



From Responsive to Proactive: Arizona's CDC High Risk Project

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AGENDA

- **Welcome!**
- **Introduction to Arizona's CDC project**
- **Demonstration of the segmentation data tool**
- **Examples of approaches for upstream prevention**
- **Discussion - priority populations & approaches**

POLL QUESTION

Introduction to Arizona's CDC project



ACMF received two-years of grant funding from the CDC and CDC Foundation for the Veterans Evaluation Demonstration Project.



2nd year project focused on development of data tools to support upstream veteran suicide prevention efforts.



This effort supports a public health approach and is based on work by a CDC workgroup and the Population Council.

Why this project?



There are lessons to be learned from **public health** and **global health**.



To identify disparities and tailor solutions we need:

- 1 Actionable data
- 2 Infrastructure to deploy solutions
- 3 A coordinated response.

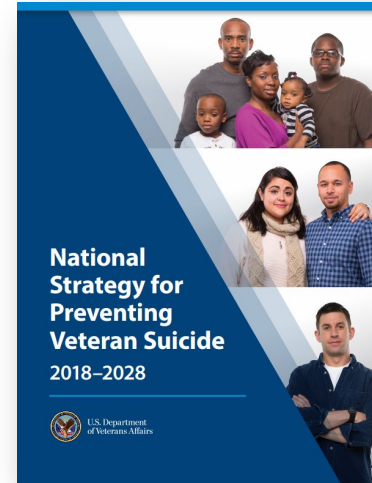


This project is focused on creating the necessary tools that **complement** what exists, **magnify** disparities and **equip** states and communities.

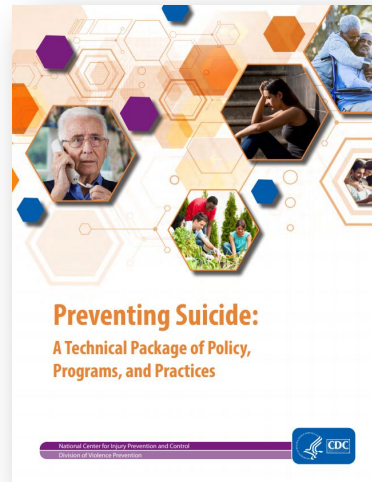
National Landscape



PREVENTS Executive Order on Veteran Suicide



VA National Strategy for Preventing Veteran Suicide



CDC Preventing Suicide Technical Package



SAMHSA/VA SMVF TA Center Governor's and Mayor's Challenges

Why do we need a public health approach?



We can't **TREAT** our way to zero suicides.

We can't **CRISIS INTERVENE** our way to zero suicides.

These approaches are essential elements but they are not enough to move the needle.

We can't use the **SAME**
approach for every veteran.



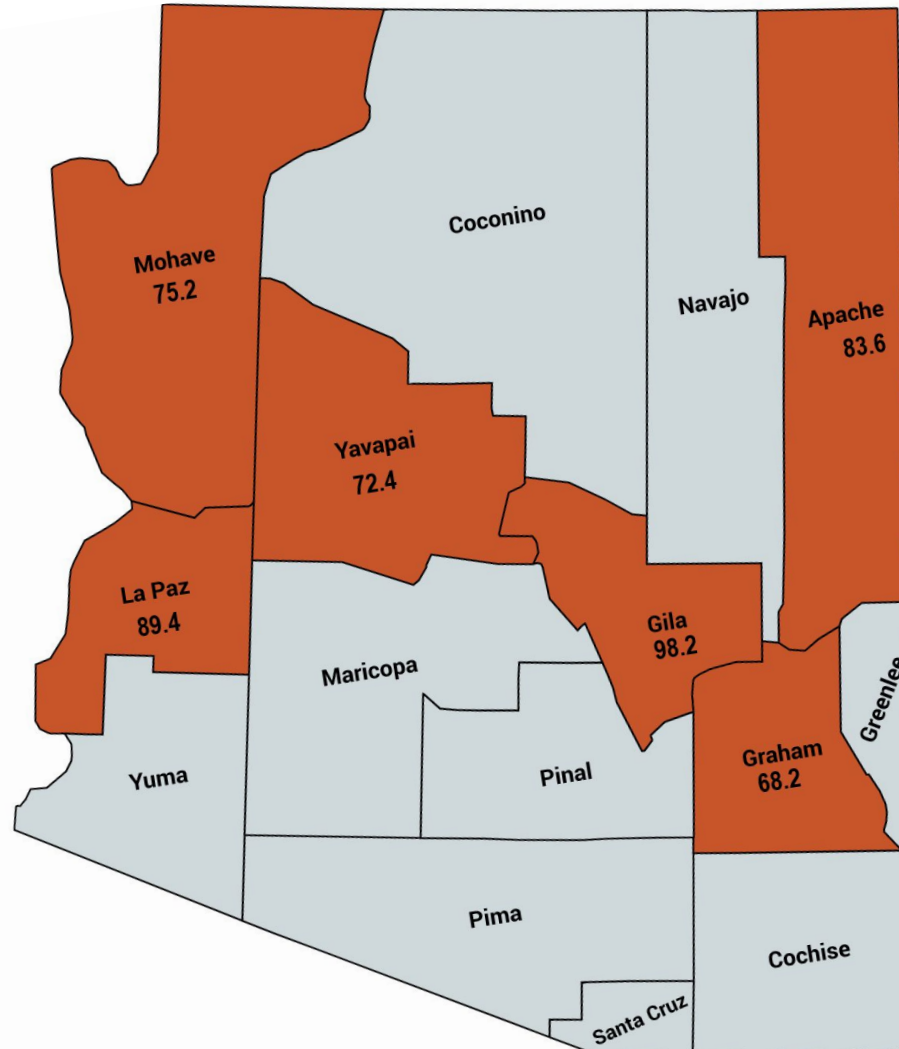
We need to identify those with the
highest disparity of risk and **tailor**
upstream solutions to those groups.

