

Creating and Using Partnerships to Reduce Access to Lethal Means: Part 1

June 17 2020, 2-3:30pm ET

- ✓ Welcome! Our meeting will begin shortly!
- ✓ Before we begin, please chat in ***your name, organization, and location from where you're calling from.***
- ✓ If you're having technical difficulties, please let us know in the chat.

Creating and Using Partnerships to Reduce Access to Lethal Means for Suicide Prevention: Part 1

June 17, 2020

Suicide Prevention Resource Center





Funding and Disclaimer



The Suicide Prevention Resource Center at EDC is supported by a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS), under Grant No. 5U79SM062297.

The views, opinions, and content expressed in this product do not necessarily reflect the views, opinions, or policies of CMHS, SAMHSA, or HHS.

Technical Tips

- ✓ Audio is being provided over your speakers.
- ✓ If you do not have speakers dial **877-259-3257**. Lines will be muted for the duration of the webinar.
- ✓ Please type any questions, comments or tech issues into the chat box located on the left.
- ✓ Click  on the upper right to make the presentation **larger**.
- ✓ Click  again to return to **normal** view.
- ✓ The recording and slides will be made available after the presentation.

SPRC Content Leads

Bonnie Lipton



Senior Prevention Specialist
Waltham, MA
she/her/hers

Rachael Kenter



Prevention Specialist
Columbus, OH
she/her/hers

SPRC Technology Leads

Keri Lemoine



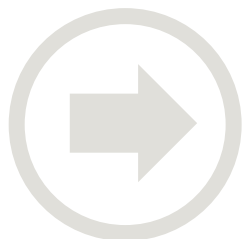
Webinar Specialist
Waltham, MA
she/her/hers

Shannon Cassidy



Project Associate
Waltham, MA
she/her/hers

Agenda



- ✓ Welcome
- ✓ Group Norms
- ✓ Overview of Lethal Means
- ✓ Understanding Partnerships
- ✓ Interview with Susan Keys
- ✓ Lethal Means and COVID-19
- ✓ Next steps

Training Series Overview

June 17th – Lethal means overview and building partnerships

- ✓ Define means of suicide by population
- ✓ Identify ways to collaborate with partners to begin access to lethal means work
- ✓ Describe how to implement a shared vision with a broad range of partners

July 15th – Focusing your partnership's efforts

- ✓ Explore opportunities to mobilize on current events
- ✓ Identify barriers to creating partnerships
- ✓ Discuss strategies to advocate for lethal means reduction



Who's On the Webinar Today?

State Dept. of Public Health

Veterans' Affairs

Law Enforcement

Suicide Prevention/
Mental Health Coalition

Tribal Non-Profit

Campus/Universities

Urban Indian Center

Community Non-Profit

Behavioral Health System

Crisis Help Line

Tribal Healthcare System

Substance Use Disorder Providers

State Dept. of Mental Health

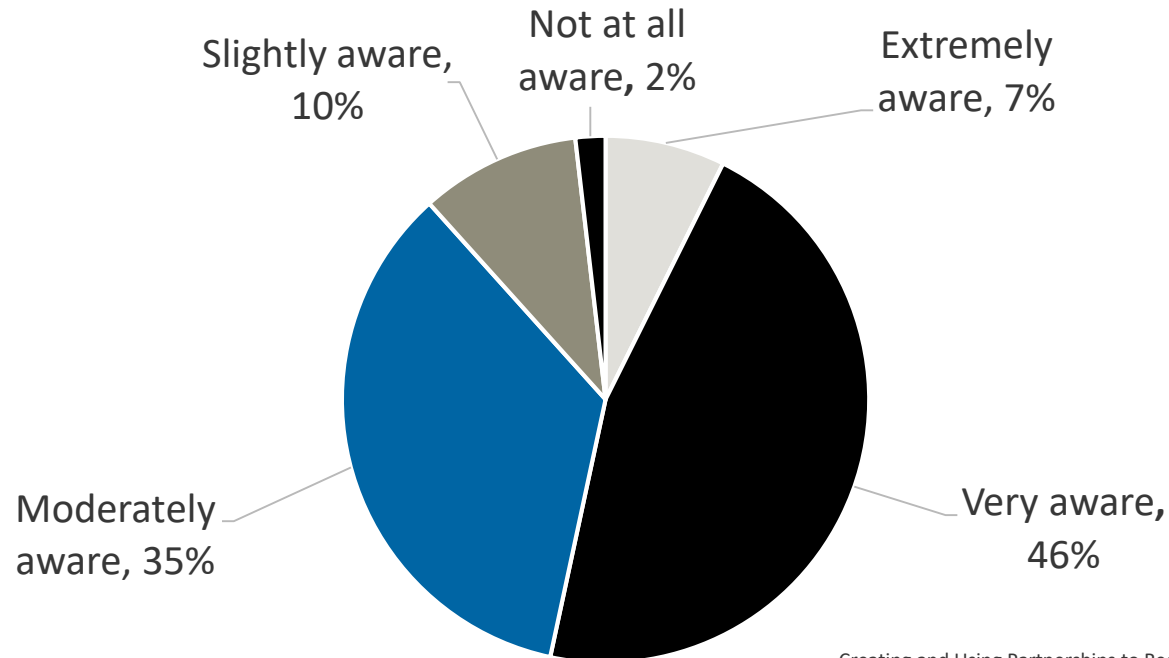
Group Norms

- ✓ Be respectful and compassionate to each other
- ✓ Be respectful of other's views – we may disagree, but we have a shared vision of reducing deaths by suicide
- ✓ Avoid/explain acronyms and jargon
- ✓ Be mindful of the time
- ✓ Be present



