

Staff Sergeant Parker Gordon Fox Suicide Prevention Grant Program Fact Sheet

Program Expands VA's Suicide Prevention Efforts

The Staff Sergeant Parker Gordon Fox Suicide Prevention Grant Program (SSG Fox SPGP) expands suicide prevention efforts beyond clinical settings to address both mental health and social determinants of health, such as economic hardship, social connectedness, and access to care.

In alignment with VA's **National Strategy for Preventing Suicide** (2018-2028), and authorized by the Commander John Scott Hannon Veterans Mental Health Care Improvement Act of 2019, the grant program promotes a public health approach to suicide prevention that blends community-based efforts with linkage to evidence-based clinical strategies.

Grants are awarded to organizations that provide suicide prevention services for eligible Veterans and service members at risk of suicide and their families, that qualify, including:

- Outreach to identify eligible Veterans at risk of suicide
- Baseline mental health screening
- Education on suicide risk and prevention for families and communities
- Clinical services for emergency treatment
- Case management services
- Peer support services
- Assistance in obtaining any VA or other federal, state, or local benefits the Veteran and their family may be eligible to receive, including assistance with emergent needs
- Nontraditional, innovative, or other services as defined in the Notice of Funding Opportunity and approved by VA

While grantees facilitate participants' engagement with (and reduce barriers to) clinical mental health care, most services are non-clinical and may incorporate peer, family, faith-based, and innovative components.

More than 90% of participants who complete SSG Fox SPGP services report improvements in one or more of the following areas: well-being, mental health, social support, and financial stability.

The SSG Fox SPGP prioritizes reaching Veterans not yet connected with VA in under-resourced areas with high-risk populations, aiming to help before a crisis occurs.

Since its launch in September 2022, the SSG Fox SPGP has awarded \$210 million to 111 organizations across 46 states, U.S. territories, and Tribal lands.

For more information about the Staff Sergeant Parker Gordon Fox Suicide Prevention Grant Program, visit mentalhealth.va.gov/SSGFox-Grants.

SSG Fox SPGP honors Veteran Parker Gordon Fox, who joined the Army in 2014 and was a sniper instructor at the U.S. Army Infantry School at Fort Benning, Ga. Known for a life of generosity and kindness to others in need, SSG Fox died by suicide on July 21, 2020, at the age of 25.



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs