

KMAA Suicide Prevention Fundraiser

GOAL: \$2,000 plus

1. Raised funds used to implement the KMAA SPARE program (posters, comic book, etc.)
2. SPARE program: Suicide – Prevention – Awareness – Resources - Enrollment
3. Kick off first quarter 2019.
4. Enroll Veterans on line with VA Medical Center (real-time, on-site).
5. Provide enrollment link on KMAA website.
6. Submit same link to MCL national headquarters to distribute to detachments.
7. Create attention grabbing suicide prevention poster/fliers (distribute).
8. Create and distribute SPARE comic book.
9. Train SPARE speakers (speak at Veteran organizations, etc.).
10. Solicit corporate sponsors.

FACTS: (According to the VA)

- Twenty-two Veterans commit suicide each day, over 8,000 annually, and increasing.
- Veterans commit suicide 21% higher than general population, 2.4 times for females.
- Veterans over 50 years of age account for approximately 65% of Veteran suicides.
- About 70% of Veterans committing suicide were not registered with VA.
- About 66% of all Veteran suicides are by a firearm.
- Alabama has over 410,000 Veterans (Population 4.8 million).
- Females account for 10% of Alabama Veterans.
- Alabama Veterans account for an estimated 9% of the population over 18 years of age.
- Over 75% of Alabama Veterans served during war time era.
- Alabama Veterans by select Wars:
 - 4% WWII (16,400)
 - 8% Korean War (32,800)
 - 33% Vietnam War (135,000)
 - 36% Gulf Wars (147,600)