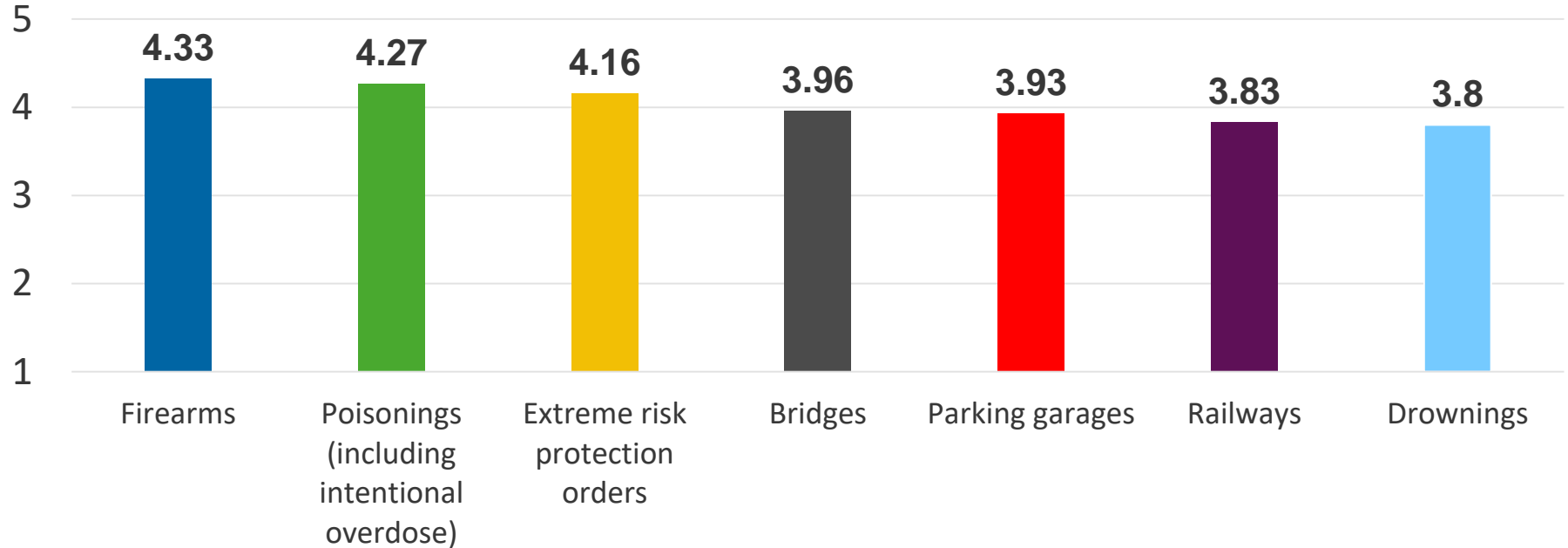
What You Told Us...

How would you classify your awareness level about lethal means strategies to prevent suicide in communities?



What You Told Us...

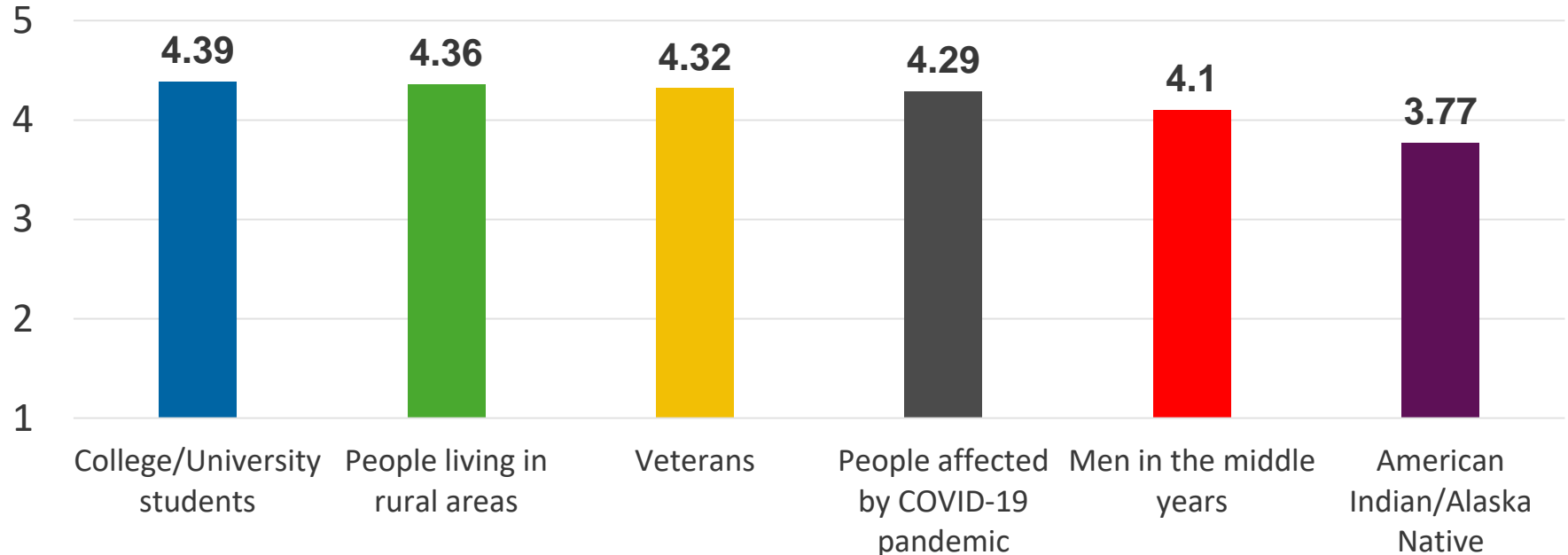
Mean level of Interest: General Information about Lethal Means:



**Scale: 1=Not at all interested; 2=Slightly interested; 3=Moderately interested; 4=Very interested; 5=Extremely Interested*

What You Told Us...

