

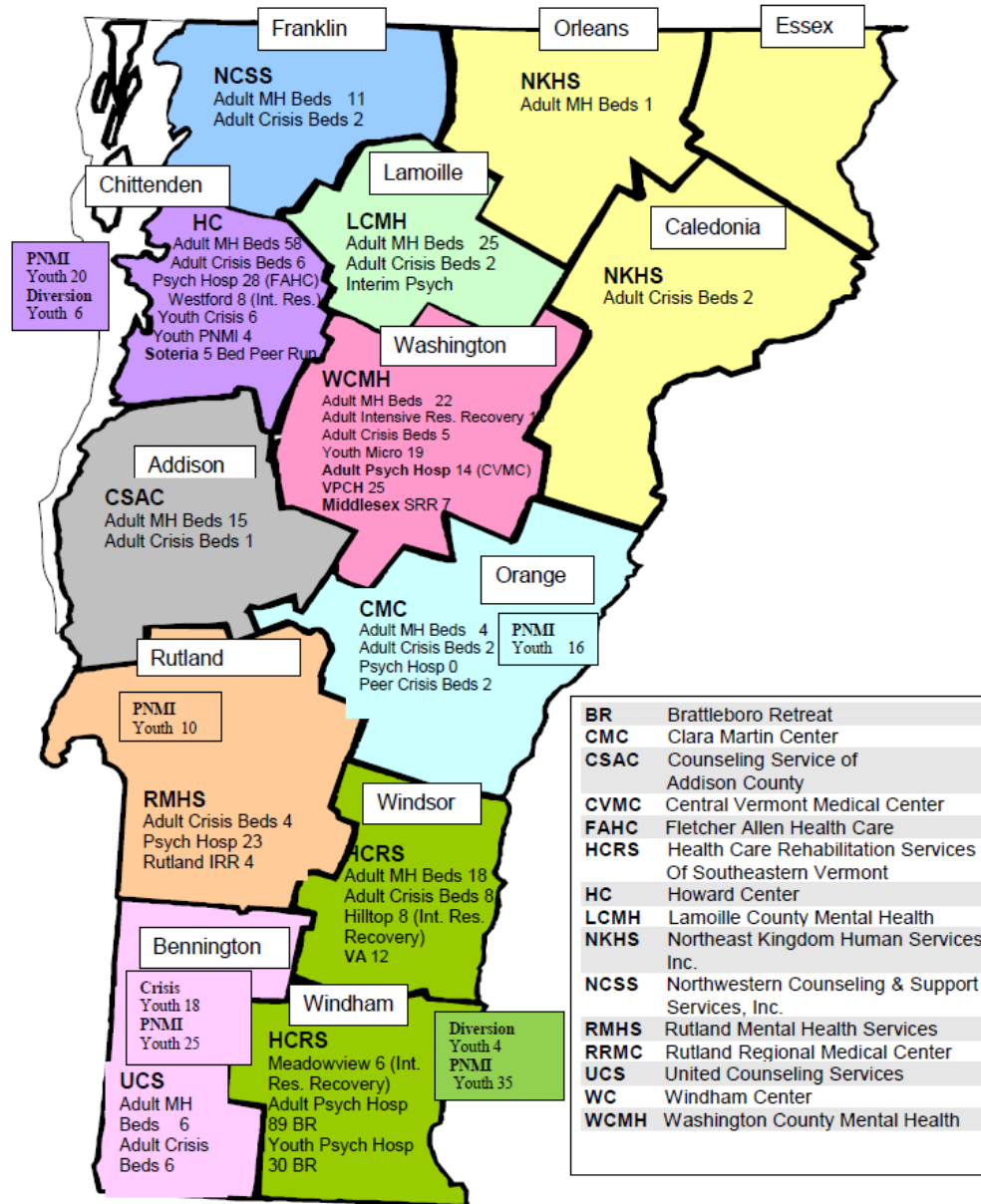


DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

NORTHEAST KINGDOM MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT CENTER PROJECT

