

Veterans Strategic Planning Meeting
October 3, 2018

The aspirations of the group were: Veteran Inclusion; Effective Services for Vets and Families

Solutions included: Push to establish a clinic in Napa; develop program to get folks to vets home for public transportation or a program of door to door transportation to facilities; partnering with Uber/Lyft for transportation

Aspiration: Veteran Inclusion		
Specific Challenge or Problem	Evidence this Challenge or Problem Exists	Impact of the Challenge or Problem on You?
Multiple organizations have varying requirements for membership (global definition of veteran status)	i.e. American Legion is only open to those that served in a time frame; those that served honorably in armed forces don't identify as veterans	Confusion, lost benefits, access, divisiveness within the community family can also lose benefits, culture of silence around having served
Communication to veterans from county and other organizations and vice versa (2 ways)	Lack of knowledge around events, programs, etc.; different cultures of communication i.e., social media vs print users; volunteer fire department has need but yet don't know its available	Isolation of them and lack of knowledge of services available, feel lost. Volunteer fire program is underserved, county is vulnerable in response to fire
Funding to engage veterans by county	Napa is affluent veterans aren't connected well	VA offices are small, vets are lost with no support
Veterans include all who have served in the military		

Solution			
Actions to Solve	Who Needs to Be Involved	Pros Cons	
VA change definitions; countywide intake process "have you served or been enlisted" rather than veterans; VSO office define veteran on website	VA, county VSO, BOS, veterans, CalVET Vet Commission, medical, community, Probation services, county services	More people included in vet category	Lack of funding
Visible signs, icons in public spaces; central clearing house of information from multiple sources; annual event coinciding with Veterans Day ; engage veterans in volunteer fire opportunities or other Map info for recognition sites; QR codes at memorials	Chamber of Commerce, local businesses, service organizations i.e., Kiwanis, Rotary, veterans, vets organizations, BOS, city government, Public Works, Arts Council, Parks & Rec, County of Napa Fire departments, CJ Bertagna, - veterans events, vets commission, wider community & veteran community, city leadership, local media, Scott Sedgeley, Concord Vets Center	Increased awareness for everyone; increased benefit to family member	Cost
Grand Jury to "follow the dollars" via the VSO sponsored research by grad students on local veterans	Grand Jury, universities, vets, VSO office	Inclusion, recognition, informed, increased tourism, patriotism, easy access, engage younger vets	Graffiti
Inclusive of community funds i.e., Vintners, community funds, convents and philanthropy		Money available	High bureaucracy age, and ability demographics
			A lot of work to get need , experienced writers

Red indicates top vote getter(s).

Aspiration: Effective Services for Vets and Families		
Specific Challenge or Problem	Evidence this challenge or problem exists	Impact of the Challenge or Problem on You?
Housing	Expensive housing out of reach for many	Homelessness
No VA clinic in Napa - access to health care	No VA clinic in Napa; no public transportation to clinics/hospitals (i.e., Martinez, Fort Miley, etc.)	Difficult to receive appropriate care in a timely manner
Lack of legal support for vets (example: veteran court)	We don't have a veterans court	We don't have a veteran court/stand-down, etc.
Inadequate staffing - VSO	Only 3 people in office (2 caseworkers for 11k vets)	Reduced services due to high caseloads
Veteran orientation to services in Napa, they don't know how to access veterans services	Current orientations are limited; no federal VA presence in Napa - i.e., have to go to Santa Rosa)	Not all vets are aware of available services
We don't know how many veterans live in Napa demographics	No one sure how many vets live here and their needs - can't communicate with vets	
Lack of HUD-VASH in Napa (Veteran Supported Housing Program) section 8 voucher and case management	Program exists but no one in Napa offers them (i.e., Section 8, etc.)	
Lack of services for homeless vets		

Red indicates top vote getter(s).

Solution			
Actions to Solve	Who Needs to Be Involved	Pros Cons	
Establish program of shared housing; don't require sobriety to access transitional housing	Vets/VA/county/city/landlords/mental health/non-profits/for-profits/transportation companies/federal government	Less homelessness better quality of life for vets	\$\$\$\$\$ landlords don't want substance abusing tenants
Push to establish a clinic in Napa; develop program to get folks to vets home for public transportation or a program of door to door transportation to facilities; partnering with Uber/Lyft for transportation		Better services - easier access	Requires VA to take action
Open a veterans court and bring stand own to Napa		Vets get specific help taking into	Requires judges & DA's to agree to participate
Increase staffing in vets office		Better services	\$\$
Establish veteran outreach program - maybe included with 214-and outreach to existing vet programs - orientation to available services (including jobs) hiring incentives to businesses to hire vet		More veterans engaged and accessing services	\$\$
Request VA help in accessing vets who live in Napa		Better able to target services where they are needed	Difficulty obtaining info confidentiality issues
Assign someone to coordinate efforts to provide veteran supported (HUD) vouchers - VASH and other homeless programs for vets at VA		May result in VASH being more available	Requires action by the federal government
Shared housing - follow up case management			
Information campaign to make info public on county of Napa website, libraries, etc.			

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