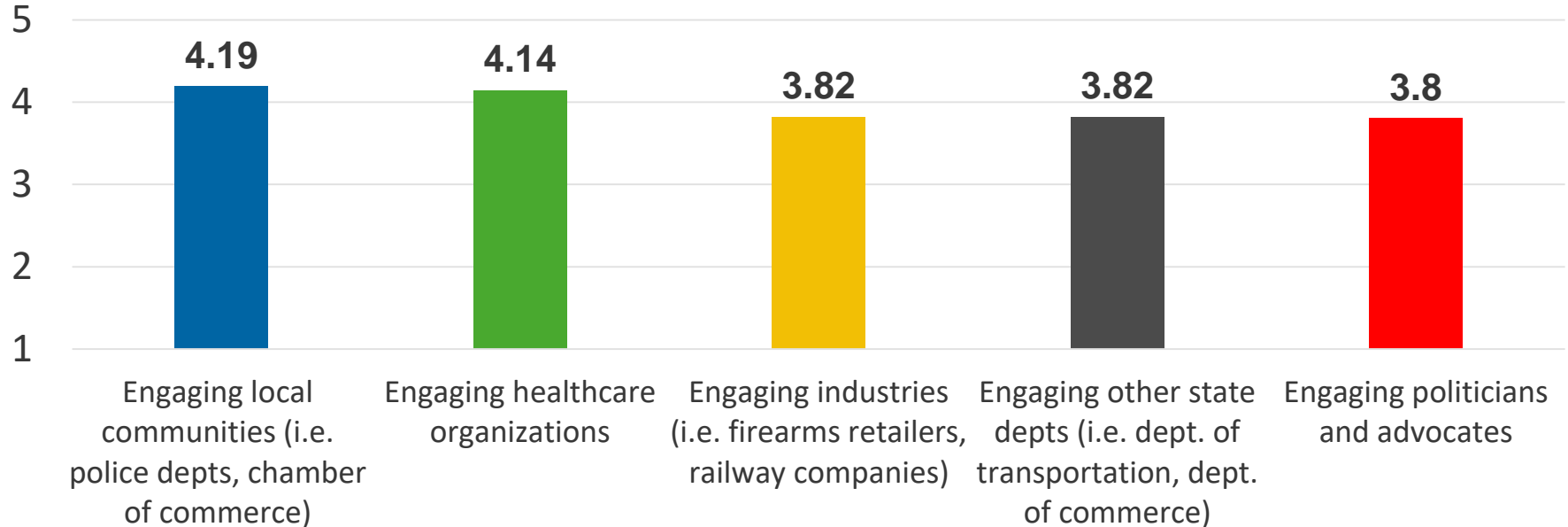
Lethal Means Strategies in the Following Populations:



**Scale: 1=Not at all interested; 2=Slightly interested; 3=Moderately interested; 4=Very interested; 5=Extremely Interested*

What You Told Us...

Lethal Means Partnerships You're Interested in Developing:



**Scale: 1=Not at all interested; 2=Slightly interested; 3=Moderately interested; 4=Very interested; 5=Extremely Interested*

Lethal Means Challenges: What You Told Us

- ✓ Lack of support from various groups
- ✓ Limited funding/resources
- ✓ Hard to get started
- ✓ Stigma towards mental health/suicide
- ✓ Hard to get broad collaboration
- ✓ Covid-19 changing priorities
- ✓ Fear of 2nd amendment restrictions
- ✓ Difficulty in getting accurate data
- ✓ Location



Poll: Write In

Write in Poll:

Why did you decide to participate in
this webinar series?



Overview of Lethal Means: Where does it fit?

Overview

Access to Lethal Means:

- ✓ Many suicide attempts are short-term crisis.
- ✓ Reducing access to lethal means saves lives.
- ✓ Access to lethal means is a risk factor for suicide.



