

# LOS ANGELES VETERANS COLLABORATIVE COMMITTEE

1149 S. HILL ST., 11TH FLOOR, LOS ANGELES, CA 90015





### **MEETING AGENDA**

9:00 am	Check-In
9:30 am	Welcome & Agenda Anthony Hassan, Director, CIR Megan Hazle, Communications, CIR
9:40 am	Review of Issues To Be Addressed in Working Groups
10:00 am	Working Group Sessions  ◆ 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 Megan Hazle
11:30 am	Collaborative Meeting Adjourns



## LOS ANGELES VETERANS COLLABORATIVE JANUARY 9, 2013 MEETING MINUTES

#### I. Welcome & Agenda

Dr. Anthony Hassan, CIR Director, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. He briefly reviewed the meeting structure and working groups for first-time attendees.

#### 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.

#### a. Behavioral Health Working Group

Currently, the Behavioral Health Working Group is drafting and critiquing a unique mission statement and working on clarifying goals for actionable items. The group has identified a key mission. After drafting the criteria and list, the group will then ask the entire Collaborative for feedback and suggestions. Lastly, the group discusses BH topics that they would like to be covered in the upcoming survey.

#### **Update on previous action items:**

- Identify mission
- Identify goals
- Identify gaps and needs for Behavioral health needs
- Develop and inform best practices

#### b. Career Advancement Working Group

The Career Advancement Working Group compiled questions from its members regarding data that it would like to see gathered through the USC CIR survey of veterans and military families in Los Angeles. The group is also compiling a list of local military-friendly employers for possible inclusion in the USC veteran hiring event in March 2013. The group has also begun to finalize an asset map of veteran employment resources in the LA-area. Group members were asked to submit additional resources to Lisa

Anderson so that they may be added to the map. The group's goal is to produce a list of veteran employment resources and develop an asset map that provides information as well as a quality rating. The group is going to seek new ways of publicity.

#### **Update on previous action items:**

- Continue working on asset map.
- Suggest questions for USC CIR LA veterans survey.
- Finalize asset map.

#### New action items:

- Compile list of veteran friendly employers to be used for USC hiring event
- Identify the need for a significant web presence to collect info
- Find new ways of getting new members involved
- Seek ways to publicize map

#### c. Families & Children Working Group

The Families & Children Working Group discussed the action items from the previous meeting and reviewed the group's Mission/Vision and Objectives. Members were encouraged to add to or review the Objectives. The group's Mission/Vision Statement and Objectives are still being worked due to the group's broad range. Members discussed issues related to custodial benefits and long term service delivery. Members developed questions for the upcoming survey.

#### **Update on previous action items:**

- Continue developing the working group Mission/Vision statement.
- Continue developing the working group Objectives and policy statement.

#### New action item:

- Identify contacts within faith-based communities.
- Find new ways of getting new members involved
- Build association with Friday Night live as tool for outreach
- Work on position paper to reach out to schools
- Find new ways to ID Children associated with military

#### d. Housing & Homelessness Working Group

The Housing and & Homelessness Working Group had a large meeting. A representative from Eric Garcetti's office informed the group that they are looking for a veteran coordinator for the city of LA. Members also discussed mission statement of the collaborative in general and sought to figure out what would our mission be within the larger scope. Members discussed the homeless count and sought for more volunteers.

#### **New action items:**

- Evaluate the possibility of soliciting furniture donations.
- Determine best ways of engaging VA decision-makers.

Develop survey questions.

#### e. Legal & Re-Entry Working Group

The Legal & Re-Entry Working Group discussed current areas each organization was working in. Additionally, the group brainstormed new ways to create veteran specific programs dedicated for veterans (e.g. dealing with tickets, DUI's, misdemeanors). The idea of a flow chart was created to help veterans handle their tickets. Additionally, the group brainstormed getting LA County Superior Court System to expand to Male Veteran Stand downs so that female stand downs receive similar support. The group announced Free attorney services (e.g. debt, immigration, divorce) for vets called the Valor Guide.

#### 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 13, 2013
- March 13, 2013
- April 10, 2013

#### b. Closing Remarks

Dr. Anthony Hassan thanked everyone for coming and introduced Col Cross. Col Cross is the Reintegration trainer for the Army. He answered questions regarding his development of the transitional program for veterans back to the work place. Additionally, Anthony announced that CIR hopes to finalize interviews and hiring for the new Collaborative administrator and initiate the city-wide survey and evaluation of veteran needs in Los Angeles county. CIR will then convene community members/WG co-chairs to outline survey and gather input after the February Collaborative meeting.

#### c. Collaborative Mailing List

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

#### V. Next Meeting

#### Wednesday, February 13

9:30 - 11:30 am

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