



# FACE THE FIGHT

Together, We Can Face the Fight Against  
Veteran Suicide.

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# PURPOSE & APPROACH

**Face the Fight brings together corporations, foundations, nonprofits, and government liaisons with a focus on raising awareness and support for veteran suicide prevention.**

**Unique partnerships with a non-siloed approach. Overall goal of having maximum impact and reduce veteran suicide.**

**Publicly launched in 2023.**

## FOUNDING PARTNERS

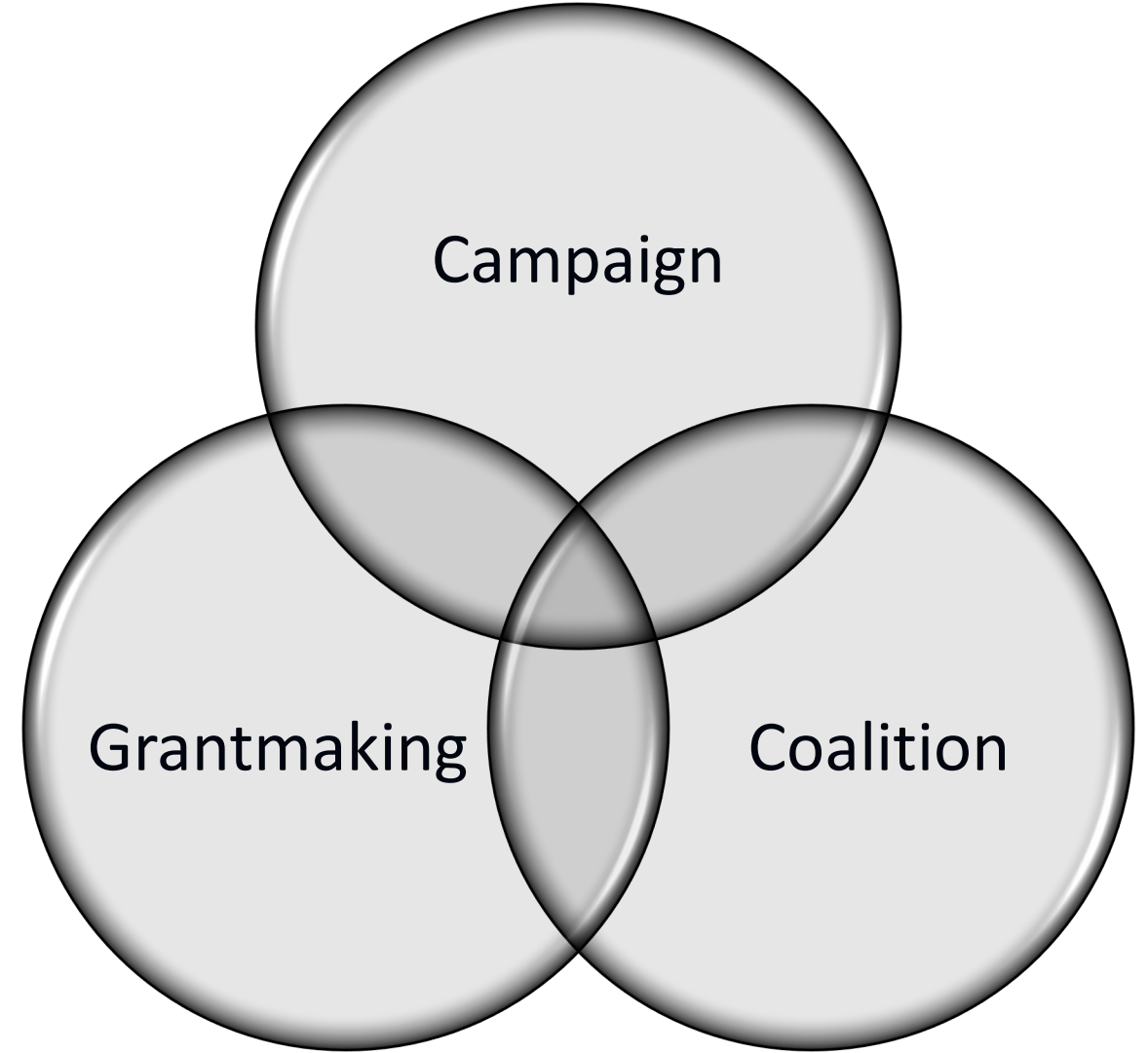


## STRATEGIC ALLIANCES

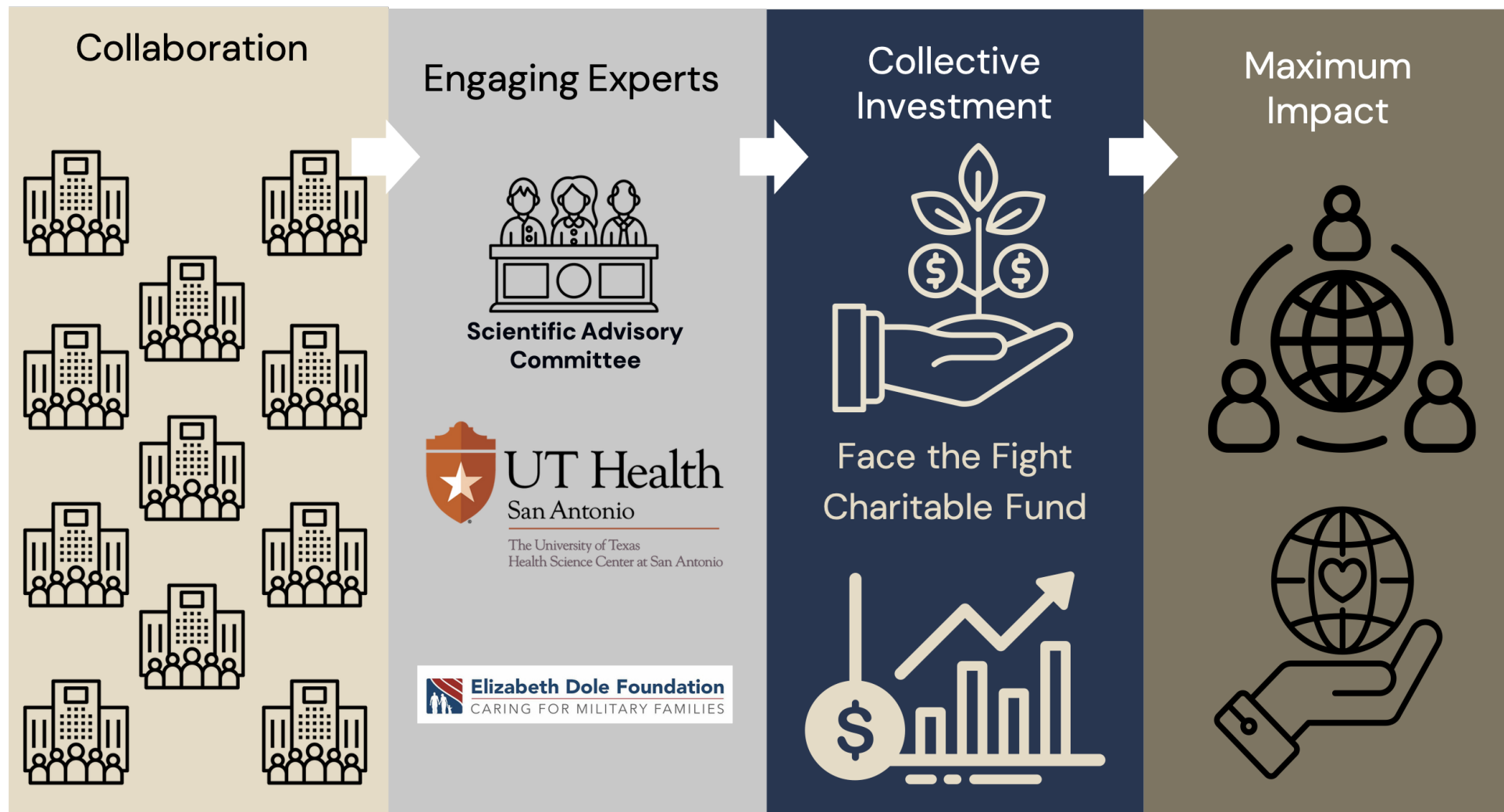


## INTERCONNECTED COMPONENTS

1. An ongoing **public health campaign** aimed to reduce stigma and promote resources.
2. A **Coalition** to reduce veteran suicide through meaningful actions, commitments, and cross-sector collaboration.
3. **Grantmaking** focused on identifying crucial opportunities to scale evidence-informed interventions for suicide prevention and quickly respond to newly identified needs.



# Face the Fight Model





**Flexible, Nimble,  
Responsive**

# VISUALIZING FACE THE FIGHT'S IMPACT

Learn more about our impact in our  
Inaugural Progress Report



## Coalition

**200+**

corporations, foundations, nonprofits,  
and government liaisons

**32**

Scientific Advisory committee members  
with diverse expertise

**75**

diverse and underrepresented veterans,  
caregivers, families, and survivors engaged  
in 12 listening sessions

## Philanthropy & Funding

**\$25M**

provided in philanthropic grantmaking to  
30 nonprofits (2022-24)

**\$85M+**

pledged through 2027 by founding  
partners and private donors

**6,500**

Projected estimate of lives saved through 2032  
*as measured through dynamic data modeling of an initial  
\$10M of FTF-funded philanthropic interventions.*

