



## Carroll County Veterans Coalition

### Minutes

March 26, 2024 1000 hrs

#### 1. Round table introductions

- a. Name and organization
- b. Role

Name	Organization	Role	Email	Phone
Jennifer Walton	Ossipee VFW Post 8270	Retired Navy Veteran, Quartermaster	<a href="mailto:jendelion@gmail.com">jendelion@gmail.com</a>	619-384-2135
Mark Allen	Ossipee VFW Post 8270	Post Commander	<a href="mailto:mgallen5180@gmail.com">mgallen5180@gmail.com</a>	781-831-0629
Justin Moeling	Suicide Prevention at the VA	LICSW, Community Engagement and Partnerships Coordinator	<a href="mailto:john.moeling@va.gov">john.moeling@va.gov</a>	(603)203-3641
Nicole Frisella	Manchester VA	Coordinated Entry Specialist	<a href="mailto:nicole.frisella@va.gov">nicole.frisella@va.gov</a>	
Donnie Olsen	TERRA Equine Therapy Center	Clinical Director	<a href="mailto:dolsen@terraetc.org">dolsen@terraetc.org</a>	603-696-5370
Jaime MacDonald	Clear Path for Veterans New England	Case Manager		
Jim Ricker	Veterans Inc	Healthcare Navigator (NH, VT, ME)		
Stephanie Higgs	Easterseals Veterans Count	Clinical mental health therapist	<a href="mailto:mvsintake@eastersealsnh.org">mvsintake@eastersealsnh.org</a>	603-315-4354
Jen Thomas	C3PH	Substance Misuse Prevention Coordinator	<a href="mailto:jennifer.thomas@graniteuw.org">jennifer.thomas@graniteuw.org</a>	603-301-1252 ext. 305



Soyla Hernandez	C3PH	Community Health Worker	<a href="mailto:soyla.hernandez@graniteuw.org">soyla.hernandez@graniteuw.org</a>	603-301-1252 ext. 301
Emily McArdle	C3PH	Young Adult Outreach	<a href="mailto:u25carrollcounty@outlook.com">u25carrollcounty@outlook.com</a>	

c. Any updates or news?

- i. Stephanie/Easterseals Veterans Count- Working on growing their clinical mental health services at Easterseals- does telehealth services so they can see clients state-wide, and they currently have no waiting list- so please help spread the word! Any provider can refer clients, or veterans can call themselves for services. Easterseals also does emergency assistance and housing support.

d. Questions

e. Thoughts

2. Jen updates

a. Swim With a Mission radio show

- i. Jen appearing
- ii. Need at least 1 other person- Jennifer W. will come.
- iii. April 26<sup>th</sup> in Manchester

b. Swim With a Mission VSO Summit

- i. Need at least 2 additional people.
  1. Who? Let Jen know if you're interested in joining, good place to set up a table and network.

c. Conference

- i. Flyer
- ii. Newspaper ad
- iii. Kingswood Youth Center
  1. Banner
  2. Additional surprise



- iv. Need more veterans and military families- Please help spread the word!  
Everything will be free and veterans, military members, their families, and veteran servicing organizations across NH are welcome! See attached flyer.
    - 1. How?
    - 2. Who?
    - 3. Jennifer W. and Mark will drop some flyers off at the health centers and the American Legion in Conway.
  - v. Have permit for helicopter, Donnie/TERRA will bring over a therapy horse.
  - vi. Justin- There is an annual Seacoast conference, thinks it would be great if Carroll County could do a similar thing annually.
  - vii. Food ideas- Subway for donations, Junkyard Dogs in Ossipee (receptive to veterans), local rental places could rent out machines like popcorn machines, Hannaford can donate veggie and fruit trays, Boston Roast beef food truck, food truck across from Aloha? Door prizes for gift cards from Market Basket, Lowe's, and Walmart (ask for Drew).
  - viii. Mark would like to talk (~5 minutes) about the benefits of joining veteran servicing organizations (especially for younger veterans)- Let Jen know general talking points so she can add it to the agenda.
  - ix. Leave ~2 tables for the VA, Justin will have a table and the Veterans Benefits Administration could have a table- Reach out to Lindsay Pratt or Nicole will reach out to Kyle.
- d. Our website – resources, events etc.
- i. [www.carrollcountyveteranscoalition.org](http://www.carrollcountyveteranscoalition.org)
  - ii. Let us know if there is anything you'd like us to add or fix.
  - iii. If you'd like us to add anything to our calendar let us know!
  - iv. Justin- Resource list only as helpful as how up to date it is.
- e. Resource packet
- i. Will print some.



