

Northeast Central Judicial District



Veterans Treatment Court Mentor Program Handbook

"..To care for him who shall have borne the battle..." Abraham Lincoln

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them." John F. Kennedy

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"Veteran Accountability Leading to Ongoing Recovery"

Northeast Central Judicial District Courthouse Veterans Treatment Court 124 S 4th St Grand Forks, North Dakota 58201

Honorable Donald Hager
Presiding Judge, Veterans Treatment Court
Samuel Gereszek, Defense Attorney
Frank Skidmore, Veterans Treatment Court Mentor Coordinator
Rachel Marsolek, Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist
Kim Higgs, Veterans Treatment Court Coordinator

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Mission Statement

The mission of the Northeast Central Judicial District's Veterans Treatment Court is to promote recovery, stability, and accountability for veterans involved in the justice system through supervision and service-oriented mentorship; therefore improving public safety and civic contribution to the citizens and State of North Dakota.

Veterans Treatment Court Coordination Act - 2019

Veterans Treatment Courts are a successful program aimed at helping veterans charged with non-violent crimes receive help and benefits to which veterans are entitled.

Introduction

The Northeast Central Judicial District Court's, Grand Forks/Nelson County, Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) is specifically designed for veterans involved in the criminal justice system. The intention is to place these individuals into an intensive drug, alcohol, and/or mental health treatment program coupled with court intervention as an alternative to incarceration to help them return to a productive lifestyle.

Often, veterans are more comfortable interacting with other veterans with similar military experiences. One major component of the VTC has emerged as a vital tool for Veterans Treatment Courts around the country: volunteer veteran mentors.

A key component of any successful VTC is the Mentor Program. In this program, a trained veteran mentor is paired with a veteran participant to provide support as they navigate through the court and treatment. Mentors are not part of the VTC team and report to the mentor coordinator.

Normally, each participant in the VTC program is assigned a mentor when they become a participant in the court. However, a mentor may not be assigned if the participant expressly states they do not want a mentor or if the treatment team determines that a mentor is not necessary - this will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Mentors have been selected to demonstrate that the adjustments in becoming law-abiding civilians, after military service, are possible. Mentors can relate to and assist veterans with difficulties well after their transition journey begins. Having a stable living situation and having control over one's life significantly reduce the odds of severe violence and most other infractions of the law.

The role of the veteran mentor is to act as a coach, guide, role model, advocate, and support person for the individual veteran participants with whom they are working. Mentors understand the roles of other support team members and "fill the gap" to help keep the participants moving successfully toward completing the VTC program. The mentor is NOT a counselor and this is strictly enforced. Additionally, the mentor will be a "resource" to the veteran. Access to support services will help reduce the participant's stress that can be caused by distractions like housing or family needs, VA benefits, educational assistance, civil legal service, and the like.

Why a Veterans Court?

Some may wonder, why create a treatment court specific to veterans? Why not work with these individuals within the established drug and mental health treatment courts? There are many answers to this question; perhaps the most significant is that veterans are a niche population with unique needs. Service members have many shared experiences. Many of these experiences are not common among their non-military peers. Members of the military and veterans are a unique population, which calls for tailored care. Traditional community services may not be adequately suited to meet their needs. Service members and their families experience unique stressors as part of the military experience. Thus, the delivery of high-quality care for psychological and substance abuse health, including prevention, early intervention, and treatment, requires providers who are knowledgeable about and able to empathize with the military experience.

Veterans Treatment Court

	☐ Integrates alcohol, drug treatment, and mental health services with justice		
	system case processing		
☐ Use a non-adversarial approach where prosecution and defense counsel p			
_	public safety while protecting veteran participants' due process right		
u	Identify eligible participants early and begin the process of placing them in the		
	Veterans Treatment Court Program		
	Provide access to a continuum of alcohol, drug, mental health, and other related		
	treatment and rehabilitation services		
	Monitor abstinence through frequent alcohol and other drug testing		
	Respond to veteran participants' compliance through a coordinated strategy		
	Maintain essential, ongoing judicial interaction with each veteran		
	Measure achievement of program goals and gauge program effectiveness		
	through monitoring and program evaluation		
	Continue interdisciplinary education and promote effective Veterans Treatment		
	Court planning, implementation, and operations		
☐ Forge partnerships among the Veterans Treatment Court, Veterans			
	Administration, public agencies, and community-based organizations to		
	generate local support, and enhance Veterans Treatment Court effectiveness		
Goal	s		
	Volunteer veteran mentors help fellow veterans receive the services they need to		
	reach their full potential as productive members of society		
	Help them navigate the court system, treatment system, and the VA system		
	Assess their needs and help them adjust back to civilian life		

Role of the Veteran Mentor Coordinator

Veteran mentor coordinators ensure the efficient and successful operation of the mentor program in a Veterans Treatment Court. Mentor coordinators are volunteers and their main responsibilities are to recruit, screen, train, and manage volunteer mentors. Each of the responsibilities is explained in further detail below.