Identify
and Assist

Increase
Help-Seeking

COMPREHENSIVE
**APPROACH
TO SUICIDE
PREVENTION**

Effective
Care/Treatment

Care Transitions/
Linkages

Respond
to Crisis

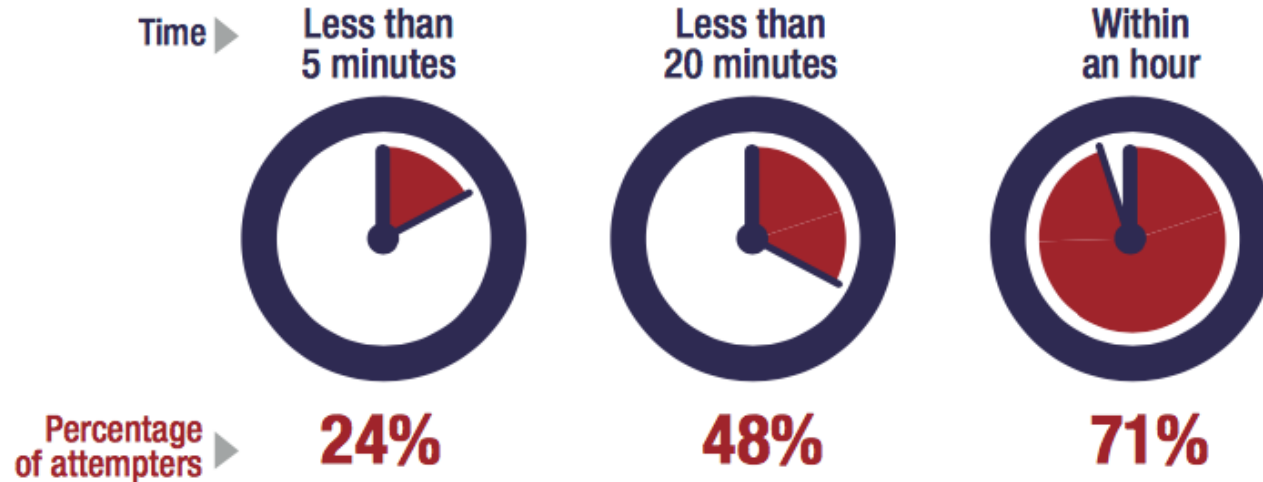
Postvention

Reduce
Access
to
Means

Life Skills
and Resilience

Connectedness

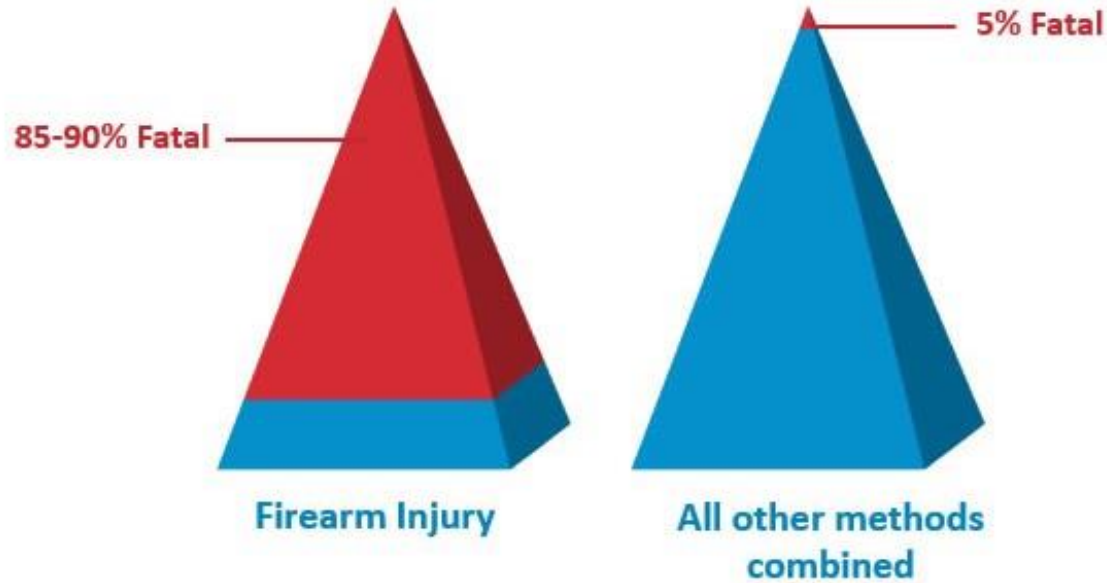
Time from Decision to Action



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(supp):49-59.

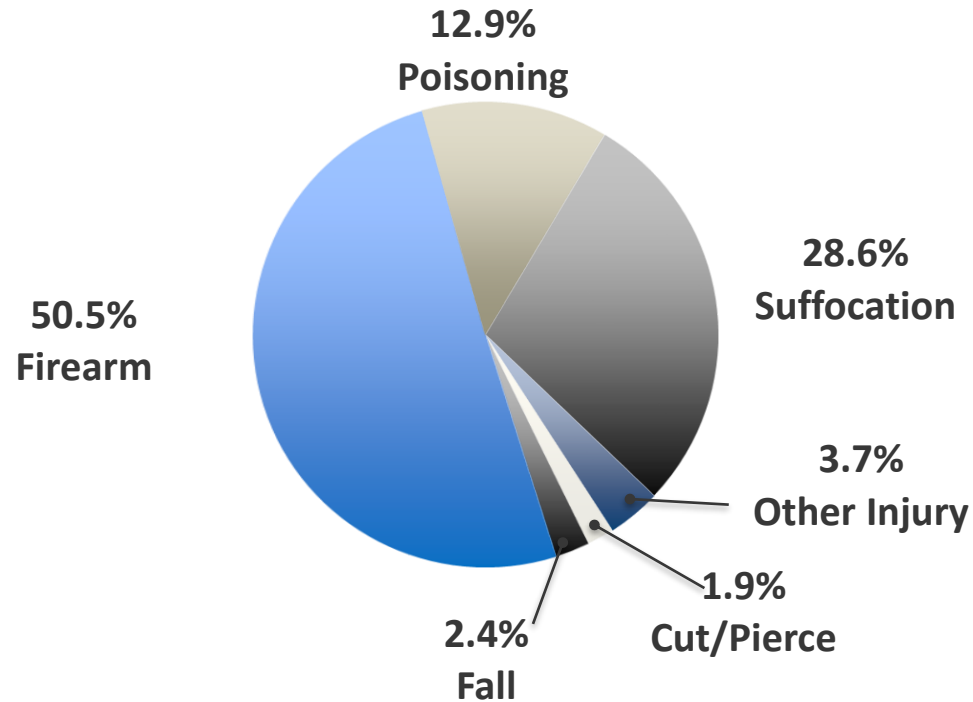
www.sprc.org

Fatality of Means



CDC WISQARS: Deaths from death certificate data; nonfatal incidents estimated from national sample of hospital emergency departments

