

Justice Involved Veterans Full Task Force

Meeting Minutes: 1/27/21

Location: Virtual Meeting

In attendance*: Co-Chairs: Jill O'Neill, Sheena Bice

Members & Guests: Katie Nicholas Malvey, Diane Levesque, Jeffrey Newman, John Hattan, Seth Gahr, Dan Bricker, Amy Cook

Updates

There were no updates reported at today's meeting to ensure that there was sufficient time available to discuss plans for a future Stakeholder Event.

Old Business

Meeting discussion focused on planning for a Virtual RoundTable or Virtual Presentation for a variety of stakeholders with the goal of gaining additional and necessary support to further develop and sustain the VBHTs in New Hampshire. Ideas and discussion are captured in the two attachments outlining two possible event formats that will be considered further by the Task Force. Format I—host two events with two separate audiences and distinct goals/objectives. Format II—host one event combining audiences and goals/objectives.

Relevant points highlighted by members:

What is “the ask”? Funding to support & maintain efforts. Engage judicial leaders to discuss establishment of statewide VBHT Coordinator. Engage potential sponsors of VBHT to pursue fiscal legislation to fund 2 care coordinator/court liaison positions to serve non-VA-eligible Veterans.

Gaining legislator support might be more successful if other stakeholders, specifically judicial, are already on board and committed to supporting implementation.

When you ask for funding, you need to show you already have the support required to be successful with implementation.

We want decision-makers at table, not their delegates with little authority.

Need to plan for obstacles and challenges. Hesitation from judicial staff will be related to personnel availability and time.

VBHT participants are already engaged in the court system—we aren't asking for additional or new resources, just for the existing resources to be re-allocated in a way that supports the VBHT model.

Increase access through re-allocation of resources—possible to expand the model without adding regional personnel. On a statewide level, there is the need for a Statewide Coordinator and care coordinators/court liaisons for the non-VA-eligible Veterans.

New Hampshire did not start VBHTs by staying true to the model—it was fit into the existing system, so there are now regional differences and no statewide system of support.

Regional data demonstrates positive outcomes. Veteran Service Organizations are potentially great advocates to engage if needed.

More information about the Justice Involved Veterans Task Force and meeting minutes can be found at:

<https://www.dmav.snh.gov/about-us/councils-and-committees/justice-involved-veterans-task-force>

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Meeting Minutes: 1/27/21

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New Business

Discussion took place regarding training:

There is a need to better train the VBHT participants/staff across the regions. There is not currently a method of providing consistent, quality training to all staff. Justice for Vets will provide free, virtual training. Until funds are available for alternative methods of training, this can be a resource that we start to promote statewide. Video trainings are no longer than 9-10 minutes. JIV could begin to push out JFV trainings as recommendations for those involved with VBHTs. Can we establish an email distribution list for this purpose? 12-month JIV calendar with themes for training recommendations, action & engagement?

Action Steps

- Members agreed more discussion is needed regarding the event/s that will be hosted to engage stakeholders.
- Amy C. will create an event planning visual to help facilitate further discussion.
- Diane L. will ask Veterans if anyone is interested in making a short video about their VBHT experience.

Next Meetings

- Data Group—Tuesday, February 23, 2021 9am-11am; virtual
- Full Task Force—Wednesday, March 24, 2020 9am-11am; virtual

More information about the Justice Involved Veterans Task Force and meeting minutes can be found at:

<https://www.dmavv.nh.gov/about-us/councils-and-committees/justice-involved-veterans-task-force>

JIV: PROPOSED FORMAT I (Separate Audiences)

Event 1 of 2

Target Date:

Time: 90 minutes

Location: Virtual Platform

Type of Event

Presentation & Round Table Discussion

Event Goals	Event Objectives	Audience
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gain stakeholder commitment to support the JIV vision• Increase stakeholder engagement and participation in achieving the vision	<p>How will success of reaching goal will be measured?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Verbal commitment of participation in future JIV meetings2) Identification of obstacles & gaps to be addressed in order to gain commitment or seek funding/legislation3) Identification of next steps with responsible parties and due dates4) Identification of an agreeable method for post-event communication to continue engagement with decision-makers (not only the people who might attend meetings)	<p>Individuals and organizations whose <i>participation</i> has been identified as necessary to further the development and <i>implementation</i> of the VBHTs in NH.</p> <p>May include: JIV members, NAMI, Easterseals, Dover PD and other local police departments, State Police, County Prosecutors, Behavioral Health Court staff, VBHT reps, Judges (Leary, Coughlin, Boyle), Dept of Corrections, VAMC staff, DMAVS staff Rep from Commission on Mental Health Courts?</p>

Presentation

- Combine presentation of information with facilitated discussion
- Include brief testimonial from Veteran participant (video preferred as it increases emotional connection)
- Inform guests about the status of the VBHTs in NH—history, work completed and NH data
- Share regional data supporting success (Katie)
- Present vision for future—how it ties to true, best-practice model; need for state coordination (regional differences might be okay to a certain extent, but statewide coordination will allow for increased access, standardized training, and potentially better coordination of resources)

Event 1 of 2: page 2**Outreach Methods**

Email invitations	Personal, verbal invitations (follow up with written communication)	Printed invitations
Ask POC who should be invited	Identify who on JIV should invite specific stakeholders	Ask for decision-maker? Or delegate okay?

To Consider re: Outreach:

Encourage those invited to review information ahead of time to orient them to what we will be presenting and discussing? (eg. video, short training, JIV Fact Sheet)

Make clear in the invitation what “the ask” is or the goal of the event.