Requirements and Qualifications for Mentor Coordinators

wiento	or coordinators should:
	Be familiar with the Veterans Treatment Court
	Have strong leadership and organizational skills
	Be tolerant and respectful of individual differences
	Be able to devote time to the Veterans Treatment Court
	Be able to discuss aspects of recovery capital/management and therapeutic
	alliance with mentors
	See the policy and procedure manual for additional information

Responsibilities of Veteran Mentor Coordinator

Recruit

Recruiting new mentors is an important and often difficult process. In many courts, the coordinator has the primary responsibility for recruiting mentors, although all members of the VTC team and current mentors are encouraged to refer highly respected and reputable veterans to the mentor program. There is no one-size-fits-all approach to recruitment. Mentor coordinators may need to try a variety of different methods in a variety of different ways.

Coordinators will want to recruit a variety of different volunteers so that they can be matched as closely as possible with the participants who come into the program. This includes having volunteers from a variety of different branches, different service eras (particularly more recent eras), women veterans, justice-involved veterans, and veterans in recovery.

We strongly encourage those veterans who are justice-involved, those who are on their recovery path, or both, to apply because in many cases their life experiences are relatable to those currently participating in VTC. All decisions for prospective mentors who fall into those areas will be made on a case-by-case basis through an interview with the mentor and court coordinator.

Screen Applicants

The coordinator may also handle the application and screening process of potential mentors with guidance from the court team. Not all veterans will make an appropriate mentor and the screening process is used to assist in determining this at the

start. The screening should include an application, personal interview, background check, and review of DD-214 before the veteran is accepted into the mentor program. Veterans who have been justice-involved and are on their own recovery path will also interview with the court coordinator.

Many courts require or encourage potential mentors, especially those who may have no knowledge of the court proceedings or the judicial system, to observe VTC hearings before committing to being a mentor. Being a successful mentor requires more than going to court with their participant. There can be significant out-of-court demands on a mentor, for which they must be prepared and trained.

During the screening process, some veterans who qualify to become a mentor may want to be involved with the program but are not able to make the time commitment required of a mentor. These veterans may be utilized as volunteers to help recruit and spread the word about the program.

Each prospective mentor must complete a screening process. The decision to accept or deny an applicant will be made by the mentor coordinator. Feedback regarding a prospective mentor's denial may or may not be provided. The right to withhold or give feedback is solely at the discretion of the mentor coordinator.

See pages 26-28 of this manual for the application to assist in screening applicants.

Train

The mentor coordinator may also be responsible for coordinating training for new mentors and providing ongoing training as needed. The training may range from practical on-the-job observation and shadowing to formal classroom or online training sessions. The training should include, at a minimum, an overview of the VTC process and team members, confidentiality requirements, suicide prevention, and the expectations of the mentor. See pages 18-21 for examples of free, online training resources.

Match

It is the intent of the legislation that the assigned mentor should be as similar to the participant as possible in terms of age, gender, branch of service, military rank, and period of military service. The coordinator can use the information provided on the application to make the matches. Each court will need a pool of volunteers to call upon as new participants enter the program.

Matching Participants with Mentors from the Same Combat Era

Some jurisdictions have encountered difficulty recruiting mentors for specific combat eras. Michigan has a higher percentage of veterans from World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam era than the national average and a lower percentage of veterans from the Gulf Wars.

Normally, each participant in the VTC program is assigned a mentor when they become a participant in the court. However, a mentor may not be assigned if the participant expressly states they do not want a mentor or if the treatment team determines that a mentor is not necessary - this will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Manage

The mentor coordinator may be asked to manage the schedules of the mentors and act as a resource for both mentors and court staff. The management duties may include:

☐ Provide a schedule for all mentors with court dates, training dates, and any other important events. ☐ Act as a resource for the mentors by: o Accommodating conflicts in a veteran mentor's schedule. Collecting and reviewing mentor logs, completed by mentors, to monitor the nature of a participant's progress in the Veterans Treatment Court if required by the court o Placing mentors in touch with local accredited veteran service officers who can help appropriate veterans secure benefits from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. These trained officers can be found in local government offices and local service organizations such as: The American Legion, The Military Order of the Purple Heart, and Vietnam Veterans of America. See page 19 for a partial list of Veterans Service Organizations ☐ Work with the Veterans Treatment Court team to resolve issues and motivate participants through challenges o Mentors can bring concerns regarding a participant to the attention of their mentor coordinator. The mentor coordinator is then responsible for contacting the Veterans Treatment Court promptly to ensure that the participant receives appropriate support o If the mentor coordinator determines that a mentor is not adequately fulfilling their responsibilities, the coordinator must contact the VTC team in a reasonable and timely manner and remove the mentor from the program ☐ Maintain federal confidentiality standards ☐ Attend clinical and legal training programs supported or provided by the VTC ☐ To assist mentors in understanding the tenets of therapeutic alliance: establish rapport, build trust, provide an environment and relationship that promotes safety for the participant, embrace the goals of therapy, and collaborate in the

development and implementation of the participants' treatment plan and goals.

Recognizing the contributions of the mentors and thanking them for their service

Recruitment

This section provides examples, training, and other resources to help build a successful recruitment strategy.

There are a variety of different methods to recruit volunteer mentors, including online and in-person methods. There are also many different resources available online on how to recruit and retain volunteers, some of which are listed at the end of this section. They may not be specific to working with a VTC but still contain helpful information and ideas that can be utilized in any community. To get started, here are some basic questions to consider:

What methods of recruitment can be used? Options include brochures, websites,
emails, in-person briefs, radio spots, newspaper stories, and newsletter articles.
Where can the recruitment information be shared? What are the local Veterans
Service Organizations (see list at end of section)? Where are veterans likely to be
found?
What are specific ways/places to target specific groups like women and younger
veterans?

The Recruitment Message

No matter which recruitment method is used, it must have a compelling message. Explain why becoming a veteran mentor is worthy of someone's time. What is in it for them? Ask previous mentors what encouraged them to get involved and what they would like to share. Things to consider:

Ч	Make the message short, simple, and direct, communicating the need for the
	volunteer's service and the good he/she can do
	Stress the needs of the community for the service, but also point out the benefits
	the volunteer will receive. These include doing well, but there may be skills and
	valuable experience that the volunteer will gain
	Always include an "ask" in the messages and materials. Be direct and ask them
	to volunteer as a mentor in the VTC
	Use inclusive wording to include both male and female veterans. "Serving Our
	Sisters and Brothers" "He or she may be facing"
	Use inclusive images that include veterans of different age groups, genders, and
	skin colors. Change the images depending on the group of veterans most in need
	Include where people should go if they want more information. Have a central
	location, preferably with a website, where someone can go for more information.
	Post the application, brochure, and whatever other materials are created on the
	website. People will go looking for it and it should be readily available and easy
	to find
	Be clear that there is an application process and be upfront about what is

involved; not everyone will pass the screening process

☐ Describe the expected results. People volunteer because they want to make a difference or give back to the community. How does participating in the VTC make a difference?

Focus Areas for Recruitment

As noted above, the preference is that mentors and participants have the same military occupational specialty, branch of service, combat era, age, and gender. It can be very difficult to find mentors who are a perfect match for their participants for all these criteria.

Using an application form that captures demographic information related to the mentor's service is a good way to gather enough information to make successful matches and will assist in keeping a record of volunteers. This can capture their branch of service, rank, campaign, time served, and combat experience.

Also, consider asking successful VTC graduates to stay involved in the VTC. Past participants can make very good mentors after some time away from the program.

Younger Mentors

Mentor coordinators have expressed interest in recruiting veterans from the current wars to serve as mentors because they will have an innate connection to the younger participants. The primary difficulty in recruiting mentors from current wars is that many of them are trying to raise their families, hold down jobs, or finish their education, while also reintegrating into civilian life. The demands of daily living may make these younger potential mentors harder to find, but their successful re-acclimation makes them that much more valuable. If younger mentors are needed, use more techsavvy or online messaging to find them, with a focus on student veterans and National Guard or Reserve locations.

Female Mentors

With more women entering the military and being deployed overseas, returning female service members will be impacted by the same mental health and substance abuse issues as their male counterparts. Additionally, if a female participant has a history of Military Sexual Trauma (MST) and/or a history of physical or sexual abuse in civilian life, placing her with a male mentor could be detrimental to her successful completion of the VTC program.

Even when the court does not have any current female participants, the mentor coordinator should be actively recruiting female veterans to have a pool of prospective female mentors who are ready to serve.

Spreading the Word in Person

Go where the best candidates are most likely to be found. This means going to places where veterans congregate. Also, look at other organizations that utilize volunteers. If someone is already volunteering, they may be willing to volunteer for the VTC, too. Activities to assist in recruiting mentors include:

Have experienced mentors and/or VTC graduates told their personal stories -
What motivated them to get involved? What have they gotten out of it? Why
should others join?
Have probation officers and/or judges share their stories. How have veteran
mentors helped in the community? Why do they need more?
Capture these personal stories in writing to use in recruitment materials, to put
on the website, or for a local newspaper to write a feature article
Contact a local Veterans Service Organization (see Appendix I for a list) and ask
to speak at one of their meetings
Contact the regional coordinator of the Veterans Community Action Team (see
Appendix I for a list) and ask to speak at one of their meetings
Share information with local National Guard and Reserve units
Contact local corporations that have veteran resource groups, and request that
veteran employees volunteer with the VTC
Post flyers on community bulletin boards
Provide informational classes to local service and civic groups
Advertise in local newspapers
Continually seek out organizations/groups with veteran affiliations that would
allow a VTC team member to discuss the program at a regularly scheduled
meeting
Advertise VTCs and the need for mentors within the legal community (there is
still a low level of awareness of how and where VTCs operate)
the Student Veterans Organization, veteran network, or veteran resource center
at local colleges and universities. Ask to send out information or present it to the
student veterans to both share information about the VTCs and recruit
volunteers.

Spreading the Word Online

Online recruitment tools are a valuable alternative and complement to in-person recruitment efforts. Online resources can vary greatly depending on the resources available to the VTC.

