



State of Nevada  
Department of Veterans Services

*Presented to:*

City of Sparks, Council Members

# The Mayor's Challenge 2019

April 22, 2019





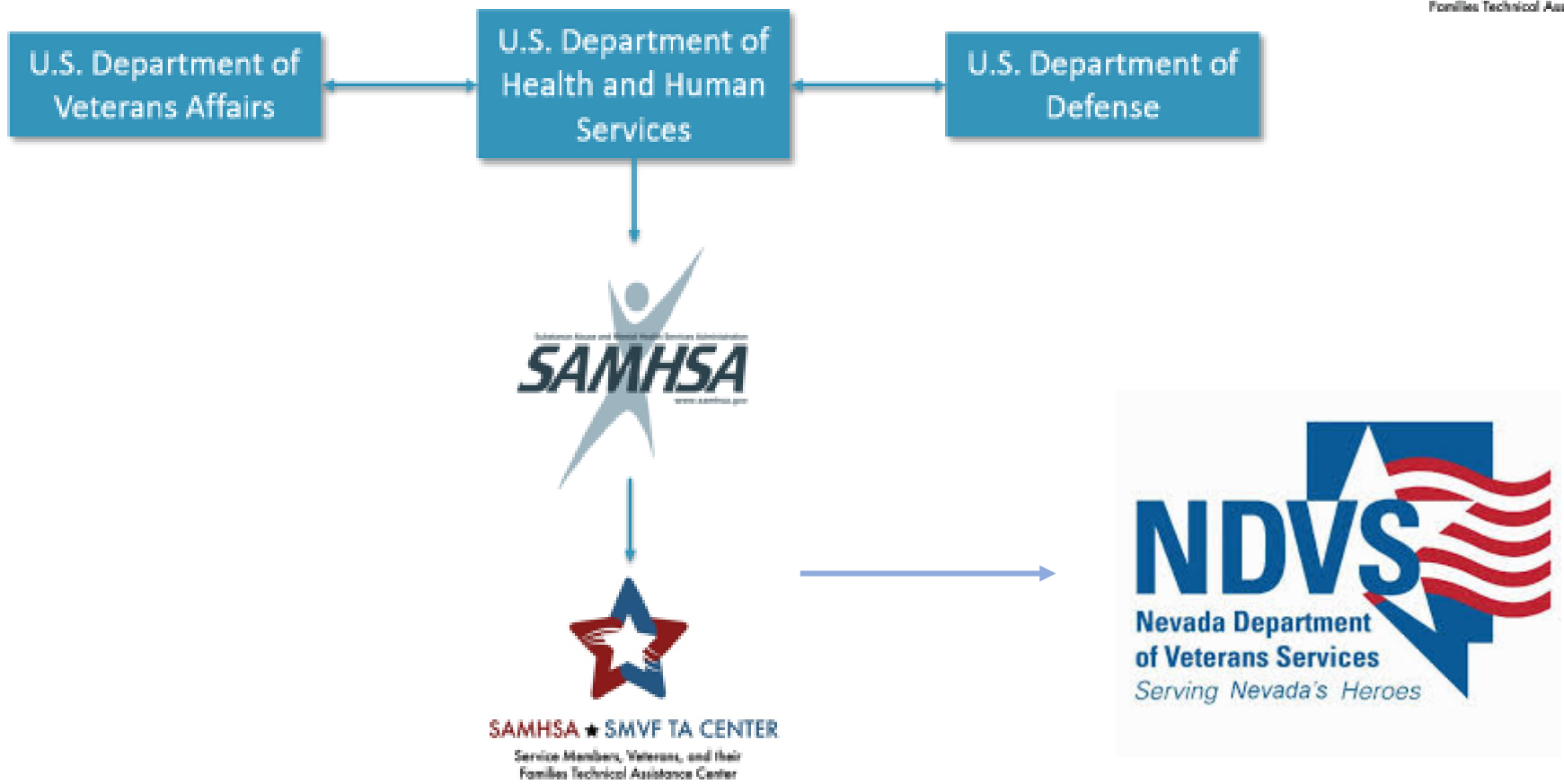
What is the **Mayor's Challenge 2019**???



# Collaboration Across Federal Agencies



**SAMHSA ★ SMVF TA CENTER**  
Service Members, Veterans, and their  
Families Technical Assistance Center





December 17, 2017 - VA , Department Health & Human Services, **Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)** announced inaugural Mayor's Challenge to prevent suicide among service members, veterans and their families.

