission or purpose
- Physical health
- Employment
- Social and emotional well-being

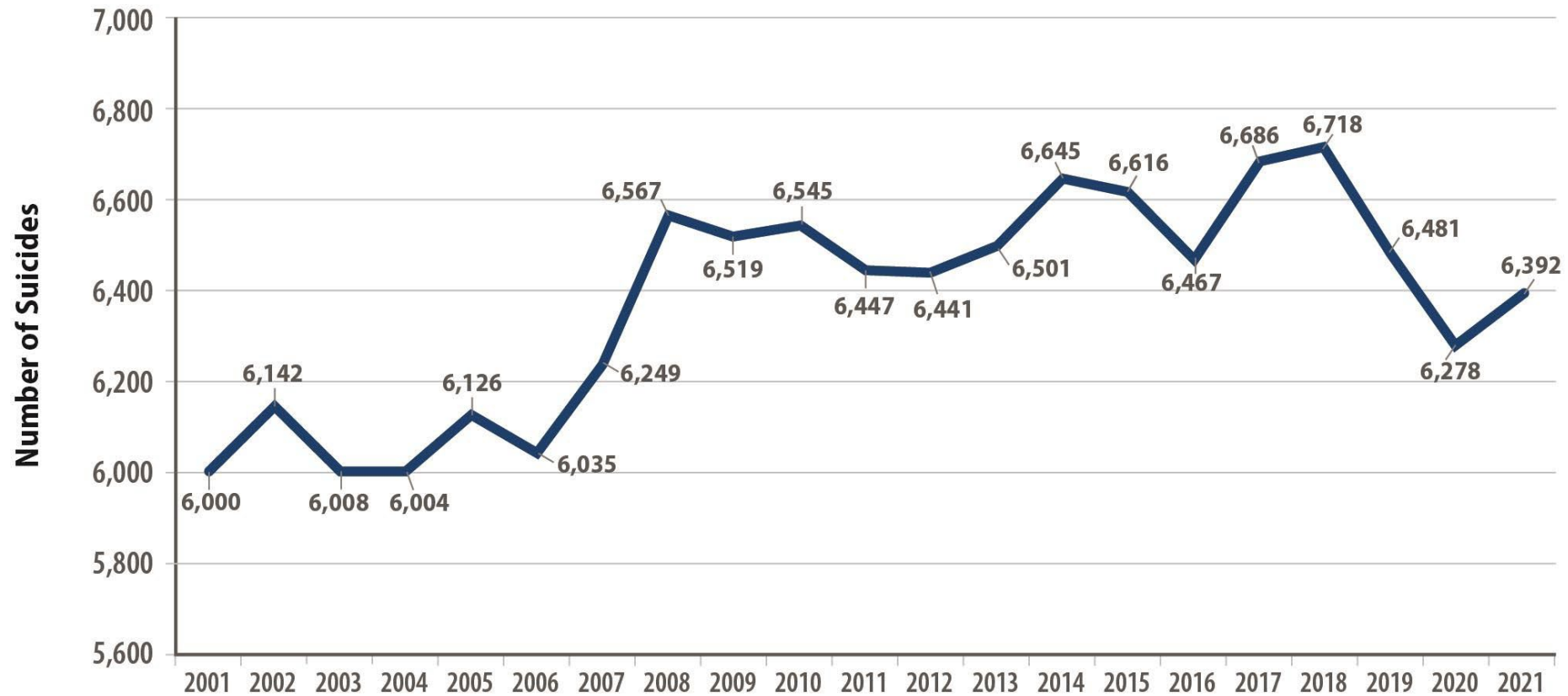


Goal: Minimize risk factors and boost protective factors

Suicide Deaths Among Veterans and Non-Veteran U.S. Adults, by Year, 2001–2021



Veteran Suicide Deaths, 2001–2021



Heavily Impacted Groups in 2021



Women Veterans

- **24.1%** increase in the age-adjusted suicide rate



American Indian/ Alaska Native Veterans

- Unadjusted suicide rate was **46.3 per 100,000**
- **51.8%** increase in the unadjusted suicide rate from 2020–2021



Homeless Veterans

- **112.9 per 100,000** suicide rate was highest observed from 2001–2021
- Suicide rate increased **38.2%** since 2020
- Suicide rate was **186.5%** higher than for those not homeless



Priority Group 5

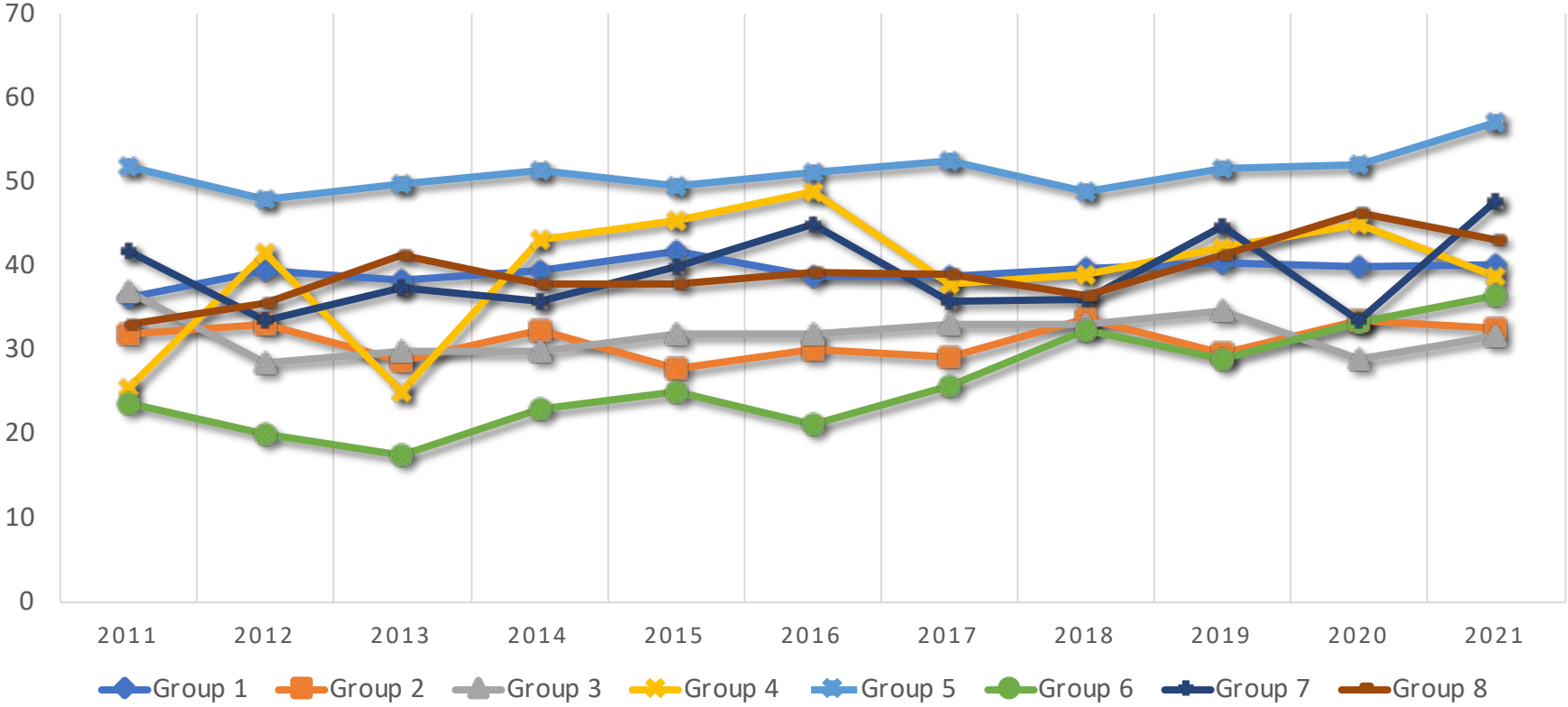
- Had highest suicide rate at **57.1 per 100,000**
- Suicide rate increased **9.8%** from 2020