## Support & Training

**245,000**

veterans screened  
for suicide risk

**39,000**

veterans receiving suicide  
specific interventions

**800+**

clinicians trained to deliver  
targeted, suicide-specific  
treatments

**12,000+**

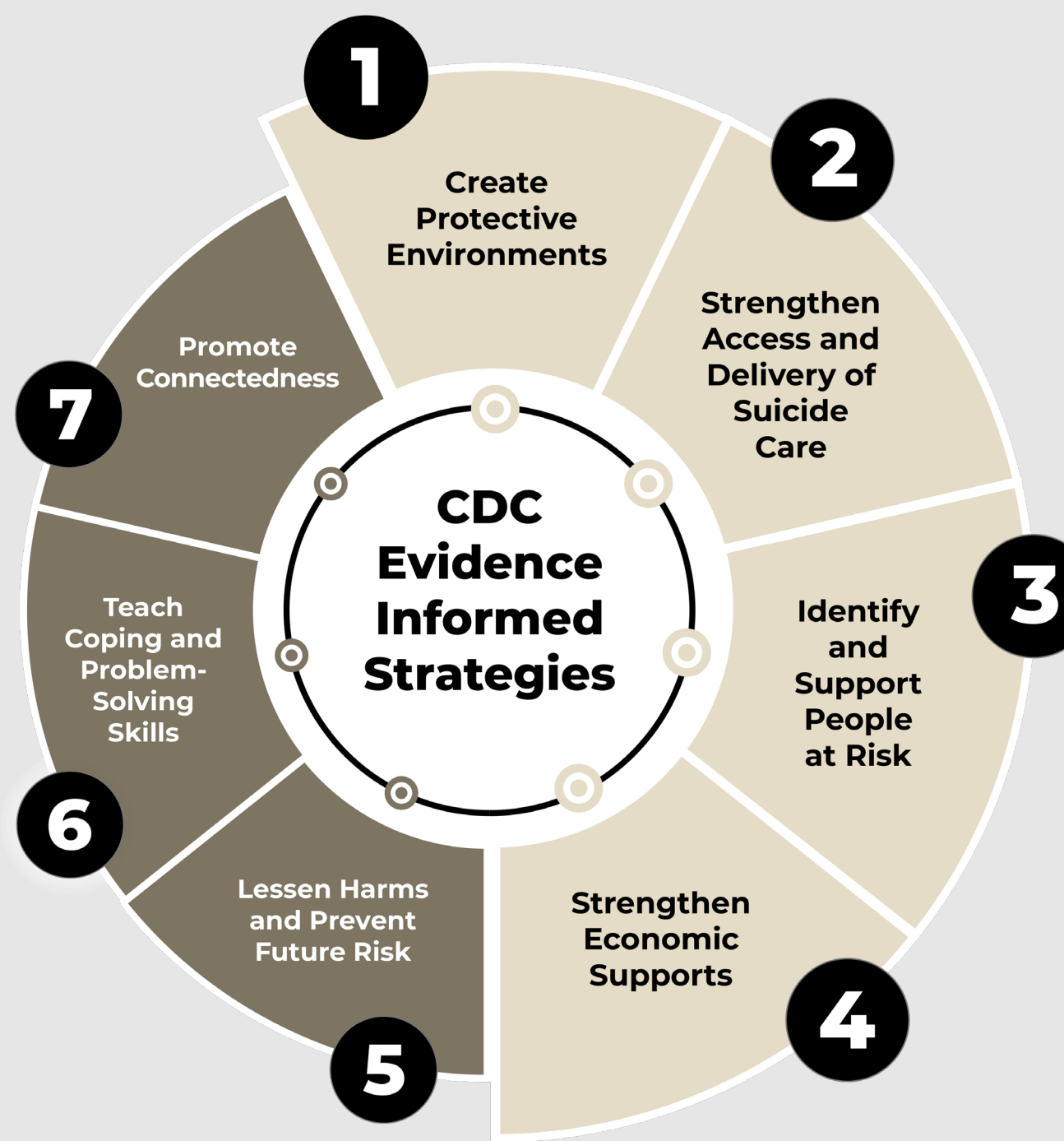
clinicians and peers trained to talk with  
veterans about voluntary secure storage  
of firearms



