



Crisis Intercept Mapping for Service Members, Veterans, and their Families

Enhancing suicide prevention, crisis care, and postvention services for SMVF

What's at Stake

Veterans die of suicide at a disproportionate rate. In 2018, nearly 14 percent of all U.S. adults who died of suicide were Veterans, even though they make up just 8 percent of the country's adults. Only 35 percent of

Veterans who died of suicide were in contact with the Veterans Health Administration. Meaning that services provided in the jurisdiction are an important way to reach and help Veterans who are at risk.



The Solution

Crisis Intercept Mapping for Service Members, Veterans, and their Families (SMVF) is a targeted mapping service. Through this mapping, attendees explore how to enhance suicide prevention, crisis care, and post-vention services for SMVF. Through the Crisis Intercept Mapping process, decision-makers develop an action plan to strengthen the crisis care continuum for SMVF.



The Model

The Crisis Intercept Mapping process helps jurisdictions support SMVF who experience thoughts of suicide. The Crisis Intercept Map prioritizes the following targets for SMVF in mental health crisis: (1) meeting SMVF where they are in the jurisdiction, (2) delivering acute care, and (3) offering follow-up assistance when an individual is still at high risk.

The Crisis Intercept Mapping process outlines the flow of SMVF experiencing thoughts of suicide through behavioral health services. The mapping focuses on four specific intercepts, or moments when help could be provided.



Jurisdiction Partners

The jurisdiction partners involved in the Crisis Intercept Mapping process for SMVF include the following:

- Medical centers
- Veterans service organizations and trauma recovery programs
- Local mental health and substance use treatment services
- Local law enforcement agencies
- Crisis hotlines, local hospitals, and emergency departments
- Local, state, and federal departments of Veterans affairs



Jurisdiction Benefits of CIM

CIM jurisdictions have experienced successful crisis system improvements, including the following:

- Enhanced screening processes and tracking of Veterans
- Increased safety measures and training programs
- Improved crisis response and safety planning
- Expanded support services and after-care coordination
- Partnerships dedicated to enhancing coordination and access to care
- Heightened awareness of VA that may result in sharing of resources
- Enhanced program visibility and positive jurisdictional PR
- Coordinated, free, and ongoing technical support
- Enhanced grant funding potential with CIM data