VA & SAMHSA selected 7 cities to participate in a policy academy process and subsequent activities over 2018. Las Vegas was among the cities selected.

Selection based on **veteran population data, suicide prevalence rates** and **the capacity of the city to lead the way** with the goal of the Mayor's Challenge to eliminate suicide by using a comprehensive approach to suicide prevention.

NDVS held one of the position's on the Las Vegas Mayor's Challenge Team along with a **collaborative team consisting of municipal, military and other community stakeholders**. NDVS is now excited to announce SAMHSA/ VA has selected Reno/Sparks as 1 of the 7 **next** cities invited to participate in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual 2019 SAMHSA Mayor's Challenge.

# Mayor's Challenge 2019

## Truckee Meadows Team





# Mayor's Challenge Objectives

*" The Mayor's Challenge provides a roadmap for how communities can contribute to the national effort of preventing Veteran suicide."*

*- VA Secretary Robert Wilkie*

- Strengthen the capacity of your interagency military and civilian team of leaders to prevent and reduce suicide among Service Members, Veterans, and Families (SMVF)
- Deepen the development of your local implementation plan to align with the National Strategy for the Prevention of Veteran Suicide
- Acquire a deeper familiarity with the issues surrounding suicide prevention for SMVF



# Mayor's Challenge 2019

## Next Cities/Counties Participating



- Clarksville, TN
- Kansas City, MO
- Mecklenburg County, NC
- Oklahoma City, OK
- Suffolk County, NY
- Truckee Meadows, NV
- Tulsa, OK



