

Hudson Valley Veteran Task Force Meeting

Minutes/Notes of December 12, 2017

OPENING: The meeting of the Hudson Valley Veteran Task Force was called to order at 9:05 am on Wednesday, December 12, 2017 at the Orange County Chamber of Commerce, Montgomery, NY by Larry Neumann. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MISSION STATEMENT: The mission statement was recited by Larry Neumann.

The mission of the Hudson Valley Veteran Task Force is to address the needs of those who served by having relevant agencies meet collectively, regularly and cooperatively, to ensure the timely administration of services and referrals in order to achieve an end to Veteran homelessness and meet their immediate and long term needs.

PRESENT: Many veteran and human service agencies of Orange, Dutchess, Putnam, Rockland and Sullivan Counties were represented. The guests/presenters are listed below. There were a total of 35 in attendance.

INTRODUCTIONS, Opening Remarks and Review of last month's meeting:

Larry Neumann expressed. This time of year to reflect on the year and presents the opportunity to focus our efforts. Opportunity to collectively take advantage share about programs and identify needs within the veteran community and focus on new year. Put together some plans for the coming year. November was a very busy month. Veteran's day and so much more. Running into a cooler weather it caused some of homeless veterans to be brought out to warming stations. Increase in homeless veterans and other problems they need assistance.

Time of year, AA hurricane season, A lot of emotions make issues prevalent. This time of year complicates some the issues. Be aware of.

Larry reviewed the highlights of last month's meeting of November 8th and reminded the group of the speakers and their services.

GUEST SPEAKERS/PRESENTERS

David Lionheart: Play for Your Freedom update

Expressed his Honor. 3rd year wellness workshops. 435 vets. 18 workshops. Our largest workshop was 60 vets. average 25. 1,033 veterans. Football, soccer and fellowship. Hospital isolations - bringing them out. Help each other on peer to peer level. Mostly veterans and 100 veterans; 10 hospitals; monthly programs with veterans and first responders to get together. Equine therapy, art therapy. accommodate in whatever space available. Fitness option - veterans with substance abuse issues. A positive healthy option. Albany with visually impaired folks. Fitness clothing line - image of positive lifestyle for veterans. Getting the veteran that wants a daily healthy fitness option. 10 person umbrella. getting Veterans in the hospitals before they go out. East Orange, Montrose, Castle Point, Georgia VA. Website: working on private Veteran login. Veteran David is so talented in engaging veterans.

Richard Randig (USAF Vietnam Veteran)/Carol Maugeri: Iron Mountain Center for Reiki Training

Read their mission statement: continuing of healing and healers continued compassion. We teach Reiki to groups and individuals and teach modalities.

Carol - dad veteran of WWII. Thanked for service. Rick said have created IMC Reiki training. Going through a stressful time in her life. What is it? Take the level I training calm peace and . started a small practice. Reiki helped with breast cancer. Share and teach Reiki to others which they learned from their teachers. Rick and help we want to help others. Anyone taht takes training is passing on their learning. Caregivers at Ronald McDonald in their house. Not just for you but for those close to you. Passing along what we learned. Website

going live in a few weeks. Excited for the opportunity to work with veterans. Larry holistic approach has really helped veterans. transcends traditional treatment.

Description of Reiki: Japanese form of medicine. Something we all already have. If you break the bone, low level an electrical produced by body. Energy that flows from hands. Research - pulse - Shumann resonance. The source of the energy that flows through practitioner. worked with veterans that were dying. 2008 lost job. started volunteering. A lot of about dying that he did not know. worked with Hospice. NY harbor healthcare. intimate relationship with veterans that have passed. One veteran - the veteran said he goes away when he gets the treatment. think of how you feel and when you ready make that transition. Beyond end of life care - works on a physical mental spiritual emotional. Have been around since around WWII introduced to west. Probably a million Reiki. Veteran to use themselves as a healing tool. The word master: western thought East continue to become a master (ongoing process); master with a small m; Question: How long is the training? Level 1 training - one day 9am to 5pm; dynamics, history, doing Reiki, master atonement to the Reiki. Level II - We offer classes in Warwick. Question: any success with physical ailments - worked with a veteran with pain and asked if he can treat him; he had pain reduction. Reiki is great for pain reduction. Carol has done a few fairs at St. Albans. has done treatment with patients and the families. Veteran wheeled and had helmet. As he did the treatment. His face changed as he received the treatment. At the end of the treatment did not speak but expressed his thank you. Minimum education requirement to learn Reiki? no. Is it a combination of treatments? Reiki is going address the issue the way you need it to be addressed. It is an energetic thing. May provide acute treatment. fell - on her back and asked for help with her knee. "This is the first time I have been without pain." Is there a cost training or treatment? \$100 for treatment. Level I training \$175. Veterans get a discount. Richard is a End of life Doola(?). Facilitates the transition - Birth or Life. Dying person have some control of their end of life experience. Is this related to a advance directive? Why? control and help with their families with the death experience. Maybe an option to join and provide services with David in Play for freedom. How they can work with the veterans during our events. We can come to them to do a training. Website will include a schedule. May be able to customize. B(?) spiritual focusing - process human being develop a consciousness and wholeness. focusing a simple and natural process to listening to our body knowing or listening to someone how we should be. How people can get better in therapy - 3 psychologist - 2 jesuit priests with Jenlen's focusing process - being with - those things we carry around we need more than being with - added steps - gratitude and . their own body wisdom to shift and change; through process have grown.