# CDC Focus Areas

# FOCUS AREAS

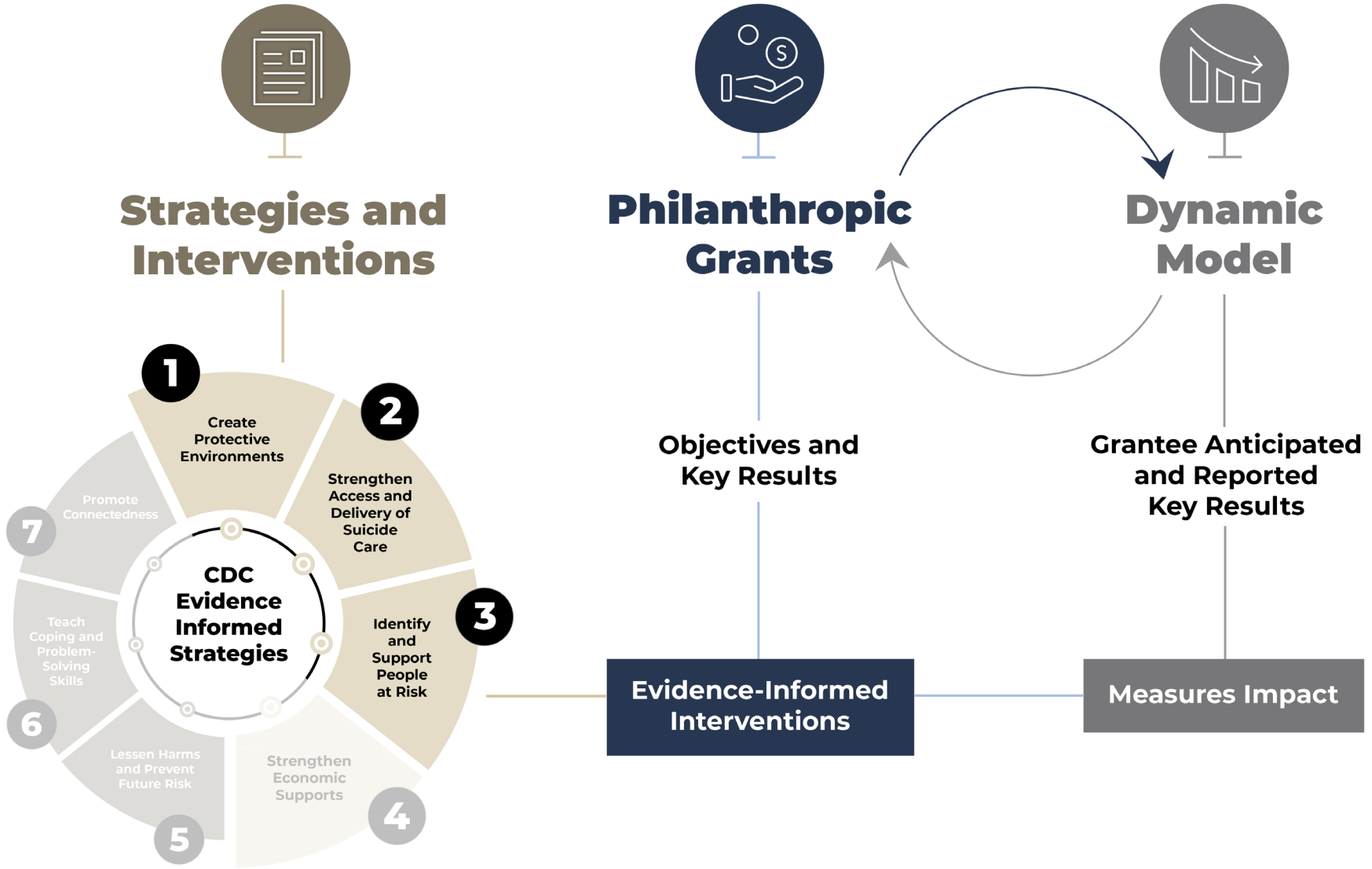
Face the Fight will address gaps and extend suicide prevention efforts in four focus areas aligned with the CDC evidence-informed strategies through the campaign, the coalition, and grantmaking.







# Dynamic Model





# DYNAMIC DATA MODELING

A well-established decision-support tool to guide investments and actions to address complex public health issues like suicide.

- Supports systems and public health approaches
- Informs strategic decision-making
- Supports measurement of progress
- Offers flexibility
- Allows for adjustments in real-time
- American Foundation for Suicide Prevention: **The Bold Goal**

Will project **lives saved as a direct result** Face the Fight grants.

## What will it help us do?

- **Inform Decision Making** Allows for scenario testing of scaling interventions to guide decisions about the most effective and impactful grantmaking activities
- **Project Outcomes** By inputting grantee anticipated and reported key results, project outcomes on lives saved.

**Estimated Deaths by  
Suicide in Present  
Conditions**

**-**

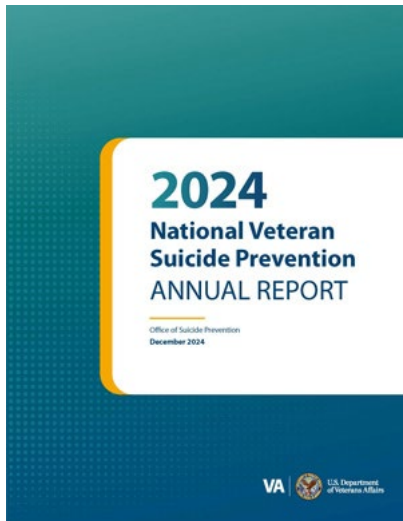
**Projected Deaths by Suicide  
after FTF Initiative  
Intervention**