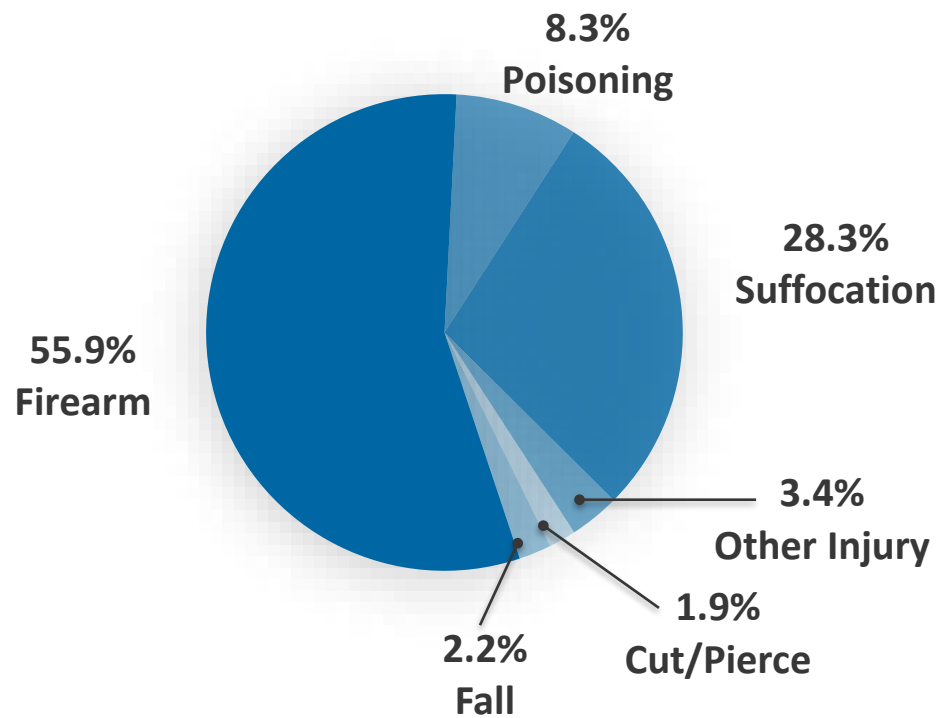
Means of Suicide, United States 2018



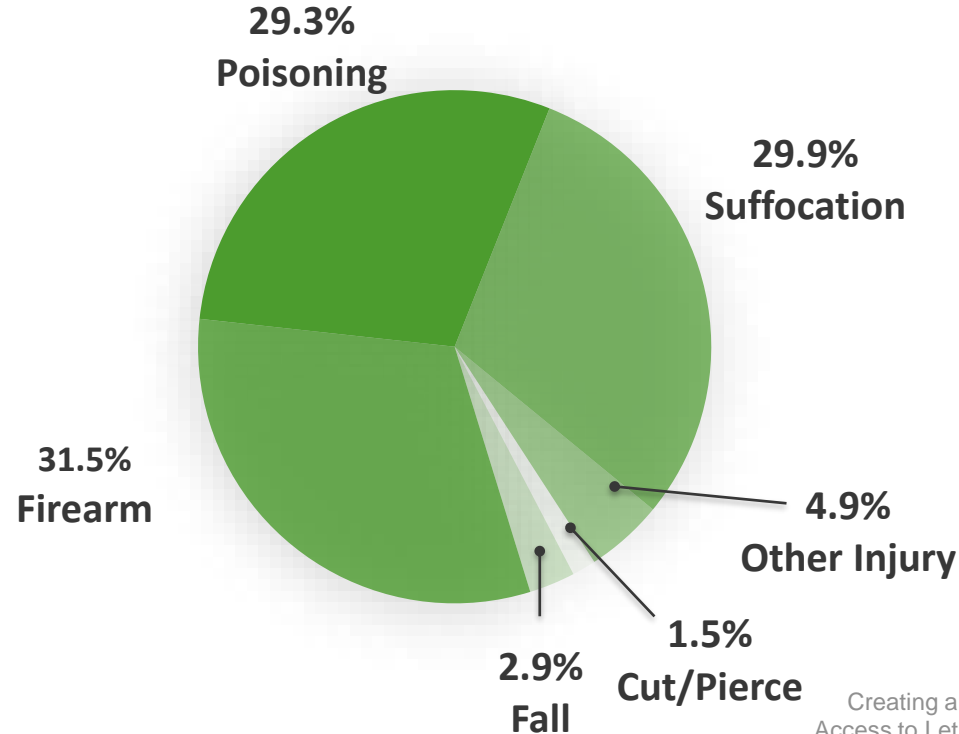
Source: CDC, 2020

www.sprc.org

Means of Suicide among Males, United States 2018

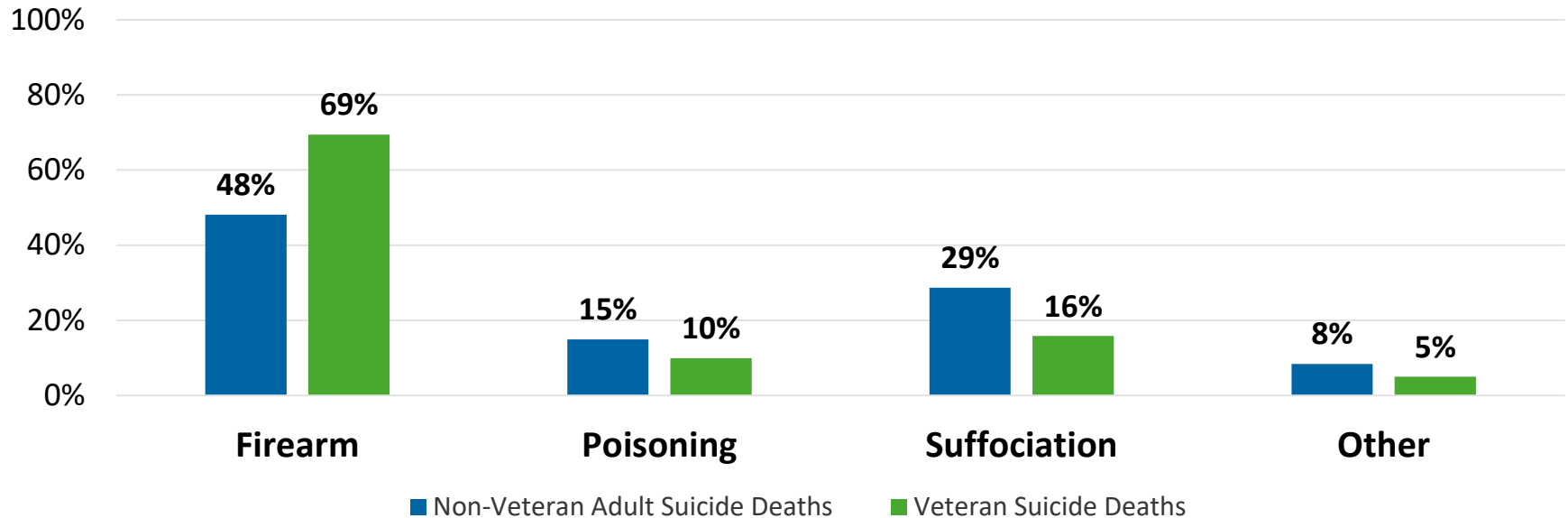


Means of Suicide among Females, United States 2018

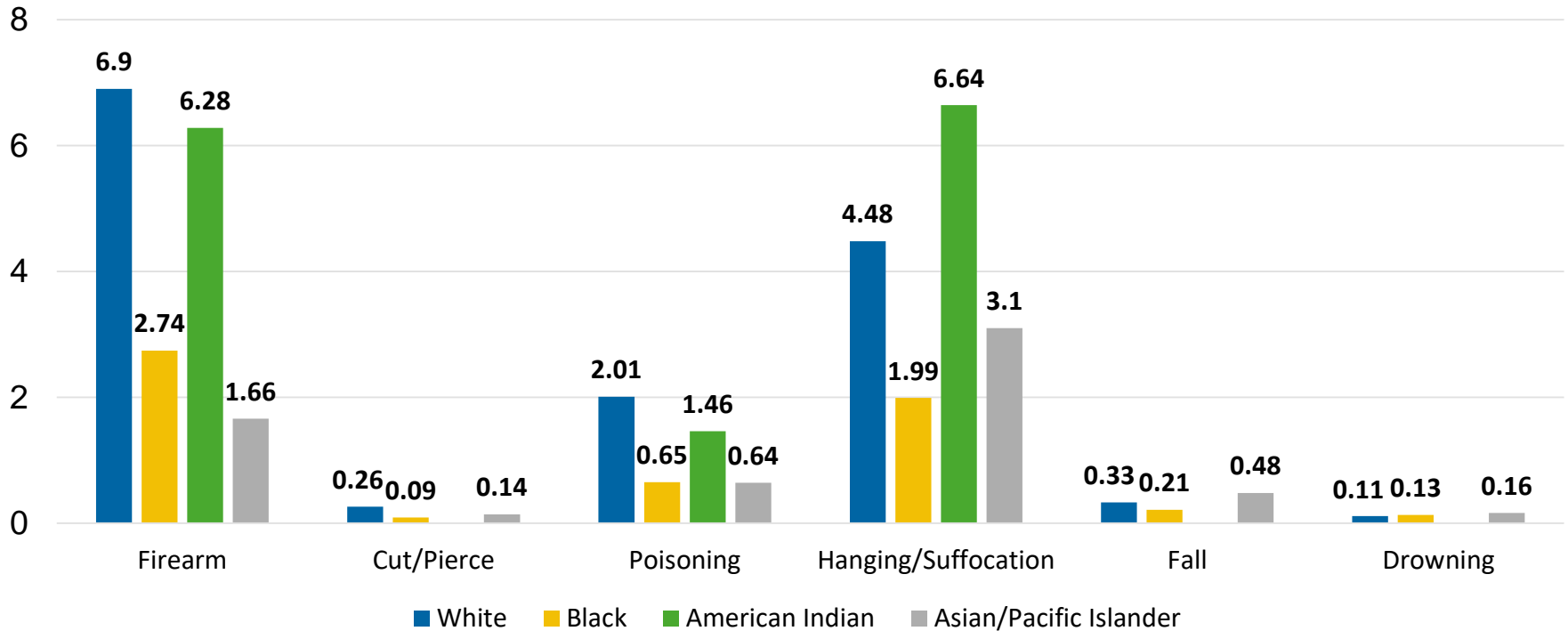


Creating and Using Partnerships to Reduce
Access to Lethal Means for Suicide Prevention

Means of Suicide Among Veteran and Non-Veteran U.S Adult Suicide Decedents, 2017

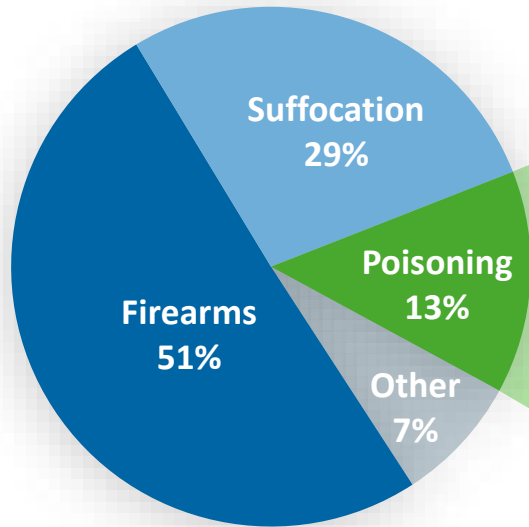


Means by Race (Age-adjusted rate per 100,000)

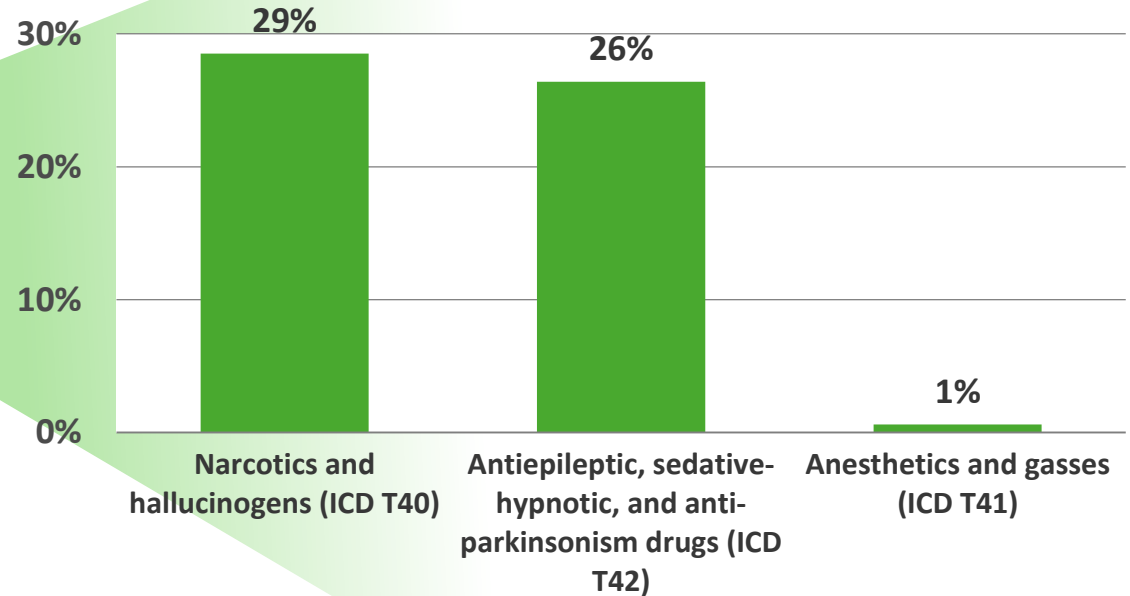


Data Source: CDC's National Violent Death Reporting System, 2017. States Participating: AK, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, NC, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV

Suicide Deaths by Method, United States 2018



Poisoning Suicides by Substance – 2018



Overdose and Suicide

- ✓ 20% of suicide deaths in the US involve opiates (including heroin and prescription painkillers)
- ✓ 20-30% of opioid overdose deaths are suicides



SAMHSA. Substance use and suicide: A nexus requiring a public health approach. 2016.

<https://store.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/d7/priv/sma16-4935.pdf>

Oquendo MA, Volkow ND. Suicide: A silent contributor to opioid-overdose deaths. N Engl J Med. 2018;378(17):1567-1569. <https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMp1801417>

Example Strategies for Lethal Means Reduction

Poisoning

Limiting amount of medications in one package.

