

**Kings County
Military and Veterans Coalition
February 14, 2023 - 2pm PST**

Microsoft Teams Meeting Agenda

**Meeting ID: 266 004 589 548 Passcode: d3WSa9
Join on your computer, mobile app or room device**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)

+1 323-433-2320,,839169384# United States, Los Angeles

Phone Conference ID: 839 169 384#

Introductions

Previous Items

- **Veterans Service Office Status – M-F, 8am – 5pm**
 - **Lobby Hours:**
 - **M/W - 8:30 am -11:30 am and T/Th - 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm; All other times are for appointments**
 - Certain questions may be answered by support staff, without having to speak with a VSR. Feel free to call anytime to ask for assistance. The Kings County Veterans Service Office can still complete the DMV Veteran Status Verification Form (VSD-001) for the Veteran Designation on your California driver's license/ID Card. We are no longer issuing the locally-generated Veteran I.D. cards.
- **Kings County Veterans Support Group– (See Attached)**

Guest Presenter:

**Jorge L. Altamirano, Veterans Outreach Program Specialist,
Fresno Veterans Center**

New Items

- **AL Post 3 St. Patrick's Dinner – (See Attached)**
- **Vets in Suicidal Crisis – (See Attached)**
- **VA Grant Funding – (See Attached)**
- **Cup of Joe/Conversation with Veterans (Corcoran) – (See Attached)**

Round Table –

Next Meeting – March 14, 2023 – Location: Zoom Meeting



Kings County Veteran's Support Group

It's our turn to serve those who serve on our behalf!



Veteran's Support Group

Meets the 2nd & 4th Tuesday
of the month via Zoom & in person

Time: 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

For Zoom link/meeting info call (559) 852-2444

Seating is limited, so please call to reserve your seat.



Due to the nature of the group, we can only allow
adults to participate.



460 Kings County Drive Suite 101
Hanford, CA 93230



VOLUNTEER TODAY

INTERESTED IN ASSISTING A TRANSITIONING SERVICE MEMBER?

Join our team of ETS Sponsors and have a significant impact upon a transitioning Service Member and their family.



CERTIFY

Enroll online by visiting our website at <https://etssponsorship.com/>. Complete the necessary certification training.



CONNECT

You will be matched with a transitioning Service Member.



SUPPORT

Assist your sponsored Service Member with identified goals as they transition to the community.

UPCOMING TRAINING

In-Person and Virtual
Options to Attend

Thursday
January 26, 2023
9:00 AM-3:00 PM

VetStarts
301 S Center St
Arlington, TX 76010

REGISTER HERE



<https://ETSSPJan26.eventbrite.com>

ETS-SP CONTACT:

Danielle Bracco
danielle@etssponsorship.com

TRAINING CONTACT:

Vanessa Hentz
Vanessa.Hentz@va.gov

TRAINING PROVIDED BY:



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
VISN 2 MIRECC & VISN 17 Center of Excellence
Transitioning Servicemember/Veteran
And Suicide Prevention Center (TASC)



American Legion Family



St. Patrick's Dinner
Saturday, March 11, 2023

6 pm

(Take out available at 5 pm)

Veterans Memorial Building

401 North Irwin, Hanford

\$15 for Adults \$8 Children (10 and under)

Corned Beef, Cabbage, Carrots, Roll and Dessert

Famous Green deviled eggs too!

Reservation must be made by March 8th at 559-583-1169

or email : amlegion.hfdpost3@gmail.com

Raffle will be held





U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

News Release

Office of Public Affairs
Media Relations

Washington, DC 20420
(202) 461-7600
www.va.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Jan. 13, 2023

Starting Jan. 17, Veterans in suicidal crisis can go to any VA or non-VA health care facility for free emergency health care

WASHINGTON – Starting Jan. 17, Veterans in acute suicidal crisis will be able to go to any VA or non-VA health care facility for emergency health care at no cost – including inpatient or crisis residential care for up to 30 days and outpatient care for up to 90 days. Veterans do not need to be enrolled in the VA system to use this benefit.

This expansion of care will help prevent Veteran suicide by guaranteeing no cost, world-class care to Veterans in times of crisis. It will also increase access to acute suicide care for up to 9 million Veterans who are not currently enrolled in VA.

Preventing Veteran suicide is VA’s top clinical priority and a top priority of the Biden-Harris Administration. This effort is a key part of VA’s 10-year [National Strategy for Preventing Veteran Suicide](#) and the Biden-Harris administration’s plan for [Reducing Military and Veteran Suicide](#). In September, VA released the [2022 National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report](#), which showed that Veteran suicides decreased in 2020 for the second year in a row, and that fewer Veterans died by suicide in 2020 than in any year since 2006.

