In 2015, there were 44,000 suicide deaths in the United States. This is about one suicide every 12 minutes. Four of the currently funded ICRCs are working to prevent suicide through research, training, or outreach activities:

- University of Iowa
- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- University of Rochester
- West Virginia University

Research: Studying Ways to Prevent Suicide

ICRCs published more than 80 articles about suicide or suicide prevention in peer-reviewed journals from August 2015 through July 2016. Examples of CDC-funded ICRC research projects are listed here:

- Feasibility of implementing a Computerized Adaptive Diagnostic Screening Tool for Major Depressive Disorder (CAD-MDD) to Identify Patients at Risk of Suicide in WV Emergency Departments (West Virginia University)
- Systems Dynamics Modeling to Examine Comprehensive Community-Based Suicide Prevention (University of Rochester)
- Testing and Dissemination of an Online Suicide Prevention Training for Intimate Partner Violence Hotline Workers (University of Rochester)

You can find a complete list of CDC-funded ICRC research projects for 2017-2019 on the ICRC web site at go.usa.gov/xns9N.
RESEARCH IN ACTION

West Virginia University studied a new computerized diagnostic tool to screen for major depressive disorder in the university’s hospital emergency department. The tool could identify at-risk emergency department patients without requiring a psychiatric assessment, which can take significant time. The research showed the screening tool accurately identified at-risk patients and took less time than similar tools. The hospital is now using the tool consistently to identify and connect patients with treatment and services for depression.

Outreach: Putting Research Into Action to Prevent Suicides

The University of Rochester, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, and local and national stakeholders formed the Colorado National Collaborative to develop a system-based suicide prevention approach. This approach includes working with local stakeholders to implement evidence-based prevention strategies for at-risk youth, veterans, older adults, and middle-aged men. The collaborative plans to evaluate this comprehensive approach to serve as a national model for other states.

Training: Building the Field to Prevent Suicides

The University of North Carolina partnered with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services to train suicide prevention advocates and public health practitioners. The Injury-Free NC Academy provides participants with injury knowledge and skills to help them implement proven suicide interventions in their communities. This annual training educates participants in areas such as coalition building, community programming, logic model building, and funding. Training participants have reported increased knowledge in suicide prevention and in program planning and development.