



Improving Youth Suicide Pre- and Postvention in Schools & Communities

A Community-Engaged Methodological Approach

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Funding



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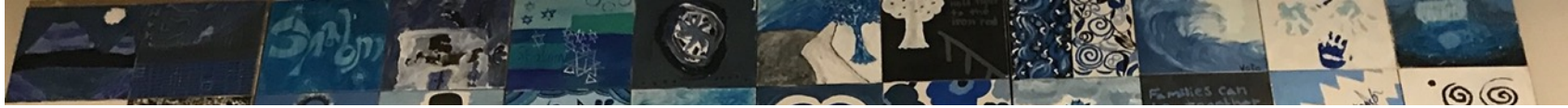
Study Goals

1. How can we make suicide prevention more effective and more sustainable for schools?
2. What community supports do schools need to be able to effectively prevent suicide?



The Importance of Schools





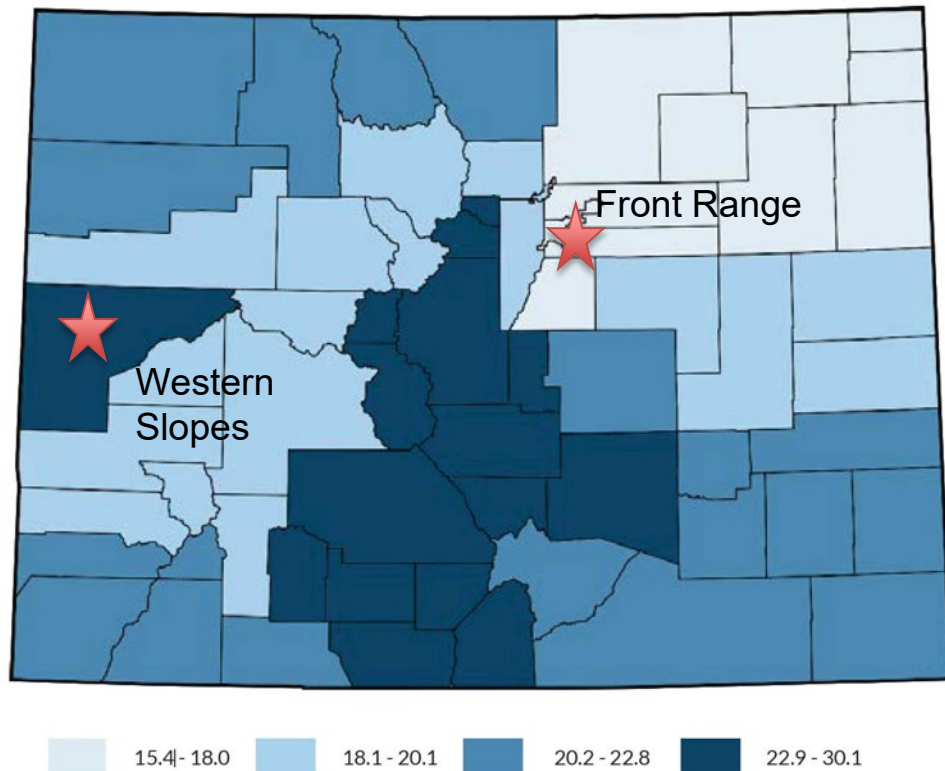
Understanding Schools as They Are



Methods

1. Community-engaged team ethnography in two Colorado school districts
 - “Front Range” & “Western Slopes” Colorado
 - All names are pseudonyms
2. Ten high schools & 2 middle schools are participating
 - Vary in how their mental health safety systems work
 - Vary in youth suicide rates

Map of age-adjusted suicide rates, per 100,000, by county across the lifespan, Colorado residents, 2011-2015



(Health Management Associates via Colorado Attorney General)



Community Engaged Research

1. Start with listening

- Build protocols to repeatedly listen to the needs, concerns and ideas of diverse stakeholders
 - Community advisory boards
 - Check ins

2. Bring the science and the methodological expertise

- But be humble and recognize that community partners have tremendous knowledge

3. Be present in schools – ethnography is key



Thank you!

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