Most city, county, and township governments have websites. Work with the website administrator to request a dedicated webpage for the VTC where the contact information and specifics of the court can be posted. Include eligibility criteria, applications, forms for participants and mentors, and veteran resources. Request a

dedicated webpage for mentors that can list court dates, training dates, resources, etc. Also, be sure to request a direct link on the homepage of the county city, or state.

Some city, county, and state governments also have Facebook or other social media accounts. With the approval of the court administrator, submit information for posting. Some sample posts could be:

Did you know that NE Central Judicial District/Grand Forks County has a
Veterans Treatment Court? This special court for veterans steers them toward
treatment, instead of incarceration.

☐ Are you a veteran looking to serve fellow veterans? Learn more about becoming a veteran mentor with the Veterans Treatment Court

Training and Volunteer Management Resources for Mentor Coordinators

There are several online resources that coordinators may find very useful, especially if they are new to the role:

- ☐ PsychArmor Institute has several free online courses for volunteers who work with veterans.
 - Volunteer Recruitment and Screening: https://psycharmor.org/courses/ recruiting-screening-engaging-volunteers/
 - Basics of Volunteer Management: https://psycharmor.org/courses/ basics-volunteer-management/
- ☐ The Corporation for National & Community Service and HandsOn Network has a Volunteer Management Guidebook that covers recruitment, scheduling, retention, and recognition of volunteers, available at HTTPS://s3.amazonaws.com/pol-website/media/uploaded-files/Volunteer%20Management %20Guidebook.pdf

See pages 27-29 for additional training resources that can be used by either coordinators or mentors.

Veteran Mentor Role Description

Ш	Mission: To ensure that every participating veteran receives the services they
	require by helping them navigate the system and act as a mentor, advocate, and
	ally
	Function: The role of the volunteer mentor is to act as a veteran advocate, be a
	resource when the veteran encounters life problems/issues, and be a support for
	the individual they are working with. The mentor is NOT a counselor, probation
	officer, or case manager
	Understand: The goals of Veterans Treatment Court incorporate the tenets of
	therapeutic alliance: establish rapport, build trust, provide an environment and

relationship that promotes safety for the participant, embrace the goals of

therapy, and collaborate in the development and implementation of the participants' treatment plan and goals. (Added on: 09/13/24) □ Values: using the acronym VALOR: ullet Veteran helping another to meet the demands of the court and civilian life Instill Accountability to assist in restoring integrity to the veteran • Leading to Ongoing Recovery by working as a team and showing honor in all you do **Veteran Mentor Requirements** ☐ Be an honorably discharged from the United States Armed Forces veteran: Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, or a corresponding branch of the Reserve or National Guard. Submit a valid DD214/NGB22, or DD215 or equivalent from another nation. May also be an active-duty military member ☐ Have a genuine concern for veterans in the legal system ☐ Be respectful of individual differences and maintain appropriate boundaries with participants ☐ Be in good standing with the law ☐ Adhere to all Northeast Central Judicial District VTC Policies and Procedures and the Mentor Handbook ☐ Complete mentor application forms ☐ Commit to program participation for (at least) six months and adhere to the policies and procedures set forth for the VTC program ☐ Complete any required initial and ongoing training procedures ☐ Attend team meetings as determined by the coordinator ☐ Not be an active employee of the court system, law enforcement, or member of any organization that may be deemed to present a conflict of interest with the mentor program **Veteran Mentor Desirable Qualities:** ☐ Be an active listener ☐ Be empathetic

☐ Be encouraging and supportive

☐ Be tolerant and respectful of individual differences

☐ Be somewhat knowledgeable of Veterans Affairs services

☐ Be somewhat knowledgeable of community resources and services

Expectations

The mentor is to act as a coach, guide, role model, advocate, and support for the veteran participants. The mentor encourages, guides, and supports the veteran participants as they progress through the court process. This includes:

	Observing and listening to the problems and concerns
	Making general suggestions
	Assisting the veteran to determine their needs, set goals and action plans
	Acting as a support for the veteran, especially during anxiety-provoking times
	Providing feedback to participants and highlighting their successes
Men	tors should:
	Attend training when encouraged to do so
	Attend court sessions when requested
	Participate in organized sessions with veterans as assigned by the mentor
	coordinator
	Discuss any ongoing problems facing the veteran participant, and act as an
_	advocate and ally in supporting and understanding these issues
	Inform the participant that you are obligated to notify the court that the
	participant is planning to commit a crime or harm themselves or others
Ц	At a minimum, have recommended contact with your participant is as follows:
	 Weekly via phone, ZOOM, (or other computer platforms) or if preferred face-to- face.
	 Exception: if weekly contact is not feasible due to cell/internet reception,
	geography, schedules, or ongoing appointments, work out a schedule that
	accommodates both.
	 Face-to-face contact is recommended at least once every two weeks with the same
	exception as noted above.
	o If circumstances or schedules conflict with those arranged days/times, be open to
П	rescheduling. Each meeting should build on the participant's previous conversations
_	Assist the participants as much as possible to facilitate and resolve concerns about the
	court and courtroom procedures
	Assist the participants on how to access and navigate the VA Affairs system and
	other support systems ensuring that every participating veteran receives the
	services they require and to which they are entitled
	Be supportive and work respectfully and professionally with other mentors
	Be dependable, consistent, accountable, responsive, timely, do follow-up, and be
	organized
	Maintain confidentiality and appropriate boundaries with participants
	Encourage participants by highlighting their strengths including talents, skills,
	and knowledge
u	Focus on what has been successful

