

WELCOME

March 4, 2020

Governor's Advisory Council on Veterans Services

Arrowheads Community Club

Bldg. 9-65, Fort Indiantown Gap

Annville, PA 17003

AGING

Dr. Darryl Jackson, Co-Chair

Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Kevin Hancock	DHS Co-Chair	Jonathan Bowman	DHS, Alternate for Mr. Hancock
Dr. Darryl Jackson	DMVA Co-Chair	Jamie Dunlap	Pa Council on the Arts
Brian Natali	DMVA	Larry Furlong	PA Fish and Boat Commission
Kimberly Sell-Shemansky	VA (VISN 4)	Christopher Kemmerer	PA State Parks
Beth Ellis	DHS	James Fearn	DHS (OLTL)
Sierra Bilous	OMHSAS	Tim Cleveland	Tioga Co. Veterans Affairs
Kevin Longenecker	PDA	Kit Watson	American Legion
Erin Walters	PDA	Raymond Soto	Claremont Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
Samantha Cossman	DMVA	Julia Chagnon	DMVA

Aging Committee Reorganization:

New Co-Chair: Deputy Sec. DHS/OLTL Kevin Hancock

Alternate: Director of LIFE- Jonathan Bowman

Mission/Vision:

Expand awareness of, and access to, services, support, benefits, and opportunities for Pennsylvania's aging veterans and their families, and caregivers so that they may live and thrive in their communities.

Goals:

Improve services to senior veterans and their families by increasing awareness of services and supports for aging veterans and their families and caregivers among professionals within PA's Aging and Veteran Services networks.

Project Task:

- PA VETConnect is key
- Utilize Expanding LTC Services to Veterans Report as roadmap for improving services to senior veterans
- Cooperate with various agencies to improve access to benefits and service for veterans
- Keep certain goals for previous Aging Committee
- Determine new goals for Aging Committee

EXPANDING LONG-TERM CARE OPTIONS

Dr. Darryl Jackson, Co-Chair

EXPANDING LONG-TERM CARE



Name	Affiliation
Kevin Hancock, Chair	Deputy Secretary OLTL, DHS
Jonathan Bowman, Co-Chair	LIFE Program Director
Darryl Jackson, Co-Chair	DMVA
Susan Coble	Deputy Sec QA, DOH
Christine Miccio	Director, Bureau of Aging Services
Gail Weidman	Director of Policy PHCA
Kelly Andrisano	Director of PACAH
Vicki Hoak	CEO PA Home Care
Anne Henry	Senior Vice President & Chief Government Affairs Officer
Nicole Pruitt	Inglis House, PA Adult Day Services Assoc,
Jill Vovakes	Chief of Staff OLTL
Jim Pezzuti	Principal Pezzuti Consulting

Project Approach

- Goal was to explore options for LTC and other services for Pennsylvania veterans
- Committee members include SME from various commonwealth agencies and private organizations
- Had several full group meetings (50+ members)
- Break out into smaller, focused workgroups

Six Workgroup Topics

- Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS)
- LTC Facilities
- Homelessness and Hard-to-Place Individuals
- Physical Health
- Behavioral Health, Suicide and Drug & Alcohol
- Financial and Regulatory Issues

Home and Community-Based Services

- Strategy:
 - Utilize veteran resource navigator (PA VETConnect Case Managers)
 - Educate VSO/DMVA on PDA and OLTL HCBS
 - Increase referrals to VA programs such as Medical Foster Home, Veterans Directed Care along with Aid & Attendance
 - Create training to increase PA VETConnect referrals to LIFE and CHC-MCO
 - Track DMVA referrals to CHC-MCO and LIFE

Long-Term Care Facilities

- Strategies:
 - Create MA funded service for Assisted Living Facilities
 - Evaluate requirements to support veterans at public and non-public nursing facilities
 - Develop an assisted living services both Medicaid -funded and DMVA/Veterans Programs funded

Homelessness and Hard to Place

- Strategy:
 - DMVA Liaison with VA VISN leadership and VA Medical Center for homelessness coordination
 - DMVA will identify needs and gaps
 - DMVA will work with other state agencies to obtain case manager services
 - GAC-VS will disseminate best practices to the Continuum of Care programs

Physical Health

- Strategies:
 - Create Marketing Strategy
 - Utilize in-services and videos to inform about VA and state benefits with suggested distribution to PennDOT
 - Establish connection with community partners to assist with marketing programs and benefits
 - Utilize PA VETConnect to establish physical health provider network for veterans

Behavioral Health, Suicide and D&A

- Strategies:
 - Utilize SCAs and County Mental Health offices for funding
 - DMVA should create a network behavioral health referral providers
 - Increase specific certification for providers serving veterans such CBT, TF CBT and PTSD
 - Create family Peer-to-Peer services
 - Partner with OMHSAS & USDVA to expand veteran specific Peer Support
 - Develop external media marketing campaign
 - Change veterans' question on MA forms to “have you ever served in the Armed Forces?”

