

Behavioral Health QUERI:

Advancing 21st Century Mental Health Care for Veterans

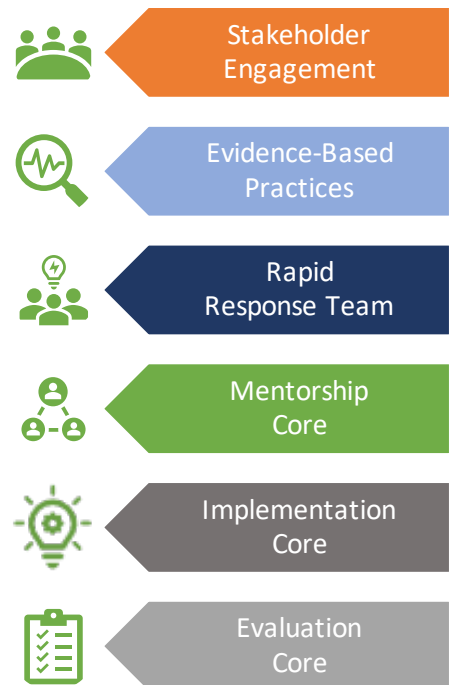
In partnership with the VA Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, VA Office of Connected Care, and VISN 16, the Behavioral Health QUERI Program is advancing quality of mental health care provided to Veterans, especially those at highest risk for suicide.

What is Behavioral Health QUERI?

By implementing cross-cutting evidence-based practices (EBPs) and using common conceptual frameworks, implementation strategies, measures, and analytic processes across Program activities, the Behavioral Health QUERI Program seeks to implement and evaluate best practices for mental health and suicide prevention, increase access via telehealth, and improve quality of care and life for Veterans.

The Program includes:

- **Stakeholder engagement** with Veterans, family members, providers, multi-level health system leaders
- **Implementation of three evidence-based practices**
 - Behavioral Health Interdisciplinary Program – Collaborative Care Model (BHIP-CCM)
 - Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT)
 - Life Goals (LG) provided via the Bipolar Telehealth (BDTH) Program to REACH VET-identified Veterans
- **Implementation core:** conceptualizing and operationalizing the strategies applied to support implementation of the three evidence-based practices
- **Rapid Response Team evaluations:** involving collaborations with VA leaders
- **Mentorship core:** preparing the next generation of implementation scientists via knowledge of system science, informatics, engagement, leadership, research management, and implementation research ethics
- **Evaluation Core:** coordinating the use of common methods across Program activities



Implementation and Evaluation strategies

The **Implementation Core** provides support to Program investigators in conceptualizing and operationalizing the strategies applied to support implementation of three evidence-based practices. Specifically, the Core provides training and consultation for two implementation strategies:

- Implementation Facilitation
- Centralized Technical Assistance

The **Evaluation Core** coordinates the use of common methods across Program activities for:

- Examining key stakeholder perspectives
- Tracking implementation activities
- Conducting mixed methods implementation evaluation
- Assessing implementation cost (business case analysis)

Using common methods enables cross-project analyses (via the Matrixed Multiple Case Study approach and Qualitative Comparative Analysis) to identify specific factors and their combinations that lead to successful uptake of EBPs across multiple implementation efforts.

Anticipated impacts on quality of care and Veteran well-being



BHIP-CCM Implementation Goal: Improve the sustainability of team-based care
BHIP-CCM Clinical Goal: Reduce mental health hospitalizations



DBT Implementation Goal: Implement at VISN telehealth hubs
DBT Clinical Goal: Reduce acute service use and reduce suicidal behavior



LG Implementation Goal: Increase successful referrals of RV-identified Veterans to LG/BDTH
LG Clinical Goal: Improve quality of life scores for these Veterans