- ☐ Encourage participants to believe they have the potential to learn, grow, change, and overcome their difficulties
- ☐ Set boundaries so that there are no questions related to the mentor-mentee relationship. Such as:
 - o Transportation to/from appointments or court
 - Be situationally aware
 - If providing transportation, keep your safety in mind and the consequences that could arise should you be pulled over by law enforcement
 - Phone calls for instance set a time for when you will not be available to call
 - Safety concerns
 - Respect
 - Privacy
 - Clear expectations between you and your mentee
 - Explain the difference between your role as a mentor and the role of a peer support specialist (persons who have the same lived experiences as a veteran and as a justice-involved veteran)
 - That if they divulge they are going to hurt themselves or others you are required to report it, but be willing to guide them to help.

While meeting with participants, mentors <u>must never</u>:

Make clinical recommendations
Give legal advice
Provide psychotherapy
Push their political ideologies on the participant
Utilize a stern approach
Inappropriately extend the boundaries of their relationship
Promise better outcomes than can be reasonably expected
Push their values, beliefs, or lifestyle on the participant
Exploit the participant or the relationship for agency or personal advantage

Training

Training is crucial and necessary for mentors and initial training is especially crucial for prospective mentors. All mentors are expected to attend various training sessions arranged by the mentor coordinator.

Assignments

If you consider becoming a volunteer veteran mentor, you will be asked to commit to working with your participant, attend court sessions when requested, and be available for mentor training sessions. Veterans Treatment Courts have been proven

extremely successful and your involvement as a mentor only adds to the court's ability to turn the life of a veteran around and assist them to once again become a productive member of our society.

The mentor coordinator will assign a mentor to a veteran. As appropriate, the mentor coordinator may consult the VTC team concerning the assignment of, or need to assign, a mentor. Additionally, the mentor coordinator will take into consideration the request of the mentor or veteran participant.

Confidentiality

Confidentiality is an essential piece of successful mentoring. Veteran participants must know that their testimony and their sessions with a mentor are confidential communications.

If a veteran participant discloses information that they are planning to commit a crime or take action to harm themselves or others, the mentor will strongly encourage the veteran to disclose the same information to the court. If the participant does not want to disclose the information to the court, the mentor is required to disclose the information to the mentor coordinator immediately.

Shared Decision-Making and Conflict Resolution Process

The treatment court team shares common visions and goals as well as resources, authority, and responsibility for team actions. There is collective ownership of the team's success and challenges. The team will strive for consensus or the "collective agreement" of the group, keeping in mind that a high degree of variation is still possible among team members and recognizing the unique role of public defenders. Genuine consensus typically requires more focus on developing the relationships among team members so that they work together to achieve agreements. Consensus is not a democratic vote. Team members continue talking and listening until an understanding has been reached. Each team member agrees to follow up on team decisions with actions, as needed. If there are instances in which a consensus cannot be reached and a decision is required, the judge will make the final decision. (Added 09/16/24)

Mentor Coordinator and Mentors Participate In and Practice Motivational Interviewing

Practices active listening
Asks open-ended questions which can lead to mutual understanding between
the team members, mentors, and the participant,
Is open-minded, expresses empathy, remains calm and supportive, focuses on
conduct not traits,
Avoids stigmatizing language
Explains decisions
Expresses a therapeutic motive – assuring the participant that the team believes
the person can get better and is optimistic about their future

Funding

The VTC mentoring program's 501(c)(3) nonprofit used to facilitate the receipt of public and private grants is handled through coordination between the North Dakota Association of Drug Court Professionals and the VTC's court coordinator through a separate line item on the 501(c)(3). When able, assist in identifying possible funding opportunities and disseminate information about the VTC to local businesses and service organizations. It is recommended to keep the nonprofit organization completely separate from court operations and personnel.

It is important to keep in mind that judges and court staff must adhere to ethical canons regarding fundraising.

