



EMPACT - SUICIDE PREVENTION CENTER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Join the Battle: Fighting Veteran Suicide at the Annual 'Battle of the Branches' Event

Phoenix, AZ – September 16, 2024 – The Battle of the Branches is back. This annual event shines a light on the pressing issue of Veteran suicide while supporting programs that provide crucial assistance to Veterans and their families.

According to the Department of Veterans Affairs 2022 National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report, the average number of Veteran suicides per day is alarmingly high, rising from 16.4 in 2001 to 16.8 in 2020, with the highest numbers of 18.6 per day in 2018. *Source:* <https://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/docs/data-sheets/2022/2022-National-Veteran-Suicide-Prevention-Annual-Report-FINAL-508.pdf>

EMPACT-Suicide Prevention Center plays a vital role in helping service members, Veterans, and their families when they need it most. EMPACT provides support that tailors to individualized needs, promoting self-sufficiency and resilience, and reducing the probability of future crises. EMPACT is a non-profit behavioral health agency dedicated to building a safe, strong, and healthy Arizona.

Event Details:

What: 6th Annual Battle of the Branches 5K Run/Walk

When: Saturday, October 5, 2024, from 7:30 am to 9:30 am

Where: Arizona Falls, 5802 E. Indian School Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85018

The event promises a friendly rivalry as all branches of the military – Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Space Force – compete for bragging rights by registering the most participants from their branches. But it's not just about the run; it's about community, awareness, and support.

Your partner for a safe, strong, and healthy community

618 S. Madison Drive | Tempe, AZ 85281 | 480.784.1514 office | 480.967.3528 Fax | www.lafrontera-empact.org

480-784-1500 24/7 Crisis Hotline



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Join us for a day of unity, featuring Veteran information booths. The Battle of the Branches event is family-friendly, and all are invited to participate.

Your donations and proceeds from this event support services directed towards Veterans and their families in the fight against Veteran suicide.

For registration and more event details, visit

<https://raceroster.com/events/2024/90946/battle-of-the-branches-5k-run>

For more information about the event or to schedule an interview, please contact:

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