Financial and Regulatory Issues

- Strategies:
 - Seek dedicated DMVA funding stream for D&A
 - Expand enrollment & utilization of USDVA programs & benefits
 - Explore data matching between MA & VA enrollment in VA programs (PARIS)
 - Include LIFE in PA CHC-MCOs to increase funding
 - Explore use of existing LIFE spend down option to address barriers for veterans' eligibility for MA

Conclusion

- 50% of PA veteran population is over 65
- Leverage existing resources and programs to support veterans
- Increase referrals and cooperation across state agencies
- DMVA partner with existing public and private providers for NH, AL and HCBS

JOINT COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS

Ms. Samantha Cossman, Co-Chair

HOMELESSNESS



Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Joel Mutschler (co-chair)	DMVA	Samantha Cossman (co-chair)	DMVA
Brian Natali	DMVA	Tom Applebach	Lehigh Valley Veterans Affairs
Tom Peters, Vandy Rider	Veterans Multi-Service Center (SSVF)	William Reed	YWCA Greater Harrisburg (SSVF)
Missy Russell	Lawrence Co. CAAP; Western CoC	William Cress, Mary Siegel Michael Wehrer, Kelly Tuteurice,	VISN 4
Danielle Rudy	PHFA	Julie Seby, Beth Gerber, Uyen Nguyen, Margo Muchinsky, Dowel Lomax	PDA
Jeff Geibel	DDAP	Donna Tilley-Hess; Sierra Bilous	OMHSAS
Laura Gleason	Volunteers of America of Pennsylvania (SSVF); Co-chair for Eastern CoC Veterans Committee	Christie Pietryga, Hayley Miller	Veterans Leadership Program of Western PA (SSVF)
Emily Goodwin	Soldier On (SSVF)		

Mission/Vision:

Collaborate with federal, state, and local government, as well as community partners to identify and build resource awareness for veterans experiencing or at risk of housing instability.

Goals:

- 1) Establish and maintain relationships with all Continuums of Care, VA Homeless Care Teams, and SSVF grantees serving PA.
- 2) Assist DMVA and CDVAs in collaborating with community providers and county resources to identify and address needs and service gaps experienced by homeless veterans or those at risk for housing instability. Promote partnership development across public & private sectors.
- 3) Routinely obtain and analyze data from the federal VA, all PA Continuums of Care, and SSVF grantees in order to get the ‘whole-picture’ on veteran homelessness in PA.
- 4) Identify the models and best practices utilized by CoC communities that have successfully met USICH criteria and benchmarks to achieve an end to veteran homelessness. Serve as a forum in which these best practices and strategies can be shared with other CoCs and innovative solutions can be identified.

Key Concepts

- Develop a robust group of stakeholders and subject matter experts who can speak to the needs of homeless and at risk veterans as well as what services and supports exist within all levels of government and community to support these veterans.
- Serve as a forum in which these stakeholders and subject matter experts can routinely communicate, collaborate, share best practices, and develop innovative solutions to problems and gaps. Compile relevant data.
- Identify and disseminate best practices from successful CoC communities in order to promote achievement of USICH criteria for ending veteran homelessness within other CoCs.

- Identify veterans who are ineligible for assistance through the VA or other mainstream homeless programs and promote referral to community providers that can assist them. Help to facilitate these partnerships and referral flows where needed.
- Work with community providers and county resources to ensure needs and gaps are consistently communicated with DMVA and available resources are added to PA VETConnect.
- Build cross-system relationships between veterans' advocates and case management programs that can support homeless and at risk veterans. Establish clear lines of communication and ensure referral processes are understood by all players.