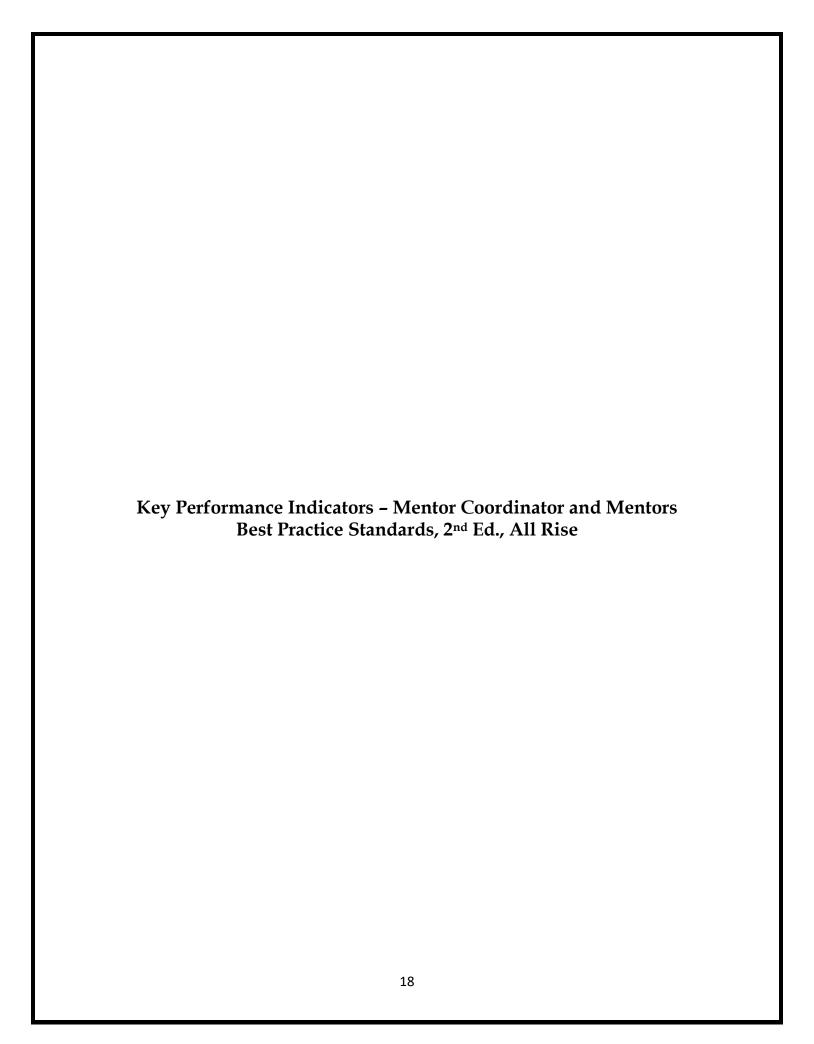
Evaluation

No matter the program, it is always a good idea to ensure it is doing well and to see what improvements can be made. One way to do this is through evaluation. Mentor coordinators can request feedback from both mentors and participants. It is important to consider their feedback and discuss any possible changes with the VTC team. See 34 for template feedback forms for mentors. The evaluation form for participants can be found in the participant manual.

Unacceptable Behavior

Unacceptable behaviors will not be tolerated while a mentor is participating in the program.

Behaviors that are not aligned with the mission, vision, goals, and values of the Northeast Central Judicial District VTC are unacceptable and prohibited during court proceedings and mentoring sessions. This policy also governs interactions that a mentor and the participating veteran may have outside the court. Unacceptable behavior by a mentor may result in termination from the mentor program.



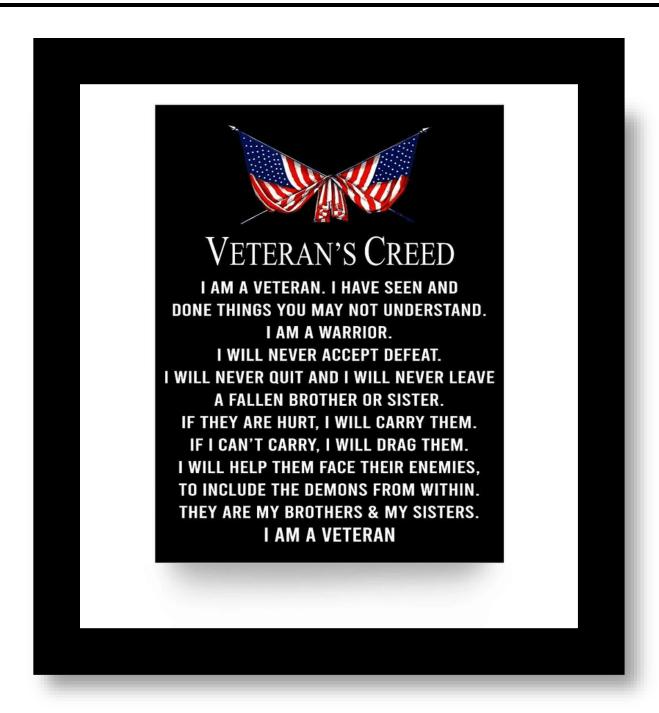
Key Performance Indicator – Mentor Coordinator

Variable	KPI	Benchmark	Comments
Court sessions	Attend court staffing and sessions	≥ 1 time per month as schedule allows	
Contact with mentors	Encouraging, guiding, and supporting the mentors through networking, gatherings, and reaching out related to the mentor's participant when issues arise	≥ 2 times per month	
Understand the psychosocial and/or therapeutic alliances needed between mentor and participant	Encourage mentors to register for training that helps with understanding substance use disorders, traumatic brain injury, military sexual trauma, and the psychology of addiction and recovery		
Recruitment	Give presentations to service organizations, or other groups that request presentation related to VTC. Screen prospective mentors to insure they met requirements Develop methods for recruitment and the recruitment message		