Justice-Involved Veterans

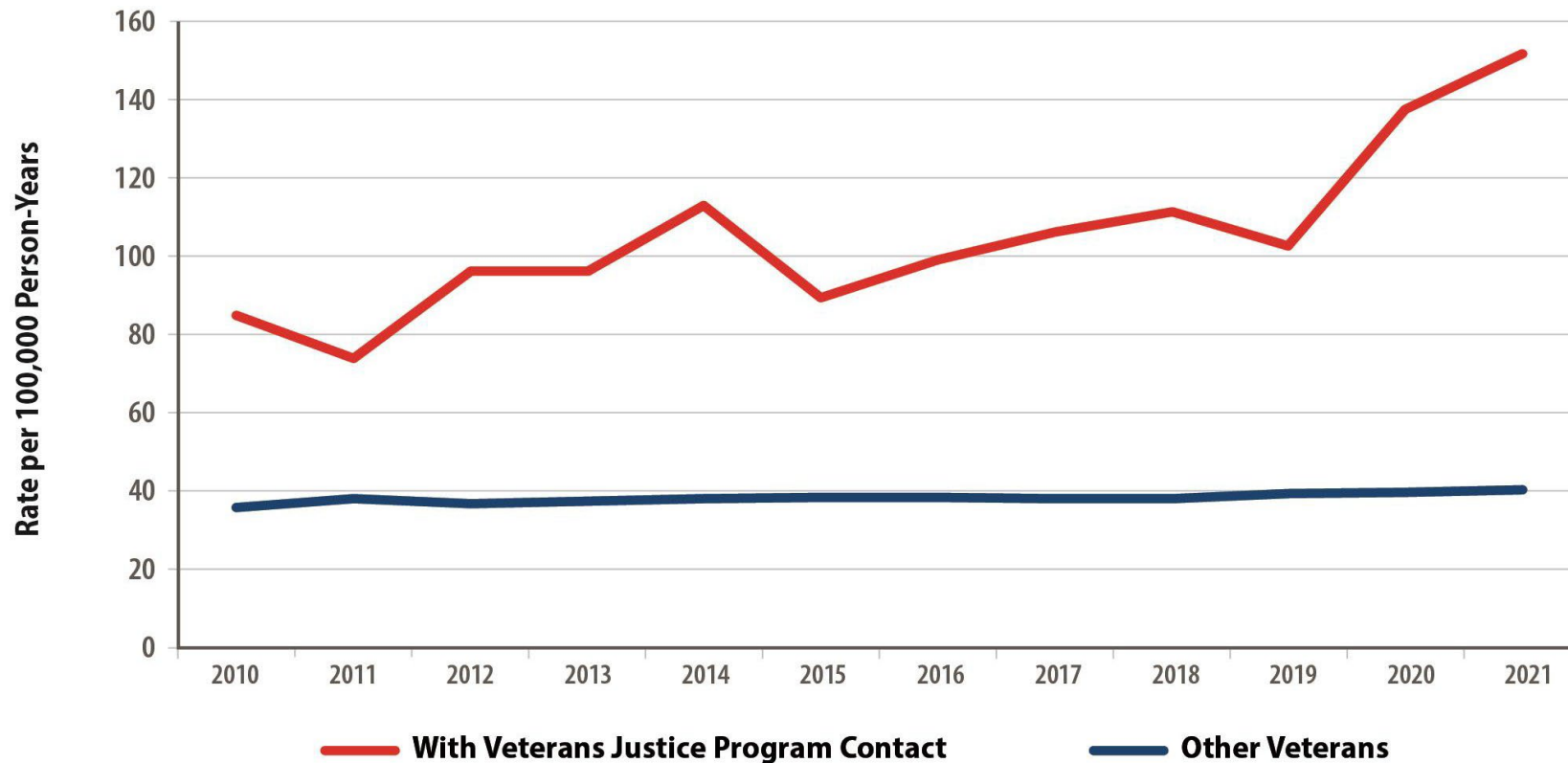
- Suicide rate of **151.0 per 100,000** was the highest over this period
- Suicide rate increased **10.2%** since 2020

Suicide Rate Among Enrolled Recent Veteran VHA Users, by VHA Priority Eligibility Group, 2001-2021



Priority Group 5 has continued to have higher rates of suicide and increase in suicide rate from 2020-2021. Priority Group 5 do not receive service-connection compensation from VA.

Unadjusted Suicide Rate, Recent Veteran VHA Users, by Receipt of Veterans Justice Program Services, 2010–2021

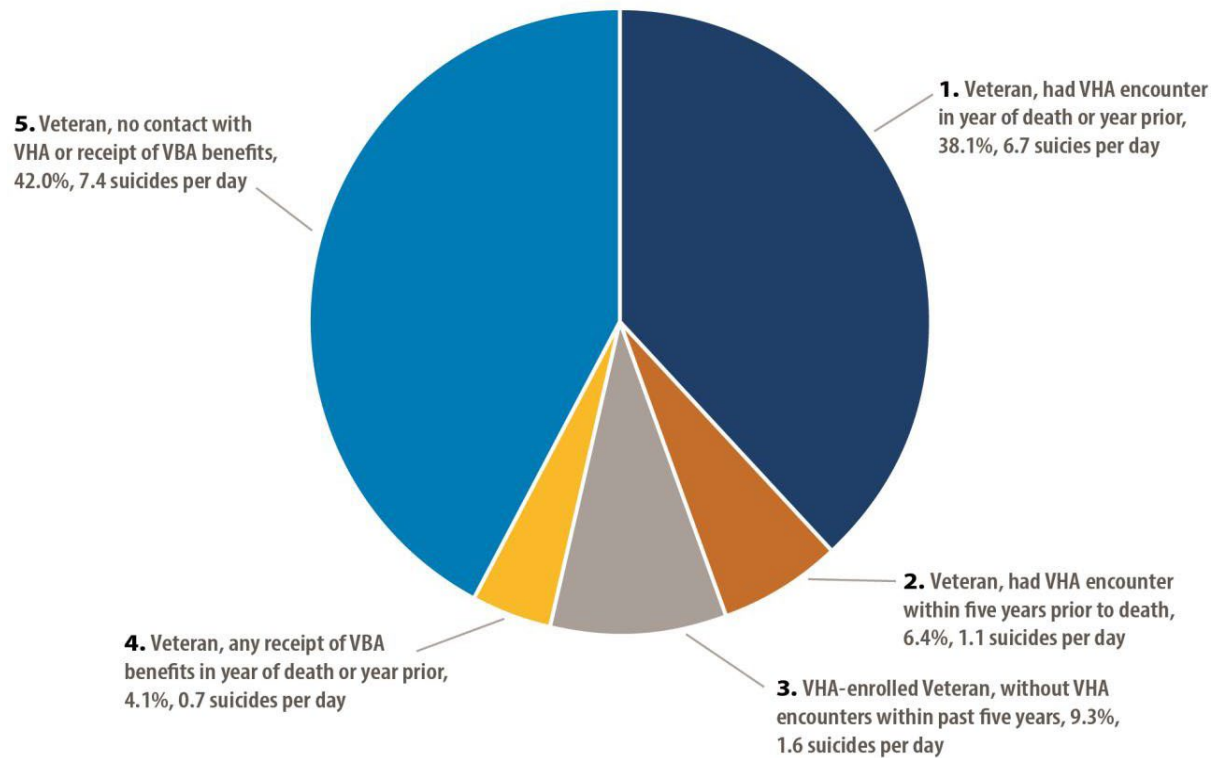


Justice-Involved Veterans have higher rates of suicide since 2001 and have seen an increase in rates specifically in 2021.

