

September 11, 2025

BCC Agenda Date/Item: _____

Board of County Commissioners
 Clackamas County

Presentation on County suicide prevention programs in honor of September as Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. No fiscal impact.

Previous Board Action/Review	None		
Performance Clackamas	Healthy people		
Counsel Review	No	Procurement Review	No
Contact Person	Mary Rumbaugh	Contact Phone	503-406-7005

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: Suicide remains a persistent, and yet largely preventable, cause of death and continues to be affect too many individuals, families and communities in Clackamas County. September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month and with that comes an opportunity to increase education and awareness around the prevalence of suicide and, more importantly, the intentional work being done within the Public Health Division to decrease rates.

This session is informational only, no action required and no fiscal impact

RECOMMENDATION: The staff respectfully requests the Board’s continued support of this important work.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Rumbaugh

Mary Rumbaugh
 Director of Health, Housing & Human Services

Attachments:

- 1) *Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, September 11, 2025, Slide Deck*
- 2) *Walk to Fight Suicide Out of the Darkness Community Walk flier*

For Filing Use Only

Clackamas County Public Health Division

Suicide Prevention Awareness Month Board of County Commissioners Business Meeting

September 11, 2025

Mary Rumbaugh, Director, Health, Housing & Human Services
Galli Murray, Suicide Prevention Coordinator, Public Health Division



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Clackamas Crisis and Support Line 24/7
Call 503-655-8585



YouthLine
A SERVICE OF  lines4life

let's talk. 877.968.8491
teen2teen to 839863



Mental Health Promotion and Suicide Prevention Program

- **What we do:**

- Promote mental health literacy and work to prevent suicide
- Provide free suicide prevention trainings
- Provide technical support and consultation around policy and system change
- Distribute secure storage items such as pistol vaults and medication lock boxes
- Mobilize resources and supports following a death by suicide in the community