HOMELESSNESS



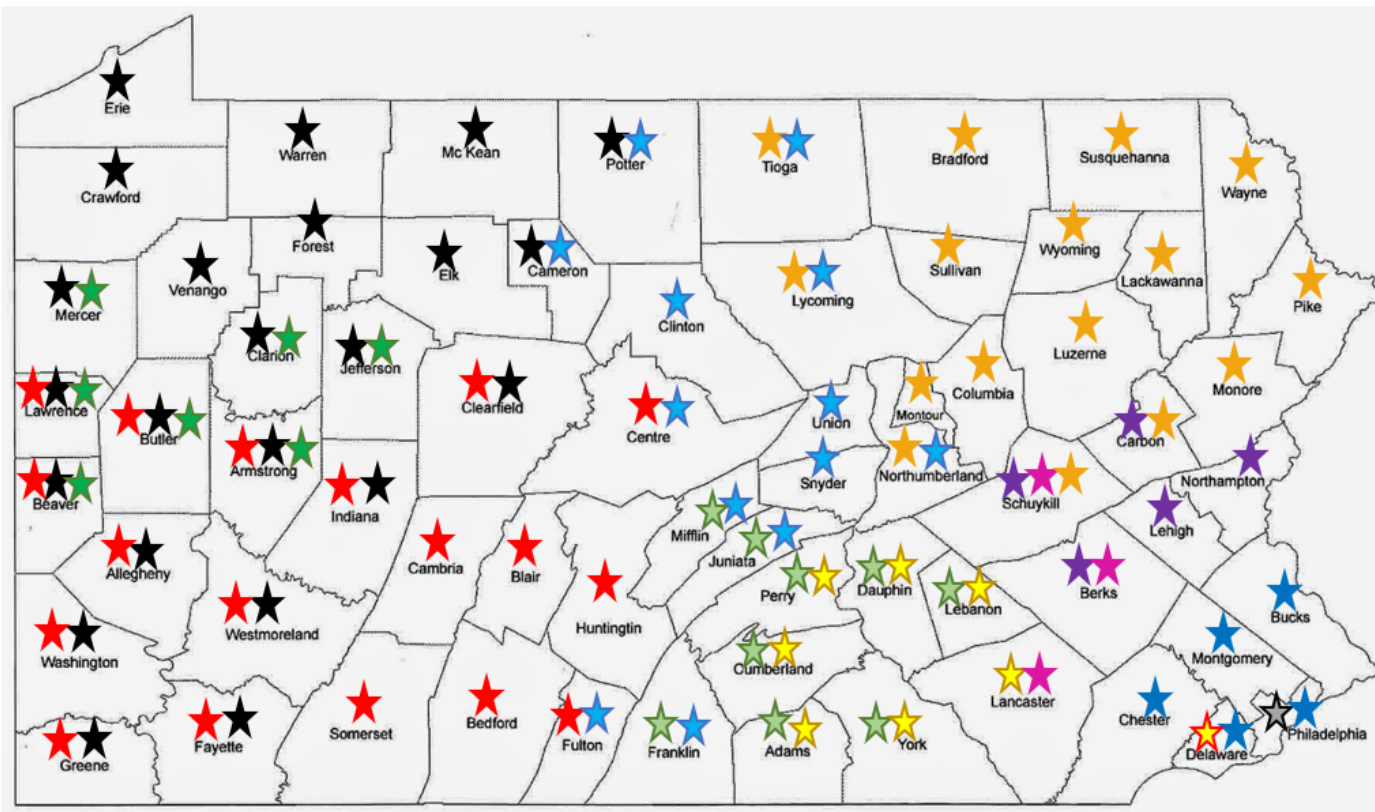
Data Sets: Estimates of Permanent Housing Placements from VHA Homeless Programs (2017-2019)

Programs include HUD-VASH, SSVF RRH, GPD, HCHV (excl. Case Management), DCHV and CWT/TR. Information below was compiled from data provided by VISN 4 source: HOMES, SSVF Dashboard and Homeless Registry Data as of September 17, 2019.

CoC #	CoC Name	2017	2017 avg/mo	2018	2018 avg/mo	2019 (Aug)	2019 avg/mo
PA-500	Philadelphia CoC	478	39.8	444	37.0	236	29.5
PA-501	Harrisburg/Dauphin County CoC	80	6.7	92	7.7	54	6.8
PA-502	Upper Darby, Chester, Haverford/Delaware County CoC	15	1.3	13	1.1	10	1.3
PA-503	Wilkes-Barre, Hazleton, Luzerne County CoC	95	7.9	72	6.0	47	5.9
PA-504	Lower Marion, Norristown, Abington/Montgomery County CoC	11	0.9	11	0.9	3	0.4
PA-505	Chester County CoC	422	35.2	365	30.4	251	31.4
PA-506	Reading/Berks County CoC	48	4.0	44	3.7	21	2.6
PA-507	Altoona/Central Pennsylvania CoC	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
PA-508	Scranton/Lackawanna County CoC	68	5.7	46	3.8	20	2.5
PA-509	Eastern Pennsylvania CoC	311	25.9	264	22.0	128	16.0
PA-510	Lancaster City & County CoC	42	3.5	39	3.3	21	2.6
PA-511	Bristol, Bensalem/Bucks County CoC	22	1.8	23	1.9	5	0.4
PA-512	York City & County CoC	33	2.8	27	2.3	21	2.6
PA-600	Pittsburgh, McKeesport, Penn Hills/Allegheny County CoC	294	24.5	243	20.3	150	18.8
PA-601	Western Pennsylvania CoC	254	21.2	252	21.0	135	16.9
PA-602	Northwest Pennsylvania CoC	4	0.3	8	0.7	8	1.0
PA-603	Beaver County CoC	26	2.2	20	1.7	6	0.8
PA-605	Erie City & County CoC	41	3.4	49	4.1	27	3.4
	Total across all Pennsylvania CoCs	2,244	187.0	2,012	167.7	1,143	142.9

- As of Jan 2019 – **857** Pennsylvania veterans experience homelessness on any given day. Source: <https://www.usich.gov/homelessness-statistics/pa/>
- 2020 PIT Count data should be available for May 2020
- According to the Supportive Services for Veterans Families (SSVF) [2018 Annual Report](#) issued in December 2019, SSVF has served **502,191** veterans nationwide since its inception with rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention services, and information on the assistance and services provided through the program and their impact. 2019 data for PA is currently being collected.