**=**

**LIVES  
SAVED**

# C o n t i n u o u s R e f i n e m e n t & E v a l u a t i o n s

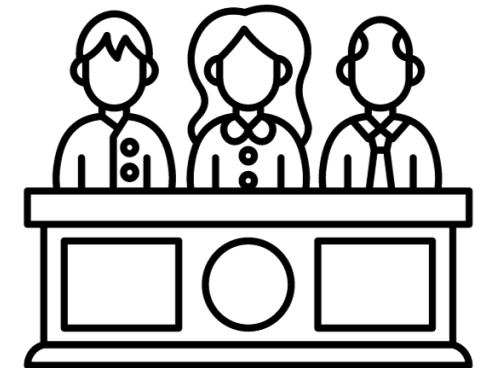
## VA Annual Report



## Grantee Reports



## Scientific Advisory Committee



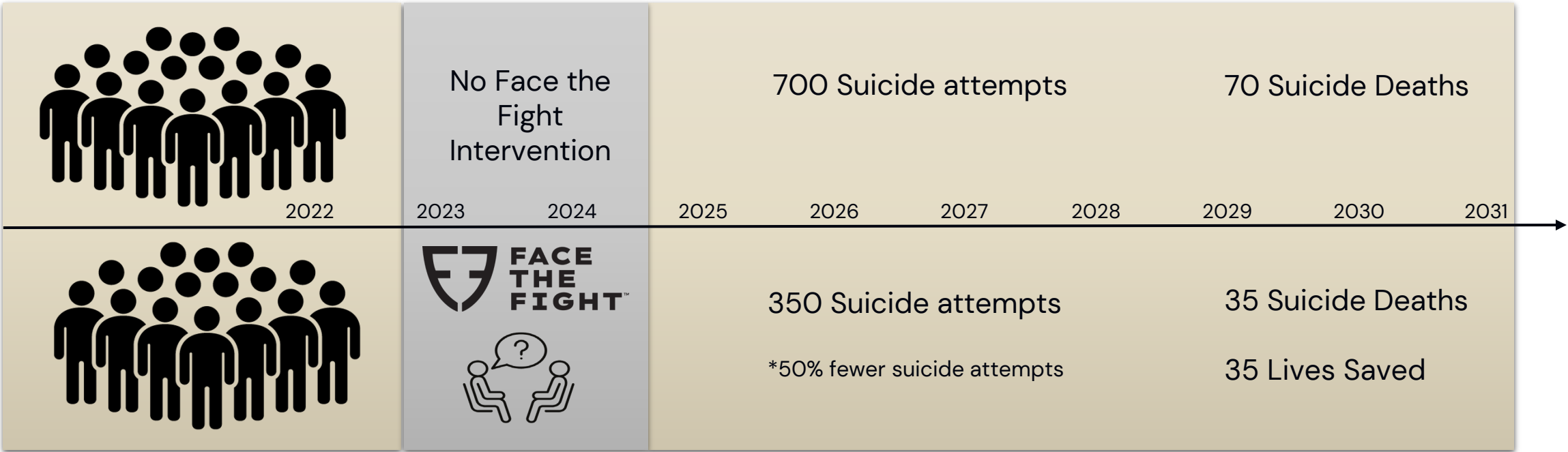


# How does it work?: Intervention

Let's focus on 10,000 veterans who are in High suicide-related distress group.

Without Face the Fight Interventions, we assume present suicide rates continue.

If the Face the Fight Intervention is 50% effective at reducing suicide attempts, then we would expect below.





# Grantee Technical Assistance

# U T H e a l t h T e a m T e c h n i c a l A s s i s t a n c e

- UT Health Team working alongside grantee organizations to:
  - Refine grant projects (e.g., outcomes, program evaluation, scalability)
  - Aid organizations in implementing new suicide prevention programs, interventions, and examining program outcomes.
  - Implement and adapt evidence-informed strategies to their unique contexts, thereby maximizing the effectiveness of the initiative in preventing veteran suicides.
- Monthly Implementation Support to review progress, address implementation barriers, and plan for long-term sustainability.



