

Communications and Outreach Workgroup Notes – October 21, 2015

Thank you again for your contributions during yesterday's TCCVS Communications and Outreach Workgroup meeting. Please see below for your subgroup draft topics and assignments. If you were unable to attend the October 21st meeting and would like to be added to a subgroup please email me and let me know!

Also, I've added key notes from the conversation topics over the past two meetings. If there is anything I missed that you'd like to add to a specific group please let me know and I'll coordinate its addition. Otherwise, if there is anything amiss, needs correction, or is unclear please feel free to contact me and let me know! Thanks again.

Group #1

Ellen Pate, champion
Bonnie Fletcher
Elliott Sprehe

Draft need - State agencies should create an expanded system to function as the point of contact for Veterans/other state agencies to access services.

Notes from discussion.

- a. Building out the current system to include agencies that may/may not have Veteran services, but still have a point of contact within said agency to function as portal of access for Veterans.
- b. Building of singular database that serves as reference point for federal and state Veteran services. (see Ellen's email in thread below)
- c. Budget concerns?

Group #2

Jim Darwin, champion
Elaine Zavala
Paul Theobald

Draft need – All state services and resources for Veterans need to be coordinated with visibility increased through outreach measures to ensure maximum access to state information, benefits and programs.

Notes from discussion.

- a. Joint (multiagency) presentation that builds momentum and visibility for Veteran services provided via state agencies.
- b. Changes of language in statutes that redefine outreach.
- c. Tie in economic impact of Texas Veterans federal benefits (education/disability claims/etc.) as a reasonable cost for outreach efforts.
- d. Budget concerns?

Group #3

Perry Jeffries, champion
Paul Julio
Jaime Nicolleti

Draft need – Coordinated effort to provide Veteran information and literature via a Veteran Service Orientation Guide/Starter Package to disseminate to community entities (faith-based, NPO's, etc.).

Notes from discussion

- a. Starting points? Surveys, NPO registration agency, faith based/community organizations?
- b. What should be included in the package? Cards, rank structure, pamphlets, 252-#?
- c. DPS training to include Veteran App use?