

# THE VA RURAL TRANSITIONS NURSE PROGRAM (TNP)

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#### ABOUT DR. HEATHER GILMARTIN

- Nurse Scientist, Nurse Practitioner
- Understand and optimize the culture of healthcare
- Patient safety, care coordination, learning healthcare, team science, high reliability





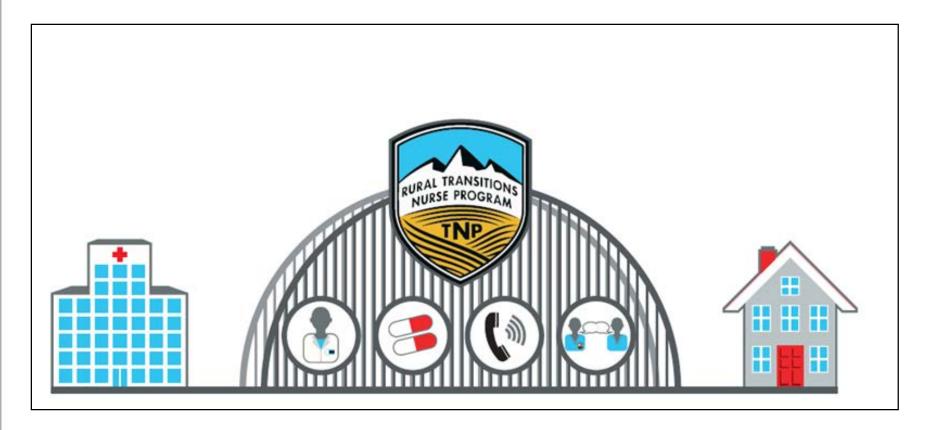
# **POLL QUESTIONS**

- Please rate the priority for care coordination in your facility?
  - Scale (1-10)
- How confident are you in the care coordination process at your facility?
  - Scale (1-10)





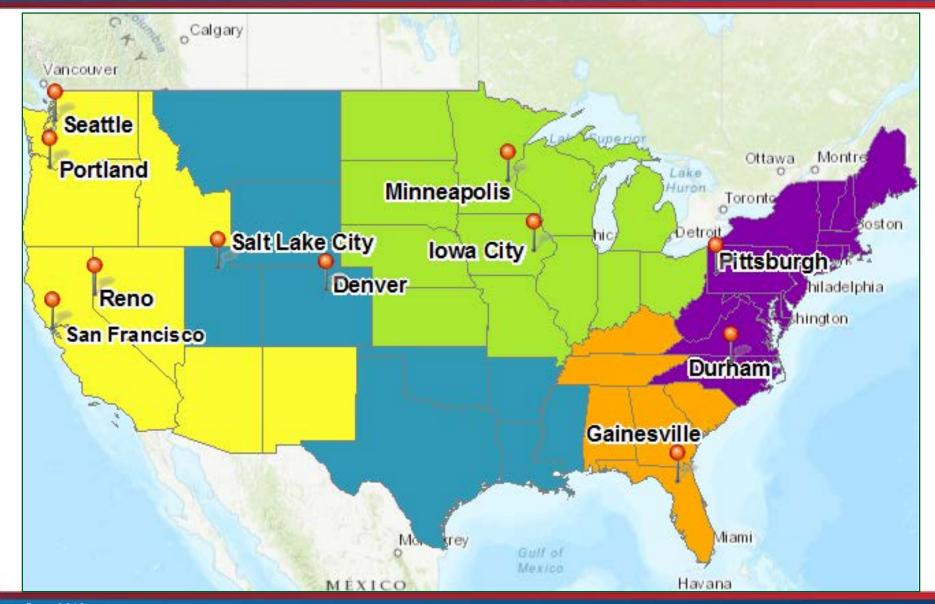
# TNP BUILDS BRIDGES FOR RURAL VETERANS



Burke, R. E. et al., 2017; Leonard, C. et al., 2017



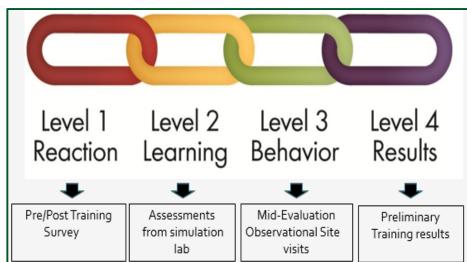
## TNP LAUNCHED IN 2014





### TRANSITIONS NURSE (TN) TRAINING

- Care coordination and transition management modules
- Group communication training in simulation center
- Database and documentation training
- Virtual learning collaborative
- Kirkpatrick evaluation model