How can we support  
scaling?





Clinical  
vs  
Non - Clinical



# Community - Based Suicide Prevention Programs



# Example Grantees



**ROBERT  
IRVINE  
FOUNDATION**





OVERWATCH+PROJECT





# Grantees Work With Coalition Members



Questions?  
[rozekd@uthscsa.edu](mailto:rozekd@uthscsa.edu)

# GRANTMAKING APPENDIX



# GRANTMAKING FOR 2022/23

## ROUND 1

September 2022-September 2023

Projected to Save Approximately **3,500**Lives\*

Stop Soldier Suicide	The Headstrong Project	Cohen Veterans Network	Ohio State University Foundation	University of Washington Foundation
Increase capacity for evidence-based care for service members, veterans, national guard and reservists	Expand clinical programming to include suicide screening and evidence-based interventions for suicide	Develop tailored training and evaluate clinical and regional patterns to align suicide treatment with local needs	Distribute brief cognitive behavioral treatment for suicide prevention and means safety counseling	Accelerate the development of Caring Contacts via text message for clinical and non-clinical settings
Technical Assistance for Face the Fight Grantmaking and Coalition-Building				

UT Health San Antonio	The Elizabeth Dole Foundation
Supports evidence-based strategy, dynamic data modelling, philanthropic program evaluation, and Scientific Advisory Committee	Defines coalition charter, recruitment, committee structure, and supports ongoing coalition engagement and communications
Support via Philanthropic Funding from USAA	

# GRANTMAKING FOR 2022/23

## ROUND 2

October 2023 - September 2024

Projected to Save Approximately **3,500 Lives\***

Centerstone Military Services	Columbia University The Columbia Lighthouse Project	Denver Research Institute	FORGE Foundation Overwatch Project	Objective Zero
Expand and scale its suicide-specific evidence-informed training of mental health therapists	Screen veterans engaged in legal and financial services to determine at-risk and connect to support	Pilot the feasibility and safety of two direct-to-consumer, evidence-informed interventions for suicide prevention	Evidence-informed equivalent to “Friends Don’t Let Friends Drive Drunk” - but focused on firearms and suicide	Peer training in evidence-informed strategies and provide systematic suicide screening for members
PsychArmor	UT Health SA Strong Star Training Initiative	Rutgers University Vets4Warriors	UT Austin Veteran Spouse Network	Wounded Warrior Project
Supports comprehensive suicide prevention education with on-demand training for visitors on FTF website	Supports training access in evidence-informed strategies for 1,000+ clinical providers, peers, and VSOs	Expand and scale 24/7 V4W services and suicide risk screening for those at increased risk for suicide	Train spouses in using evidence-informed support for voluntary storage of firearms during times of crisis	Suicide risk screening for 30K veterans in first year of implementation, expand data evaluation and WWP training

# FACE THE FIGHT GRANTMAKING

## ROUND 3

STRATEGY AREAS	ROUND 4 PROJECTS	SUMMARY IMPACTS
IDENTIFY & SUPPORT PEOPLE AT RISK	Endeavors: ETS Program	Increase capacity in TX for suicide screening & evidence-informed peer support for transitioning ADSM
	RAND	Conduct landscape analysis & report of private and public efforts to prevent veteran suicide
	Syracuse University - IVMF	Develop and pilot a Veteran's Social Needs Index (VSNI) for VSOs to target social needs
STRENGTHEN ACCESS & DELIVERY TO CLINICAL CARE	Center for Deployment Psychology (Henry Jackson Foundation)	Expand suicide-specific evidence-informed training for military behavioral health providers
CREATE PROTECTIVE ENVIRONMENTS	University of Colorado	Pilot with firearm retailers in CO to discount firearm locking devices for veteran suicide prevention
	Worried about a Vet	Expand and scale web- based lethal means safety (LMS) resources nationally for veteran families and peers

