Project 2 Proposal

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Suicide continues to plague service members and veterans alike. The greatest threat of suicide exists during the transitional period between being a service member and becoming a veteran. The Department of Defense continues to call for high level solutions and program implementations that can address these issues. This project aims to provide a small portion of a larger code which provides information for psychiatric and psychological practitioners within the Armed Forces and VA to allow transition of care for Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, and Marines that may or may not have preexisting conditions.

One obstacle identified by this group is the lack of data exchange and communication between various agencies that provide care to Service Members and Veterans alike. There is no easy way to share data across the plethora of agencies including, but not limited to, the individual service branches, civilian providers, mental health and physical health clinicians, Veteran's Affairs, and non-profits associated with Soldier care (i.e. Vet Center, DAV, etc.) To manage the scope of the issue, the main question this group aims to answer is, how can these disparities between agencies be addressed to provide meaningful data that can provide mental health services, feedback, and eventually, intervention?

For this project we will limit the scope and focus on creating roughly two objects. One object will be the data object and contain the individual's data **that the user will input(I think this needs to be a separate object for functionality)**. The second is a data/data visualization object that would import datasets recommended by a prior service/current Veteran with 20 years experience in active duty Army as well as on research regarding Soldier and Veteran mental health indicators. This object will create various graphs from the datasets and highlight an individual's 'placement' on the graph. For example, a scatterplot would highlight the individual point that corresponds to an individual's data point. A bar chart will highlight where the individual falls on a spectrum of risk factors. The purpose of these visualizations is intended for healthcare providers to quickly assess the risk and risk factors of an individual. Our metric of success on this project is to create a rudimentary dashboard out of the individual's input data and the government datasets.