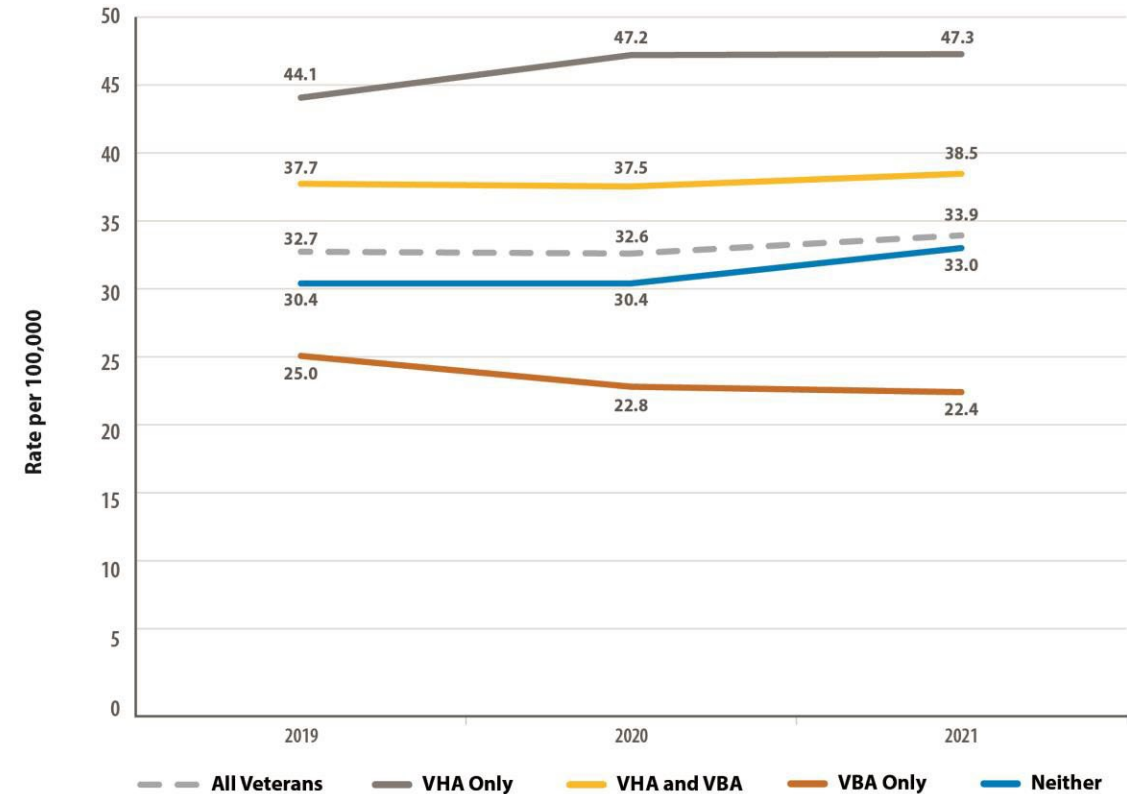
VBA Data Highlights

Veteran Suicide Deaths in 2021, Sequential Mutually Exclusive Categories of VA Points of Contact, Percentage and Average Suicides Per Day

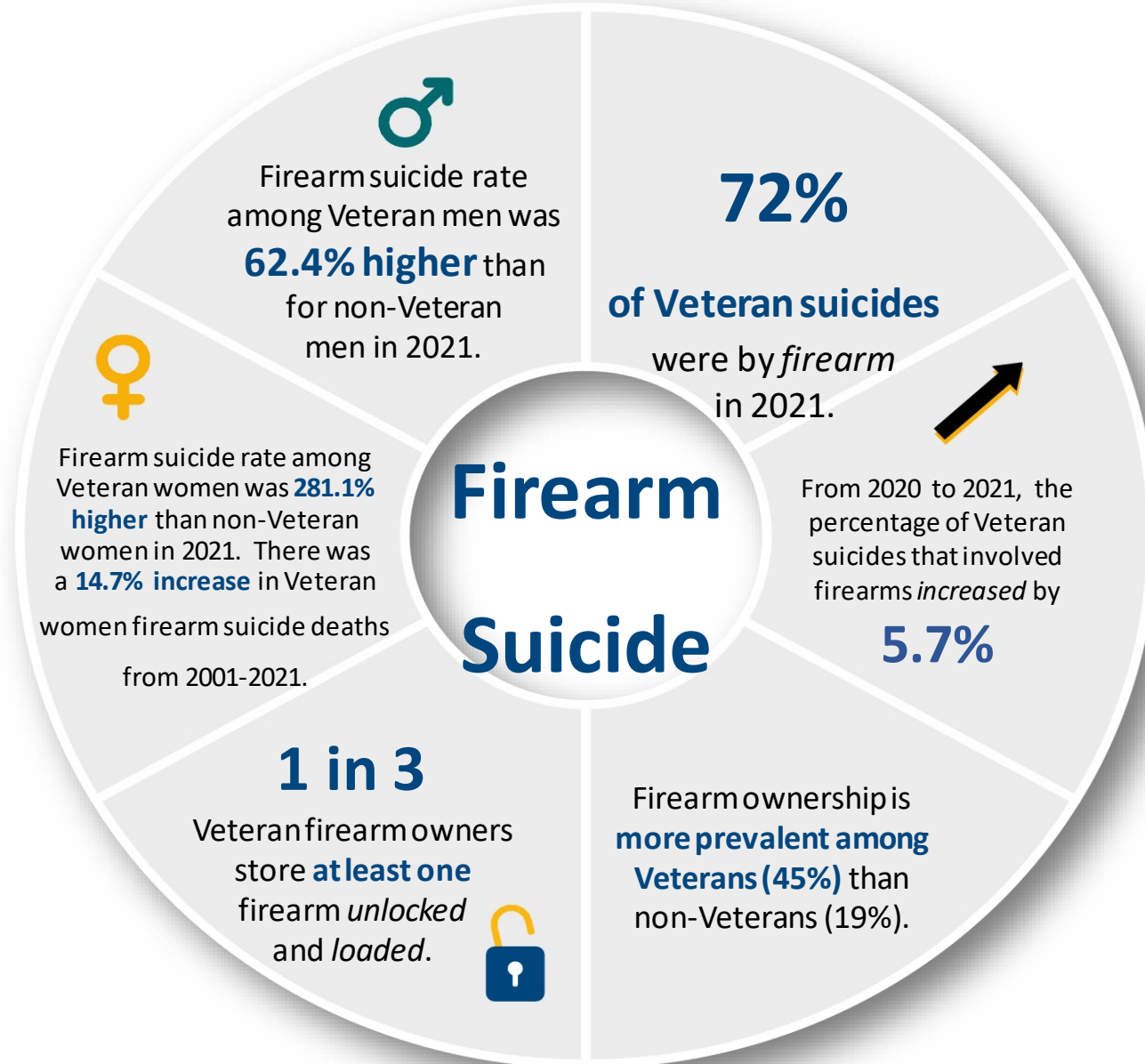
17.5 Veteran Suicide Decedents per Day in 2021