Firearms

Distribute free or low-cost firearms locks.

Bridges/Buildings

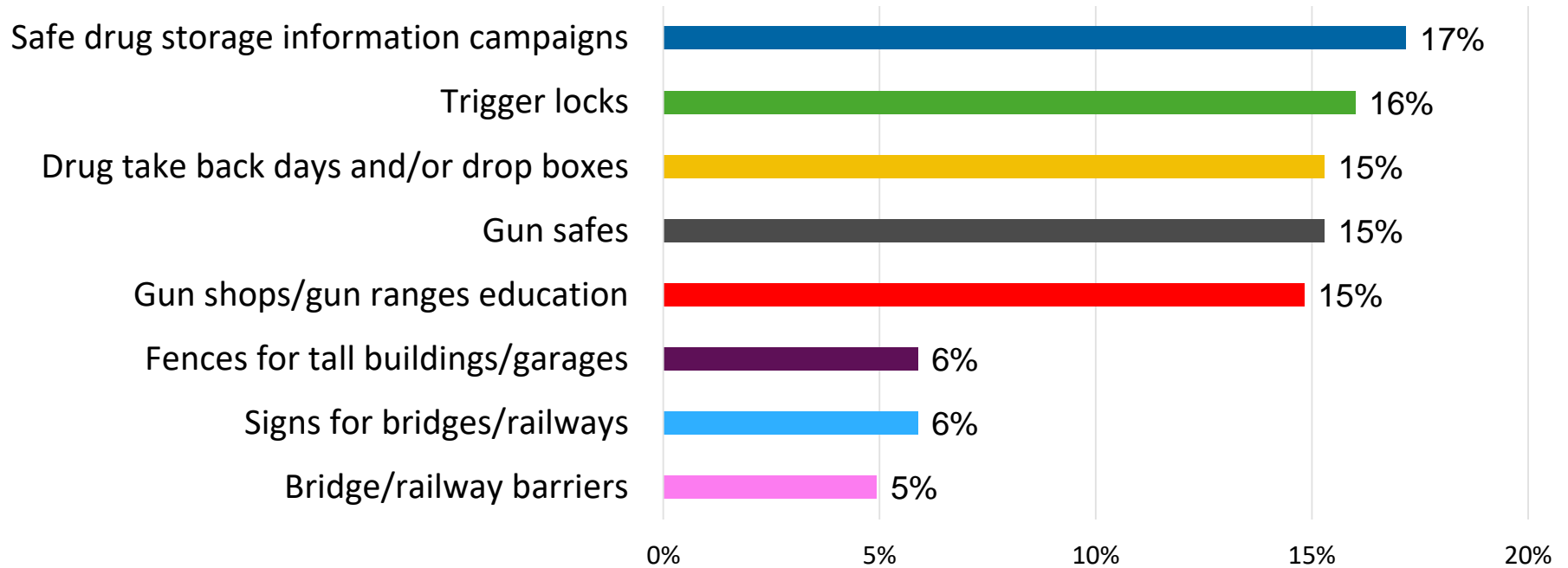
Add protective barriers.

Ligatures

Remove environmental features that are easily accessible.

What You Told Us...

What Strategies Are You Working On to Accomplish Your Lethal Means Work?





Partnerships: Critical to strategy implementation

Partnerships are critical

Define goals

- Objectives
- Skills
- Capacity
- Expertise



Identify partners

- Strong
- Diverse
- Aligned goals

Building Partnerships

Articulate
needs

Create buy-
in

Sustained
partnerships



Guest Presenter: Susan Keys



Susan Keys, PhD

Public Health Program Development Consultant
Bend, Oregon

susan@susankeysconsulting.com



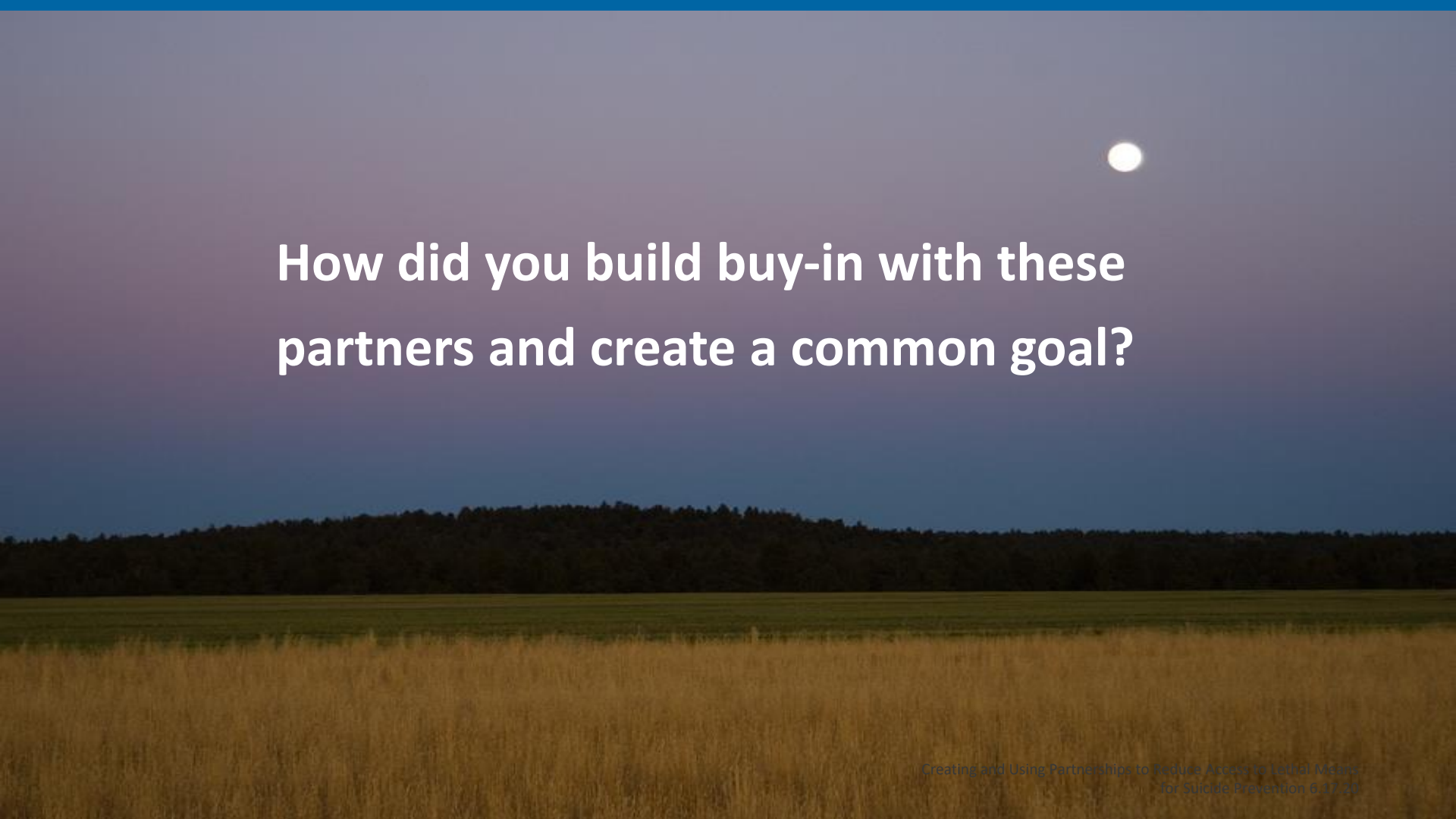
**Please tell us about
your long history of
working in suicide
prevention.**



