# Activities on Youth Suicide Mortality from 2006 to 2015

Richard McKeon Ph.D.
Chief, Suicide Prevention Branch SAMHSA



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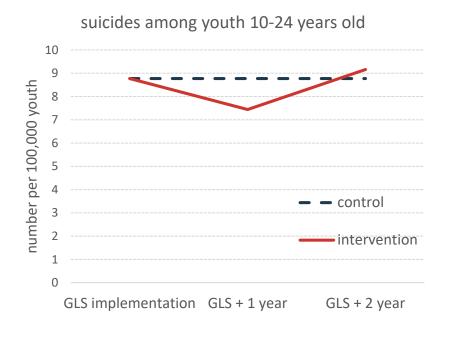
### THE GARRETT LEE SMITH (GLS) PROGRAM

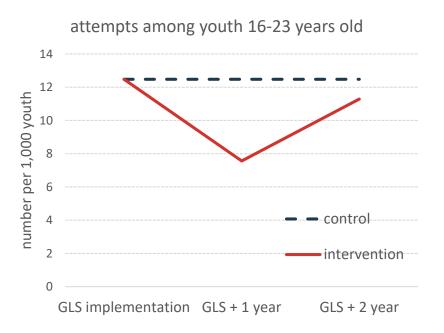
- Since 2004, the GLS program has provided funding and technical assistance for suicide prevention activities to states, territories, tribes and tribal organizations.
  - More than 200 grants have been awarded to all 50 states, DC, two territories and 49 tribes
  - Grantees implement an array of prevention strategies including:
     outreach and awareness, screening, gatekeeper training, developing coalitions, partnerships, policies/protocols, and supporting hotlines
  - Gatekeeper trainings the prevention strategy most widely supported by GLS grantees. Grantees required to follow up ED and IPU discharges.



### **GLS PROGRAM IMPACT**

No evidence of effect 2 or more years after the end of GLS activities in the community





Some indication of stronger impact on smaller more rural communities



### **Q**UESTIONS

#### MAIN

 Was there a difference in youth suicide mortality as a result of the implementation of GLS beyond the first year after the implementation?

#### **SECONDARY**

- Did the years of exposure to GLS make a difference?
- Was the impact different in rural communities?



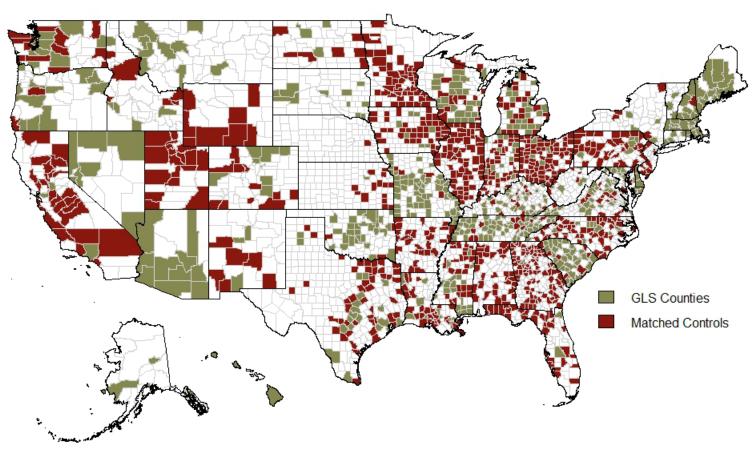
### MAIN STRATEGIES

- Compare youth suicide mortality in counties where GLS suicide prevention program was implemented with the suicide behavior observed in similar counties where GLS was not implemented
- Focus on counties initially exposed before 2010, for which there are several years of follow up information (i.e., 6+ years)



### SAMPLE

#### Counties with GLS Activities and Matched Controls (2006-2009)





### MEASURES & SOURCES

#### **MAIN OUTCOME**

Youth suicide rate 2007-15 (CDC)

#### MAIN INDEPENDENT VARIABLE

GLS training in the previous 1, 2, 3 and 4 or more years (NOE)

#### **CONTROL OUTCOME**

- Adult suicide rate (CDC)
- Youth non-suicide mortality (CDC)

#### **COVARIATES**

- Population by age group (USCB)
- Race-ethnic makeup (NCHS)
- Median household income (SAIPE)
- Poverty (SAIPE)
- Unemployment (LAUS)

- Uninsured (SAIHE)
- Rural-urban 6 cat. classification (NCHS)
- Region and division (USCB)
- Pre-training suicide rates, historical and recent (CDC)

Reference:

