



VETERANS ADVISORY BOARD 2022 WORK PLAN

Meeting Days, Time and Location: 2nd Wednesday of each month @ 1730; Location TBD
Advisory Board Staff: Rick Becker, rbecker@co.kitsap.wa.us, 360-337-4811
Advisory Board Chair: Peggy Roy

Advisory Board Purpose/Mission Statement: Advise the Board of County Commissioners on the needs of local indigent veterans, the resources available to help veterans and programs that could benefit the needs of local indigent veterans and their families.

2022 Goal	Status	2022 Priority Level	Comments/Coordination
TIER 1: HIGH PRIORITY			
1. Organize two Stand Downs in cooperation with Kitsap Area Veterans Alliance (KAVA)	Ongoing	High	Staff Coordinator, VAB members, and Kitsap Area Veterans Alliance
2. Process applications for temporary emergency assistance for Veterans and disburse funds through Kitsap Community Resources, Veterans Family Development Specialist	Ongoing	High	Staff Coordinator, Veteran Service Officers, community service providers, and Kitsap Community Resources
3. Housing-Identify barriers to affordable housing and research other housing opportunities.	Ongoing	High	Staff Coordinator and VAB members
4. Organize the Unforgotten, Run to Tahoma, Ceremony which receives the remains of unclaimed veterans from the County Coroner and delivers them to the Tahoma Veterans Cemetery for internment	Ongoing	High	Staff Coordinator, VAB members, and Kitsap Area Veterans Alliance. Required participation.
5. Update and revise Veteran Assistance Policy and Procedure	Ongoing	High	Staff Coordinator and VAB members
6. Provide and monitor NWJP legal contract providing civil legal services	Ongoing	High	Staff Coordinator and VAB members
7. Maintain outreach program for Veterans incarcerated in the Kitsap County Jail	Ongoing	High	KRC representative will visit jail once a week to provide services.
8. Establish VAB Committee for Women Veteran Issues to keep VAB updated and informed	Ongoing	High	VAB members and Staff Coordinator

2022 Goal	Status	2022 Priority Level	Comments/Coordination
9.VAB Women Resources maintain Women Veteran resource line. Hold two Woman's circles per year at the April and September Stand Downs.	Ongoing	High	VAB members and Staff Coordinator
10. VAB involved with Suicide Prevention committed established by County – have one VAB board member as representative -	Ongoing	High	VAB members and Staff Coordinator
11. Update of The Unforgotten – Run to Tahoma	Ongoing	High	Update of Run protocols Staff Coordinator & VAB members
12. Update to County Veterans Website	Ongoing	High	Staff Coordinator & VAB members
13. World Suicide Prevention Event	Ongoing	High	Develop program, budget, marketing, etc Staff Coordinator & VAB members
TIER 2: MODERATE PRIORITY			
1. VAB increase social media presence in 2022 to reach more veterans.	Ongoing	Moderate	Staff Coordinator and VAB Board member who is responsible for social media outreach
2. Increase outreach activities to both active duty and veterans.	Ongoing	Moderate	Staff Coordinator and VAB Members
3. Maintain presence at Veteran's Day and Military Appreciation Day events.	Ongoing	Moderate	Staff Coordinator and VAB Members
4. Increase Outreach for Veteran Garden including social media and newspapers	Ongoing	Moderate	VAB members and Staff Coordinator
5. Maintain Drug/Alcohol transition housing benefit administered by KCR	Ongoing	Moderate	VAB members and Staff Coordinator
6. Develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for Lead positions	Ongoing	Moderate	VAB members and Staff Coordinator
7. Investigate programs that can assist clients maintain custody of their pets.	Ongoing	Moderate	Frank Gibbons lead with VAB members and Staff Coordinator supporting.
TIER 3: LOW PRIORITY			
1. Monitor the status of state legislation that supports the efforts of the Veterans Assistance Program	Ongoing	Low	Monitor as needed
2. Maintain a close working relationship with VSOs and community service providers for the purpose of helping veterans complete the VAF application process	Ongoing	Low	Contact and collaborate as needed; Staff Coordinator will plan an annual meeting and training for VSOs and community service providers to discuss changes and updates regarding the VAF application process
3. Update VAB Manual	Ongoing	Low	Staff Coordinator and VAB Members

2022 Goal	Status	2022 Priority Level	Comments/Coordination
4. Solicit guest speakers for the VAB meetings to enhance, educate, and inform board members & community attendees on programs, services, and issues/concerns relevant to veterans	Ongoing	Low	Staff Coordinator and VAB Members
5. Hold VSO training and meetings.	Ongoing	Low	Staff Coordinator and VAB Members
6.			

GOALS ON HOLD

Goal	Status	2021 Priority	Comments
Support "Tiny Cottages" for veterans	Ongoing	Low	On hold – county reviewing project
Veterans Court support and monitor ongoing issues re: mentors	Ongoing	Moderate	On hold – court reviewing program

GOALS COMPLETED OR DELETED

Goal	Status	Year	Comments
Project Veterans Garden – Planning and starting	Completed	2016	Determine mission and vision; identify land tracts for a Veteran community garden.
Survey	Deleted	2016	UW Department of Social Work was cost and time prohibitive; however a county-wide collaborative effort through UW's veterans' programs may be an option in the future
Review of bylaws and Policies & Procedures	Completed	2019	
Completed two Stand Downs	Completed	2018	Over 200 veterans received services
Conducted The Unforgotten, Run to Tahoma	Completed	2019	
Participate in guest speaking engagements	Completed	2017	Elks Lodge; Veteran Service Organizations; Marine Corps League; MOAA; Rotary Clubs; Olympic College
Participate in community outreach & collaboration events	Completed	2017	Veterans Day event; KIRN; Kitsap Continuum of Care Coalition; Homes for All Who Served; Mayor's Challenge; Olympic College; Project Connect
VSO annual training and meeting	Completed	2016	
Event for Aging and Long Term Care for Veterans	Completed	2016	
Increase in Veterans' Assistance Fund	Completed	2016	At the request of the VAB, the Commissioners increased the percentage of property taxes that feed the VAF, equating to an additional \$42,000 in 2017
Secured a contract for legal services in 2018 for indigent veterans	Completed	2019	
Designed and disseminated a Kitsap County	Completed	2017	

"Veterans Community Resources" brochure			
Collaborated with multiple federal, state, county, and local community partners in achieving "functional zero" in veterans homelessness	Completed	2017	Collaboration will continue to secure dependable, safe, reliable permanent housing for veterans in need; reference Tier 1, #3.
Review and revise the Veterans Policy	Completed	2020	
Update of bylaws and Policies & Procedures	Completed	2020	Update of bylaws and Policies & Procedures to reflect policy changes
Update of The Unforgotten – Run to Tahoma	Completed	2019	Update of Run protocols
Establish VAP visits weekly to jail	Completed	2019	Established and funded program
New Veteran's memorial in Administration Building	Completed	2021	
Conducted The Unforgotten, Run to Tahoma	Completed	2021	
Updated Policy & Procedures Manual	Completed	2021	
Revision Date – 1/12/2022			