HOMELESSNESS



FY 2020
SSVF Grantee
Organizations

Veterans Leadership Program of Western PA, Inc. (18 counties)	★	Commission on Economic Opportunity of Luzerne County (16 counties)	★	Community Action Agency of Delaware County, Inc. (1 county)	★
Lawrence County Social Services, Inc. (7 counties)	★	YWCA of Greater Harrisburg (9 counties)	★	Veterans Multi-Service Center - Headquarters (5 counties)	★
Soldier On (23 counties)	★	Volunteers of America of Pennsylvania, Inc. (7 counties)	★	Utility Emergency Services Fund (1 county)	★
Veterans Multi-Service Center – Central (13 counties)	★	Opportunity House (3 counties)	★	Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Allentown (5 counties)	★

HOMELESSNESS



3/31/20	6/30/20	9/30/20	12/31/20	Ongoing
<p>1) Identify and engage points of contact from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CoCs (15 Jan call) Already on board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Eastern CoC ✓ Western CoC ✓ Allegheny CoC ✓ Luzerne CoC ✓ York CoC To Do: speak with remaining CoCs • SSVF Grantees Already on board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Lawrence Co. Social Services, Inc. ✓ Volunteers of America of Pennsylvania, Inc. ✓ YWCA of Greater Harrisburg ✓ Veterans Leadership Program of Western PA, Inc. ✓ Soldier On ✓ VMC (both HQ and Central offices) ✓ Comm. on Economic Opportunity of Luzerne Co. ✓ Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Allentown To Do: speak with 3 remaining SSVF grantees • VA Homeless Care Teams To Do: confirm designee(s) from VISN 4 	<p>1) Inventory commonwealth case management programs (eligibility, what is offered, how to access).</p> <p>2) Obtain and analyze data from CoCs, SSVFs and VA.</p> <p>3) Presentations from CoCs willing to share efforts and best practices are actively being scheduled.</p>	<p>1) Establish local-level working relationships with case management programs (SCA, MH, CHC, etc.). Discuss best practices and solutions to referral flow issues.</p>	<p>1) Ensure these case management resources are in tPA VETConnect tool.</p> <p>2) Educate veterans advocates and stakeholders on these case management programs including how to find them in the tool and properly make referrals to them.</p>	<p>1) Routinely obtain and analyze data from VISN, SSVFs and CoCs.</p> <p>2) Serve as the forum for interagency/cross-system collaboration on veteran homelessness. Promote the sharing of best practices and solutions.</p>

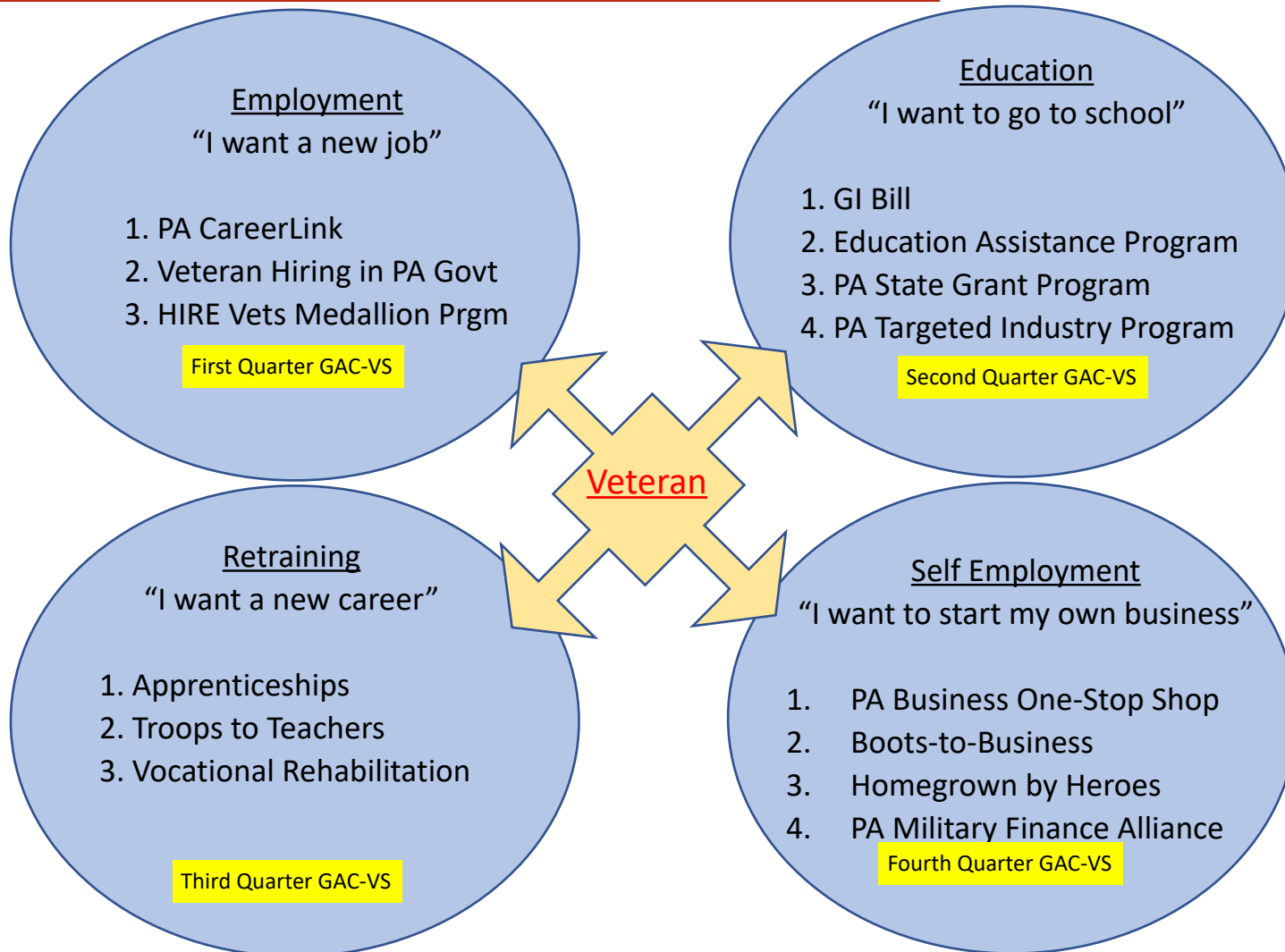
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Kory Auch, Chair

Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Kory Auch	Chair	Tom Applebach	County Directors
Cory Bender	DMVA	Jeanne Block	L&I
Larry Furlong	Fish & Boat	Donna Tilley Hess	DHS
Tina Kotsalos	DoBS	Billy Lanham	US DoL
Denise Verchimak	PDE	Terrell Martin	DCED
Ashley Fehr	Ag	Ty Osborne	OA

Other Affiliated Organization:

Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency
 Pennsylvania National Guard
 US Small Business Administration
 US Department of Veterans Affairs
 US Department of Defense



“I WANT A NEW JOB”

1. PA CareerLink
2. Veterans’ Hiring in State Government
3. HIRE Vets Medallion Program

Concept:

57 one-stop career centers statewide
www.pacareerlink.pa.gov

State Participation:

Network of government, for-profit, and non-profit organizations for employment & training services

“DVOP” serves veterans who...

- have a service-connected disability
- are homeless
- have been unemployed for 27+ weeks
- are incarcerated or recently released
- lack a HS diploma
- are low-income
- have DD-2958
- are ages 18-24

“LVER” serves businesses that...

- are unaware of the benefits of hiring veterans
- are federal contractors (and must post vacancies with PA CareerLink[®])
- want to know more about apprenticeships, on-the-job trainings, tax credits, and other hiring-related incentives

Veterans' Hiring in State Government

Concept

- PA Military Code 51
 - Civil Service: exam points and preference
 - Non-Civil Service: preference
- Quals: CS minimum; NCS requisite

State Participation

- Office of Administration
 - Talent Acquisition
 - HR Delivery Centers
- Independent Agency HR Staff
- Agency Hiring Manager
- State Civil Service Commission

PA Key Data/Trends

- State FY18-19 ... transition year
 - 19% of selections were veterans
 - Big year for PSP cadet hiring
- PA's 18-64 population ... 4% veterans

Key Changes/Initiatives

- Code 51 Legislative Review
 - Clarification theme
- Employees with Military Service

HIRE Vets Medallion Program

Concept

- Recognition program for private businesses
 - Recruiting Vets
 - Hiring Vets
 - Retaining Vets

Participation

- US Dept of Labor, VETS Office
 - Over 5 million employers contacted by Pennsylvania and surrounding states in 2019
 - State UC Newsletter, emails
 - American Job Centers
 - Chamber of Commerce

PA Key Data/Trends

- 2019 Participation in PA
- 42 self-nominated
- 28 recognized by DoL (3rd most in US)
 - 9 small employer platinum
 - 17 small employer gold
 - 2 medium employer gold

Key Changes/Initiatives

- 2020 Nomination Timeline
 - April 30: applications deadline
 - August 31: review finished
 - Oct 11: awardees notified
 - Nov 11: winners announced
- Website: HIREVETS.gov

HEALTH PROMOTIONS

Ms. Donna Tilley Hess, Chair

HEALTH PROMOTIONS



Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Donna Tilley Hess	DHS, OMHSAS	Daniel Ramey	Psychological Health
Angela Keen	VISN 4	Jennifer Hagaman	VSO, Clinton Cty.
Leslie Neal	VSO, Elk Cty.	Justin D Slep	VSO, Franklin Cty.
Frederick Nardei	Pittsburgh VA	Matthew Zamosky	VSO, West Moreland County
Jose Lopez	Resilience & Risk Reduction Prog. Coordinator, PAARNG	Ginny Mastrine	DHS, OMHSAS
Mark Todero	Suicide Prevention Program Contractor, PAARNG	Jessica Penn Shires	DHS, OMHSAS
Joann P Tresco	Alcohol & Drug Control Officer, Contractor, PAARNG	Lori Mentzer	DHS, OMHSAS
LTC Gerard M Wrazien	SMFS Director, PAARNG	Doug Snyder	DOH
Rick Hamp	DMVA	Govan Martin	Prevent Suicide PA
Joel Mutschler	DMVA	Liz Woodley	PMHCA
Jeff Geibel	DDAP	Roy Remone	Compeer/Vet2Vet
William A Charpentier	PAARNG-TAAS	Perri Rosen	DHS, OMHSAS, Contractor
Laura Cunningham	Retreat	Michael Volz	VBA
Dr. Noretta Kime	PA Air NG	Lana Venur	VSO, Elk Cty.

Mission: The Health Promotion Committee will identify physical and behavioral health service providers, foster relationships, and build resource awareness among service members, veterans, and their families across the commonwealth.

