



Carroll County Veterans Coalition

www.carrollcountyveteranscoalition.org

May 28, 2024: Minutes

1. Welcome

- a. Please sign in
- b. Round table introductions

Name	Organization	Email	Phone
Justin Moeling	LICSW, CECP at VA Manchester, USCG Veteran	john.moeling@va.gov	
Alexandra Baer	Suicide Prevention and Training Specialist at HarborCare	a.baer@harborcarenh.org	
Nicole Frisella	Coordinated Entry Specialist at Manchester VA Medical Center	Nicole.frisella@va.gov	
Stephanie Higgs	LMFT at Easterseals Veterans Count	mvsintake@eastersealsnh.org	603-315-4354
Jaime Macdonald	SSVF Case Manager at Clear Path for Veterans New England	JMacDonald@clearpathne.org	603-988-3816
Gary Bent	Army and Airforce Veteran, Case Manager for ServiceLink Veteran Directed Care Program		
Ann Cady	Local Interfaith Minister, retired psychotherapist, and retired army officer		
James Ricker	Healthcare Navigator at Veterans Inc		
Ed Currier	Clear Path for Veterans New England	ecurrier@clearpathne.org	
Jen Thomas	C3PH	jennifer.thomas@graniteuw.org	603-301-1252 ext. 305



Emily McArdle	C3PH	u25carrollcounty@outlook.com	
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2. Conference on May 4th

- a. Conference was successful, had 30 non-tablers come through,
- b. Discussion Themes- Feel free to use this information and share it! It will be emailed with the minutes and it's also available on the website:

<https://www.carrollcountyveteranscoalition.org/community-feedback>

c.

- i. Discussion 1 – Needs, Challenges, and Barriers



Breakout%20Room%
201%20themes.docx

- ii. Discussion 2 – Solutions



Break%20out%20Ro
om%202%20themes.i

- d. Discussion about the proposed solutions, including increased collaboration:

- i. Justin is co-chair of the Military and Veteran Committee for the Suicide Prevention Council.
- ii. State Veterans Advisory Committee- Justin- It was created to be a formal advisory board to policymakers in NH, once a month they weigh in on proposed legislation. It's a collection of 20 or so leaders of various veteran servicing organizations, and it's a great way to access the leadership of many of the organizations that serve veterans. They also



can help get the word out on events/information- contact the Chair, Paul Lloyd: nhsvac.chair@gmail.com

- iii. Feel free to email or use our website to add upcoming events in our calendar: <https://www.carrollcountyveteranscoalition.org/events-1>
- iv. Do conferences/meetings at different times to increase participation? Collaborate with other events in the community, e.g. having meetings after events and other social activities, etc.
 1. Justin agrees this is a great idea, e.g. Capital Area Veterans Coalition meeting is tonight after the Heroes and Hot Rods event by the Marine Corps League
- v. Jen reached out to Green Mountain and their Veterans Group
- e. Gary- Shoutout to the Veterans Conference and kudos to Jen for putting it together!

3. Next Immediate Action Plan

- a. Provider Reach out:
 - i. Who and how should we start?
 1. Stephanie- Reach out to Heather for a spreadsheet with providers in the region (providers were added to the list when they were reached out to during the initial step):
 - a. Heather Smith,
Grants & Resource Development Coordinator,
Division of Community Based Military Programs
Department of Military Affairs & Veterans Services
heather.a.smith@dmavs.nh.gov
(603) 227-1513



- b. Justin- Veterans Coalitions could help with updating that list, and reach out to providers saying, “You were listed here before, providing _____, are you still doing that?”
- 2. Justin- Could also do reach out at job fairs (e.g. state-wide job fairs or hospital job fairs) to provide info and reach out/make connections to providers in healthcare. Could ask NH if they’re planning any job fairs in Carroll County.
- 3. Include dentists, dental hygienists, office administrators, nurses, and civilian providers.
- ii. What should we bring?
 - 1. Bring Ask the Question campaign materials:
 - a. Stephanie- Coalitions could also adopt Ask the Question messaging (e.g. Easterseals has Ask the Question and the website address on their Rack Cards)
 - b. Bring Ask the Question materials to civilian providers as well.
 - iii. Offer trainings? Include with initial outreach and/or with survey. See discussion about trainings in Section 7: Military Culture Trainings below.
- b. Survey
 - i. What to include?
 - 1. What are providers’ levels of knowledge about veterans and resources in the area? What kinds of resources do they know are available for veterans? Do providers know about the Ask the Question campaign, and do they ask the question? Ask about what trainings they would be interested in taking.