Unadjusted Suicide Rate, Veterans, by Mutually Exclusive Categories of VHA and VBA Services Receipt, 2019-2021



Firearm Use

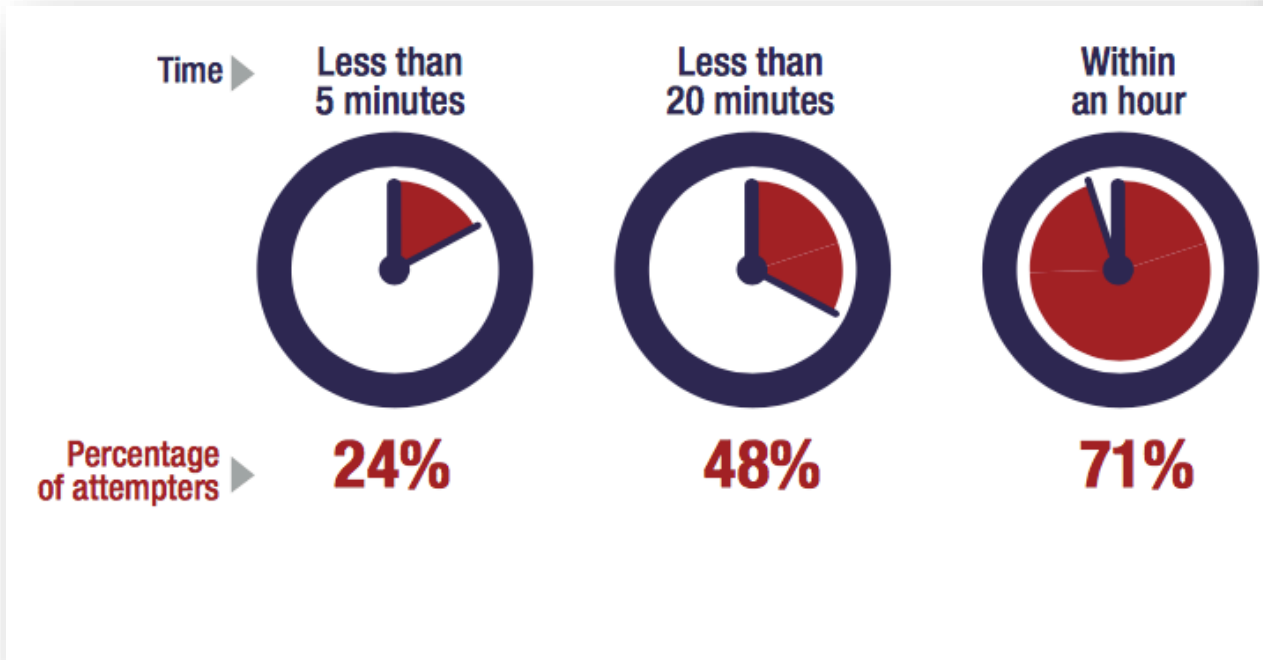


What is Lethal Means Safety?

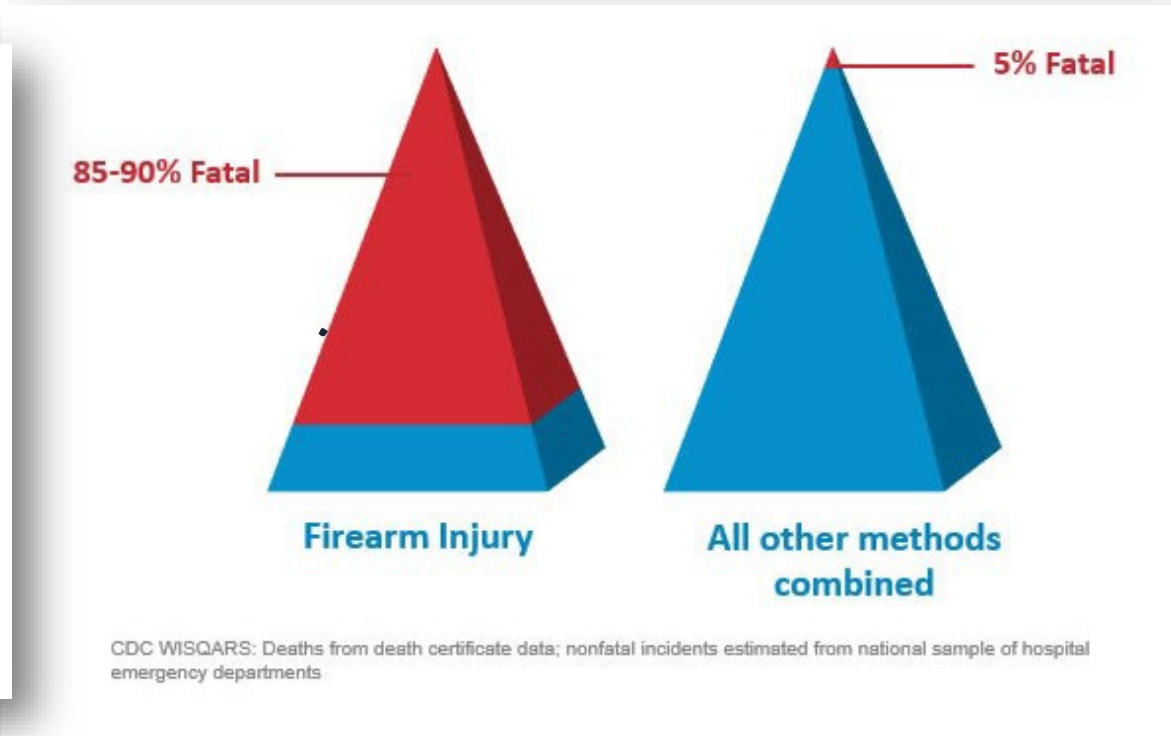
- In the context of suicide prevention, safe storage of lethal means is any action that builds in time and space between a person with thoughts of suicide and a suicide method.
- Effective lethal means safety education and counseling is collaborative and Veteran-centered. It respects the important role that firearms and medications may play in Veterans' lives and is consistent with their values and priorities.

Most Suicide Crises are Brief

Time from Decision to Action < 1 hour



Source: Simon, T.R., Swann, A.C., Powell, K.E., Potter, L.B., Kresnow, M., and O'Carroll, P.W. Characteristics of Impulsive Suicide Attempts and Attempters. SLTB. 2001; 32(sup):49-59.



Source: CDC WISQARS and US Dept. of Veterans Affairs
<https://www.mirecc.va.gov/lethalmeanssafety/facts/>

Lethal Means Safety Works

- Reducing access to lethal suicide methods is one of the few population interventions that has been shown to decrease suicide rates.
- About **90 percent** of people who survive a suicide attempt do not go on to die by suicide.
- If we can collaborate with Veterans **ahead of time** to help them survive a suicide crisis, we have likely prevented suicide for the **rest of their lives**.

VA Public Health Approach

Veteran suicide is a complex problem that cannot be addressed through a single solution, nor can it be addressed by VA or clinical intervention alone. VA is committed to a public health approach that includes both **community prevention** and **clinical interventions**.

Public Health Approach

Core Tenets and Guiding Vision

1

Suicide is preventable.

2

Suicide prevention requires a public health approach combining clinical and community-based approaches.

3

Everyone has a role to play in suicide prevention.

These are the foundation for our efforts to implement the National Strategy (2018), VA/DoD CPG for the Assessment and Management of Patients at Risk for Suicide (2019), and the White House strategy for Reducing Military and Veteran Suicide (2021).