USCB: US Census Bureau

LAUS: Local Area Unemployment Statistics, Department of Labor

SAIPE: Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, USCB

SAHIE: Small Area Health Insurance Estimates, USCB

NCHS: National Center for Health Statistics
CDC: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**NOE: National Outcome Evaluation** 



### **OVERALL IMPACT**

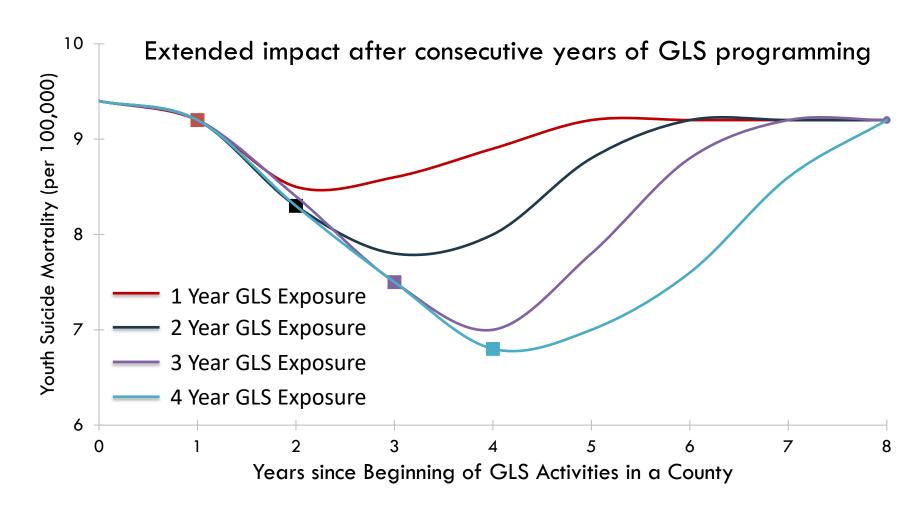
### Program overall

No effect seen for adult suicide mortality or nonsuicidal youth mortality

- 0.89 per 100,000 fewer deaths one year following GLS implementation (SE=.4)
- 1.09 per 100,000 fewer deaths two years following GLS implementation (SE=.4)
- 882 lives saved through 2015



### **IMPACT BY TIME OF EXPOSURE**





### **IMPACT IN RURAL COMMUNITIES**

### Greater impact seen in rural areas

• 2.4 fewer deaths per 100,000 youth 2 years after GLS implementation (SE=.8)

 20% stronger effect in rural counties than in non-rural counties or 1 fewer death per 244,000 youth



### **IMPLICATIONS**

- Beneficial effect of GLS lasted longer than originally estimated
- The longer the exposure to GLS activities the more extended the estimated impact
- Rural communities benefited the most





### **Native Connections, Tribal Behavioral Health**





- **No. of Awards:** Cohort 1 = 20, Cohort 2 = 69
- Cohort 3 = 13 Cohort 4=46 Cohort 5=26 Cohort 6=40 Cohort 7=29 (TOTAL = 243)
- Award Amount: \$250,000/year
- Length of Project Period: 5 years
- Eligible Applicants: federally recognized tribes, tribal organizations and tribal consortia
- Each has a unique culture, and intensive efforts are conducted to study the needs and strengths of each community.
- Considerations for "Lower 48" vs. Alaska



- ...to <u>prevent and reduce</u> suicidal behavior and substance abuse among American Indian/Alaska Native young people up to and including age 24.
- ...reduce the impact of substance abuse, mental illness and trauma on AI/AN communities through a public health approach
- ...allow AI/AN communities to <u>support youth and</u> <u>young adults</u> as they <u>transition into adulthood</u> by facilitating <u>collaboration among agencies</u>.

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# Native Connections Principles

Community Driven Strengths-Based Grounded in Community Readiness Identify the Gaps, Pilot Solutions Foster Partnerships Innovation in Serving AI/AN Youth Supported by AI/AN Technical Assistance Evaluated for Effectiveness in Saving Lives



### Year One Process Overview

- Understand cultural and political context
- Pair with Grantee Buddy
- Community Systems Analysis
- Community Readiness Assessment (CRA)

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- Strategic Action Plan
- Crisis and Follow Up Protocol Development/Revision

# SAMHSA's mission is to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America's communities.

Christine Walrath, PhD, MHS <a href="mailto:christine.walrath@icf.com">christine.walrath@icf.com</a>
Lucas Godoy Garraza, MA <a href="mailto:lucas.godoygarraza@icf.com">lucas.godoygarraza@icf.com</a>
Nora Kuiper, MPH <a href="mailto:nora.kuiper@icf.com">nora.kuiper@icf.com</a>

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1-877-SAMHSA-7 (1-877-726-4727) • 1-800-487-4889 (TDD)