



AMES IN ACTION

MAY 2023



KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY
CENTER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF MILITARY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES RESEARCH

BUILDING CONNECTION TO ENHANCE SUICIDE PREVENTION



WHAT DID AMES DO?

Collaborating with the Georgia Department of Veterans Service (GDVS), the AMES Research Center hosted the Let's Connect Summit on May 24 and 25, 2023 at the KSU Center. The two-day event focused on building relationships among the professionals and organizations who attended to provide suicide prevention and related services to service members, veterans, and their families to ultimately provide better, more connected services. The event was attended by 95 professionals, who represented 44 organizations and 26 counties. [Click here](#) to learn more about the Let's Connect Summit.

HOW DOES THIS APPLY TO MILITARY, VETERANS, AND EMERGENCY SERVICES?

Military service members, veterans, and emergency services professionals are at increased risk to die by suicide compared to the general population. Addressing suicide risk requires focusing on many factors that influence quality of life, including addressing mental and physical health, housing insecurity, financial needs, social needs, and other factors. When professionals and organizations work together, they can address these suicide risk factors in a more comprehensive and coordinated way.

HOW CAN YOU APPLY THIS INFORMATION?



PROMOTE CONVERSATION



PROVIDE TOOLS



CALL TO ACTION

Provide time and space for parties to share information with each other. Conversations about services, resources, and opportunities for collaboration took place in the Let's Connect Summit Exhibit Hall.

Provide tools, resources, and educational offerings that assist in promoting connection. At the Let's Connect Summit, keynote addresses and breakout sessions provided information on suicide prevention.

Create a clear "next step" to facilitate ongoing connection and collaboration. At the Let's Connect Summit, professionals were encouraged to join the Georgia Suicide Prevention Task Force to promote ongoing collaboration.