Vision: Connect service members, veterans, and their families regionally with physical and behavioral health services to improve mental well-being and whole health.

Suicide Prevention Sub Committee's Vision: Collaborate with federal, state, local government, and community partners to: identify effective prevention and treatment approaches, identify and share training and education resources, and promote communication of these resources to Pennsylvania Service Members, Veterans, and their family members and recommendations to the GAC-VS to assist in reducing the number of suicides in Pennsylvania.

Goals:

- 1) Continued provision of trainings such as: Mental Health First Aide (MHFA), Question Persuade Refer (QPR), and Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST). Trainings will occur through DMVA's regional program, 3 per quarter annually (1 per month based on region would be a minimum starting point).
- 2) Create 2 Fairweather Lodges annually.
- 3) Hold evidenced-based training annually providing a specific modality known to be an effective treatment for veterans, and continue collaborative MH/BH training summits in PA.

HEALTH PROMOTIONS



Federal Partnership & Collaborative Efforts ongoing include VA Suicide Prevention Efforts: **#Be There Campaign, outreach toolkits, OPERATION S.A.V.E., REACH VET, Veteran X program, Mission Act, and Mental Health Summits (PA/VISN4).**

VA latest efforts include:

The **VA PTSD Consultation Program** at the National Center for PTSD is available to any clinical provider in VA or the community. Clinicians can ask a question or request consultation via PTSDconsult@va.gov or by calling **866-948-7880**. The Team can respond to most questions within one business day or may schedule a time to talk at the clinician's convenience.

There have been many advances in **VA virtual care**. VA VISN 4 is working with the **Linesville VFW** to establish a telehealth access point to serve Veterans closer to home. Veterans will be able to meet with their providers through video from the VFW facility.

More information about this project is included in this video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h4KYplR5Kjc>

TeleUrgent Care - Veterans who call the VA VISN 4 call center can be triaged then served through video from the convenience of their home by urgent care providers.

More information about this project is included in this video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IS8z9_O_efU&feature=youtu.be

VA updates continued

TeleMental Health Hub – VISN 4 operates a telemental health hub from Pittsburgh that provides services to areas where providers may be more difficult to recruit. This hub helped 3,000 Veterans access mental health services in Fiscal Year 2019.

VA Solid Start Program - Solid Start uses the Veterans Benefit Administration (VBA) National Call Center to provide every newly transitioned service member with three (3) phone calls at key intervals during their year of transition with supporting communications for service members.

From help getting a home loan, to health care, to returning to work, to mental health support – VA is here for you. It's your call. Qualified VA representatives will be reaching out to help you better understand the benefits available to you and help you get a solid start on your civilian life. New routines, new responsibilities... year one out of the service presents a lot of change, but the stress of change is not a weight you have to carry alone. VA is your partner, and we're here to connect you with direct benefits, as well as resources through partner organizations, to help you navigate these new challenges. VA is on the line – take the call!

MISSION Act/Care in the Community: VISN 4 medical centers are completing transition to the Optum Community Care Network to ensure services are available in the community when needed. On February first, we also began using Optum for urgent care. VISN 4 remains committed to providing our Veterans with the right care, at the right time, with the right provider.

Governor's Challenge: To Prevent Suicide Among Servicemembers, Veterans, and their Families

The United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Veterans Health Administration (VHA) has partnered with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to continue this initiative. SAMHSA's Servicemembers, Veterans, and their Families Technical Assistance (SMVF TA) Center works with states and communities to strengthen their behavioral health systems serving Servicemembers, Veterans, and their Families (SMVF). The Center provides support through the provision of technical assistance and the promotion of ongoing interagency collaboration.

Governor's Challenge Overview

The *Governor's Challenge* is a call to action, asking state military and civilian interagency teams to embark on a process of collaborating, planning, and implementing suicide prevention best practices and policies for SMVF state-wide. Technical assistance offered through this initiative is designed to provide a forum for states to consider how existing policies, practices, infrastructure, and resources influence the effectiveness of the systems that support SMVF. Teams will develop state-wide plans for SMVF based on the comprehensive public health approach to preventing suicide.

OBJECTIVES

- Form an interagency military and civilian team of state leaders and policy makers to develop and implement a strategic action plan to prevent and reduce suicide
- Define and measure success, including defining assignments, deadlines, and measurable outcomes to be reported

The Health Promotion Branch of **Service Member Family Support** has worked in collaboration with community resources to ensure our Service members, who are community members 28 days out of the month, are able to recognize risk/warning signs and get the next level of care as needed.

Accomplishments and pending events FY 2020:

- Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) - 6 training scheduled: 1 Completed in January 18 Army personnel trained, and 5 projected with 150 seats available
- Ask Care Escort-Suicide Intervention (ACE-SI) - 1 training scheduled with 45 seats available
- Resource Fair at Fort Indiantown Gap, PA projected for the 11th of September
- Out of the Darkness Walks, projected to support 10 walks
- Master Resilience Trainers, trained 6 projecting another 24
- Master Resilience Trainers, Level II Facilitators, trained 3 Soldiers
- Supporting local community resource fairs as well as other FRG events.