Alison Krompf, Deputy Commissioner

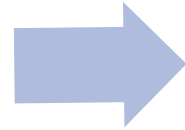
**DMH RESIDENTIAL AND DESIGNATED HOSPITAL BEDS
BY COUNTY FY19**



Gap in Resources

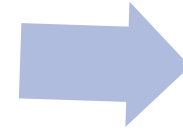
The Barrett Family

- Persistent advocates highlighting the need for additional mental health resources in the NEK region, specifically those that can provide urgent support for people experiencing suicidal thoughts



Local Coalition Building

- Local providers and community leaders coalesced around this need for additional resources and assisted in proposing a Mental Health Treatment Facility to the Dept of Mental Health



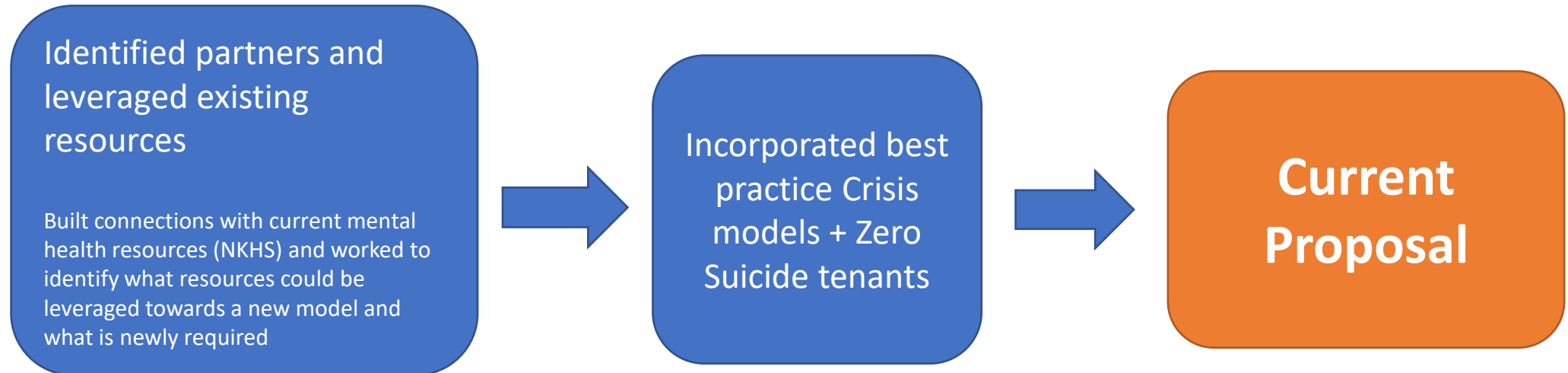
State assessment of need

- DMH met with the group and worked to translate the term “facility” into the appropriate system of care terms, and assessed the need within the context of state and community priorities and existing infrastructure

By the Numbers

- The Northeast Kingdom region holds **two** of the **top four** highest county rates of suicide deaths in the state: Orleans and Caledonia County [Suicide & Intentional Self-Harm Data Brief 2022 \(healthvermont.gov\)](#)
- Data from CY 2021 showed the Northeast Kingdom had the highest rate of individuals served in emergency departments for mental health crises (versus other locations like the community or mental health office)
 - **31%** of individuals in mental health crisis were seen by NKHS at an Emergency Dept, indicating a pressing need for alternative urgent care options

Next steps



Best practice crisis models: [national-guidelines-for-behavioral-health-crisis-care-02242020.pdf \(samhsa.gov\)](#)
Zero Suicide: [Homepage | Zero Suicide \(edc.org\)](#)

Proposal

Urgent Mental Health Crisis Center run by Northeast Kingdom Human Services to serve individuals experiencing suicidal ideation or a mental health crisis.

- A person-centered and therapeutic setting for stabilization, interventions, treatment and referrals for follow up care
- Provide a community-based option for those in crisis and divert individuals experiencing a mental health crisis away from emergency departments
- Aligns with and builds upon Northeast Kingdom Human Services' other established programs - 988 Crisis Call Center, emergency services and CRT programming