- ii. Creating business cards with link to the website.
    - iii. Resources are also on the website.
  - f. Kingswood Youth Center
    - i. Collaboration for fun activity
    - ii. From pizza and planning party
    - iii. Lego building contest- in June?
  - g. Operation Stand Down- Does anyone know who the best person to contact is about logistics? What kind of space do we need? (Jen did reach out but hasn't heard back yet).
    - i. Justin suggests reaching out to Andrea May at Harbor Care for info. Space also depends on how many homeless veterans are in the area- reach out to [Emily.Reisine@va.gov](mailto:Emily.Reisine@va.gov) or the Bureau of Homeless Services for their count of homeless veterans from the PIT count- [Mandy.L.Reagan@dhhs.nh.gov](mailto:Mandy.L.Reagan@dhhs.nh.gov)
    - ii. Space depends on what the people contributing need- e.g. will they be giving haircuts or giving out supplies, etc.? Look into the San Diego Stand Down for ideas. The Conway Legion could be a good space for it.
  - h. Housing Alternatives- Have done some reach out, there already are some hotels that do emergency cold weather housing or campgrounds (but they're off season, so they might not meet the qualifications for heat, running water, etc.)
  - i. Any other ideas on this or other places?
- 3. How are you feeling about what we set out to do?
  - a. Feedback on meeting objectives
  - b. Corrections steps if needed.
  - c. Review and evaluate.
  - d. Consensus that we're working towards what we set out to do.
- 4. Medical and Behavioral Health provider reach out.
  - a. Brainstorm questions for survey.
  - b. Brainstorm resources to bring.
  - c. Beth at TERRA can help with creating a survey.



- d. What kind of questions would you want to know for providers? Want to gather data to see what we can address. E.g. “Do providers ask the question every time someone comes in, do they do suicide prevention training or military training?” See what the barriers to care are.
  - e. Let Jen know if you think of any questions you’d like to ask or things you want to know from providers.
5. Veteran Friendly Businesses
- a. <https://www.dmavs.nh.gov/nh-businesses-currently-recognized-veteran-friendly-practices>
  - b. Jen will work more on this in mid-April to reach out.
6. Upcoming activities and resources
- a. PACT Act Claims Clinic – April 16<sup>th</sup> 0900 at CBOC in Conway
    - i. [202404 April 2024 VAMC Claims Clinic Conway\\_Publish.pdf202404 April 2024 VAMC Claims Clinic Conway\\_Publish.pdf](#)
    - ii. [The PACT Act And Your VA Benefits | Veterans Affairs](#)
    - iii. VA Press Release
      1. [https://graniteuw-my.sharepoint.com/personal/jennifer\\_thomas\\_graniteuw\\_org/Documents/Carroll%20County%20Veterans%20Coalition/Media%20Press%20Release\\_%20PACT%20Act%20Expansion%20Section%20103\\_PUBLISH.pdf](https://graniteuw-my.sharepoint.com/personal/jennifer_thomas_graniteuw_org/Documents/Carroll%20County%20Veterans%20Coalition/Media%20Press%20Release_%20PACT%20Act%20Expansion%20Section%20103_PUBLISH.pdf)
  - b. Vouchers for Veterans
    - i. [Vouchers for Veterans - We feed Veterans in New Hampshire and Maine.](#)
  - c. Suicide Prevention Council Data
    - i. [NH Veteran Landscape Suicide Prevention 2024 \(1\).pdf](#)
  - d. An Evening of Hope with Bobby H.
    - i. Claremont Opera House
    - ii. April 18 1630-2030 hrs
    - iii. Suicide, MH and substance use awareness.
    - iv. Flyer in minutes



- e. American Legion – Wolfeboro
    - i. Pulling together a community wide suicide prevention training
  - f. Military related trainings and webinars
    - i. [https://graniteuw-my.sharepoint.com/personal/jennifer\\_thomas\\_graniteuw\\_org/Documents/Carroll%20County%20Veterans%20Coalition/PsychArmor%20%20Virtual%20Training%20Courses\\_Cleared%20for%20External%20Use.pdf](https://graniteuw-my.sharepoint.com/personal/jennifer_thomas_graniteuw_org/Documents/Carroll%20County%20Veterans%20Coalition/PsychArmor%20%20Virtual%20Training%20Courses_Cleared%20for%20External%20Use.pdf)
  - g. TERRA Equine Therapy Center – Conway, NH
    - i. Seen Through Horses Campaign
    - ii. Flyer included in email and minutes.
  - h. Veterans Coalition Leader meeting- Came up with idea to buy a block of tickets for the Fisher Cats for a discounted rate and then sell them and a piece of that would go into a fund for Partnership for Public Health to fund veteran coalitions, Jen will send out more info when she has it.
  - i. Merchandise store- We can't receive direct funds for it, need creative ideas for where to send the money- like VFW, Delta Dog, Hero Pups, etc.? Any other ideas for where to donate the money?
  - j. Save the date: Manchester VA PACT Act Vet Fest 6/6/2024.
7. Close
- a. Thank you
  - b. Next meeting April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1000 hrs