

News Release

For Immediate Release

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West Palm Beach VA Recognized by Delray Beach Community Center and Police Crisis Intervention

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. – The West Palm Beach VA Healthcare System (WPBVAHCS) has recently been distinguished for its impactful partnership across the Delray Beach Community, including Greenacres Palm Beach, Jupiter Vet Center, and the West Palm Beach Sheriff’s Office, focusing on Veteran and police crisis intervention. This initiative aims to enhance understanding and positive interactions between police and Veterans through specialized training on Veteran-related issues.



Caption: Andrew Barriclow, Veteran Persian Gulf, OEF; Kenneth Dempsey, Veteran VN, OEF/OIF, and Charlie Black, Veteran.

This dynamic partnership has proven effective as evidence shows an increase in positive encounters between police and Veterans and a decrease in the number of adverse incidents in interactions between the local Veteran community and the participating police departments.

Kenneth Dempsey, WPBVAHCS Veterans Crisis Intervention Team Coordinator, highlights the initiative’s success as he witnesses the fostering community transformation. He says, “You can feel it. It’s measurable because we see a decrease in violent confrontations between police and Veterans in our community.”

This acclaim from the Health Administration Program salutes the commitment and innovative approaches of all stakeholders, emphasizing the role of such collaborations in advancing best practices within the VA healthcare system, benefitting Veterans and their families.

For more information, contact the West Palm Beach VA Healthcare System Public Affairs Office at 561-422-8607.

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