

The Gun Owners of Vermont Inc.
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November 2017

The Vermont Gun Shop Project (VGSP)

In 2016, The Gun Owners of Vermont and the Vermont Federation of Sportsman's Clubs began a project to help reduce the frequency of suicide in Vermont.

In conjunction with the Vermont Department of Mental Health and the Center for Health and Learning in Brattleboro, we set out to create a *unique* program for Vermont that had not been done before.

This program is designed to raise awareness of issues facing Vermont gun owners and to educate them with different methods to guide folks in crisis to professional mental health counselling.

UNLIKE the other "Gun Shop Projects" (used by New Hampshire, Colorado, and other states) whose focus seems to be taking firearms away from gun owners in crisis, the **Vermont Gun Shop Project** seeks to create a dialog between friends, educate firearm dealers and firearm owners as to warning signs, and to connect folks with professional assistance when needed. We even modified the materials to reflect this change from the other existing programs.

Neighbors helping neighbors, that's the Vermont way.

This program is a PROACTIVE way to help folks in our community who are in need of assistance during times of stress, depression or crisis.

What started out as an effort to educate gun shop proprietors and firearm owners through gun stores, is now expanding to include gun club members.

Informational sessions are being presented to members around the state in an effort to introduce the topic to a larger audience.

Professional quality "Gate Keeper" trainings will be offered to gun owners who are interested in further education for themselves on what they can do to help their friends and family in times of crisis.

Printed materials including informational posters, flyers, and wallet cards with emergency numbers are available to licensed firearms dealers, gun clubs and individual gun owners.

Be a friend, get involved.

For more info visit our VGSP web page:

http://www.gunownersofvermont.org/wordpress/research-analysis/GoVT_DOWNLOADS/VT_Gun_Shop_Project.htm