What can you tell us about your research in preventing suicide deaths by firearms?

**What partners
did you need to
bring in to begin
this work and
how did you
approach them?**



A landscape photograph of a field at dusk. The foreground is filled with tall, golden-brown grasses. In the middle ground, there is a dark, silhouetted line of trees. The sky is a deep, dark blue, and a bright, full moon is visible in the upper right quadrant. The text is overlaid on the sky in a white, sans-serif font.

How did you build buy-in with these partners and create a common goal?



Because firearms research can be controversial, how did you handle occasions when public health and gun ownership weren't aligned?

How did you make sure the communications were relevant to the cultural context for both health care practitioners and firearm owners?



What was the result
of this partnership?
Where can we see
what you created
together?



www.oregonsuicideprevention.org/zero-suicide/firearm-safety/

Password: Safety2020 (for professional use only)

Firearm Safety Resources

www.oregonsuicideprevention.org/zero-suicide/firearm-safety/



Addressing Firearm Safety in Your Suicidal Patient A RESEARCH BRIEF

41,000
PERSONS DIE by suicide annually in the United States

FIREARMS account for over
50% OF DEATHS BY SUICIDE

Gun ownership is a normal part of life in America. In rural areas, a high percentage, if not all, of your patients will have guns in their home. Having a conversation with suicidal persons about temporarily removing firearms from the home has great promise to save lives.

Emerging Research Suggests:

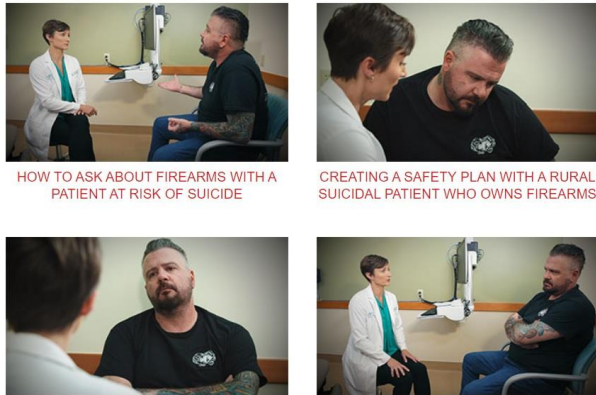
- Primary care providers are hesitant to discuss firearms with patients.

Research Brief for Primary Care Providers

PEOPLE WHO LOVE GUNS LOVE YOU

If you or someone you know is thinking about suicide, it's time to act.

People Who Love Guns Love You Brochure



HOW TO ASK ABOUT FIREARMS WITH A PATIENT AT RISK OF SUICIDE

CREATING A SAFETY PLAN WITH A RURAL SUICIDAL PATIENT WHO OWNS FIREARMS

ENGAGING THE DEFENSIVE SUICIDAL PATIENT IN RURAL AMERICA ABOUT ACCESS TO FIREARMS

WORKING WITH A PATIENT WHO WON'T ENGAGE WHEN ASKING ABOUT ACCESS TO GUNS

Communication Skills Training Videos



Q&A: Susan Keys, PhD

susan@susankeysconsulting.com

Poll – Partnership Challenges

What has been your biggest challenge in developing partnerships in lethal means prevention? (Select one)

- Troubles in communication regarding purpose of project (i.e. fear of 2nd amendment restrictions, worry that talking about suicide will cause suicides to occur, etc.)
- Lack of time/resources from partners
- Stigma surrounding mental health/suicide in partner organizations
- Lack of interest from partners
- Lack of knowledge regarding dangers of lethal means
- Other (please write in chat!)



Overcoming Challenges Discussion

What are some ways you overcame these and other challenges?

- ✓ Troubles in communication regarding purpose of project
- ✓ Lack of time/resources from partners
- ✓ Stigma surrounding mental health/suicide in partner organizations
- ✓ Lack of interest from partners
- ✓ Lack of knowledge regarding dangers of lethal means



Poll: COVID-19

How has your lethal means work specifically changed because of COVID-19?

- Not at all
- Slightly
- Somewhat
- A lot
- Completely

COVID-19 Discussion



Announcements & Reminders

Coming to you via email:

- ✓ Follow-up resources and notes from this meeting
- ✓ Homework assignment for next meeting:
 - [Identify Synergy with Partner Priorities](#)
 - 10-15 minutes to complete the worksheet



Our next meeting:

- ✓ Wednesday July 15, 2020, 2-3:30 pm ET

Thank you!

Rachael Kenter
rkenter@edc.org

Bonnie Lipton
blipton@edc.org

EDC Headquarters
43 Foundry Avenue
Waltham, MA 02453

edc.org