



## **MEETING AGENDA**

<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Check-In</b>
<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Welcome &amp; Agenda</b> Anthony Hassan, Director, CIR
<b>9:40 am</b>	<b>Review of Issues To Be Addressed in Working Groups</b>
<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Working Group Sessions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>♦ Behavioral Health</li><li>♦ Career Advancement</li><li>♦ Families &amp; Children</li><li>♦ Housing &amp; Homelessness</li><li>♦ Legal &amp; Re-Entry</li></ul>
<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Review of Working Group Sessions</b>
<b>11:25 am</b>	<b>Administrative Items &amp; Closing Remarks</b> Margaret R. Thomas
<b>11:30 am</b>	<b>Collaborative Meeting Adjourns</b>

**I. Welcome & Agenda**

Dr. Anthony Hassan, CIR Director, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. He introduced Margaret Thomas, the new Community Liaison and collaborative coordinator. He also discussed the survey and its progress.

**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**

Currently, the Behavioral Health Working Group is drafting and critiquing a unique mission statement and working on clarifying goals for actionable items. They group identified the following as questions/information they would like asked in the survey:

- What services are you aware of for healthcare?
- Where would you go for healthcare?
- How one felt their life was in danger?
- Have you ever experienced stress due to civilian life? Military life?
- Did you seek help and where?
- Do you hide your BH needs?

**b. Career Advancement Working Group**

The group is continuing to work on an asset map of veteran employment resources in the LA-area. 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. The group also discussed an employer consortium group and ways to improve the TAP program and make better connections with the civilian sector.

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

- Continue working on asset map.
- Finalize asset map.

***New action items:***

- 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 stigma related to the seeking out mental health help and services. The group discussed that the issue of services being offered but folks not taking advantage of them. The group also discussed the possibility of greater case management and follow up and that the case manager help people find needed services. The group also discussed and wondered whether coverage (insurance) is a barrier to seeking services

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

- Identify contacts within faith-based communities.
- Find new ways of getting new members involved
- Build association with Friday Night live as tool for outreach

***New action item:***

- 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. The group had a great discussion on the two (2) current proposed state bills and urged all those in the collaborative to get involved and reach out to their representatives to support the proposed bills.

***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.

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

- Letter was delivered to Judge Wesley regarding judicial support at LA County Stand Downs

***New action item:***

- VA Claims Process

**IV. Administrative Details**

**a. Upcoming Collaborative Meetings**

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

- April 10, 2013
- May 8, 2013
- June 12, 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](mailto:Margaret.thomas@usc.edu)

**V. Next Meeting**

**Wednesday, April 10, 2013**

9:30 - 11:30 am

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