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Call to Action:

Key Themes

Everyone has a role to play
in suicide prevention.



Promote secure firearm storage for Veteran suicide prevention.



Continue expansion of readily accessible crisis intervention services.



Implement and sustain community collaborations focused upon community-specific Veteran suicide prevention plans.



Improve tailoring of prevention and intervention services to the needs, issues, and resources unique to Veteran subpopulations.



Advance suicide prevention meaningfully into non-clinical support and intervention services, including financial, occupational, legal, and social domains.



Increase access to and utilization of mental health services across a full continuum of care.



Integrate suicide prevention within medical settings to reach all Veterans.

VA Suicide Prevention Resources

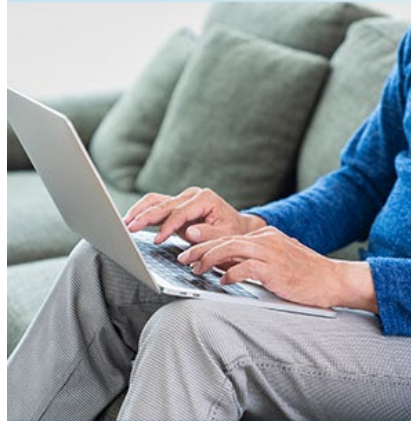
Free, Confidential Support 24/7/365

- Veterans
- Service members
- Family members
- Friends



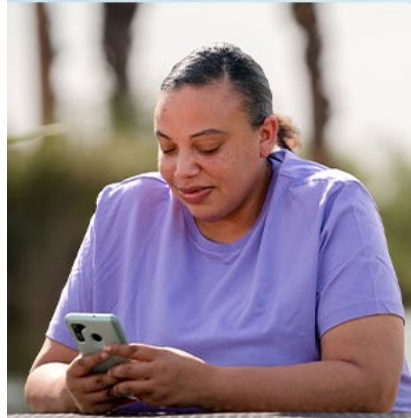
CALL

Dial 988 then Press 1



CHAT

VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat

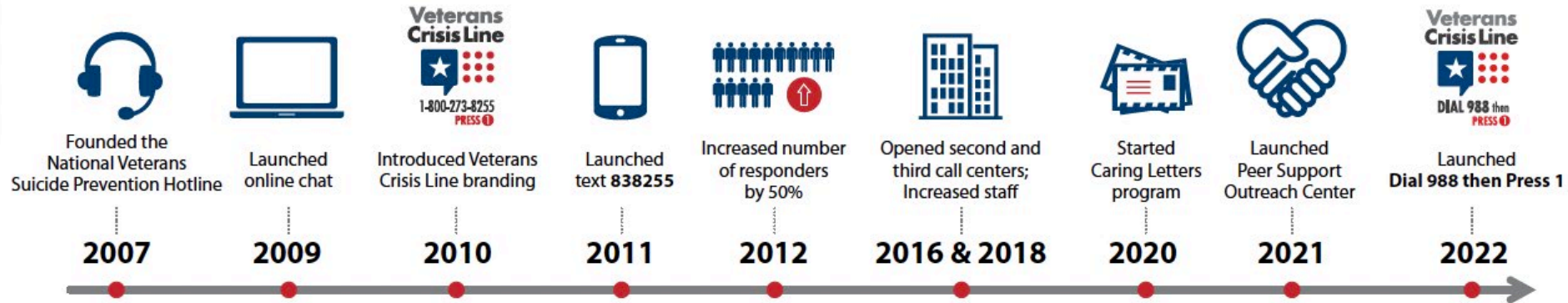


TEXT

838255



The Veterans Crisis Line is a free, confidential resource available to any Veteran, even if they are not enrolled in VA health care or registered with VA. Care does not end when the conversation is over. The Veterans Crisis Line can connect Veterans to their local suicide prevention coordinators, who will follow up and coordinate care.



