



MEETING AGENDA

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| 9:00 am | Engagement and Access Working Group |
| 9:00 am | Check-In |
| 9:30 am | Welcome & Agenda
Anthony Hassan, Director, CIR
Nathan Graeser, Collaborative Coordinator, CIR |
| 9:40 am | Announcements <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Survey Update◆ Recruitment◆ Upcoming Events |
| 10:00 am | Working Group Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Behavioral Health◆ Career Advancement◆ Families & Children◆ Housing & Homelessness◆ Legal & Re-Entry◆ Faith Based |
| 11:00 am | Review of Working Group Sessions |
| 11:25 am | Administrative Items & Closing Remarks
Nathan Graeser |
| 11:30 am | Collaborative Meeting Adjourns |

I. Welcome & Agenda

Anthony Hassan, Director of CIR and Nathan Graeser, Project Specialist welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

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

- i. Attendees:** Keith Jackson, Patricia Jackson Kelley, Curtis Mack, Gail Soffer, Laura Mosedale, Anna Zogas, Melissa Rodriguez, Phil Wong, Roxanne Abrams, Leslie Reynolds Rottman, Antonio Chapa, Jhoselyn Ramirez, Calley White, Theresa Varn
- ii. Facilitator:** Mark Mitchell
- iii. Secretary:** Sherry Winston, LMFT
- iv. Introductions and agenda overview**
- v. Sherry PSA, Theme of Suicide-** Suicide rate of veteran's is 22 per day. Put a face to the suicide. Roxanne volunteers to be that face. What other groups addressing suicide. What has been done and what has worked. Solvable problem. Resources where vets can go, crisis hot-line, 211. What venue, print, radio, video, bill boards. 900 suicide prevention programs in the country, vet out those applicable to military themes. Message to vet and families. Geographical boundaries, LA County? Catch phrase, create sense of hope and there are solutions. Spokesperson: George Clooney, JR Martinez, Bill Cosby, Ty Carter, Mayor Garcetti, Michelle Obama, Gary Sinise, Oprah, Tammy Duckworth, Ellen Degeneres, Jimmy Fallon. LA Live Talk: need PR agency. Mark Mitchell, Sherry Winston, Patricia Jackson Kelley to look for PR machine. Corporate Sponsors: Deloitte, Gallup, Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf. Follow up next month: have identified celeb, PR agency

- vi. Social Media- Melissa created a twitter account. User Name: Vet Behavioral Health@Behavioral Hcir. Need to create gmail account for contact. Use CIR logo for account icon
- vii. Operation IV- Roxanne Abrams. Includes all aspects of life transitioning back from combat. V IP squad, vet or active duty helping enrolled client. Customized treatment. No cost to the veteran. Nationwide networks and services. Peer counseling. Retraining and finding employment.
- viii. Gateway Hospital- Phil Wong. Nonprofit psych hospital in Echo Park. Adolescent services to LAUSD. Forensic convict release program.
- ix. IMD Step Down program with DMH-Institution for Mental Disease; Forensic and non-forensic program.
- x. AB109- realignment program for inmate coming out of prison.
- xi. VOA- working with homeless veterans in 72 bed hospital, co-ed.

b. Career Advancement Working Group

- i. HR Course for hiring veterans- presented by Luci Ursich from CIR. Course is roughly 80 minutes. The 10 topics in the course are: 1) Veteran Job Seekers, 2) Veterans Mental Health, 3) National Guard and Reserves' job seekers, 4) Military culture and workplace expectations, 5) Why hire veterans, 6) Sourcing and recruiting veterans, 7) Skills and education translation, 8) Interviewing a veteran, 9) Veterans in the workplace, and 10) Retaining veteran employees
- ii. The group discussed creating teamwork environments and chemistry among staff so that the veteran feels an ease within the transition. This environment would produce two-fold effects: helping the veteran transition and producing a better workplace environment for all employees.
- iii. Leadership is more important to veterans: such as working for great leaders and maximizing leadership potential within veteran employees.
- iv. Increased efficiency and better processes are more conducive to the veteran employee and the employers

c. Families & Children Working Group

- i. **Mission:** To heighten the awareness and impact policy related to the concerns and needs of military affiliated (connected) children and their families. Particular attention is addressed to the families of the Guard and Reserve service members who as a result of their status may not fully access resources within the military service delivery system or within their communities.
- ii. **Vision:** Children and families impacted by the military service of their loved ones will be identified in order to receive the supportive care and attention needed to maximize their adjustment to challenges associated with the deployment process. The identification and coordination of services for military connected families will serve to enhance the military affiliated child's healthy growth and development and family functioning.

d. Housing & Homelessness Working Group

- i. Successes and Continuing Opportunities- The group reviewed 2013 successes and these next steps for 2014: AB 639 passed the Legislature and was signed by the Governor. Next, we all will have the opportunity to work to secure voter approval

in the Spring 2014 election. The VAGLA and LAHSA are negotiating a proposed 2014 Point-in-Time Homeless Count to document our continued success in reducing the numbers of homeless veterans in Los Angeles. Should the negotiations be successful, we will have an opportunity to volunteer to help count.

- ii. New Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti's Priorities- The group brainstormed over LA Mayor's Office Veterans Affairs Coordinator Joseph Chicas' request for policy initiatives for Mayor Eric Garcetti to pursue to help veterans and reached consensus on these: Establish a priority for use of surplus City-owned property to develop housing for veterans. Support allocation of resources for capital, rent subsidy, and services to produce permanent supportive housing for female-headed households with children. Identify and provide resources for supportive services in permanent housing for formerly homeless veterans. Support a change to federal policy to allow the VA Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program to provide 9 months, rather than 5 months, of rental assistance, as 9 months is the realistic duration needed in Los Angeles to help homeless veterans secure income. Support a change to federal policy to allow the VA Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program to assist veterans of all discharge statuses

e. Legal & Re-Entry Working Group

- i. New Members introduced themselves
- ii. Filled group in on current status of various legislative and legal resource projects around PC 1170.9
- iii. Agreed to continue recruiting members

IV. Administrative Details

a. Upcoming Collaborative Meetings

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

- February 12, 2014
- March 12, 2014
- April 9, 2014

b. Closing Remarks

Nathan Graeser 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 Nathan Graeser at graeser@usc.edu

V. Next Meeting

Wednesday, February 12, 2014

9:30 - 11:30 am

USC CIR Office

1149 South Hill Street, 11th Floor

Los Angeles, CA 90015