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NVPN Monthly Newsletter

Congress Fully Funds NVDRS for Fiscal Year 2018

The National Violence Prevention Network (NVPN) achieved a major victory in the Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) budget recently signed into law, successfully attaining full funding for NVDRS for the first time at \$23.5 million, up from \$16 million in FY16 and FY17. In previous years, NVDRS had added states to the program as funding would allow. This is the first year that the appropriated funding will ensure the program reaches all 50 states and territories.



"Funding for NVDRS means an investment in protecting the lives of Americans," said ACPM Executive Director Michael Barry, CAE. "NVDRS is a cost-effective program that yields high quality data, giving public health and law enforcement officials the ability to analyze trends and devise strategies to address the factors that contribute to these deaths. Fully implementing this system throughout the country is a promising step towards meaningful research and policy interventions to reduce violent deaths, including deaths from gun violence."

A big thank you to the members of NVPN for their advocacy efforts, which helped secure this funding.

Kaiser Permanente Funds Gun Violence Research

Kaiser Permanente, the nation's largest integrated health system, is [investing](#) \$2 million in research to prevent gun injuries and death. As part of this effort, the health system has launched the Kaiser Permanente Task Force on Firearm Injury Prevention. This clinician-guided research will identify evidence-based tools to guide clinical and community prevention efforts. Kaiser Permanente will collaborate with key stakeholders to share findings and disseminate best practices through various channels such as webinars, white papers and peer reviewed publications.



Suicide Among Native Americans/Alaskan Natives

American Indians/Alaska Natives suicide decedents were more likely to commit suicide at a younger age and live in a nonmetropolitan area compared with non-Hispanic white residents of 18 states, [according](#) to a CDC *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*.



The suicide rate among American Indians/Alaska Natives has been increasing since 2003, and in 2015, American Indians/Alaska Natives suicide rates in the 18 states participating in the NVDRS were 21.5 per 100,000, more than 3.5 times higher than those among racial/ethnic groups with the lowest rates.

The NVDRS reported 1,531 suicides among American Indians/Alaska Natives and 103,986 among whites from 2003 to 2014. Firearm was the most common method of suicide among both American Indians/Alaska Natives and whites.

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NVDRS in the News

- Given the increase in funding for NVDRS in the omnibus funding package, the state of Arkansas [will soon join](#) the current 40 states that implement the NVDRS.
- An [article](#) in *Modern Healthcare* talks about the efforts by clinicians and states to fill the gap on gun violence research. According to the article, some advocates view the language in the March omnibus funding package, allowing CDC to pursue gun violence research, as nothing more than symbolic and believe may not change anything.
- An [article](#) in *The New York Times* looks at how the U.S Congress has quashed gun violence research in the past. The article mentions a [report](#) by the National Academy of Medicine that is a road map for proposed research on issues like motivations for gun ownership and use; the relationship between poverty and gun use; risk factors that lead youths to carry guns; and dozens of other questions. The report was commissioned by the Obama administration and it was published in 2013.
- In response to increasing levels of gun violence, The American Journal of Preventive Medicine is making 39 peer-reviewed research articles on gun violence [available](#) free of charge.