More than
8 million
calls



More than
399,000
texts



More than
975,000
chats



More than
1.6 million
referrals

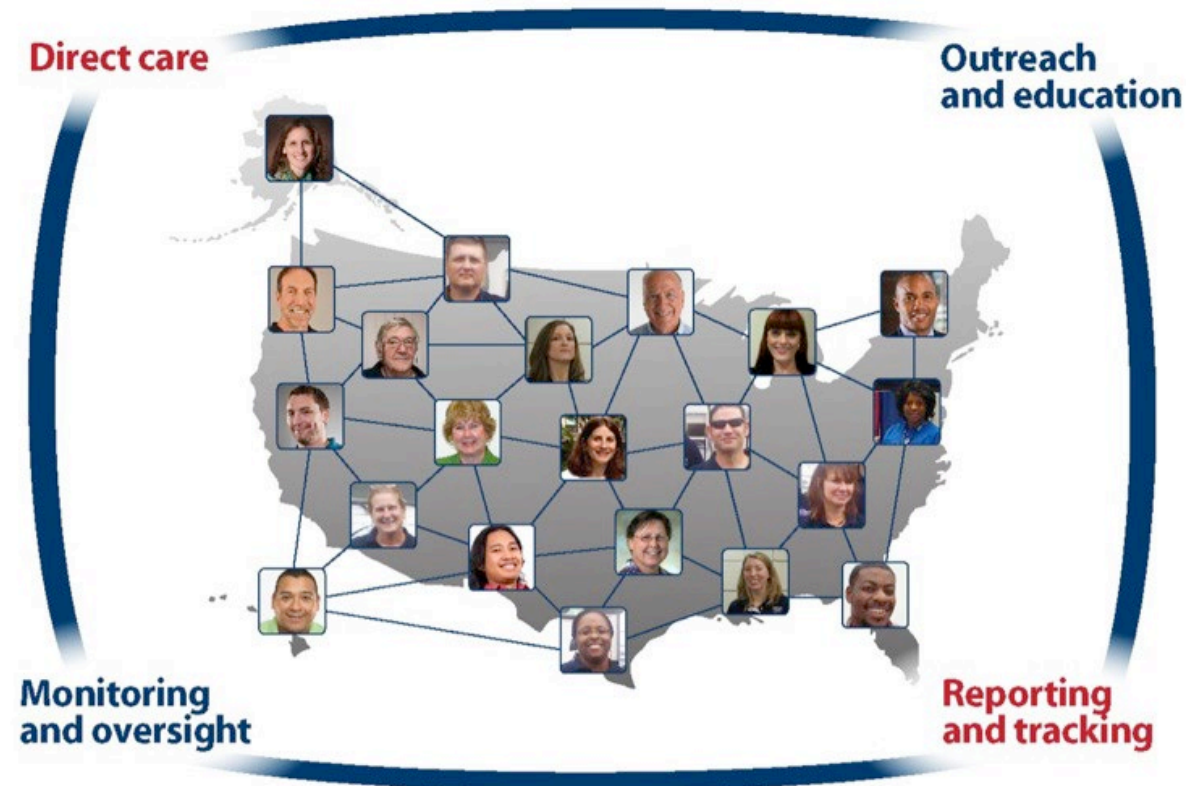
to VA Suicide Prevention Coordinators

More than
337,000
dispatches of
emergency services

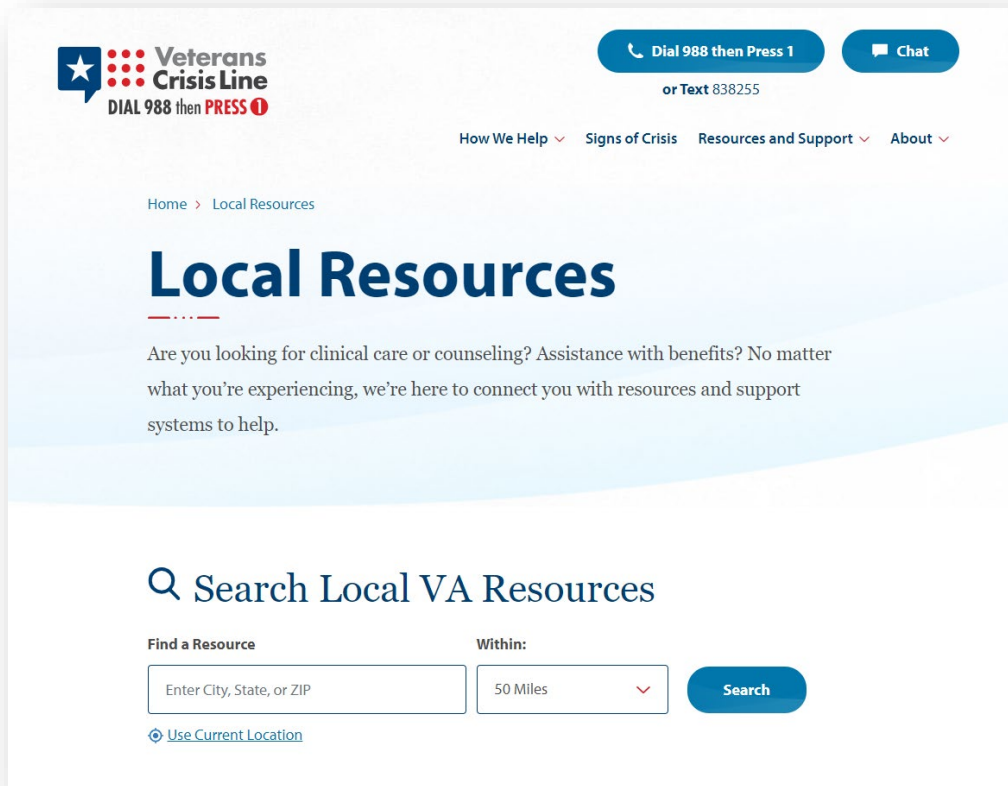
07/2024

Find a Local VA SPC at [VeteransCrisisLine.net/Resource Locator](https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/ResourceLocator)

More than 400 SPCs nationwide.



VeteransCrisisLine.net/Resource Locator



The screenshot shows the homepage of VeteransCrisisLine.net. At the top left is the logo with a star and the text "Veterans Crisis Line" and "DIAL 988 then PRESS 1". To the right are buttons for "Dial 988 then Press 1" and "Chat", with "or Text 838255" below. A navigation menu includes "How We Help", "Signs of Crisis", "Resources and Support", and "About". The main heading is "Local Resources" with a sub-heading "Home > Local Resources". Below is a paragraph: "Are you looking for clinical care or counseling? Assistance with benefits? No matter what you're experiencing, we're here to connect you with resources and support systems to help." At the bottom is a search box titled "Search Local VA Resources" with a "Find a Resource" input field, a "Within:" dropdown set to "50 Miles", and a "Search" button. A link "Use Current Location" is also present.



The screenshot shows the search results page titled "Search Local VA Resources". It displays "Showing 10 Results out of 11 for 14424". On the left, there are filters: "Find a Resource" (input field), "Use Current Location" (link), "Within" (dropdown set to "50 Miles"), and a list of resource types with checkboxes: "Suicide Prevention Coordinators", "VA Medical Centers", "Outpatient Clinics", "Vet Centers", and "Veterans Benefits Administration Offices". A "Search" button is at the bottom of the filter section. On the right, two results are shown. The first is "Canandaigua VA Medical Center" under the category "VA MEDICAL CENTERS". It lists the address "400 Fort Hill Avenue, Canandaigua, NY 14424-1159", "0 miles away", and phone number "585-393-7100". The second result is "Suicide Prevention, Team Canandaigua/Rochester" under the category "SUICIDE PREVENTION COORDINATORS". It lists the address "400 Fort Hill Avenue, Canandaigua, NY 14424". An "Email" button is visible next to the second result.

- 988 is available 24/7 across the country.
- Veterans Crisis Line (988 press 1) and 988 offer services regardless of Veteran status.
- Additional resources available upon crisis de-escalation.



VA Suicide Prevention Legislative Mandates

Joshua Omvig Veterans Suicide Prevention Act (2007)

- [Public Law 110-110](#)
- “The Secretary shall develop and carry out a comprehensive program designed to reduce the incidence of suicide among veterans”
- Creation of Suicide Prevention Coordinators
- 24-hour mental health care, creation of Veterans Crisis Line

Strong Veterans Act of 2022

- [H.R. 6411](#)
- “To amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the mental health care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.”
- 27 Sections to further strengthen mental health and suicide prevention programs at VA
- Increased training, mental health care delivery, and research

COMPACT Act, Section 201 BLUF



Section 201 of [COMPACT Act](#) states VA will provide, pay for and reimburse for emergent suicide care for eligible individuals at VA medical facilities and at non-Department facilities.



Eligible individuals include all Veterans regardless of eligibility for VHA health care benefits (includes OTH discharges).



Emergent suicide care includes inpatient or crisis residential care for no more than 30 days and/or outpatient medical and mental healthcare for no more than 90 days. If the individual remains in acute suicidal crisis, extensions may be provided. Each **new** crisis is a new episode of eligibility.



VA will ensure eligible Veterans are not financially responsible for costs associated with emergent suicide care, including emergency transportation.

COMPACT Act, Section 201 Impact:

- VA providing cost-free mental health and medical emergent suicide care removes the cost barrier
- By extending eligibility and access to acute and follow up suicide care, the net of protection VA will provide to prevent suicide increases dramatically
- **COMPACT 201 benefit potentially increases eligibility to an additional 9 million unenrolled Veterans, potentially doubling the needed services**

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Questions?

Annual Report Resources

[Veteran Suicide Data and Reporting](#)

To view all collective resources for the 2023 Annual Report, visit the data page. All other links will take you directly to the products listed.

[National Data Appendix](#)

The data presented here is meant to accompany the annual report.

[State Data Appendix](#)

The data presented here is meant to accompany the annual report.

[Report FAQs](#)

This document focuses on frequently asked questions about the annual report.

[2023 National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report](#)

[Methods Report](#)

This document provides background regarding the methods used by the VA's Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention to assess suicide mortality among Veterans. This represents a supplement to information included in the annual report.

[*State Data Sheets](#)

The 2021 state data sheets present the latest findings from VA's ongoing analysis of suicide rates and include the most up-to-date state-level suicide information for the United States.

**This link will take you to the general Suicide Prevention Data page. You must scroll halfway down the page and click on View Individual State Data Sheets, to view data for each U.S. state, island, and territory.*

VA Tools and Resources for Veterans and Supporters

Make the Connection: VA's premier mental health literacy and anti-stigma website highlights Veterans' real, inspiring stories of recovery and connects Veterans and their family members and friends with local resources.

Reach Out: Get support designed specifically for you. Family members or friends can find resources that are designed for the Veterans in your life.

Safety Planning: Information on safety planning and a template for developing a safety plan. A safety plan is a written list of coping strategies and sources of support that at-risk Veterans can use before or during a suicidal crisis.

VA Mental Health: VA's repository of mental health resources, information, and data materials.

VA Tools and Resources for Veterans and Supporters

[VA S.A.V.E. Training](#): Training designed to teach anyone who interacts with Veterans how to recognize warning signs of crisis and what to do to help a Veteran who may be at risk.