## NDVS OVERVIEW

# THE HEROES WE SERVE

### How Nevada Compares Nationally

#### Number of Veterans

Nevada: 218,406      Nationally: 19,998,799

#### Percentage of Adults Who Are Veterans

Nevada: 10.3%      Nationally: 6.60%

#### Number of Women Veterans

Nevada: 21,715      Nationally: 1,882,848

#### Percentage of Women Veterans

Nevada: 9.94%      Nationally: 9.14%

#### Number of Military Retirees

Nevada: 29,541      Nationally: 2,156,647

#### Percentage of Military Retirees

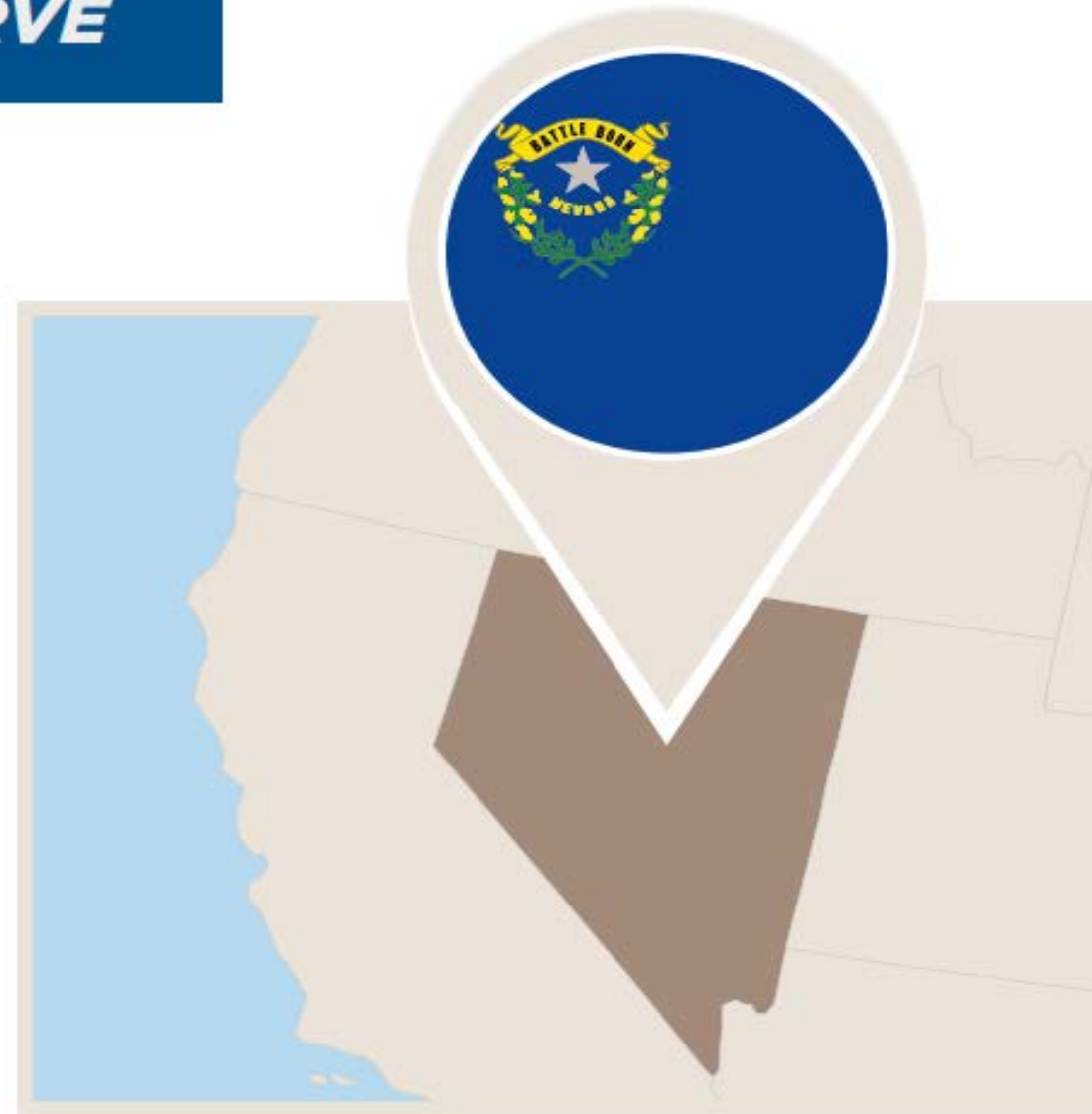
Nevada: 13.53%      Nationally: 10.78%

#### Number of Veterans Age 65 and Over

Nevada: 103,165      Nationally: 9,410,179

#### Percentage of Veterans Age 65 and Over

Nevada: 47.24%      Nationally: 47.05%







## A CLOSER LOOK AT NEVADA'S VETERANS

### Nevada Veterans by Age

18 to 34 years	9.6%
35 to 54 years	24.0%
55 to 64 years	19.1%
65 to 74 years	27.5%
75+ years	19.8%

### Nevada Veterans by County

Carson City:	4,762
Churchill:	2,895
Clark:	144,652
Douglas:	5,327
Elko:	3,266
Esmeralda:	111
Eureka:	159
Humboldt:	973
Lander:	451
Lincoln:	485
Lyon:	6,385
Mineral:	698
Nye:	5,923
Pershing:	685
Storey:	444
Washoe:	32,478
White Pine:	767

### Nevada Veterans by Congressional District

CD1:	38,977
CD2:	56,796
CD3:	55,040
CD4:	59,648

### Nevada Veterans by Era Served

Wartime:	160,672
(Some have served in multiple wars)	
Gulf War:	66,358
Vietnam Era:	79,332
Korean Conflict:	17,087
World War II:	6,970
Peacetime:	49,789

As of 9/30/17 U.S. Census Bureau and Nevada State Demographer

37,240  
Veterans



# Truckee Meadows Team Action Items

## Long Term Action Items:

- Develop a “Street Team” to promote firearms safety within the firearms community
- Advocate for policy change at highest level; “Top Down” policy change with no consequences for seeking help
- Advocate to medical boards to monitor physicians training on suicide prevention
- Increase Military Cultural Awareness Training

## ▪ Short Term Actions Items:

- Expand Ask the Question- Military status, how are we identifying our military population & family members?
- Establish a interagency link with law enforcement for at-risk Service Members, Veterans & Family Members (SMVF) within Sparks, Reno, Washoe & Tribal Colonies
- Raise Awareness of old medication disposal options in communities



# Thank You

*To all the Agencies who accepted the Mayor's Challenge.....*

- NDVS
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public & Behavioral Health
- Mayor of Sparks
- Mayor of Reno
- Northern Nevada Veterans Resource Center (VRC)
- Center for the Application of Substance Abuse Technologies (CASAT), School of Community Health Sciences, UNR
- Nevada Army National Guard Military & Family Support Services
- Reno Vet Center
- Truckee Meadows Community College Veterans Services
- Truckee Meadows Veterans Community Council/ Nevada National Guard
- Reno Police Department
- Washoe County Human Services Agency, M.O.S.T.
- Reno Air National Guard, 152<sup>nd</sup> Air wing
- Reno-Sparks Indian Colonies
- NAMI-National Alliance on Mental Health
- MACCABEE Arms Ltd.
- VVA
- VFW



# Questions??

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