Train	Using shadowing or on-	
114111	the-job training for new	
	mentors; give overview	
	of VTC process and team	
	members, confidentiality	
	requirements, suicide	
	prevention, and the	
	expectations of the	
	mentor	

Key Performance Indicator - Mentors

Variable	KPI	Benchmark	Comments
Court sessions	As requested; not part of the pre-staffing function of the court	≥ 1 time per month as schedule allows	
Contact with participant	Encouraging, guiding, and supporting the participants as they progress through the court process	≥ 2 times per month; preferable is once per week	Face-to-face unless circumstances such as scheduling conflicts that interfere, and geographic location distances or ongoing appointments Via cell phone unless contact isn't feasible due to cell/internet reception
Develop psychosocial and/or therapeutic alliance	Participate in organized sessions with participants as assigned or requested by the program's mentor coordinator Build on previous conversations with participants to establish rapport and to help (as much as possible) facilitate and resolve concerns about the court and courtroom procedures Assist participant with determining their needs, goals and action plans Resist the "fix-it" urge; allow participant to determine course of action		
Training webinars	Encouraged to register for training that help with understanding substance use disorders, traumatic brain injury, military sexual trauma, and the psychology of addiction and recovery.		



This is a free-use source image located through a Google search.

Ten Key Components of Veterans Treatment Courts

The Northeast Central Judicial District's Veterans Treatment Court adopted with slight modifications the essential tenements of the Ten Key Components as described in the U.S. Department of Justice Publication entitled "Defining Drug Courts: The Key Components", (Jan.1997). Brief descriptions of these modifications are listed in the ten key components that follow this introduction. Although there are differences between drug courts, mental health courts, and the Veterans Treatment Court, the Key Components provide the foundation in format and content for the Essential Elements of each of these courts.

Key Component #1:

Veterans Treatment Court integrates alcohol, drug treatment, and mental health services with justice system case processing

Veterans Treatment Court promotes sobriety, recovery, and stability through a coordinated response to veterans' dependency on alcohol, drugs, and/or management of their mental illness. Realization of these goals requires a team approach. This approach includes the cooperation and collaboration of the traditional partners found in drug treatment courts and mental health treatment courts with the addition of the Veteran Administration Health Care Network, veterans and veterans family support organizations, and veteran volunteer mentors.

Key Component #2:

Using a non-adversarial approach, prosecution and defense counsel promote public safety while protecting participants' due process rights

To facilitate the veterans' progress in treatment, the prosecutor and defense counsel shed their traditional adversarial courtroom relationship and worked together as a team. Once a veteran is accepted into the treatment court program, the team's focus is on the veteran's recovery and law-abiding behavior—not on the merits of the pending case.

Key Component #3:

Eligible participants are identified early and promptly placed in the Veterans Treatment Court program

Early identification of veterans entering the criminal justice system is an integral part of the process of placement in the Veterans Treatment Court program. An arrest can be a traumatic event in a person's life. It creates an immediate crisis and can compel recognition of inappropriate behavior into the open, making denial by the veteran of the need for treatment difficult.

Key Component #4:

Veterans Treatment Court provides access to a continuum of alcohol, drug, mental health, and other related treatment and rehabilitation services

While primarily concerned with criminal activity, substance abuse, and mental illness, the Veterans Treatment Court team also considers co-occurring problems such as primary medical problems, transmittable diseases, homelessness; basic educational deficits, unemployment, and poor job preparation; spouse and family troubles — especially domestic violence — and the ongoing effects of wartime trauma.

Veteran peer mentors are essential to the Veterans Treatment Court team. Ongoing veteran peer mentors' interaction with the Veterans Treatment Court participants is essential. Their active, supportive relationship, maintained throughout treatment, increases the likelihood that a veteran will remain in treatment and improves the chances for sobriety and law-abiding behavior.

Key Component #5:

Abstinence is monitored by frequent alcohol and other drug testing

Frequent court-ordered substance abuse testing is essential. An accurate testing program is the most objective and efficient way to establish a framework for accountability and to gauge each participant's progress.

Key Component #6:

A coordinated strategy governs Veterans Treatment Court responses to participants' compliance

A veteran's progress through the treatment court experience is measured by his or her compliance with the treatment regimen. Veterans Treatment Court rewards cooperation as well as response to noncompliance. Veterans Treatment Court establishes a coordinated strategy, including a continuum of graduated responses, to continuing drug use and other non-compliant behavior.

Key Component #7:

Ongoing judicial interaction with each Veteran is essential

The judge is the leader of the Veterans Treatment Court team. This active, supervising relationship, maintained throughout treatment, increases the likelihood that a veteran will remain in treatment and improves the chances for sobriety and lawabiding behavior. Ongoing judicial supervision also communicates to veterans that someone in authority cares about them and is closely watching what they do.