**Follow PNG Service Members & Family Support Division on Facebook
to see upcoming events for Veterans and families.**

Star Behavioral Health Providers Program (SBHP)

Pennsylvania National Guard joined SBHP December 2019

Star Behavioral Health Providers (SBHP) is a training and referral program. The goal is to expand access that NG members and their families have to high quality, evidence-based behavioral health treatment. Launched nearly 10 years ago, SBHP was developed as a partnership of the Indiana National Guard, National Guard Bureau, Indiana's Family and Social Services Administration, Center for Deployment Psychology (CDP), and Military Family Research Institute at Purdue University (MFRI).

- SBHP provides three levels of training for civilian behavioral health providers in your state and local communities who are interested in serving the military population, particularly NG members.
- SBHP offers a public online registry or listing that allows Service members, their families, military behavioral health providers, military leaders, and others to easily search for trained providers in their area.
- SBHP will expand your state behavioral health resources and maximize services available to your state. You will have access to more evidenced-based treatment options for your Service members through the SBHP registry. The registry will furnish necessary information about each provider so appropriate referrals can be made the first time, thus reducing the need to call multiple providers and decreasing frustration as you try to locate one.

Our first Tier One training was held in Pittsburgh, Jan. 21, 2020, w-approximately 21 PA licensed professionals participating. Next Tier One is being held March 30, in Newtown Square, PA.

HEALTH PROMOTIONS



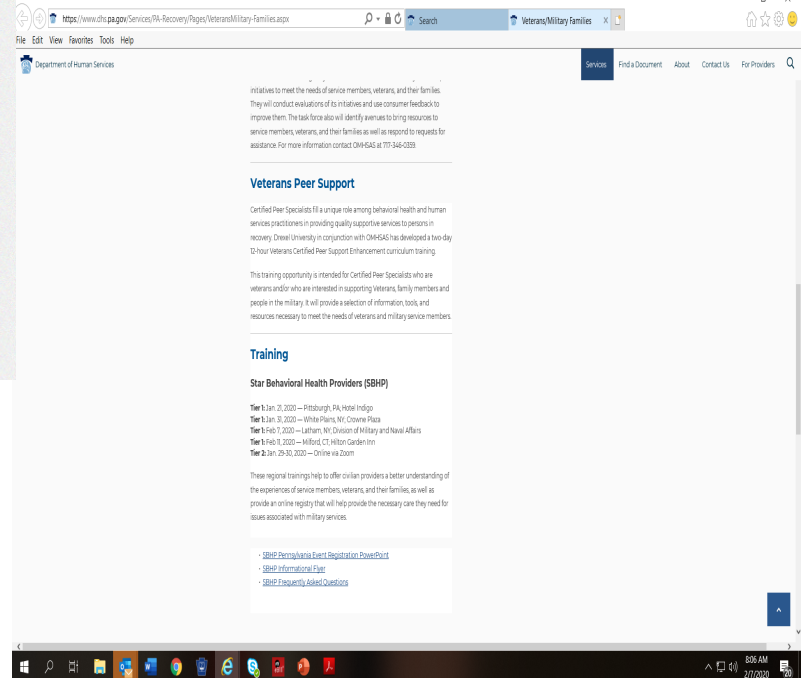
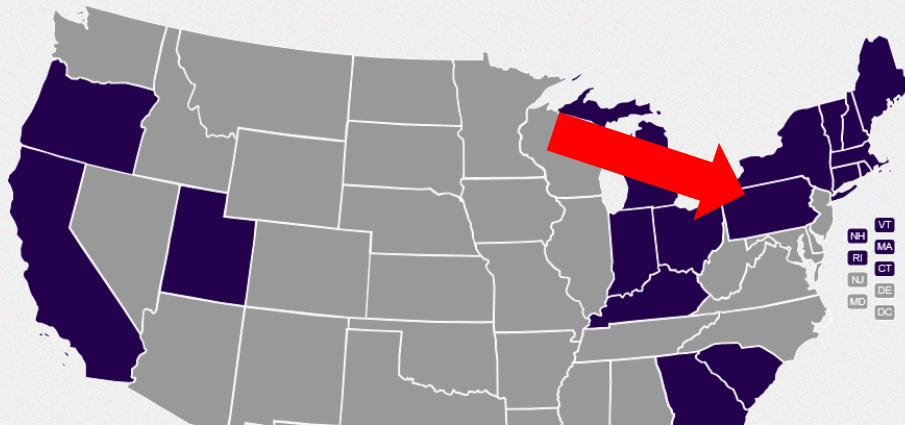
Pennsylvania National Guard joined SBHP December 2019 continued:
<http://starproviders.org/>

Star Behavioral Health Providers (SBHP) is a resource for veterans, service members and their families to locate behavioral health professionals with specialized training in understanding and treating military service members and their families. Those listed in this registry have completed a series of trainings that are intended to make them better able to understand, assess and counsel members of the military. SBHP began in Indiana and is now offered in multiple states with more to come. *The states in purple are the ones currently offering SBHP. Please select your state below.*



STAR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROVIDERS

Civilian Professionals. *Military Sensitivity.*



DHS OMHSAS, continues to work collaboratively with federal, state, county, and community partners/stakeholders to provide education, awareness, and training sessions that are known to promote health and wellness, and be effective in supporting trauma informed care, suicide prevention, and intervention.