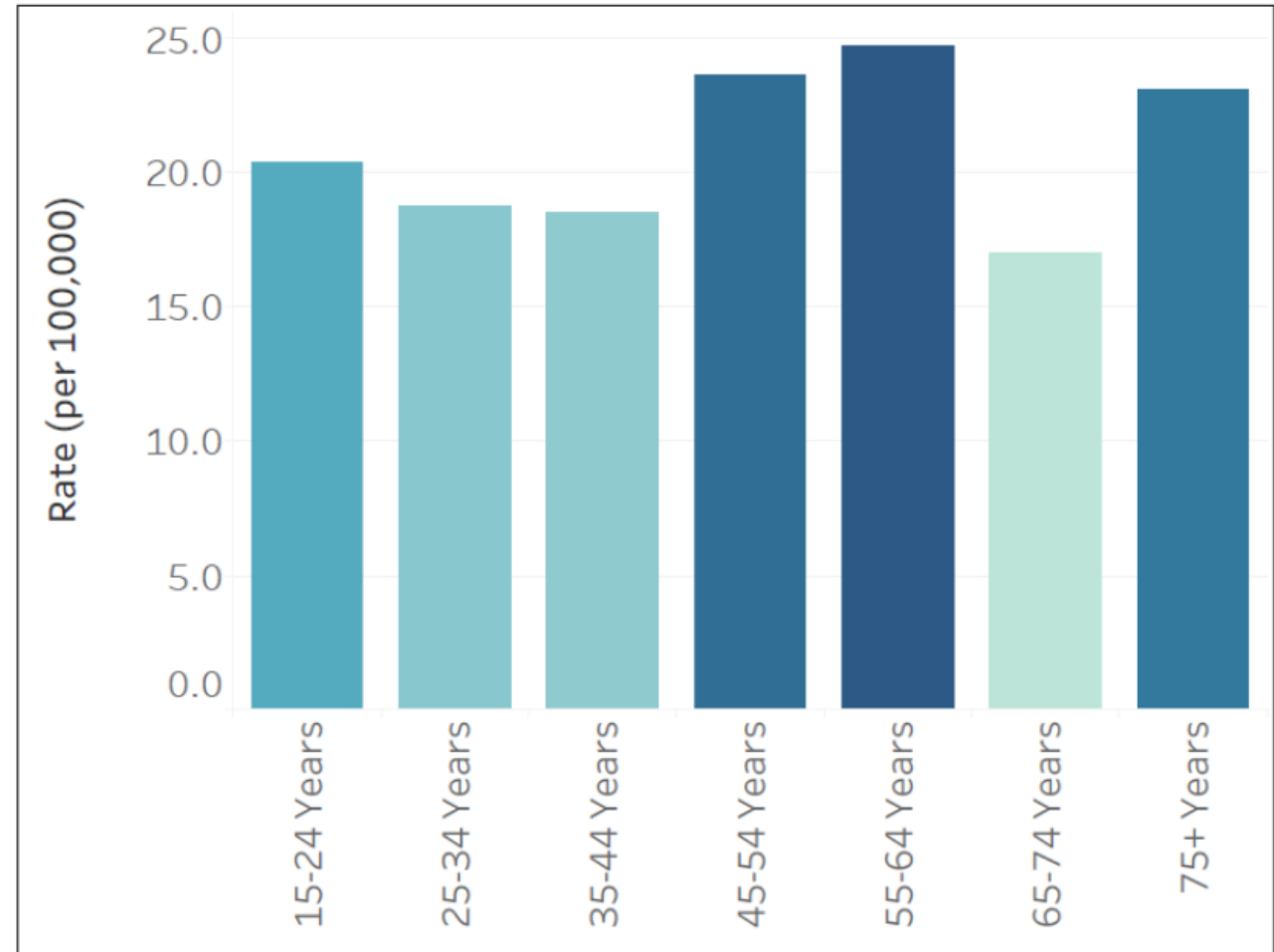
- **How we do it:**

- Collaboration with local, regional, and state partners
- Change systems to reduce stigma and shift community norms around mental health

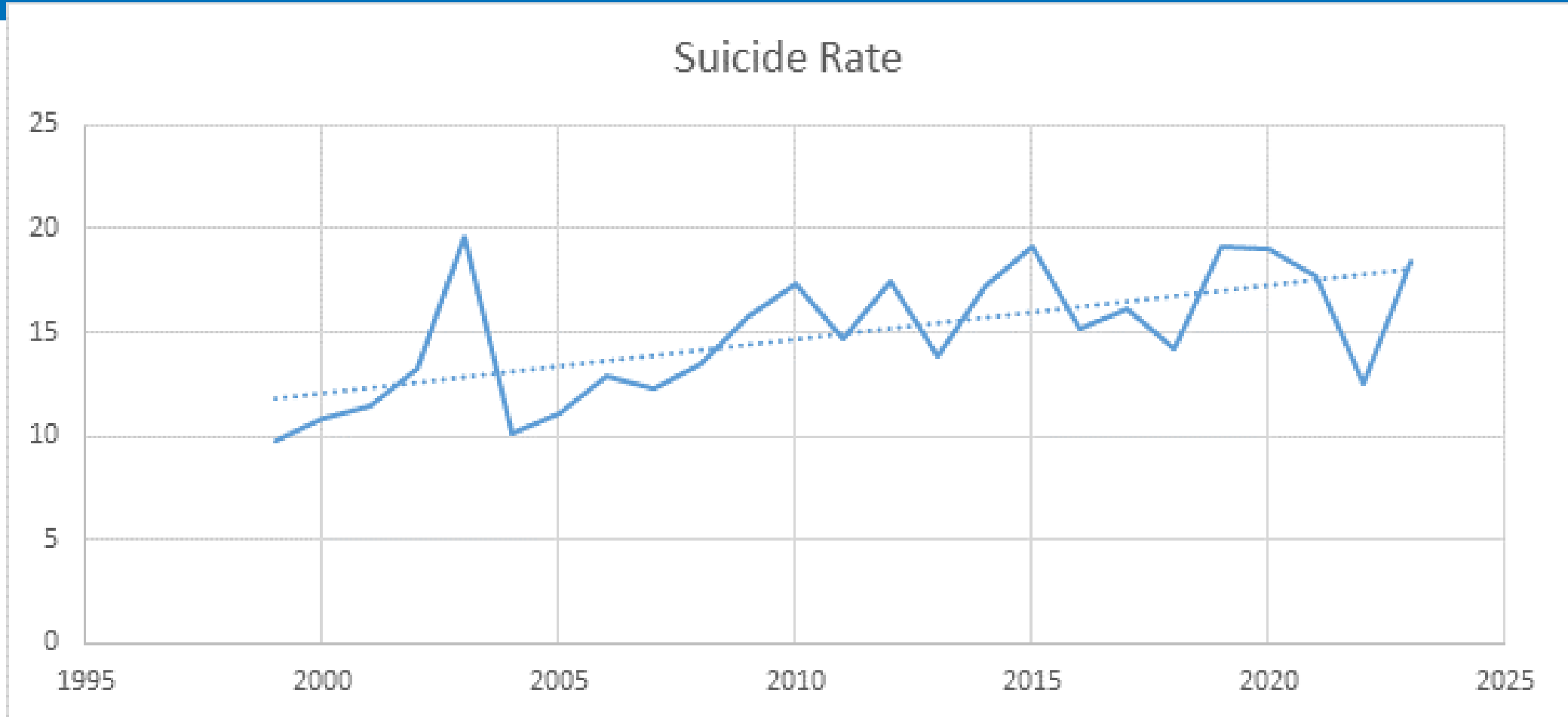
Mental Health Promotion and Suicide Prevention Program