- a. Justin- If people aren't aware of military culture trainings and their importance, providers may not know what they need or are interested in. Need to inform providers about why military culture trainings are important.
2. Stephanie- Collaborate with DMAVS and the Ask the Question campaign. Reach out to Brent and Heather about establishing standards and collaborating. Many of the questions Jen mentioned are similar to questions that Ask the Question has asked providers. Be careful not to confuse providers if both the Coalitions and DMAVS are reaching out with questions.
 - a. Jen did have an initial conversation with Brent and will reach back out to Brent/Heather (to discuss questions and for the spreadsheet of providers).
 - b. Justin- DMAVS efforts right now are preparing for next year (10-year anniversary of the Ask the Question campaign), working on developing press kits. Brent is available to provide info and can provide presentations (have done some for other coalitions). If Carroll County comes up with their own way of approaching the community that would be great, as long as they stick to the basics of asking the question.
 - c. Ask the Question campaign:
 - i. <https://www.dmavs.nh.gov/community-based-military-programs/ask-question>
 - ii. <https://www.askthequestion.nh.gov/>
 - iii. Toolkit:
<https://www.dmavs.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt401/f>



[iles/inline-documents/sonh/2022-ask-the-question-toolkit_0.pdf](#)

d. Have You Ever Served campaign:

i. <https://www.haveyoueverserved.com/>

ii. Intake questions:

<https://www.haveyoueverserved.com/intake-questions.html>

iii. Pocket Card and Posters:

<https://www.haveyoueverserved.com/pocket-card--posters.html>

3. Gary- Ask which providers themselves are veterans- Met with office managers and administrators in MA and identified veteran providers which opened many doors and is a great way to make connections.

4. Ed- Could add questions about whether providers know what services veterans are eligible for (SSVF has certain rules about who's eligible for what).

5. Reach out to providers through state boards, societies, etc.

ii. What would you like to know, both professionally and personally?

iii. Include questions from conference discussion.

c. Who would like to help with this?

4. Explore reasons for decline in VFW and Legions with the younger Veterans

a. Reach out to Jen with any ideas on how to figure out why younger veterans are hesitant to join.

5. Volunteerism ideas



6. Lego Build Off Contest!

- a. Kids at Kingswood Youth Center are interested in this, trying to gauge interest levels. Let Jen know if you come across anyone that may be interested, could open it up to the whole state.
- b. How to get people interested?
 - i. Stephanie- Reach out to VFW, American Legion, Marines, etc.
 - ii. Reach out to the National Guard Prevention Specialist and/or the Family Program for active military and their kids, Justin will take a look. Idea to do youth/veteran teams.
- c. What partners you would like to see?
- d. When?

7. Military Culture training

- i. Interest in providing military culture training to providers- could include it with initial provider reach out and/or the survey.
- ii. Idea to provide trainings during professional development days with providers' affiliated hospitals- reach out to hospitals and ask when the best time would be to provide trainings and what topics are of interest (note that some providers may not know the importance of military culture training).
- iii. Stephanie- Noticed that a big stumbling block for medical and mental health professionals is lack of time. If CEs aren't included it makes it hard for providers to participate, but making content CE eligible is also difficult. So, recommends making the training as easy as possible- e.g. come into hospitals at lunch and provide quick and easy basic military training with no expectation of CEs.



1. Alexandra- QPR and NAMI trainings are approved for CEUs for National Association for Social Workers and LADAC (LADAC takes longer, should apply 6-8 weeks in advance).
 - iv. Alexandra- Training is an important component, have to ensure providers are on the same page about asking the question about self-harm and suicide.
 - v. Ann- Will look into where she has taken trainings to see if any offer military culture training and will reach out to Jen with info. Recommends that asynchronous online trainings are best for those in healthcare.
 - vi. Ideas for asynchronous online trainings:
 1. [TRAIN](#) offers free trainings, including a [military culture training](#)
 2. [Psycharmor](#)
 3. [Homebase](#)
 - vii. James- Dentists and hygienists have conferences and state societies where they could offer trainings/provide info. Reach out to the state organizations (dental board, hygienist society and assistants, nurses, associations for social workers, LADACs, etc.) Could also be a way to find providers in the area and they can share out info on their email lists.
 - viii. NHADACA used to do a military culture training- reach out to them on seeing if they're planning on doing another one?
 - ix. Also looking for local/in-person trainings
- b. Can include pieces of others
 - i. Lakes Region Veterans Coalition Military Culture training
 - c. What would we want to add?
 - d. Who would be the targets



- i. Providers, including civilian providers, healthcare and mental health care providers, dentists, and healthcare admin.
- e. How implement the training?
 - i. Asynchronous online trainings (good for people in healthcare) or in-person.

