

CLACKAMAS COUNTY
 VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL
 August 26, 2021 Meeting Minutes
 Zoom
 2:30pm – 3:30pm

FACILITATOR	Jerry Craig
NOTE TAKER	Amy Kelsey - Administrative Specialist 1 - Clackamas County Social Services

VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL					
P	Jerry Craig	E	Tracy Bogard		
P	RB Green	E	Scott Southard		
P	Paul Edger	E	Casey Curry		
E	Laurie Kimmell	E	Ben Heir		
P	Adam Khosrobadi	P	Ian Newland		
E	Joseph Kwiecinski				
CLACKAMAS COUNTY STAFF					
P	Erika Silver	P	Heather Miewald		
P	Amy Kelsey	P	Ken Bietschek		
GUESTS					
O	Larry Moseley	O	Galli Murray		
O	Bob Dare	O	Donna Marie-Drucker		

P-Present, A -Absent, E-Excused, O-Other Attendee

ITEMS / ISSUES	DISCUSSION	FOLLOW-UP
Meeting Called to Order	Jerry Craig called the meeting to order. Quorum could not be established.	
Minutes	The July 22, 2021 meeting minutes, will be voted on at the September 23, 2021 meeting.	

ITEMS / ISSUES	DISCUSSION	FOLLOW-UP
<p>Together With Veterans Presentation by Bob Dare and Donna-Marie Drucker</p>	<p>Together With Veterans (TWV) is a community-based suicide prevention program for rural Veterans. Local Veterans and their communities implement best practices in public health suicide prevention. The program is designed to be consistent with the goals of the National Strategy for Preventing Veteran Suicide. TWV activities align with Priority Focus Areas and six strategies:</p> <p>Mission The Together With Veterans Program (TWV) enlists rural Veterans and their local partners to join forces to reduce Veteran suicide in their community.</p> <p>Guiding Principles</p> <p><i>Veteran-Driven</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Veterans provide permission and work together to implement TWV in their community • Veterans provide leadership to guide the TWV process <p><i>Collaborative</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community partners play a key role in successfully supporting Veterans and their families • Informed and educated community partners are better equipped to address the needs of Veterans • Collaboration and education will strengthen the suicide prevention network for Veterans, their families, and friends <p><i>Evidence-Informed</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TWV strategies are drawn from well-researched models that have been shown to effectively reduce suicide <p><i>Community-Centered</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TWV partnerships develop a unique suicide prevention action plan based on community strengths and addressing community needs • TWV action plans are reviewed and revised as needed to promote success 	

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	<p>TWV Communities</p> <p>A community interested in implementing TWV will need the capacity to establish the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Veteran-led steering committee with decision-making authority to provide leadership for the program • A community team of local agencies and organizations who serve or encounter Veterans and are interested in Veteran suicide prevention • A coordinator who provides logistical administration of program meetings and activities • A facilitator who leads the planning process • An organization that can receive funding to support implementation <p>TWV teams conduct a public health action planning process to address rural Veteran suicide prevention. This process will require regularly scheduled meetings for an estimated 10-12 months. Implementation of the plan is ongoing and is intended to create long-term relationships between Veterans and community service providers, deepen community awareness about Veteran needs, and improve services and support for Veterans and their families.</p> <p>TWV teams receive training, program materials and limited funding. Additionally, TWV coaches provide consultation about the TWV process and assist with addressing issues related to meeting facilitation, coordination, organizational development and other aspects of program implementation as needed.</p> <p>TWV is funded by the Veterans Administration Office of Rural Health, supported by the Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, and carried out via collaboration between the Rocky Mountain Mental Illness Research, Education and Clinical Center (MIRECC) for Suicide Prevention, the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education Behavioral Health Program (WICHE BHP), local Veterans, and other community stakeholders.</p> <p>For More Information or if the Veterans Advisory Council would like to implement a Together With Veterans Program contact: Bob Dare is dareconsult@gmail.com or Donna-Marie Drucker donnamarie.ofsc@gmail.com</p>	

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Chair's Report	Jerry Craig briefed the Council on the final presentation of the VAC response to the Board of County Commissioners that occurred on August 10, 2021. Jerry reminded members of the Council if they know of any upcoming veteran specific events to submit their events to Amy Kelsey by the next meeting. The Board of County Commissioners will be looking forward to the calendar of events.	Send events calendar to the BCC by the end of September
Equity Statement	Tabled until the September 23, 2021 VAC meeting.	
Member Update	RB Green will look into a possible event space at Clackamas Community College for an upcoming VAC sponsored Job Fair.	
Public Comment	No Public Comment	
Announcements	VAC Recruitment is open and will close on Friday September 3, 2021.	
Next Meeting	Veterans Advisory Council September 23, 2021 from 2:30pm-3:30pm via Zoom	