Post-Event Communication

How will JIV communicate with audience post-event to follow up, continue implementation, and continue to engage? How can this be coordinated and sustained?

Debrief & Post-Event Analysis

Prepare structured way to debrief at the meeting following the event and identify necessary short-term and long-term next steps.

Next Step Assignments (fill in with what and who)

Identify specific people/organizations to invite	Identify who will be responsible for inviting each specific person/organization	Identify specific parts of presentation and who will present
What materials might need to accompany the invitation?	Craft specific wording/script for the invitations so they are clear, concise and contain consistent messaging	Create a program/timeline/agenda for the event
Identify a Facilitator for the event	Prepare questions to guide engagement during discussion portion	

Event 2 of 2**Target Date:****Time:** 90 minutes**Location:** Virtual Platform**Type of Event**

Presentation

Event Goal	Event Objectives	Audience
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Gain support for enhancement of the VBHTs in New Hampshire through statewide coordination that is mandated and funded (state or federal dollars)	<p>How will success of reaching goal will be measured?</p> <p>1) Verbal agreement to engage in further dialogue</p>	<p>Federal and state legislators who have the influence and ability to further the <i>development and sustainability</i> of the VBHTs in NH through state legislation or by securing funding (state or federal).</p> <p>May include: JIV members, Shaheen, Hassan, Pappas, Kuster, State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs committee members*, legislators who are Veterans, senators who have supported Veteran legislation*, Judiciary committee (House and/or Senate)?, Criminal Justice & Public Safety committee? *see lists at end</p>

Presentation

- Include brief testimonial from Veteran participant (video preferred as it increases emotional connection)
- Inform guests about the status of the VBHTs in NH—history, work completed, NH data and current participants & supportive stakeholders
- Share regional data supporting success (Katie)
- Present vision for future—how it ties to true, best-practice model; need for state coordination (regional differences might be okay to a certain extent, but statewide coordination will allow for increased access, standardized training, and potentially better coordination of resources; highlight stakeholder support)
- Close with clear articulation of “the ask”—make clear what JIV would like to see for legislation and funding and how it would be utilized

Event 2 of 2: page 2**Outreach Methods**

Email invitations	Printed invitations	If reach out verbally, follow up with written invite
Identify who on JIV should invite specific stakeholders	Make clear in invitation what “the ask” is	

Post-Event Communication

Clear plans should be made to follow up individually with each legislator present and those who were not able to attend.

Engage attendees in discussions—what did they think? Can they help? What hesitations do they have?

For those who did not attend, is there a need to hold a 2nd, duplicate event? 1:1 meetings with those legislators? Provide them with a summary of the information and “the ask”?

Debrief & Post-Event Analysis

Prepare structured way to debrief at the meeting following the event and identify necessary short-term and long-term next steps.

Next Step Assignments (fill in with what and who)

Identify specific people to invite	Identify who will be responsible for inviting each specific person	Identify specific parts of presentation and who will present
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Event 2 of 2: page 3

***State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs Committee**

Al Baldasaro (R) – CHAIR
Michael Moffett – V-CHAIR
Susan DeLemus -- CLERK
David Lundgren(R)
Phyllis Katsakiores(R)
Skip Rollins(R)
David Binford(R)
William Foster(R)
Brodie Deshaies(R)
Tina Harley(R)
John Leavitt(R)
Linda Massimilla(D)
Israel Piedra(D)
Efstathia Booras(D)
Matthew Wilhelm(D)
Manny Espitia(D)
Willis Griffith(D)
Amanda Toll(D)
Tony Labranche(D)
Stacie-Marie Laughton(D)
Lawrence Welkowitz(D)

***Senators who supported the Veteran Bill of Rights in 2020:**

Sen. Morgan, Dist 23; Sen. Sherman, Dist 24; Sen. Bradley, Dist 3; Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19; Sen. D'Allesandro, Dist 20; Sen. Rosenwald, Dist 13; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 21; Sen. Cavanaugh, Dist 16; Sen. Carson, Dist 14; Sen. Chandley, Dist 11; Sen. Morse, Dist 22; Sen. Soucy, Dist 18; Rep. Woodcock, Carr. 2; Rep. Allard, Merr. 21
(not sure which are still in office)

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Presentation

- Include brief testimonial from Veteran participant (video preferred as it increases emotional connection)
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- Share regional data supporting success (Katie)
- Present vision for future—how it ties to true, best-practice model; need for state coordination (regional differences might be okay to a certain extent, but statewide coordination will allow for increased access, standardized training, and potentially better coordination of resources)
- Clear articulation of “the ask” (refer to Goal and Objectives)--make clear what JIV would like to see for legislation and funding and how it would be utilized
- Close with specific plans for what attendees can expect for follow up and future communication

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Make clear in the invitation what “the ask” is or the goal of the event.

Post-Event Communication

How will JIV communicate with audience post-event to follow up, continue implementation, and continue to engage? How can this be coordinated and sustained? Determine this ahead of time so it can be clearly communicated at event.

Clear plans should be made to follow up individually with each present and those who were not able to attend.

Engage attendees in discussions—what did they think? Can they help? What hesitations do they have? What can they commit or support moving forward?

For those who did not attend, is there a need to hold a 2nd, duplicate event? 1:1 meetings with those not in attendance? Provide them with a summary of the information and “the ask”?

Debrief & Post-Event Analysis

Prepare structured way to debrief at the meeting following the event and identify necessary short-term and long-term next steps.

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