- **Why we do it:**

- In 2023, 57% of all the suicides in Clackamas County were individuals 50 years and older
- Men make up most of the suicide deaths in Clackamas
- In 2023, 61.5% of suicides were via firearm



Clackamas Suicide Data 1999 - 2023

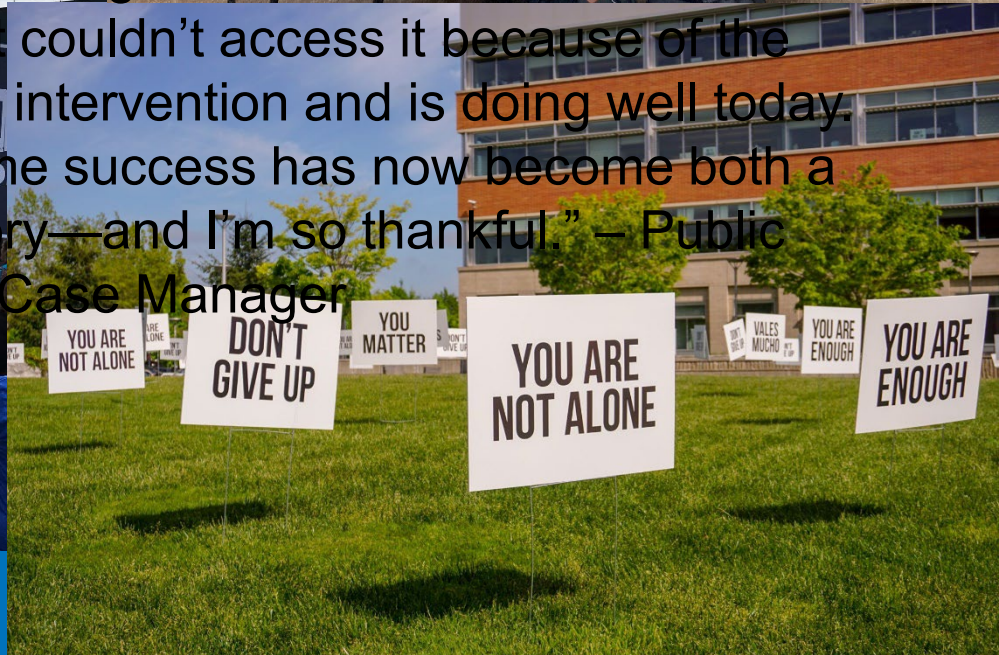
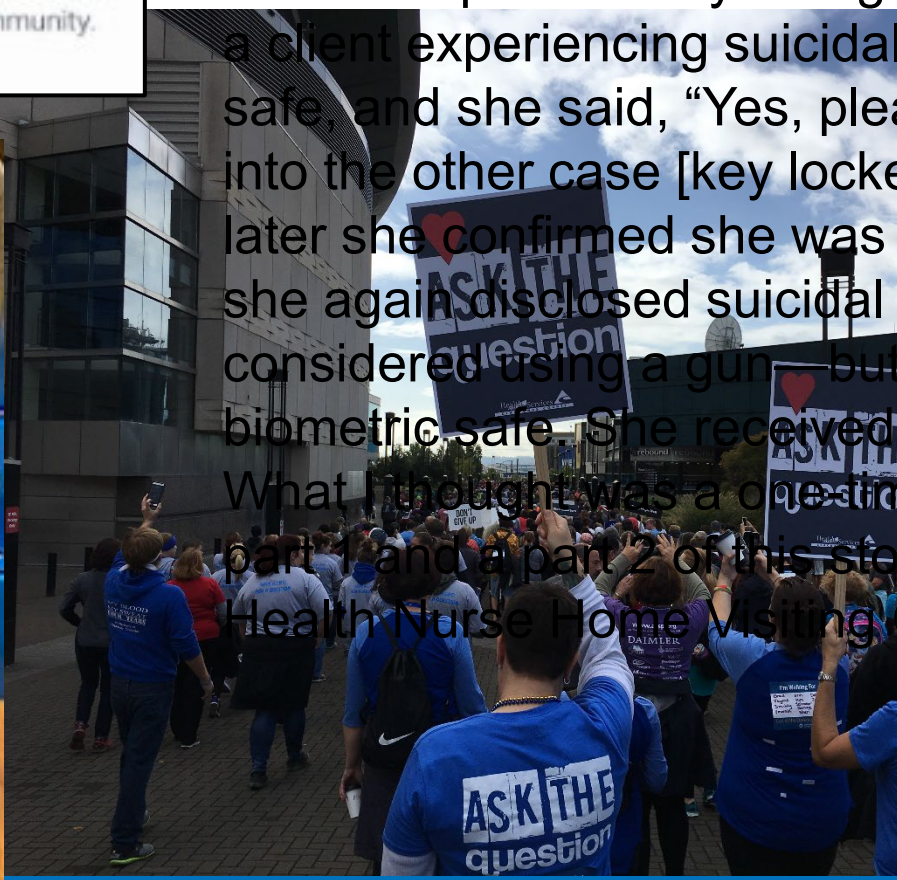
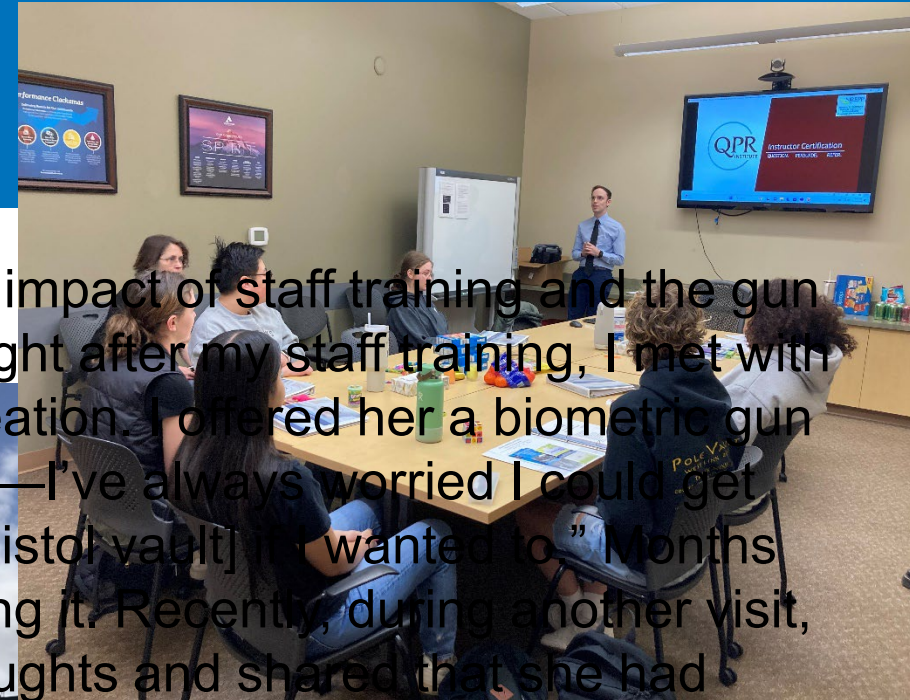


Source: CDC WONDER

What Suicide Prevention Looks Like



“This story ... speaks to the real impact of staff training and the gun cases we provide. A year ago, right after my staff training, I met with a client experiencing suicidal ideation. I offered her a biometric gun safe, and she said, “Yes, please—I’ve always worried I could get into the other case [key locked pistol vault] if I wanted to.” Months later she confirmed she was using it. Recently, during another visit, she again disclosed suicidal thoughts and shared that she had considered using a gun—but couldn’t access it because of the biometric safe. She received intervention and is doing well today. What I thought was a one-time success has now become both a part 1 and a part 2 of this story—and I’m so thankful.” – Public Health Nurse Home Visiting Case Manager



Clackamas County Public Health Division

Questions?