

## **Veteran Suicide Prevention Evaluation: Reverse Site Visit (YR 6)**

---

*The agenda is tentative and subject to change. Please note participation in Day Two is limited to current and former VSPE grantees.*

### **Day One: Thursday, June 6, 2024**

*Session Attendees: CDC Foundation, CDC, Current and Former VSPE VSOs, Partners*

#### **9:00 a.m. Meeting Welcome and Overview**

Emily Saxon, MPH, CPH, Senior Program Officer, and Ebony Akinsanya MPH, Director of Noninfectious Disease Programs, CDC Foundation

#### **9:05 a.m. VSPE Program Highlights and National Strategy for Suicide Prevention**

Judy R. Qualters, PhD, Director, Division of Injury Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control

- This session will provide program highlights over the years and introduction to suicide prevention, evaluation framework and context from the CDC.

#### **9:30 a.m. VSPE Year 6 Grantee Presentations Session 1**

- This session will include presentations from the year 6 VSPE grantees focusing on their evaluation projects, lessons learned, and plans for continued evaluation efforts at their organizations. Year 6 grantees include:
  - Camp Southern Ground
  - Clear Path for Veterans
  - CreatiVets
  - Great Lakes Dryhootch

#### **10:50 a.m. Break**

#### **11:00 a.m. VSPE Year 6 Grantee Presentations Session 2**

- This session will include presentations from the year 6 VSPE grantees focusing on their evaluation projects, lessons learned, and plans for continued evaluation efforts at their organizations. Year 6 grantees include:
  - Operation Stand Down Tennessee
  - Veterans Recovery Resources

#### **11:40 a.m. VSPE Program Impact and VSPE Program Evaluation Toolkit Preview**

Emily Saxon, MPH, CPH, Senior Program Officer, Tanha Patel, MPH, Senior Technical Advisor, and Ivy Vitanzos Cervantes, MD, MPH, CDC Foundation

- This session will be a preview and demonstration of the VSPE Program Evaluation Toolkit, which will be launched for public use in summer of 2024.

#### **12:00 – 2:00 p.m. Lunch Break (on your own)**

## **2:00 p.m. Welcome Back**

Emily Saxon, MPH, CPH, Senior Program Officer, CDC Foundation

## **2:05 p.m. Sustained Evaluation and Lessons Learned from VSPE**

- During this session three former VSPE grantees present on how evaluation has transformed their organizations since participating in the VSPE program. Presentations include:
  - **Sustaining Evaluation through Diverse Partnerships Expanding Data and Evaluation Capacity through Partnership** – Nicola Winkel, Project Director, Arizona Coalition for Military Families

Arizona Coalition for Military Families will present on how diverse partnerships between academic institutions and veteran serving organizations can expand capacity for implementing and sustaining evaluation. They will also highlight examples of evaluation projects they have completed during the VSPE project and since participating in the program.

- **Redeveloping Objective Zero (the App) Through Evaluation** – Gloribeth Fernandez, Program Director, Objective Zero Foundation

Objective Zero will present how they have used evaluation to improve and develop version 2.0 of the Objective Zero app, including their plans to evaluate the new version of the app.

- **Streamlining Evaluation Efforts Through the Introduction of the Empowered Veteran Index – Short Form Scale for measuring Personal Growth, Connectedness, and Community Impact.** Ryan Humphres, Research and Evaluation Analyst, The Mission Continues

The Mission Continues is in the process of streamlining its evaluation efforts, including the creation of an externally validated 15 question Short-Form version to replace its previously used 35 question Empowered Veteran Index Scale. This project is expected to improve The Mission Continues' ability to evaluate the impact of its programs and initiatives on the well-being, connectedness, and civic engagement of its veteran community. Additionally, The Mission Continues expects that the shorter scale will be easier for other veteran serving organizations to integrate the tool into their evaluation efforts to better understand their influence on those they serve.

## **3:00 p.m. Partnership through Evaluation**

Corinna Kelley MPH and Maudra Brown MPH, C.R.E.I.D Consulting, LLC

- During this session C.R.E.I.D Consulting LLC, engage participants in facilitated dialogue around the intersection of developing meaningful and sustainable partnerships through evaluation.

## **5:00 p.m. Meeting Wrap-up**

## **6:30 p.m. Networking Hour (Optional)**

CDC Foundation will coordinate an optional networking hour for in-person participants to attend at their leisure. Food and beverage will **not** be provided.

- Location TBD

**Day Two: Friday, June 7, 2024**

*Session Attendees: Current and Former VSPE VSOs*

**9:00 a.m. Meeting Welcome and Reflection**

Emily Saxon, MPH, CPH, Senior Program Officer, CDC Foundation

**9:30 a.m. Community of Practice: Sustaining Program Evaluation**

Kaitlin Cashwell, Director of Development, and Cheree Tham, Chief of Programs & Initiatives, America's Warrior Partnership

- Session 1: About Emotional Intelligence and Evaluation  
9:50 a.m. Panel Discussion  
10:50 a.m. Breakout Discussion
- Session 2: Communicating About Evaluation  
12:05 p.m. Communications Workshop  
Emily Saxon, MPH, CPH, Senior Program Officer, CDC Foundation  
12:15 p.m. Breakout Discussion

**12:50 p.m. Meeting Wrap-up**

Emily Saxon, MPH, CPH, Senior Program Officer, CDC Foundation