



MEETING AGENDA

9:00 am	Check-In
9:30 am	Welcome & Agenda Anthony Hassan, Director, CIR Margaret Thomas, Collaborative Coordinator, CIR
9:40 am	Announcements and Review of Issues To Be Addressed in Working Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Introduction of Faith Based group members◆ Survey◆ LA Veteran Survey PSA
10:00 am	Working Group Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Behavioral Health◆ Career Advancement◆ Families & Children◆ Housing & Homelessness◆ Legal & Re-Entry
11:00 am	Review of Working Group Sessions
11:25 am	Administrative Items & Closing Remarks Margaret R. Thomas
11:30 am	Collaborative Meeting Adjourns

I. Welcome & Agenda

Anthony Hassan, Director CIR and Margaret Thomas, Community Liaison, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. Discussed the current status of the survey and announced the approval of the Deloitte Pro Bono project.

Announcements made regarding upcoming events and projects to include: Housing Authority Response Letter.

Collette Arechavaleta from Deloitte was introduced. Additionally, Teri and John Kelsall with The Jonas Project presented to the group.

II. Working Group Breakout Sessions

The working groups then met for one hour. The working groups that convened were:

- **Behavioral Health**
- **Career Advancement**
- **Families & Children**
- **Housing & Homelessness**
- **Legal & Re-Entry**

III. Working Group Session Summaries

All attendees then re-convened to review the discussions from each working group. Groups were asked to think about what information from such a survey would help them the most.

a. Behavioral Health Working Group

Gathering resources for resource directory.

b. Career Advancement Working Group

The group discussed the proposed purpose statement for the Collaborative as a whole to determine how we might create a purposeful mission statement for our group. We looked at gaps in our network/membership and determined that the biggest gap was employers/businesses and representatives from the transitional programs within the various branches of the military. Some ideas to address this gap were:

- Develop a "Speaker's Bureau" of Collaborative members to go out and speak at Trade/Professional Groups meetings or events about the benefits of hiring veterans.
- Create an employer group or council to partner with the collaborative

- Create a virtual "binder" of resource information to issue to separating military members at the time of separation.
- Find out how we can get resource information on appropriate websites, such as ACAP
- Seek contacts within the various transition programs to find ways to provide educational and career counseling to discharging members during or soon after discharge.

c. Families & Children Working Group

Raise awareness to county for children; letter to schools/orgs and ID kids and get what they need.

d. Housing & Homelessness Working Group

- Vet home decreasing in Los Angeles County. No breakout for women veterans, pending legislation.
- Christine of LAHSA reported that the 2013 homeless point-in-time count showed nearly 2,000 fewer homeless veterans than in 2011, demonstrating the value of the VASH and SSVF programs.
- A spirited discussion ensued around these questions:
 - In annualizing point-in-time counts, the VA uses a much larger multiplier than LAHSA. Which is correct?
 - How many homeless women vets and homeless women vets with children are there? This is crucial information for permanent supportive housing developers.
 - How many SSVF participants receive VASH Vouchers?
- The VA will report on these data issues next month.
 - The group reviewed the status of bills before Congress to fund VASH and SSVF and state bills AB 639 to fund rental housing for veterans (with a focus on homeless vets) and SB 391 to provide capital for affordable housing construction, including housing for vets. We agreed to communicate support to our elected representatives.
 - Phil Bowers distributed laminated business cards, developed by the VOA, with websites for veterans to contact as needed. Phil said he would bring more next month so we can hand them out at events such as TAP and Yellow Ribbon.
 - Matt Haas invited the Group to the Los Angeles Veterans Housing and Services Forum on July 18, a special "by invitation only" event hosted by the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco and Merritt Community Capital.
 - A representative from the Gas Company described a weatherization program.

e. Legal & Re-Entry Working Group

Missions and goals
 Ticket project
 Increase membership
 Joe ?- vet hunters
 Better education for law enforcement

IV. Administrative Details

a. Upcoming Collaborative Meetings

The Collaborative meets on the second Wednesday of each month. The three upcoming meetings are as follows:

- August 14, 2013
- September 11, 2013
- October 9, 2013

b. Closing Remarks

Margaret Thomas thanked everyone for coming and reminded everyone again about the survey and to pass along any information and ideas to CIR.

c. Collaborative Mailing List

To join the Collaborative's mailing list, or any of the working group mailing lists, please contact Margaret Thomas at Margaret.thomas@usc.edu

V. Next Meeting

Wednesday, August 14, 2013

9:30 - 11:30 am

USC CIR Office

1149 South Hill Street, 11th Floor

Los Angeles, CA 90015