[VA Suicide Prevention](#): Explore suicide prevention resources to build networks of support among community-based organizations, Veterans Service Organizations, health care providers, and other members of your community that strengthen protective factors for Veterans.

[VA Resource Locator](#): This tool can help Veterans find local mental health and suicide prevention resources, including their local suicide prevention coordinator.

[Veterans Crisis Line](#): A free, anonymous, confidential resource available to Veterans in crisis, as well as concerned family members and friends. Dial 988 then Press 1, chat at [VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat](https://www.VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat), or text to **838255**.

Stay Connected

Follow us on social media to stay up to date on our programs and initiatives.



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[@veteransmtc](#)



[U.S. Department of
Veterans Affairs](#)

[Veterans Health
Administration](#)

[Make the Connection](#)



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[@veteranshealth](#)

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5. Charlier, J., & Reichert, J. (2020). Introduction: Deflection— Police- Led Responses to Behavioral Health Challenges. <https://www.nadcp.org/>. Retrieved March 10, 2023, from https://www.nadcp.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Journal-for-Advancing-Justice-Volume-III_final.pdf

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OUTREACH



Medical Legal Partnerships (MLP)

- Collaboration between VA clinicians and pro-bono legal service providers
- Co-located & embedded at a VA facility consistent dates and times
- Consultation specific to Veteran needs
- More than just a referral
- Training across disciplines
- Priority: **Veteran-centric care**
- VA Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) executed
- Listing found on LSV website: [VA MLP LC list](#)



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VA-Affiliated Legal Clinics

- Informal relationship between VA clinicians and pro-bono legal service providers
- Can be co-located at a VA facility
- Referral driven
- Variable days/times/services provided
- Less formal than MLP



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BAY AREA
LEGAL SERVICES
— A NONPROFIT LAW FIRM

Creating pathways to justice™

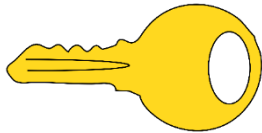
Bay Pines VA Medical-Legal Partnership (MLP):

LSV-H Grant Recipient

Pye N. Young – Managing Attorney

Tips for building A Positive MLP Relationship

Consistency is Key!



➤ Communicate with your VA Provider:

- Identify your main contact/liaison and establish regular communication with them (meetings, updates, etc.)
- Inform your VA liaison of the scope of your grant, how your program intakes/ accepts new clients

➤ Be Present & Involved:

- Request a confidential meeting space on site at the VA, but be flexible if one is not available. Establish regular 'office hours' for client accessibility
- Attend VA on site events on a regular basis (Stand Down, Resource Fairs, etc...)
- Regular presentations to the VA partner on various legal topics

➤ Provide Access:

- Share your contact information (Name, e mail, Tel. Number, Hours of operation, etc...)
- Hand outs & Flyers can be shared electronically & in person for quick reference!

Outreach & Involvement



□

LAKESIDE CLINIC MEDICAL-LEGAL PARTNERSHIP



CLINIC INFO

Walk-In Clinic
The clinic is open the first and third Wednesdays of each month, **10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.** at

Bay Pines VA
Building 102, Room 105
Bay Pines, FL 33744

January 17, 2024
February 7, 2024
February 21, 2024

March 6, 2024
March 20, 2024

April 3, 2024
April 17, 2024

May 1, 2024
May 15, 2024

June 5, 2024
June 19, 2024

Telephone
(727) 490-4040

The Medical-Legal Partnership is expanding to provide further services to Veterans who are unhoused or at risk of becoming unhoused.

AREAS OF LAW

- **VA Benefits** (service-connected disability, pension, overpayment defense, discharge upgrade)
- **Housing** (landlord-tenant, HUD-VASH)
- **Family Law** (child support/custody, divorce)
- **Domestic Violence Injunctions** (petitioning FOR an injunction only)
- **Advanced Directives** (power of attorney, health care surrogate, living will)
- **Consumer Financial Protection** (identity theft, debt collection, lemon law)
- **Sealing/Expungement**
- And more!

□

RESOURCES



LSV-H Grantee Toolkit

https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/LSV-H_Toolkit.asp

- Talking Points
- Grantee Quick Guide
- Customizable Brochure
- Promotional Social Media Content
- Social Media Graphics

Find VA Locations

<https://www.va.gov/find-locations/>

An official website of the United States government [Here's how you know](#) Talk to the Veterans Crisis Line now

VA U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Search Contact us Sign in

[VA Benefits and Health Care](#) [About VA](#) [Find a VA Location](#) [My VA](#)

[Home](#) > Find Locations

Find VA locations

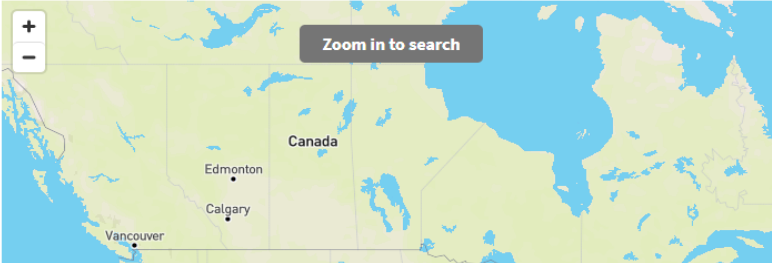
Find a VA location or in-network community care provider. For same-day care for minor illnesses or injuries, select Urgent care for facility type.

City, state or postal code **(*Required)** [Use my location](#)

Facility type **(*Required)** Service type

Choose a facility type

Please enter a location (street, city, state, or postal code) and facility type, then click search above to find facilities.



An official website of the United States government [Here's how you know](#) Talk to the Veterans Crisis Line now

VA U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Search Contact us Sign in

[VA Benefits and Health Care](#) [About VA](#) [Find a VA Location](#) [My VA](#)

[Home](#) > Find Locations

Find VA locations

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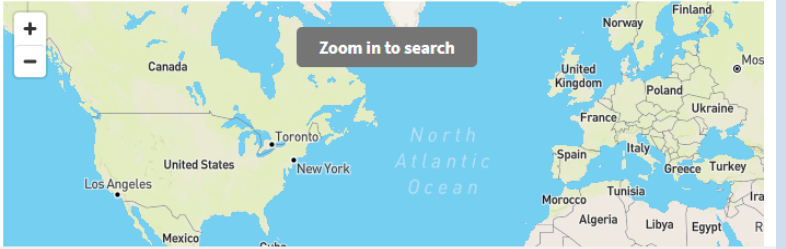
VA health Women's health

For better results:

- Zoom out to view a larger area of the map, or
- Move the map to a different area

Then click the **“Search this area of map”** button.