Identifying High-Risk Segments

- Research shows certain populations are at increased risk for suicide.
- Factors increasing the likelihood of suicidality can include: disability status, age, race/ethnicity, and other social determinants of health.
- This project is focused on the development of a comprehensive, cross-sectional analysis to identify highest-risk veteran segments:
 - Arizona Violent Death Reporting System (AZ-VDRS)
 - Census American Community Survey
 - Arizona Veteran Survey

Identifying High-Risk Segments - By County

Arizona State
Average:
20.6 veteran
deaths by suicide
per 100,000



These are
counties with
rates that are
~3-5x the
statewide rate.

Identifying High-Risk Segments - By Zip Code

Veterans represent approximately **12%** of Arizona's population.

Any zip code with veteran suicides accounting for **more than 12%** of total suicides is deemed at elevated risk.

In 20 zip codes 100% of suicides were veterans (over a 3-year period).

100%

50-99%

30-49%

12-29%

20 zip codes

16 zip codes

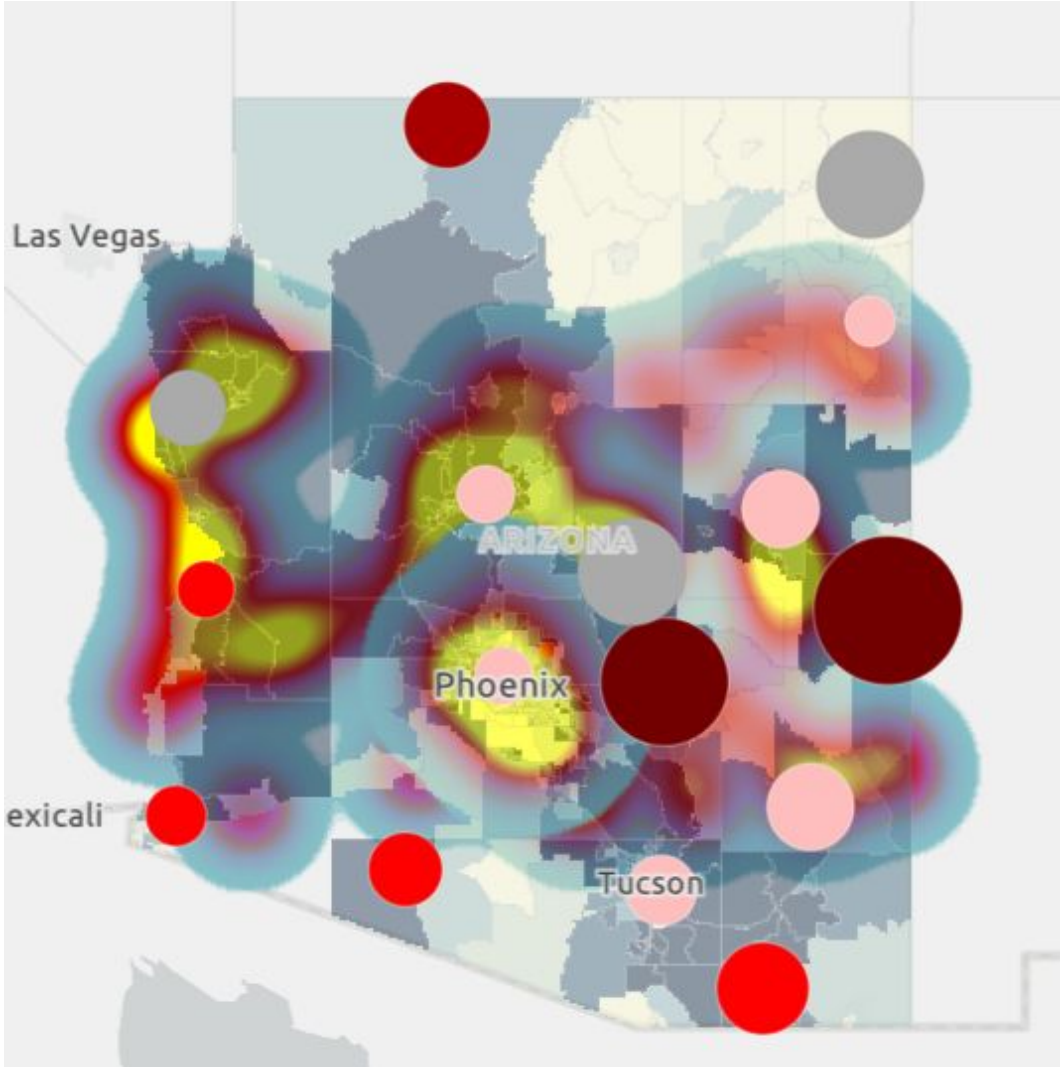
50 zip codes

117 zip codes

Identifying High-Risk Segments

- Data was cross-referenced with disability status, income, age, and race/ethnicity data from the Census.
- Zip codes with the highest concentration of demographic risk factors are highlighted as high-risk segments.
- All data was then geocoded and mapped using ArcGIS to visualize “clusters” of high risk populations of focus.
- Additional data sources can be layered on the map to further segment focus populations.

Map Demo



Turning Data Into Action

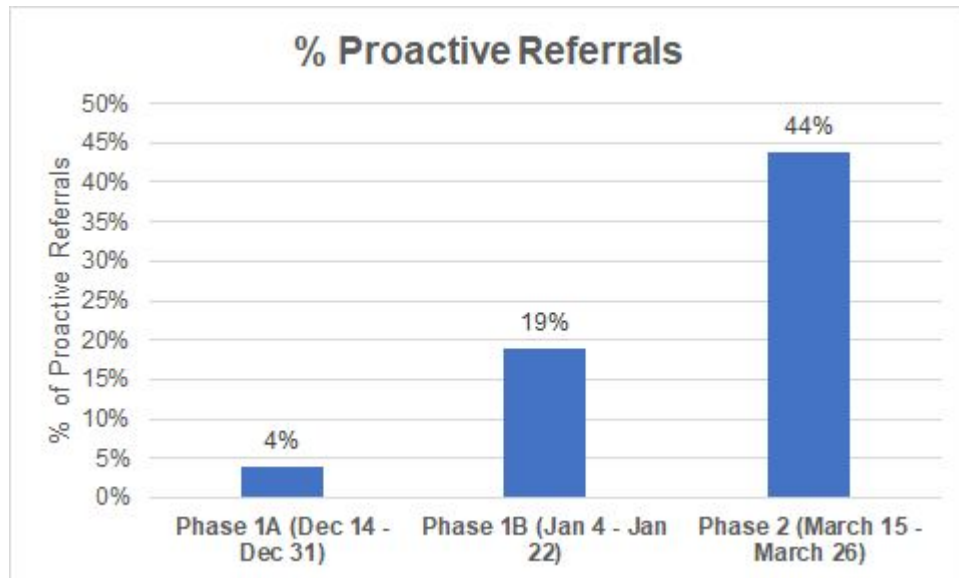
Over the past year, our ACMF, data and Be Connected team has started implementing a process to turn data into action:

1. **Identify** focus population
2. **Develop** projects with different approaches for reaching and engaging service members, veterans, family members and caregivers within that focus population
