

Bridging the Care Continuum for Vulnerable Veterans across VA and Community Care (Bridge) QUERI

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Health Administration

Quality Enhancement Research Initiative

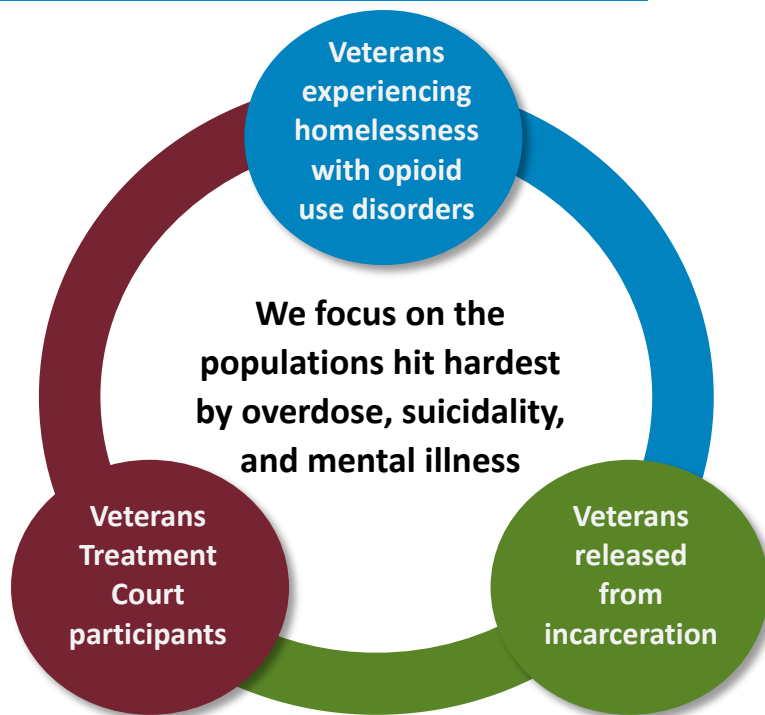
The Bridge QUERI Program improves health outcomes by expanding access to prevention, treatment, and support services for Veterans. In partnership with **4 VA Program Offices** and **5 VISNs**, Bridge aims to implement 3 effective practices to support **150+ VA employees** in the delivery of high-quality services to **1,300+ Veterans**.

Effective practices addressing multiple high-priority conditions

Homeless Overdose Prevention Expansion (HOPE) implements opioid overdose education and naloxone distribution (OEND) to reduce opioid-related overdoses and deaths among homeless, unstably housed Veterans.

Maintaining Independence and Sobriety through Systems Integration, Outreach and Networking-Criminal Justice (MISSION-CJ) engages Veteran Treatment Court participants with case managers and peer specialist teams to reduce criminal recidivism.

Post-Incarceration Engagement (PIE) enhances VA's Health Care for Re-entry Veteran program by linking Veterans to VA and community health care and providing social support from peers.



Multi-level partnerships

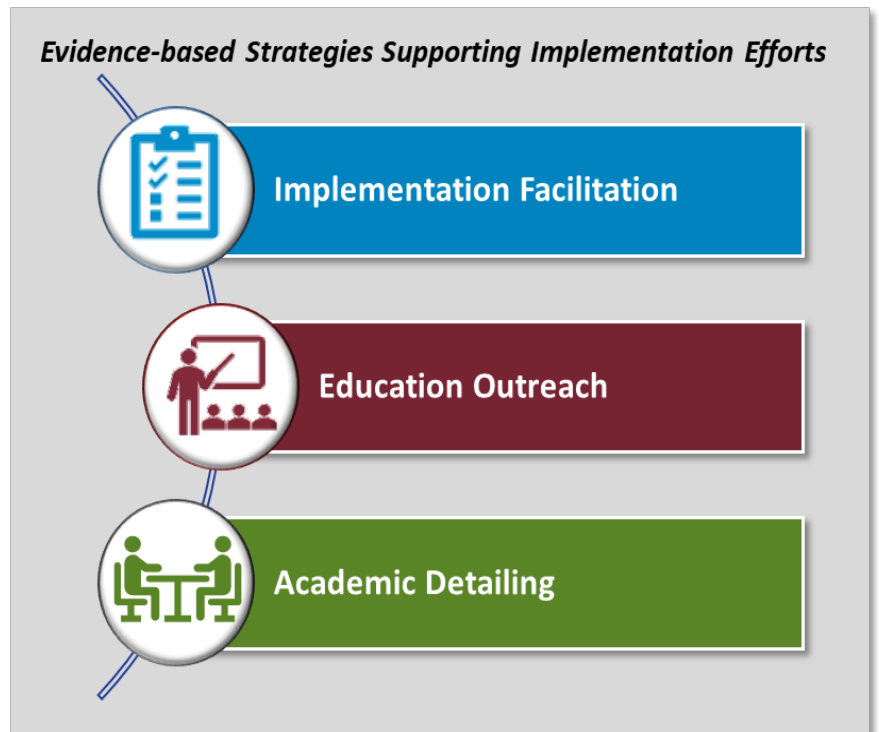
- Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention
- Homeless Programs Office
- Office of Health Equity
- Pharmacy Benefits Management
- VISNs 1, 4, 16, 19, 21



Cross-cutting cores

Three cross-cutting cores accelerate the spread of effective practices across VA.

- The **Implementation Core** guides the methods and measurements used to evaluate success and includes Qualitative and Quantitative Cores.
- The **Mentoring Core** provides experiential training for early career implementation scientists to address challenges related to social determinants of health among Veterans.
- The **Rapid Response Team (RRT)** meets critical emerging needs from VA operations partners. In 2021, the RRT conducted an evaluation to inform the national COVID-19 vaccine rollout in partnership with the National Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (NCP). RRT also conducted an additional three RRT projects in FY22 and FY23.



Anticipated impacts

Over the next 3 years, Bridge QUERI plans to:

- Continue to implement 3 effective practices in **15 VA sites** across **10 states**, touching **5 VISNs**
- Train **150+ VA employees** in delivering effective practices to **1,300 Veterans**. Training has started and is ongoing
- Develop implementation playbooks for further **scale-up, spread, and sustainment** of effective practices
- Disseminate methods, results, and implementation lessons nationally through webinars, social media, and published articles

To learn more about Bridge or to partner with us, please contact:

Bridge QUERI Program Manager, Angela Kyrish, at Angela.Kyrish@va.gov.

Principal Investigators:

Keith McInnes, ScD (Bedford, MA)

Rani Elwy, PhD (Bedford, MA)

Amanda Midboe, PhD (Palo Alto, CA)

David Smelson, PsyD (Bedford, MA)