If we still haven't found any facilities near



Women Veterans Health Care

<https://www.womenshealth.va.gov/WOMENSHEALTH/overview.asp>

The screenshot shows the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs website for Women Veterans Health Care. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the VA logo, the text "U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs", a search bar, and a link to "Get help from Veterans Crisis Line". Below this is a main navigation menu with categories: Health, Benefits, Burials & Memorials, About VA, Resources, Media Room, Locations, and Contact Us. The breadcrumb trail reads "VA » Health Care » Women Veterans Health Care » Overview of Health Services for Women". The main heading is "Women Veterans Health Care". A left sidebar menu includes "Womens Health" (expanded), "Women Veterans Health Care Home", "Overview of Health Services for Women", "Services by Health Topic", "Eligibility and How to Apply", "Building a Culture of Respect", "Women Veterans Call Center", "FAQs", "Materials and Resources", "What's New", "For Clinicians", "About Us", "Our History", and "More Health Care". The main content area features the title "Overview of Health Services for Women" and a paragraph: "Women Veterans are a diverse group—professionals, mothers, retirees—of varying ages, racial, ethnic, gender identities, and sexual orientation. No matter how you identify, your women's health care team is here to help you stay well in all stages of your life." Below this is a section "On this page" with three links: "What resources and services does VA provide for Health and Wellness?", "How do I access services for health and wellness at VA?", and "Where can I find more information and resources on health and wellness?". A "QUICK LINKS" section contains a "Hospital Locator" button. On the right, a blue box promotes "The Women Veterans Call Center is your guide to VA." with the phone number 855-829-6636 and options for "CALL", "TEXT", and "CHAT ONLINE". Below this, a "WE ARE OPEN" section lists hours: "Weekdays: 8:00 am–10:00 pm ET" and "Saturday: 8:00 am–6:30 pm ET". A "RESOURCES" section lists: "Reproductive Health", "Health Benefits Course", "Maternity and Infertility", "Military Sexual Trauma", and "Mental Health".



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VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

VA Homeless Programs

<https://www.va.gov/homeless/>

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VA U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Search [Contact us](#) [Sign in](#)

[VA Benefits and Health Care](#) [About VA](#) [Find a VA Location](#) [My VA](#)

I AM A...
Select One

- For Veterans
- For Family Members & Spouses
- For Employees
- For Business
- Forms & Publications
- Jobs
- Volunteer or Donate
- Public & Intergovernmental Affairs
- Homeless Veterans**
 - Homepage
 - COVID-19 Resources
 - Program Overview
 - Services We Provide
 - Resources for Veterans**
 - For Homeless Veterans
 - For At-Risk Veterans
 - For Women Veterans
 - For the Community
 - Innovative Practices
 - Other Resources
 - How You Can Help

VA » VA Homeless Programs

VA Homeless Programs

Returns to Homelessness Among Veterans

There are countless reasons Veterans may return to homelessness: losing income, using their limited resources to care for a loved one, or high medical costs, to name a few. Learn why returns to homelessness occur, and what VA is doing to help.

[Learn more](#)

[Returns to Homelessness Among Veterans](#) [VA On Track to House 38,000+ Homeless Veterans in 2023](#) [Mobile Medical Units Launching Nationwide](#) [Ending Veteran Homelessness Podcast](#)

Are you a Veteran who is homeless or experiencing housing instability?

If you are a Veteran who is homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness, we strongly encourage you to contact the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at (877) 4AID-VET (877-424-3838) for assistance.

FOR VETERANS **FOR LANDLORDS** **FOR BUSINESS OWNERS**

CONNECT WITH US

Subscribe to Receive Email Updates

Email Address

Benefits
1-800-827-1000

Health Care
1-877-222-VETS (8387)

VA Inspector General
1-800-488-8244



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VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

VA Legal Services for Veterans

<https://www.va.gov/homeless/lsv.asp>

The screenshot shows the VA website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the VA logo, the text "U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs", and links for "Search", "Contact us", and "Sign in". Below this is a secondary navigation bar with "VA Benefits and Health Care", "About VA", and "Find a VA Location". The main content area is titled "VA Homeless Programs" and "Legal Services for Veterans Programs". A sidebar on the left lists various user categories under "I AM A...". The main text includes a "List of Current LSV-H Grantees (August 1, 2024 - September 30, 2025)" with a link to a full list, and a paragraph explaining the limitations of legal services. At the bottom, there is a paragraph about the LSV-H program's purpose and a partially visible paragraph about the new LSV-H grants.

VA » VA Homeless Programs » Legal Services for Veterans Programs

VA Homeless Programs

Legal Services for Veterans Programs

List of Current LSV-H Grantees (August 1, 2024 - September 30, 2025)
The LSV-H grantees for the Fiscal Year 2024 LSV-H were announced on July 1, 2024. [Click here to find a full list of current awarded grantees and their referral information](#).

Please note that the availability of legal services provided by each grantee is subject to certain limitations, including their experience and available resources. While these organizations strive to offer a wide range of legal services, not every grantee may be able to provide the specific legal services requested by eligible Veterans. For example, if a grantee's entry on this list may note that it provides services in the area of Housing Law, that grantee may be able to provide one type of Housing Law service (e.g., eviction defense in state court) but not another (e.g., pursuing a claim of housing discrimination in Federal court). We encourage individuals seeking legal assistance to inquire about the services available with their selected grantee to ensure compatibility with their needs.

Veterans who are homeless or at risk for homelessness often face legal issues that make it difficult for them to obtain or maintain stable housing. The Legal Services for Veterans (LSV) program aims to increase access to legal services to eligible Veterans through the award of grant funds and by promoting Medical Legal Partnerships and VA-affiliated legal clinics throughout the Veterans Health Administration (VHA). LSV is a component of the [Veterans Justice Programs](#) (VJP) within the VHA Homeless Programs Office.

The new Legal Services for Homeless Veterans and Veterans At-Risk for Homelessness Grants (LSV-H) will enable VA to deliver legal services to these Veterans. Legal services – particularly civil legal services that support accessing government benefits, navigating family law, ensuring access to safe housing, and



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U.S. Department
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Connect Homeless and At-Risk Veterans to VA

Veterans who are homeless or at risk of homelessness—and their family members, friends and supporters—can make the call to or chat online with the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans, where trained counselors are ready to talk confidentially 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



National Call Center
for Homeless Veterans

877-424-3838

va.gov/homeless



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U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Crisis Line

- Veterans
- Service Members
- Family Members
- Friends



Confidential crisis chat at VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat or text **838255**



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VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

LSV-H Veteran Survey

LSV-H Grant Survey for Veterans

- **Purpose:** To learn from Veterans ways to improve the LSV-H grant program to better meet their needs
- **Format:** A brief survey, administered by a VA-funded evaluation team separate from the LSV-H grant program team
- **Request:** Share an informational flyer with Veterans to whom you deliver legal services through the LSV-H grant program
- Flyer available on the LSV Provider website



Legal Services for Homeless Veterans and Veterans At-Risk for Homelessness (LSV-H)

A new VA program that gives awards to organizations to provide legal services to Veterans

More information about LSV-H is available at <https://www.va.gov/homeless/lsv.asp>

For any questions or concerns, please call or text Samantha at (617) 963-6766

You are invited to complete a survey about the legal services you received

- Please consider completing a 10-minute survey to help the VA improve the new legal services program for Veterans (LSV-H).

You can access the survey online at https://vhaordfedramp.gov1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6Sx12Hr0TMZ9R9c or scan this QR code:



- All of your answers are **confidential**. The LSV-H legal service organization that helped you with your legal needs will **not** be notified that you completed the survey.
- If you prefer to complete the survey by phone, please text or leave a message at (617) 963-6766 with the best phone number to reach you.
- A \$20 CVS gift card will be provided if you complete the survey and provide a mailing address.



Legal Services for Veterans (LSV)
VA QUERI Partnered Evaluation Initiative



Choose **VA**

Next Steps

- Review the resources and information shared during the Onboarding Sessions
- Note important due dates:
 - SF425
 - Quarterly reports
- Reach out to your local VA facility and make connections
- Log into eGMS and confirm accuracy of Grant Contacts
- Familiarize and register with SQUARES
- Visit & bookmark the LSV Grant Provider website:
https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/LSV_Provider.asp
- Contact LSV Program Office with questions: lsvgrants@va.gov
- Save the Date(s), National LSV-H Grantee Call:
 - 1st Wednesday of month 2pm ET beginning October 2, 2024

Q&A and Discussion