8. Ideas for new participants and partners to CCVC?

- a. Civilian medical providers, dentists/dental hygienists, and healthcare administrators

9. Activities

- a. PACT ACT Vet Fest on June 9, 9am-2pm in Manchester:
<https://www.va.gov/manchester-health-care/events/68299/>
- b. Starting to add to our website calendar-if have anything email me or use the link on the website: <https://www.carrollcountyveteranscoalition.org/events-1>
- c. TERRA Equine Therapy campaign



- i. TERRA Seen Through
Horses 2024 Donate f

d. Building Dreams For Marines

- i. www.bdfm.org



- ii. 2024 Green Photo
Golf Tournament Broc

e. The American Legion, Harriman-Hale Post 18 Veteran Relief Fundraiser



- i. Legion Post 18 Vet
Relief Event.pdf



10. Resources

a. Innate Therapeutic Services – Veteran focus



Innate Therapeutic
Services.pdf

i.

b. Veterans Count



Veterans Count.pdf

i.

c. Women Veterans



Women Veterans
Newsletter April 2024

i.

d. Home Base – Veteran and military family centric supports and resources

i. [Homepage | Home Base](#)

ii. Resiliency Program



Home Base

1. Resiliency Calendar O

e. State wide coalitions

i. **Lakes Region Veterans Coalition:** LRVC is a coalition formed under the VA's Together with Veterans program and is located in Gilford, NH.

1. Contact: Kurt Webber kwebber@camp-resilience.org
2. www.lrv.org

ii. **Stronger Together – Greater Nashua Veteran Suicide Prevention Coalition:** is a coalition for Veteran suicide prevention for the greater Nashua area. It is based out of Milford, NH at the Addiction Recovery Coalition of NH.



1. Contact: Gray Somers gsomers@arcnh.org
 2. [Stronger Together Veterans Coalition of New Hampshire | Addiction Recovery Coalition of New Hampshire \(arcnh.org\)](#)
 3. Next meeting: Last Monday of the month.
- iii. **Greater Manchester Veteran Suicide Prevention Coalition:** Hosted by ForgeVFR and Easter Seals.
1. Contact: Sean Kilbreth skilbreth@forgehealth.org
 2. Stephanie Higgs shiggs@eastersealsnh.org
- iv. **Granite Hope - Sullivan County Veteran Suicide Prevention Coalition:** Hosted by West Central Behavioral Health in Claremont. Meetings are usually virtual.
1. Contact: Bill Metcalfe wmetcalfe@wcbh.org
 2. [Granite Hope Veteran Coalition – West Central Behavioral Health \(wcbh.org\)](#)
 3. Next meeting: 3rd Wednesday of the month.
- v. **Seacoast Veteran Suicide Prevention Coalition:** Hosted by the Seacoast Public Health Network in Raymond, NH.
1. Samantha Areson sareson@seacoastphn.org
 2. [Seacoast Veterans Coalition - Seacoast Public Health Network \(seacoastphn.org\)](#)
- vi. **Carroll County Veterans Coalition:** Hosted by Carroll County Coalition for Public Health in Ossipee, NH.
1. Contact: Jen Thomas jennifer.thomas@graniteuw.org
 2. [Home | CCVC \(carrollcountyveteranscoalition.org\)](#)
 3. Next meeting: 4th Tuesday, 10 AM hybrid.
- vii. **Capitol Area Veteran Suicide Prevention Coalition:** Hosted by the Capitol Area Public Health Network in Concord.
1. Contact: Ashley Sullivan ashley.sullivan@graniteuw.org; Vanessa Healy Vanessa.Healy@graniteuw.org; Cailynn Aumock Cailynn.Aumock@graniteuw.org



viii. **Central New Hampshire Coalition:** Hosted by Central New Hampshire CADY Inc. in Plymouth, NH.

1. Contact: Elizabeth Brochu ebrochu@cadyinc.org

11. Thank you!

a. Next Meeting

i. June 25th 1000