Barbara Allen: American Snippet update

Taking the negative and taking positive stories and sharing them. Evolved to focus on veterans. See a development of a dependency to the events and there was a crash afterwards. We are strong event - 10 women attended. The veteran widows - moms or spouses. They were stuck. Entreprenail event to help them move forward. gave a Kra Mygra training. This event focused on real estate investing. Hard when you are in that community. Following up with the women to see how they moved forward with their own business making their own time. Bringing this to women What worked and where they can improve future events. What is your geographic area? Will travel. Centered around patriot tour. May have cooperate sponsor. Angela - what about child care and other road blocks. Were able to pay for almost everything, but not airfare. You had to pay for the airfare - they worked it out. You must get to the event. The sacrifice will allow them to invest in themselves. Is there a male version? Megan Leavey is our next trying to get her on board. In conversation, screening of movie "Will Garner".

Pat Fayo: Fuel Fund update and ESSH Funding update . Welcome Back, Pat!

People living in Orange County - direct service for veterans, seniors and people with small children. 1 time a year. Income and asset eligible. directly to your provider and provides gas, electric and propane. In Middletown RECAP office. Urge people to use it. 10th season that this program. Those who don't qualify for HEAP. Next level of assistance for those don't have the additional income. Will work with patrons - flexible.

This is a county funded program. Orange county is the only one that has this program. Question? Do you have to qualify every year? yes must qualify each year. can send pdf copy.

ESSHI Empire State Housing Initiative - Project Life has partnered with them - 7 units. Supportive housing with care management. Ok for the rest of the month. Veterans have priority. January, 2 1bdrm apartments available. have to have 9 months of service, must be homeless, disability - definition will allow for couch surfer. Can anyone apply in the state? Are units furnished? Brother Vinny's can furnished. Orane County just got 24 new beds through Office of Mental Health application with spoa list to be eligible. GEt on spoa list. Safe harbors taking applications. Most in Newburgh. Apartments not ready, but put applications in now. Trying to refurbish brownstone houses. Apartments troughouut.

VETERAN SERVICE AND COUNTY UPDATES:

- **Dutchess County**
 - **VSO: Nelson Eddy Rivera, Director, Dutchess County Veterans' Services**, excused.
 - Nelson is retiring on December 31st. Was going to celebrate his service. He had a conflict.
 - **Vet2Vet: _____, Program Manager, Vet2Vet Veterans' Peer Services**
 - *Past events:*
 - *Coming up:*
 - **Julio _____, Hudson Valley Veteran Impact Program. Total 3 - living in cars by their own choice. 1 heading south; 1 loosing housing.**
 - **HUD Vash? program slashed - veteran homeless - reverse that decision.**
- **Orange County**
 - **VSO: Christian Farrell, Director - Orange County Veteran Services**
 - Wreaths Across America - December 16th - first time at noon. 3000 wreaths on gravesites. Get their early 11/11:30. 30 years at Arlington Veteran ceremony. Goshen Cemetery.
 - **Vet2Vet: Larry Neumann, Program Coordinator -**
 - *Many excused from this meeting.*
 - *Introduced - speaking at next meeting.*
 - *Kelly Williamson, 105th National Guard had a baby, Vivian. doing fine.*
 - *Certified Smoking Cessation Facilitator - would like to offer a cessation class.*
 - *Bryan movie month. TBD - movie. Save the date: January 29*
- **Putnam County**
 - **Mike and Esther McGary -**
 - **VSO: Karl Rohde, Director, Putnam County Veterans Service Agency**
 - Veteran exclusive Home - The only county that has such a home. Must be Putnam county residents. Small rent - free laundry, free cable. Veterans feel secure at the house.
 - **Vet2Vet - Kevin Cook - WWII veteran grandfather passed this week.**
 - *Past events:* Chow down - served 500 meals to veterans and their families. included a USO show and provided peer to peer outreach.
 - *Veteran Art Writing and Music Gala - show 30 people - free of charge and very successful*
- **Rockland County**
 - **Vet2Vet: Ismael (Izzy) Quintana Jr., Veteran Outreach Coordinator**
 - American Legion. New York commander. first women commander. Introduced the Joseph P. Dwyer program - honored the people who work with the program.
 - US Senator Kristen Gilliband 2 legislation - boost federal employment. Empower federal employment - veteran Justice of service members - ask izzy for citation. New veteran Paul Raphael.
 - **Vet2Vet: Dr. Allen L Hershman, Veteran Services Coordinator**