3. **Implement** projects, collect data and continuously monitor outcomes
4. **Iterate** and evolve projects based on what is effective and lessons learned

Examples of Proactive Prevention Activities

Veterans with a known or potential disability

- Disability is a **predictor** of suicide.
- Every month, the AZ Department of Veterans' Services serves **3000+** veterans with known or potential disability.
- Goal is to increase the number of these veterans who are **proactively referred** to Be Connected for support and connection to resources outside their disability claim.
- A lean management approach is being used to test different ways to make these proactive referrals with a **goal of 100% of clients being offered a proactive referral and an increasing % accepting.**



Examples of Proactive Prevention Activities

COVID Community Support Program Recipients



Food Insecurity

- Project supported by a grant from the Bob Woodruff Foundation.
- Community helpers were invited to **nominate military and veteran households impacted by COVID-19** for assistance with groceries and delivery when needed.
- We received **138 nominations in 2 weeks**, mostly in rural and highly rural areas, including tribal nations.
- Our navigators conducted a **comprehensive needs assessment** with every person and are providing ongoing follow up.

What's Next?

Discussion:

What segments are you interested in learning more about?

What additional data would be helpful?

Once we identify these segments, how can we reach these populations?

*Thank
you!*



Special thanks to the Arizona Office of the Governor and the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family for continued partnership in support of all who serve and their families.



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