

KC-FEB Veterans Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2021 – 1:30 PM (Thursday)
Location – Webex

ITEM	<u>DISCUSSION</u>	<u>ACTION/ASSIGNMENT/</u> <u>POC</u> If/As Applicable																											
Opening / Introductions		Michael Unden																											
Attendees	<p><u>Via webex</u></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">1. Michael Unden (Vice-Chairperson)</td> <td style="width: 33%;">7. Arian Gilyot</td> <td style="width: 33%;">16. Michele Parsons (guest speaker)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Faith Bell</td> <td>8. Jonathan Grant</td> <td>17. Ann Puck</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Michael Bonds</td> <td>9. Emery Harriger</td> <td>18. Dean Scott</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Jonni Christian</td> <td>10. Tabitha Hayes</td> <td>19. Karen Sorenson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5. Alan Edmonds</td> <td>11. Larry Hisle</td> <td>20. Vanessa Thomson (scribe)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6. Kelly England (guest speaker)</td> <td>12. Dennis Johnson</td> <td>21. Trent Williams</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>13. Sheryl Liddle</td> <td>22. Kena Zumalt</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>14. Kelly McDaniel</td> <td>23. Mickey ?</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>15. John Montalto</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	1. Michael Unden (Vice-Chairperson)	7. Arian Gilyot	16. Michele Parsons (guest speaker)	2. Faith Bell	8. Jonathan Grant	17. Ann Puck	3. Michael Bonds	9. Emery Harriger	18. Dean Scott	4. Jonni Christian	10. Tabitha Hayes	19. Karen Sorenson	5. Alan Edmonds	11. Larry Hisle	20. Vanessa Thomson (scribe)	6. Kelly England (guest speaker)	12. Dennis Johnson	21. Trent Williams		13. Sheryl Liddle	22. Kena Zumalt		14. Kelly McDaniel	23. Mickey ?		15. John Montalto		N/A
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<p>Kelly England, Michele Parsons, and Kelly England</p> <p>LCSW BCD, Veteran's Justice Outreach Coordinators at Kansas City VA Medical Center</p>	<p>A justice-involved veteran has had frequent, crisis contact with local law enforcement; is in a local jail, for brief periods of time, for offenses that do not result in prison time; or is being monitored by the local court system.</p> <p>The aim of the Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO) program is to avoid the unnecessary criminalization of mental illness and extended incarceration among Veterans by ensuring that eligible, justice-involved Veterans have timely access to Veterans Health Administration (VHA) services, as clinically indicated.</p> <p>Nationally, VJO specialists have served more than 200,000 justice-involved Veterans since 2010. They have four primary functions: to outreach to law enforcement, jail outreach, veteran's treatment court liaison, and legal clinics.</p> <p>Law enforcement officer's go through a 40-hour Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) program where they learn what to do after identifying someone is a veteran. Most programs participation is an average of 12-18 months. They have legal partnerships with Legal Aid, Veteran Volunteer Attorney Warrant Relief Project, and Military Matters, but VJOs cannot provide legal assistance.</p> <p>Dennis Johnson is a mentor coordinator and VJO is always looking for more veteran mentors.</p>	<p>https://www.va.gov/homeless/vjo.asp</p> <p>https://www.kansascity.va.gov/services/caregiver/ResourceFairResources/VeteransJusticeOutreach_Brochure.pdf</p>																											

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PROGRAM COORDINATOR REPORTS		
a. Discounts & Events	Not present.	Michael Ciliege
b. Veteran Benefits	No update.	Jeff Winters/Alan Edmonds
c. Stand Down - http://kcstanddown.org/	Both the Spring and Fall Stand Down events were cancelled. As of now, there is no Spring Stand Down event scheduled and any future events will depend on the status of the COVID virus.	Dennis Johnson (Providers) (816) 510-9802 DKJ@POBox.com
d. Women Veterans	No update.	Jonni Christian
e. Guest Speaker	No update.	Dean Scott
Open Discussion		
Karen with Military OneSource	MilTax preparation and e-filing software is available January 19 through mid-October. A new tool Military OneSource has available is the new My MilLife Guide. When you sign up, you will receive targeted text messages four times per week during the eight-week program. You can sign up now by texting the following keywords to GOV311 (468311): “MilLife SM” if you’re a service member or “MilLife Spouse” if you’re a military spouse.	https://www.militaryonesource.mil/
Michael Uden	The Fisher House is scheduled to open by July 2021.	
John Montalto	John is with the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). He has worked in New York and Minneapolis in mental health programs and is excited about a new one the CMS is beginning. He said they already have close to 50 participants and are doing work with substance abuse. They next meet on Feb 5, 2021 at 11am.	john.montalto1@cms.hhs.gov https://www.ruralcommunitytoolbox.org/sponsor/cms

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NEXT MEETINGS:	Feb 18, 2021 at 1:30pm. Teleconference Mar 18, 2021 at 1:30pm. Teleconference Apr 15, 2021 at 1:30pm. Teleconference May 20, 2021 at 1:30pm. Teleconference. Jun 17, 2021 at 1:30pm. Teleconference.	Jul 15, 2021 at 1:30pm. Teleconference. Aug 19, 2021 at 1:30pm. Teleconference. Sep 16, 2021 at 1:30pm. Teleconference. Oct 21, 2021 at 1:30pm. Teleconference. Nov 18, 2021 at 1:30pm. Teleconference. Dec 16, 2021 at 1:30pm. Teleconference.