“Veterans in suicidal crisis can now receive the free, world-class emergency health care they deserve – no matter where they need it, when they need it, or whether they’re enrolled in VA care,” said **VA Secretary for Veterans Affairs Denis McDonough**. “This expansion of care will save Veterans’ lives, and there’s nothing more important than that.”

VA has submitted an [interim final rule](#) to the federal register to establish this authority

[under section 201 of the Veterans Comprehensive Prevention, Access to Care, and Treatment \(COMPACT\) Act of 2020](#). The final policy, which takes effect on Jan. 17, will allow VA to:

- Provide, pay for, or reimburse for treatment of eligible individuals’ emergency suicide care, transportation costs, and follow-up care at a VA or non-VA facility for up to 30 days of inpatient care and 90 days of outpatient care.
- Make appropriate referrals for care following the period of emergency suicide care.
- Determine eligibility for other VA services and benefits.
- Refer eligible individuals for appropriate VA programs and benefits following the period of emergency suicide care.

Eligible individuals, regardless of VA enrollment status, are:

- Veterans who were discharged or released from active duty after more than 24 months of active service under conditions other than dishonorable.
- Former members of the armed forces, including reserve service members, who served more than 100 days under a combat exclusion or in support of a contingency operation either directly or by operating an unmanned aerial vehicle from another location who were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.
- Former members of the armed forces who were the victim of a physical assault of a sexual nature, a battery of a sexual nature, or sexual harassment while serving in the armed forces.

Over the past year, VA has announced or continued several additional efforts to end Veteran suicide, including [establishing 988 \(then press 1\) as a way for Veterans to quickly connect with caring, qualified crisis support 24/7](#); proposing a new rule that would [reduce or eliminate copayments](#) for Veterans at risk of suicide; conducting an ongoing public outreach effort on [firearm suicide prevention and lethal means safety](#); and leveraging a [national Veteran suicide prevention awareness campaign, “Don’t Wait. Reach Out.”](#)

###

Reporters covering this issue can download [VA’s Safe Messaging Best Practices fact sheet](#) or visit ReportingOnSuicide.org for important guidance on how to communicate about suicide.

If you’re a Veteran in crisis or concerned about one, contact the Veterans Crisis Line to receive 24/7 confidential support. You don’t have to be enrolled in VA benefits or health care to connect. To reach responders, Dial 988 then Press 1, chat online at VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat, or text 838255.

VAU.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

News Release

Office of Public Affairs
Media RelationsWashington, DC 20420
(202) 461-7600
www.va.govFOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Feb. 2, 2023

VA offers \$30M in grant funding to assist formerly homeless Veterans

WASHINGTON — As a part of ongoing efforts to prevent and end Veteran homelessness, the Department of Veterans Affairs is announcing \$30 million in grant funding for organizations to help formerly homeless Veterans maintain their independence and housing stability.

This funding opportunity will give organizations the funding they need to hire case managers, who will help Veterans search for, obtain, and successfully transition to permanent housing; troubleshoot challenges and barriers to maintaining permanent housing; connect with services to address issues such as poor credit history, rent arrears, and legal issues; and more.

VA anticipates awarding 100 Case Management Grants for up to \$300,000 each to support approximately 150 case manager positions nationwide. Awards will fund two years of operations, starting on Oct. 1, 2023, and ending Sept. 30, 2025. The funds are available through VA's [Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program](#).

Ending Veteran homelessness is a top priority of VA and the entire Biden Administration. The number of Veterans experiencing homelessness has fallen by 11% since early 2020 and 55.3% since 2010. Additionally, during 2022, VA placed more than 40,000 homeless Veterans into permanent housing — exceeding VA's goal by more than 6%. In late 2022, the Biden Administration released [All In: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness](#) which lays out the goal of reducing homelessness for all Americans by 25% by 2025.

“For many Veterans experiencing homelessness, moving into permanent housing is the first step toward the stability and independence they deserve,” said **VA Secretary Denis McDonough**. “But our work doesn't stop there — these case managers help ensure that once Veterans become housed, they get the resources they need to stay housed.”

VA's efforts to combat Veteran homelessness are grounded in reaching out to homeless Veterans, understanding their unique needs, and addressing them. These efforts are built upon the evidence-based “Housing First” approach, which prioritizes getting a Veteran into housing, then provides the Veteran with the wraparound support they need to stay housed — including health care, job training, legal and education assistance and more.

Eligible entities, as described in the Notice of Funding Opportunity, may apply for these Case Management Grants. Grant applications must be received by the GPD Program Office by 4 p.m. ET on Thursday, May 4, 2023. View the [NOFO](#) and [learn more about GPD](#) or email GPDGrants@va.gov.

If you are a Veteran or know a Veteran who is experiencing homelessness or at risk for homelessness, call the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at 877-4AID-VET (877-424-3838). Visit the [VA Homeless Programs website](#) to learn about housing initiatives and other programs for Veterans exiting homelessness.

###