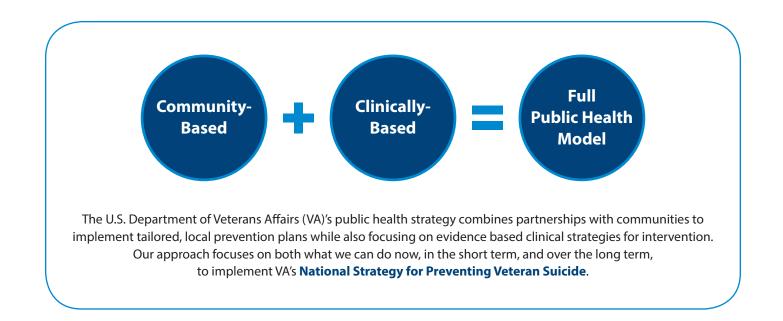
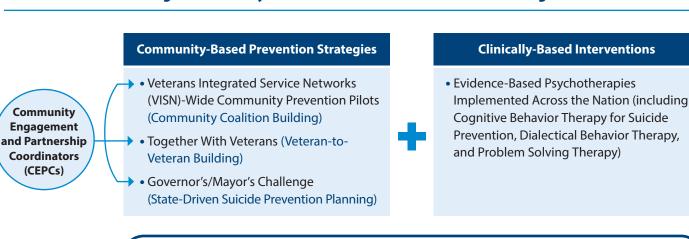


Working Together to Implement VA's Public Health Model for Suicide Prevention



Suicide Prevention 2.0 (SP 2.0): Combining Community & Clinical Interventions with a Long-Term Vision



The success of SP 2.0 is dependent on the critical foundation of adequate mental health staffing, defined as: 7.72 outpatient mental health full-time equivalent employees per 1,000 Veterans in outpatient mental health



The Now Plan: *Prevention Strategies to Implement in the Short Term*



Strategy 1

Lethal Means Safety: Securing Firearms, Medications, and Other Items to Save Lives

- **Goal:** Promote the dissemination of lethal means safety materials and training to empower Veterans, community members, providers, and loved ones to ask the question and save lives
- **Outcome:** Increase education and awareness across healthcare providers within the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) and in communities across the nation on lethal means safety



Strategy 2

Caring for Veterans in Specific Medical Populations

- **Goal:** Promote suicide screening and management of "medical bad news" in specific populations that may be at risk for suicide
- Outcome: Increase suicide risk screening, assessment, and follow-up with Veterans



Strategy 3

Re-Engaging Prior VHA Users: Directly Reaching Veterans

- Goal: Conduct outreach and encourage prior VHA users to reengage in VHA care
- **Outcome:** Increase contact with Veterans who previously received care from VHA in order to offer additional referrals for VHA care and learn more about their current healthcare access



Strategy 4

Suicide Prevention Program Enhancement

- **Goal:** Establish and improve VHA processes for identifying and intervening with Veterans at increased risk
- **Outcome:** Increase use of clinical resources such as patient record flags, safety planning, Recovery Engagement and Coordination for Health — Veterans Enhanced Treatment (REACH VET), and additional best practices to decrease suicide and engage Veterans at increased risk



Strategy 5

Reaching All Veterans Through Powerful Messages of Hope: Nearly 20 Million Veterans, 2 National Campaigns

- **Goal:** Reach Veterans inside and outside VA to engage them in treatment and access to needed services
- **Outcome:** Implement public health messaging campaign to increase awareness and engagement in Veteran-centric resources across the nation

