

Outcomes to Date:

- 48 total kits distributed
- Library staff were able to keep community member stable until help arrived
- Family was able to access needed resources because of information and transportation provided
- Expedited community member assistance allowing staff to help more people
- Preventative approach that also assists in crisis level situations
- Streamlines organizational internal communications
- Provides targeted information for increased community awareness

Connect Kit Milestones

4 June — 1 November 2018
Resource Kit Project Pilot Phase I

16 November 2018
Elected Officials Council Project Analysis Presentation

December 2018
SSMCP Connect Kit recommendations provided to stakeholders

7 January — 1 May 2019
Phase II of Connect Kit Project

16 May 2019
Elected Officials Council Project Update

How you can help:

- Become Mental Health First Aid trained <https://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org/>
- Encourage community leaders to support the Connect Kit project
- Tell others about Connect Kits
- Ask your organization to support Connect Kits through kit distribution or contributions
- Needed Items:
Water bottles
Non-perishable snacks
Basic need vouchers
First Aid Kits
Sewing Kits
Hygiene Kits



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Everyone needs connections.



Saint Martin's
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Connect Kit Project Pilot

Purpose

The SSMCP Health Care, Education, Transportation and Social Services Working Groups identified the need for a more collaborative effort to assist community members in accessing resources.

After nearly 2 years of joint efforts in research and evaluation of best practices, a recommended project pilot brings together health care, education, social services, transportation and other resources with a common goal: to effectively, efficiently, at a low cost with an easily modifiable template to connect community members with established resources through Connect Kits.

Facts Bearing on the Problem

According to the [Washington State Health Care Authority](#), only 20% of clinical care addresses community member needs.

The near poverty rate of [Pierce County](#) (31%) and poverty rate of [Thurston County](#) (12%) illustrates many residents may also need immediate access to assistance with food, housing and community support.

The [86K+ Veterans](#) in Pierce County, [29K+ in Thurston County](#), and their dependents plus the [70%+ of JBLM Personnel](#) who live off installation highlights the strong military connected presence where opportunities for supporting these community members exists.

Various community organizations experience increasing requests and expectations for public services offered.

Proposal

All health care, education, social service and governmental organizations have access to some level of resources to share with community members related to quality of life. These resources can be as simple as information to additional resources not physically available at the location. The Connect Kit provides a universal foundation that each location can modify with local resources deemed appropriate. The staff distributing the kits are Mental Health First Aid trained equivalent or above with additional specific training on Connect Kits. Identified staff and personnel at any organization could take the training then assist community members as needed.

SSMCP Scope of Work

- Acquire connect kit materials, compile for kit creation and distribute to locations
- Provide access to training and training materials for staff
- Oversee the distribution of kits
- Collect project data then analyze
 - Number of kits distributed
 - Number and type of referrals
- Report project impacts and outcomes
 - Increase in access to services
 - Decrease in crisis level incidents
- Provide recommendations to continue or expand the Connect Kit concept
- Evaluate how kits may influence county health, economic and quality of life factors

The [2010 Growth Coordination Plan](#) supports and recommends concepts of Connect Kits:

- Formalize new Methods of Collaboration
- Improve Access to Information
- Improve Access to Existing Services
- Improve Support for Military Families
- Improve Regional Mobility

Project Beneficiaries:

- Pierce and Thurston County Residents

Alleviate level of burden to:

- First Responders
- Clinicians
- Public Health
- Substance Abuse Communities

Increased communications and collaborations:

- Hospitals
- Schools
- Social Service Organizations
- Other participating agencies

Desired Outcomes

- Assist community members in need
- Bridge communication gaps between providers
- Template for any social services, education, health care or other organization to provide effective efficient assistance to community members in need
- Project data provides a foundation for continuing and expanding Resource Kit implementation