# FACE THE FIGHT GRANTMAKING

## ROUND 4

STRATEGY AREAS	ROUND 4 PROJECTS	SUMMARY IMPACTS
IDENTIFY & SUPPORT PEOPLE AT RISK	Onward Ops Foundation	Expansion of national military transition program to priority states with high numbers of incoming and younger Veterans with increased rates of suicide
	Vets 4 Warriors	Expand and scale 24/7 V4W peer services and suicide screening and management for those at increased risk for suicide
	Columbia Lighthouse Project	Enhance and expand use the Columbia Protocol for suicide prevention across VSOs and other professional and community organizations
	Veteran Spouse Network	Scale spouse training nationally in evidence-informed support for voluntary secure storage of firearms
	America's Warrior Partnership	Expand the impact of proactive suicide prevention strategies by identifying and supporting high-risk veterans
	Crisis Text Line	Expand and enhance free, bilingual, text-based crisis intervention support
	Wounded Warrior Project	Accelerate systematic suicide screening, expand data evaluation, and provide staff with suicide prevention training

# FACE THE FIGHT GRANTMAKING

## ROUND 4

STRATEGY AREAS	ROUND 4 PROJECTS	SUMMARY IMPACTS
IDENTIFY & SUPPORT PEOPLE AT RISK	Syracuse University IVMF	Implement Veteran's Social Needs Index (VSNI) for VSOs to target social needs
	University of Washington CSPAR	Accelerate the development of Caring Contacts via text message for clinical and non-clinical settings
	Denver Research Institute	Identify financial risk factors for veteran suicide and integrate these insights into support services to better identify and assist at-risk veterans
	PsychArmor	Scale suicide risk management education with on-demand training for visitors on FTF website
	Onward Ops Foundation	Expand the reach of Veteran Cultural Competence Training and VA Veteran Sponsorship Initiative
	Worldmaker Resilience Institute	Expand evidence-informed suicide prevention training, THRIVE, and scale via a train-the-trainer model

FACE THE FIGHT GRANTMAKING

ROUND 4

STRATEGY AREAS	ROUND 4 PROJECTS	SUMMARY IMPACTS
STRENGTHEN ACCESS & DELIVERY TO CLINICAL CARE	The Headstrong Project	Expand clinical programming to include evidence-based interventions for suicide
	Stop Soldier Suicide	Increase capacity for evidence-based care for service members, veterans, national guard and reservists
	UTHSA STRONG STAR Training Initiative	Enhance training access in evidence-informed strategies for clinical providers, peers, and VSOs
	Centerstone Military Services	Expand and scale training for clinicians in both suicide and PTSD-specific evidence-based treatments for veterans and their families
	Cohen Veterans Network	Develop and implement a novel, suicide prevention/secure firearm storage safety training module specific to military affiliated women
	Cohen Veterans Network	Expand the Suicide Prevention Fellows program for early career clinicians

# FACE THE FIGHT GRANTMAKING

## ROUND 4

STRATEGY AREAS	ROUND 4 PROJECTS	SUMMARY IMPACTS
STRENGTHEN ACCESS & DELIVERY TO CLINICAL CARE	Rush University Medical Center	Develop and pilot AI-based training tool to enhance clinician proficiency in preventing veteran suicide
	Denver Research Institute	Pilot two direct-to-consumer, evidence-based interventions for suicide prevention and depression
	University of Pennsylvania	Develop scalable, on-demand, high quality, and nationally accessible suicide specific training for clinical providers
CREATE PROTECTIVE ENVIRONMENTS	FORGE Foundation/Overwatch Project	Accelerate adoption of proven suicide prevention strategy training and engaging veterans in proactive planning on firearms suicide prevention
	Denver Research Institute	Implement lethal means safety policies and procedures across 14 community healthcare organizations serving veterans in Colorado