- Question Persuade Refer (QPR)
- Mental Health First Aid (MHFA)
- Trauma Summits (SERG)

Suicide Prevention Resources A-Z on PA Recovery below link:

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Services/PA-Recovery/Pages/VeteransMilitary-Families.aspx>

Ongoing efforts and collaboration with State Agencies, County and Community partners.

- Approximately \$2M in State Opioid Grant funding was allocated to bring awareness to substance use disorder (SUD) and to address SUD and the co-occurring conditions that are often associated with this health and behavioral disorder.

Educational Media Campaign(s) running through March 2020	Number of Campaigns Conducted	Estimated Number of Individuals Served/Reached
	Running Time July 1 – September 30, 2019	-Over 8.5 million delivered impressions -Nearly 34,000 clicks -Over 350,000 video views

- SW Suicide Prevention TF Report, and State Suicide Prevention Plan Updating
- Reach Out PA initiative
- We continue to gain community partnerships such as New Vitae, Retreat, Strive, Just for Tomorrow, York County Veteran POD, Allegheny County Veteran POD, and Veteran's Recovery Home
- We continue our efforts to grow the Veteran Fair Weather Lodge Programs such as the Venango, Erie, and Cumberland/Perry lodges.

WOMEN VETERANS

Ms. Lisa Kaye

WOMEN VETERANS



Members	Affiliation
Lisa Kaye	County Director for Veterans Affairs, U.S. Army Veteran
Constance Snavelly	State Veterans Commission, U.S. Army Retired
Patricia Conroy	Women Veterans Program Manager, Wilkes-Barre VA Medical Center
Rhonda Smith	Air Force Veteran- Veteran and small business owner
Althea Cirillo	Mentor, Veterans' Court of Dauphin County, USAR Retired
Sierra Bilous	DHS, Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services , PA Air National Guard
JoAnn Tresco	Service Members and Family Support Branch, PA Army National Guard, Veteran Retired
Linda Handley	Secretary of the VA's advisory board for Women Veterans, US Navy Retired

Mission: *Women Veterans Outreach, Women Veterans focus in Annual Veteran Symposium, Identify emerging needs, Identify Gaps in benefits, programs and services for Women Veterans.*

Vision Statement: Increase visibility of PA Women Veterans including their contributions and accomplishments through partnerships, collaboration and participation.

Goals:

- Identify, illuminate, and make recommendations to address issues of unique concern to PA Women Veterans.
- Actively engage in the military community to ensure situational awareness of relevant initiatives and issues.
- Seize every opportunity to provide education about our mission.
- Provide outreach to PA Women Veterans enabling them to address their concerns and take advantage of their benefits, healthcare, and other available support.

Critical Need: Identify Issues of Unique Concern to PA Women Veterans.

Mitigation:

- Develop and Disseminate a Questionnaire – Completed.
- Town hall Meetings and Expos – Ongoing.
- Supplemental Information, Academic Research and Studies – Ongoing.
- Seek out and coordinate with other women veteran organizations in Pennsylvania – Ongoing.

Barrier: Lack of Input from our Target Population (in excess of 60,000 female veterans).

Ongoing Networking/Collaboration:

- The Veteran Health Program at LVHN is currently conducting focus groups with women veterans and service members who experienced “military sexual trauma (MST)” while serving.
- The Blue Star Mother’s meeting has a surprising number of women veterans in the group.
- Committee members continuously discuss the group and mission with fellow women veterans they meet.
- As the number of connections increase, so does the amount of information-sharing and collaboration through email.

JUDICIARY

Mr. Richard Podguski, Co-Chair

JUDICIARY



Name	Affiliation
Ryan Yoder, M.S. (Chair)	PA Department of Corrections (PADOC Statewide Veterans Coordinator)
Richard Podguski (Co-Chair)	PA Department of Corrections (Chief of Reentry Programs)
Andy Simpson	Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC)
Nicholas “Chip” Gilliland	PA Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA)
Terry Stokes	Veterans Court Advocate (PA VFW)
Norm Marden	Office of the Attorney General
Jessica Penn-Shires	Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OHMSAS)
Lisa Grayson, Esq.	Cumberland County Courthouse: Chair, PA Bar Association, Military & Veterans Affairs
Bill Hoke	New Vitae Wellness and Recovery (Vice President, Development)
Ward Adams	GAC-VS (Member at Large)

Recent Activities

- Chair Ryan Yoder invite to participate on NIC roundtable regarding veteran suicides.
- Publication in NIC national journal regarding Veteran Service Units. (May 20th)
- Continued participation with Senator Regan's regional roundtables regarding veteran suicides.
- Chair Ryan Yoder PA Post interview.
- Preliminary discussion regarding establishment of a Veterans Court in Centre County.
- Preliminary discussions with the VA regarding establishing a protocol for C & P examinations conduct prior to release from institution. (March 9th)

NEW BUSINESS/ GOOD OF THE ORDER

NEXT MEETING:

May 20, 2020 at 1:00PM
Arrowheads Community Club
Bldg. 9-65, Fort Indiantown Gap
Annville, PA 17003