



Knoxville Regional Veterans Mental Health Council

After-Action Report: Question, Persuade, Refer Gatekeeper training September 13, 2020

1. Hosted by 134th Air Refueling Wing, G. Dean Sinclair, PhD, LICSW
2. The program was facilitated Sheryn & Don Davis, Pat and Ed Junod.
3. Training session 90 minutes.
4. First in-person QPR training for Vet to Vet Tennessee since March 2020 due to the COVID 19 pandemic.
5. VTVT prepared folders with suicide prevention material provided by the Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network and the VA Knoxville Outpatient Clinic.
6. All students were asks to add “A Friend Asks” app on their phones before leaving the treatment facility.
7. VTVT issued Certificate of Completion certificates and “Worth It” stickers.
8. Total attendance included:
 - a. 13 female, 18 male veterans.
 - b. Average age of attendees was 37.93.
 - c. 97% surveys returned.
 - d. 60% attendees have firearms.
 - e. 10 had previous suicide prevention training.
 - f. 90% knew someone who has had suicidal ideations.
 - g. 90% knew someone who committed suicide.
 - h. No one was concerned about asking the “S” question.
 - i. Average grade: 9.23.

Comments:

1. *“This training was needed since we have had two suicides in May 2020.”*
2. *“I am shocked that “QPR” has been out since 1995 and I’ve never heard of it (booklet copyright). Great info – well delivered. Thank you!”*
3. *“Brere Bram -writes books on shame research. It is very informative.”*
4. *“Good class.”*
5. *“The warning signs were useful along with the non-judgmental position.”*
6. *“Thank you.”*
7. *“Good course and good teacher. Content and length was good.”*
8. *“Trainer was very knowledgeable and passionate about the topic. The real life stories helped keep me engaged in the presentation.”*
9. *“This was very eye opening. I thought that I was pretty knowledgeable but learned some new and important facts. I think this training is great for service members. Thank you for all you do!”*

Lessons Learned:

1. Training facility was excellent.
2. One attendee was a friend of T.J. Jones and was grateful Marine Jones’ memory continues to live with this training. TJ died by suicide by cop in March 2013
3. Numerous individuals stayed after the training.
4. No one knew that Governor Bill Lee signed HJR-001 on February 3, 2020 recognizing youth suicide as a state health crisis.

5. Encouraged veterans to use the VA for mental health services.
6. Encouraged veterans to contact their VAMC Mental Health Council.

All Veteran QPR Gatekeeper classes at Cornerstone of Recovery have been cancelled since March 2020. Not sure when the classes will resume.

Preparing to start the “Worth It” Student QPR Gatekeeper training in January 2021 in the Monroe County Middle and High Schools depending on the COVID 19 pandemic.

Respectfully submitted on September 14, 2020



Edouard "Ed" Junod, PMP, CPRS
Chairman, Knoxville Regional Veterans Mental Health Council
President/Treasurer, Vet to Vet Tennessee
Veterans Treatment Court Mentor Coordinator
QPR Institute Master Trainer
Office: 865-336-2624
ejunod@tnvhc.org

