

**Multnomah County Veteran Services Taskforce**November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013

9:00am – 10:00am

Multnomah Building, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Copper Room, 501 SE Hawthorne Blvd, Portland, Oregon 97214**MEETING MINUTES****Welcome and Introductions**

Task Force meeting attended by: Commissioner McKeel, Sean Files, Nathan Christensen, Don Weber, Pete Pringle, Tim Merritt, Lon Getlin, Ed Howard, Jill Behunin, Michelle Matthews, Doug Kuhl, Deanna Dalton, Tressa Kovachevich, Seth Lyon, Barbara Willer, Eric Zimmerman, Corbett Monica, Steve Easterday, Nathaniel Boehme, Andy Smith, Joe Carbojal

TOPIC / PRESENTER	NOTES	Action
<b>Study for Employment Retention of Veterans (SERVe)</b>  Michelle Matthews	<p>Michelle provided an overview of the SERVe program (visit <a href="http://servestudy.org">servestudy.org</a> for more info). The five year longitudinal study is funded by a grant that is the first of its kind, with goals of reducing turnover and enhancing the retention and health of veterans and their families. Recruiting for dyads now (veterans and their employer), with primary focus on OEF/OIF era vets. Eligibility criteria is employment 20+hrs/week outside of military culture (public, private, or nonprofit organizations). Statewide sample of veterans and employers.</p> <p>The veteran and any family members involved get compensation for their time, and typically have three surveys: baseline at the beginning, one at the 6mo mark, and a 12mo follow-up.</p> <p>The employer is given training on supportive behavior, resources, and military culture. Instead of a "fix the veteran" philosophy, this training focuses on strengthening the community. Business gets a free training to increase their bottom line and retention. Time commitment for the employer is about an hour, broken up into smaller segments over about a one-month time period.</p> <p>The goal is to take this data, hone it with feedback over the next five years, and implement it nationwide. The early data suggests that it is having a positive impact on the veteran and the organization. If interested, visit the website for more information or to register.</p>	<p>Connect with the county Veteran Employee Resource Group</p> <p>Presentation to Association of Oregon Counties Veteran Services Subcommittee</p>
<b>General Updates</b> All	<p>DDA of Oregon - Corbett</p> <p>The family support network program just launched for family members of someone with DDA involvement. Meetings are Fridays at noon at the DDA office (521 SW 11<sup>th</sup> on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor). Visit <a href="http://ddaoeforegon.com/">http://ddaoeforegon.com/</a> for more info.</p>	

<p><b>General Updates</b> All</p>	<p>Ride Connection – Steve On 11/21 there will be a briefing for the Board of County Commissioners on transportation.</p> <p>USO – Steve There is a 45-day construction period following approval of the lease. Possibly opening the USO Center around President’s Day.</p> <p>Stand Down – Nathaniel Starting planning early for next year, with particular focus on a venue that is centrally located and/or on the transit route. Also need a place to store DOD surplus items (this year there were 20 pallets’ worth).</p> <p>East County Stand Down There were 179 veterans at the stand down on 10/19, and an excellent array of services available.</p> <p>Lines for Life – Joe PCC Cascade has invited Lines for Life to come provide a suicide prevention training on 11/25-11/27. There are 300 veterans enrolled at PCC per term and this is a great opportunity for the school and its student community. Matthew Blankenship at PCC is doing the flyer and it will be sent out soon.</p> <p>AOC Update – Andy and Commissioner McKeel Brief overview of the AOC Veterans Services Subcommittee’s work plan, highlighting the focus on strengthening County Veteran Service Officers and on suicide prevention. Specific emphasis will be on partnering with ODVA’s statewide efforts, data collection, and building collaboration with programs to disseminate information and resources out to those who need it.</p>	
	<p><b>Upcoming Events:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multnomah County Board of Commissioners will present a Veterans Day Proclamation at the board meeting on November 7<sup>th</sup>, 9:30am in the Multnomah Building boardroom. The County Veterans Employee Resource Group (VERG) is hosting and there will be a small reception afterward at noon in the board room.</li> <li>• “Chowdown for Vets” benefit for Returning Veterans Project on Nov 11<sup>th</sup>. Restaurants donate a percentage of proceeds to RVP on this date.</li> <li>• Career Fairs at PCC Rock Creek and Mt. Hood CC on the 12<sup>th</sup>, from 10-2.</li> <li>• Community Covenant signing ceremony, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 2pm at Memorial Coliseum.</li> <li>• Career Fair at Memorial Coliseum on November 14<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ul>	

*Next meeting scheduled for ...*

**December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013**

9:00am - 11:00am

501 SE Hawthorne Blvd – Copper Conference Room on 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Portland, OR 97214

**\*\* Meetings normally take place 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of every month 9:00am - 11:00am \*\***