

Monthly Newsletter

February 2024



FEBRUARY SPOTLIGHT



Meet NVTAC's Outreach Coach

The National Veterans' Technical Assistance Center (NVTAC) is excited to introduce our new Outreach Coach: Miranda Moffat!

Purpose of the Outreach Coach

Miranda will work hand-in-hand with our Data Analyst, Folashade Orimogunje, to identify areas with homeless veterans not currently supported by an HVRP grantee.

Educate and Empower

The goal is to educate communities about HVRP and the vital resources the grant provides for homeless veterans and the organizations that serve them. In raising awareness, we aim to create a network of support that ensures every veteran in need receives the assistance they deserve.

Community Engagement

The Outreach Coach is available to present on HVRP! If your organization wants to know more about HVRP or is interested in becoming a grantee, reach out to collaborate.



Have questions, comments, or suggestions on Outreach?

Reach out to Miranda:

Email: Moffat.Miranda.M@dol.gov

Phone: +1 (734) 406-7525

RESOURCES



**National Veterans'
Training Institute**
a DOLVETS Program



The National Veterans' Training Institute (NVTI)-Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP) Journey Map

Are you an HVRP staff member interested in honing your skills but unsure how to begin? NVTI's HVRP Journey Map has you covered! The HVRP Journey Map recommends an ideal training path through NVTI for HVRP staff from your first days on the job into your second year. This HVRP Journey Map includes relevant NVTI microlearning, podcasts, courses, webinars, a community of practice, and more that are all aimed at helping you maintain and grow essential job competencies! Take a look at the [HVRP Journey Map](#) today to see how you can get started on your own personal development journey!



Quick Start Guide for Applicants

[Grants.gov](#) has published a new [Quick Start Guide for Applicants](#) as a step-by-step guide to help register and apply for grants using Grants.gov. You can learn more about registering with Grants.gov, completing grant application forms, submitting your application, and much more.



Safe Space for Female Veterans

WINC: For All Women Veterans, a Muskegon-based organization, is set to celebrate its 10th anniversary this year. The organization focuses on raising awareness about issues faced by women veterans nationwide and provides a secure space for engagement. Sequita Jackson, a board member since WINC's inception, emphasizes the organization's commitment to addressing the emotional, mental, physical, and spiritual needs of female veterans, offering a platform for them to express aspects of their identity that often go unnoticed. WINC aims to expand its presence nationwide, reinforcing the message that they have the backs of all women veterans.



Over 31,000 Veterans Signed Up for New U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Life Insurance Program in First Year

The VA's new guaranteed-acceptance life insurance program, VALife, issued over \$950 million in coverage to 31,400 veterans in its first year. Launched in January 2023, VALife provides up to \$40,000 of whole life insurance for veterans aged 80 or under with service-connected disabilities from 0-100 percent. It offers guaranteed acceptance in the program, and no medical underwriting is required. Unlike the VA's previous life insurance program, Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance (S-DVI), VALife has no time limit for application, no health requirements, and offers higher coverage. It has

competitive premium rates and allows veterans to switch from the old program. VALife enhances veterans' access to life insurance, providing peace of mind to veterans and their families nationwide.



Free Emergency Suicide Prevention Care to Nearly 50,000 Veterans and Former Service Members in First Year of New VA Policy

In the first year of the VA's new policy allowing eligible veterans and certain former service members in acute suicidal crises to access any VA or non-VA health care facility for no-cost emergency health care, 49,714 individuals have utilized this benefit, saving over \$64 million in health care costs. Designed to prevent veteran suicide, the policy ensures no-cost, world-class care during crises, covering emergency room care, inpatient or crisis residential care for up to 30 days, outpatient care for up to 90 days, and transportation costs. This initiative facilitates access to no-cost emergent suicide care for up to 9 million veterans, even those not enrolled in the VA system or visiting a department facility.

Staff Sergeant Parker Gordon Fox Suicide Prevention Grant Program

VA has published the Fiscal Year 2024 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Staff Sergeant Parker Gordon Fox Suicide Prevention Grant Program (SSG Fox SPGP). Congress has authorized \$174 million to be appropriated to carry out the SSG Fox SPGP, a three-year community-based grant program that provides resources to community organizations serving certain Veterans and their families across the country. Through this grant, organizations provide services including outreach to identify those at risk of suicide, education on suicide risk and prevention to families and communities, peer support, and more. SSG Fox SPGP honors Veteran Parker Gordon Fox, who joined the Army in 2014 and was a sniper instructor at the U.S. Army Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia. Known for a life of generosity and kindness to others in need, Fox died by suicide on July 21, 2020, at the age of 25.



VA Funds Studies on New Therapies for Treating Mental Health Conditions

The VA has released a request for applications (RFA) inviting proposals from its network of VA researchers, in collaboration with academic institutions, to study the use of psychedelic compounds such as 3,4-methylenedioxy methamphetamine (MDMA) and psilocybin in treating posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and depression. This marks the first time since the 1960s that the VA is funding research on these compounds. The initiative aims to gather definitive scientific evidence on the potential efficacy and safety of psychedelic compounds when used in conjunction with psychotherapy to treat veterans with PTSD and depression. The move is part of the VA's commitment to exploring innovative approaches to improve the health and quality of life for veterans, aligning with the Biden-Harris Administration's focus on veterans' well-being. Research on these compounds will be conducted under stringent safety protocols and regulatory approvals from the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

SUCCESS STORY



Do you have a success story you would like to share? If you are a grantee who helped a veteran who is struggling with housing or employment, we would love to hear from you at contact@nvtac.org.

