



VETERAN COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

VA-Community Collaboration in Veteran Access to Care Rounds (VCCAC)

October 16, 2019

Suzanne Buemi (Moderator)

Organization: Colorado Army National Guard Family Program and Joining Community Forces

Title: FAC Coordinator

Best Professional Contact: P: (720) 250-1186 Email: Suzanne.m.buemi.ctr@mail.mil

What your team does?

- I have worked for the Colorado Army National Guard Family Program office as the Family Assistance Coordinator for 13 years. I have been a part of the Joining Community Forces since 2005 and continue to see the success of the program grow with every year. The purpose between both programs is to take care of our military members and their families, through support from the community and non-profit organizations.

Jennifer Daly, LCSW

Organization: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; Eastern Colorado Health Care System

Title: HUD/VASH Housing Team Supervisor

Best Professional Contact: 303-522-7373 Email: Jennifer.daly2@va.gov

What your team does?

- The Housing Team is comprised of social workers, social work associates, and peer support specialist. We work with homeless veterans and their family/household from their point of contact to our homeless programs through to the securement of housing. We work with the community regularly in identifying properties for rent, agencies to assist with move in costs, and other non-VA resources our clients are eligible for. We are working with approximately 60 veterans at one time towards housing. This work includes crisis management, case management, risk assessments, and outreach.

John Kerr

Organization: Rocky Mountain Human Services Homes for All Veterans

Title: Outreach Specialist

Best professional contact: 720-218-5910

What your team does?

- HAV offers assistance with move-in costs toward long-term, stable housing to veterans who are eligible under the requirements of the Department of Veteran Affairs' SSVF (Supportive Services for Veterans and their Families) program. SSVF includes Rapid Rehousing and Homeless Prevention (for those already housed) assistance.
- My work is to meet veterans experiencing homelessness and find out if they are interested and qualify for our program. This brings me to day and night shelters, churches and community centers that offer free meals, veteran treatment courts, parks, streets and employment events.

Lauren Lapinski, LCSW

Organization: Community Resource & Referral Center-Veteran's Health Administration

Title: Coordinated Entry Specialist

Best professional contact: 720-951-8355 Email: lauren.lapinski@va.gov

What your team does?

- Provides outreach to homeless veterans in the Denver Metro Community, verifies eligibility for VA services, links veteran's to appropriate resources/referrals like GPD/HUD VASH/SSVF, etc. Provides case management to help find appropriate resources within and outside the VA to help veterans become stably housed in the community.

Ryan LeCompte MA, Ret. USMC

Organization: Colfax Community Network, Comitis Crisis Center, Adult Day Resource Center

Title: Director, Housing Support Team (HOST) Mission

Best professional contact: 720-859-7100 Email: rlecompte@mhbhc.org

What your team does?

- Ryan is currently the Director of Homeless Services in Aurora for Mile High Behavioral Healthcare. He directs and oversees upwards of 40 staff, ranging from housing case managers, to employment specialists that provide services to more than 300 homeless individuals every day. 1/3 of the homeless population are veterans.

Johnny Rolfes

Organization: Rocky Mountain Human Services Homes for All Veterans

Title: Veteran Support Specialist

Best professional contact: P: (720) 618-4571 F: 1-855-838-3299 Email: JRolfes@rmhumanservices.org

- HAV offers assistance with move-in costs toward long-term, stable housing to veterans who are eligible under the requirements of the Department of Veteran Affairs' SSVF (Supportive Services for Veterans and their Families) program. SSVF includes Rapid Rehousing and Homeless Prevention (for those already housed) assistance.
- As a VSS (case manager) it's my job to see what the best way is to assist Veterans with housing. While some veterans are fully self-sufficient and need very little case management, others are not as capable and need more involvement with case management. I assist with giving advice on possible ways to increase income, if section 8 housing or normal market rate housing would be a better fit, and where to start their housing search.

- I am US Navy veteran who served onboard the Battleship USS New Jersey. I was a Peacekeeper during the conflict in Beirut, Lebanon in '83-'84. I worked the Migrant Farmer population in North Florida for 13 years. I have been with RMHS for nearly 3.5 years.

Ellen L Schoonover, MSN, NP

Organization: Veterans Health Administration, Mental Health Service

Title: Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner

Best professional contact: Email: ellen.schoonover@va.gov

What your team does?

- The Mental Health Service provides comprehensive behavioral health services to any veteran who is eligible for VA health care.
- We offer both walk-in & scheduled access to care at a variety of sites, including the main hospital in Aurora and a number of satellite clinics.
- The access site we are highlighting today is the Community Resource & Referral Center/CRRC at 3836 York Street in Denver, where we provide access & treatment for homeless veterans, through both on-site visits & community outreach.

If you or someone you know is in need of support, please contact the Colorado Crisis and Support Line at 1-844-493-TALK (8255) or text "TALK" to 38255 or go to www.coloradocrisiservices.org to access chat.

There are many ways for Veterans to make health care appointments.

- To apply for VA health care benefits: <https://www.vets.gov/health-care/eligibility/>
- **For Firms A, B and C primary care clinics:** If you wish to leave a message for the provider, call the facility at (303) 399-8020 or (888) 336-8262 and press 3.

Thank you for joining us for the VA-Community Access to Care Rounds. To participate in the future, please join Colorado Veteran Community Partnership by contacting: Courtney.Bauers@va.gov