- Working relationship with Hi Tor Animal Shelter. Dogs available now. 6 dogs ready to go. Veterans into training. Application will be done in person.
- Military Behavioral Vet2Vet Mentor training, January 6 -- New City site of Bridges. Small room - Seats limited. Approaching 200 mentors trained. 14 cycles.
- **Sullivan County**
 - **VSO: Howie Goldsmith, Coordinator, Sullivan County Veteran Service Agency**
 - Coalition very 2 electric scooters. Chairlift. Visitation of 98 veterans and spouses. food baskets and turkeys. 47 honor funeral this year. transport 50 individuals. looking forward to continue serving the veteran community. transitional housing - 2 living in housing.
 - 1802 - US Military Academy - brought home the commander and chiefs trophy. OC can be proud.
- **Office of US Representative Sean Patrick Maloney**
 - **Khristian Silvis, Veteran and Military Advocate**
 - NBAA signing yesterday. signed to testing act. long PFOF - water contamination. largest Male breast cancer. 1953 and 1987 - Camp Lejuene. Medical care and family members. 8 illnesses that are service connected.
 - Debt collectors act - cannot contact chain of command
 - Service members information with county agency to assist with identifying.
 - SBA grant - closes January 8th. 23 or more grants. funding for veterans and military service - REBOOT program - boots to shoes - employment - mentoring services, become more profitable in their own life.
 - 2018 Veterans' history project - collecting the personal history of veterans. March 24th raining from the Library of Congress and train to take the information. Planning an event to have veterans share their stories. This legislation will allow DD214s to be sent to the VSO of the
 - Reiterate - the act with debt collectors - Consumer Financial - most
 - HUD Vash - reaction elected officials - calls were made. call and leave your opinion.
 - Larry - Veteran Advisory board meeting - best meeting - cusp of doing some great things. Hats off to the team.

TASK FORCE HOMELESS CASES Status:

- **WestCOP SSVF: Open/New Case Report - Tenesia Terry**
 - *Qualifications:* low income, 1 day of active duty outside of training. 7 counties. This month we have 16 cases.
 - **5 Dutchess** - 1 over income; 1 Dom program - substance abuse; 1 just employed looking for housing; 1 living in car, by choice working with her. 1 - living in car - challenges. . .
 - **Sullivan** - 1 may be added next month.
 - **5 Orange County** - 2 - at HONOR; 2 Montrose substance abuse program; 1 accepted to DOM - severely physically disabled.
 - **Questions:** Are they kept when in programs? 90 days and reevaluated.

UPCOMING EVENTS/ROUNDTABLE

Public Forum 10am and 6pm paid family leave

Grant - letter of support from Congressman

Holiday party on Friday - Angela Fleishman - Adopt a Vet

MSMC - veterans program - Education come to event for veteran education.

Stewart Air National Guard - associated degree program - deep discount for a year to get their degree - forever bill

Dr. Burke's program - 17 sites using the protocol. treatment to be allowed at VA centers.

TaiChi and Chigong - VFW 973 - Fridays

Adjournment: meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am by Larry Neumann.

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 10, 2017, 9am Location: TBD.

Minutes taken and typed by: Millie Rivera-Velez

Minutes reviewed and submitted by: Larry Neumann

Bill - Honor Flight - 4 times 2 Stewart 2 white plains - Jimmy Sturr gave a concert - Goshen track. Rocky -1 of the 52 hostages. Many supporters of the honor flight - Shop Rite a large. New director - 14 April and 19 May. Gave out card. If you find veterans of WWII