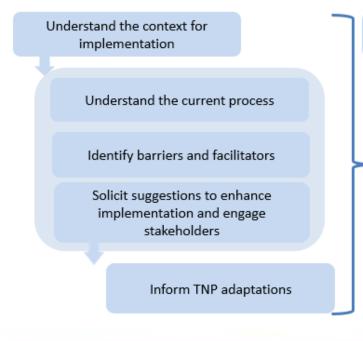


Kirkpatrick, D. L., 1959; Praslova & Ludmila, 2010



#### IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE STRATEGIES

- Pre-implementation site assessment
- Facilitation
- Audit and feedback
- Tracking of adaptations



Only one pharmacist for all medical teams

Pharmacists not involved in discharge process

Lack of pharmacy involvement in discharge facilitates perception that TN can fill a gap

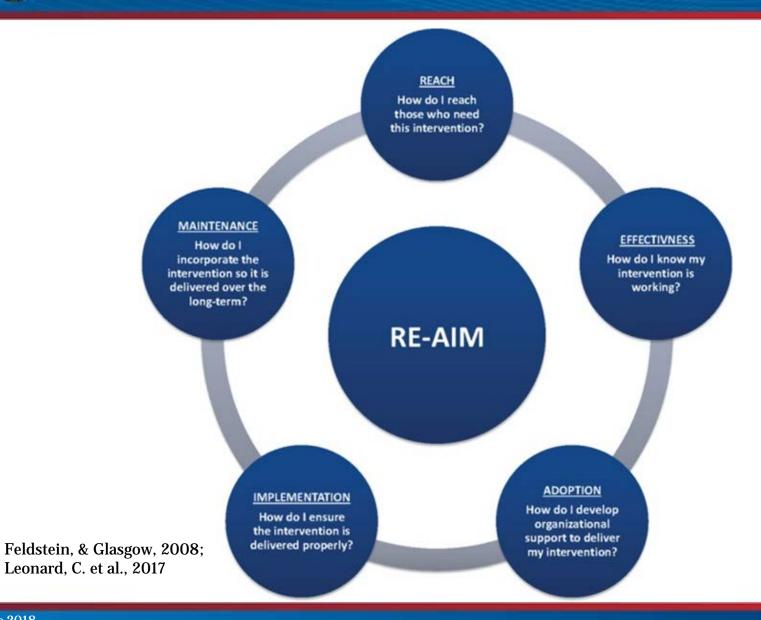
The TN's role should involve heavy focus on medication education

Adaptation of TN role: TN becomes primary role responsible for medication reconciliation at that site

Leonard, C. et al., 2017



### TNP EVALUATION AND OUTCOMES



- Veteran Outcomes
- Relational Coordination
- Veteran Connect
- Maintenance/sustainment
- Expansion



#### VHA Office of Rural Health

VHA Office of Nursing Service

#### **TNP Transitions Nurses and Hospital Champions**

#### **Denver TNP Team:**

Robert E. Burke Amy Ladebue

Andrew Coy Emily Lawrence

Christine Engstrom

Chelsea Leonard

Brandi Lippmann

David Gaskin Ashlea Mayberry

Michael Ho Marina McCreight

Lynette Kelley Lexus Ujano-De-Motta

June 2018

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Burke, R.E, Kelley, L., Gunzburger, E., Grunwald, G., Gokhale, M., Plomondon, M.E., Ho P.M. (2017). Improving Transitions of Care for Veterans Transferred to Tertiary VA Medical Centers. American Journal of Medicine Quality. 6:9.

Feldstein, A., & Glasgow, R. (2008). A Practical, Robust Implementation and Sustainability Model (PRISM) for integrating research findings into practice. Joint Commission Journal on Quality & Patient Safety, 34(4), 228-243.

Kirkpatrick, D. L. (1959). Techniques for evaluating training programs. Journal of the American Society of Training Directors, 13, 3–9.

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