Key Component #8:

Monitoring and evaluation measure the achievement of program goals and gauge effectiveness

Management and monitoring systems provide timely and accurate information about program progress. Program monitoring provides oversight and periodic measurements of the program's performance against its stated goals and objectives. Information and conclusions developed from periodic monitoring reports, process evaluation activities, and longitudinal evaluation studies may be used to modify the program.

Key Component #9:

Continuing interdisciplinary education promotes effective Veterans Treatment Court planning, implementation, and operations

All Veterans Treatment Court team members should be involved in education and training. Interdisciplinary education exposes criminal justice officials to veteran treatment issues, and Veteran Administration, veteran volunteer mentors, and treatment VTC team members to criminal justice issues. It also develops a shared understanding of the values, goals, and operating procedures of the veteran administration, treatment, and the justice system components.

Education and training programs help maintain a high level of professionalism, provide a forum for solidifying relationships among criminal justice, Veteran Administration, veteran volunteer mentors, and treatment personnel, and promote a spirit of commitment and collaboration.

Key Component #10:

Forging partnerships among Veterans Treatment Court, Veterans Administration, public agencies, and community-based organizations generate local support and enhance Veterans Treatment Court effectiveness.

Because of its unique position in the criminal justice system, Veterans Treatment Court is well suited to develop coalitions among private community-based organizations, public criminal justice agencies, the Veteran Administration, veterans and veterans families support organizations, and AOD and mental health treatment delivery systems. Forming such coalitions expands the continuum of services available to Veterans Treatment Court participants and informs the community about Veterans Treatment Court concepts. The Veterans Treatment Court fosters system wide involvement through its commitment to share responsibility and participation of program partners.

The Northeast Central Judicial District's Veterans Treatment Court integrates alcohol, drug treatment, and mental health services with justice system case processing. Using a non-adversarial approach, prosecution and defense counsel promote public safety while protecting participants' due process rights and need for treatment.

Eligible participants are identified early and promptly placed in the program. They are provided access to a continuum of alcohol, drug, and other related treatment and rehabilitation services. Abstinence is monitored by frequent alcohol and drug testing and a coordinated strategy governs responses to participant compliance.

Ongoing judicial interaction with each participant is essential. Monitoring and evaluation measure the achievement of the program's goals and gauge overall effectiveness. Continuing interdisciplinary education promotes effective treatment court planning, implementation, and operations. Forging partnerships among courts, public agencies, and community-based organizations generates local support and enhances the Veterans Treatment Court's effectiveness.

Resources

There is a long list of agencies that may provide specific assistance to your veteran. Recognize that the Grand Forks County Veterans Affairs office, located at 151 S 4th St, sixth floor (632), Grand Forks, may be the primary source of information and assistance. Available assistance may be provided by Federal, State, County, local governmental, and non-governmental agencies.

Rachel Marsolek who is the Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator (Fargo VA) and Lou Lombardi, Coordinator, Veteran Service Officer (Grand Forks) are the main resources to connect your veteran to the VA Healthcare System. Their contact information is below:

Rachel Marsolek. Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator, Fargo, ND:
rachel.marsolek@va.gov
Lou Lombardi. Veterans Service Officer, Grand Forks County:
lou.lombardi@gfcounty.org
Kim Higgs, Coordinator, Veterans Treatment Court - Northeast Central Judicial
District: khiggs@ndcourts.gov

In addition to the resources noted below, additional resources can be located in the policy and procedures manual and the participant's manual.

Veterans Treatment Court Information

- □ Buffalo Veterans Treatment Court: Buffalo Veteran Mentor Group
 http://buffaloveteranstreatmentcourt.org/
 □ Justice for Vets
 - https://allrise.org/about/division/justice-for-vets/

☐ National Treatment Court Resource Center (formerly National Drug Court Resource Center): o https://ntcrc.org/ ☐ Veterans Justice Outreach Program o https://www.va.gov/homeless/vjo.asp#contacts Veteran Service Organizations ☐ DAV (Disabled American Veterans) o https://www.dav.org/ o Find Your Local Office: https://www.dav.org/veterans/find-your-localoffice/ ☐ Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA) o https://iava.org/ ☐ Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) o https://www.vfw.org/ o Find a Post: https://www.vfw.org/find- a-post ☐ National Association for Black Veterans o www.nabvets.org ☐ American Legion o www.legion.org ☐ Vietnam Veterans of America o www.vva.org **Suicide Prevention** All mentors must know the risk factors for suicide and what to do if someone shares thoughts of suicide with them. There are many different pieces of training available online and in person. ☐ Veterans Crisis Line https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/ o The Veterans Crisis Line (988, Press 1) is a confidential support line available every day, 24/7. The line is available for all veterans, service members, and their families and friends. ☐ American Foundation for Suicide Prevention- Talk Saves Lives o https://afsp.org/our-work/education/ talk-saves-lives-introductionsuicide- prevention/ ☐ #BeThere for Veterans and Service Members o https://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/suicide_prevention/ ☐ Mental Health First Aid Training https://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org/ ☐ Talking With a Veteran in Crisis (Handout), also included on the next page. o https://www.va.gov/ve/docs/ talkingWithVeteranInCrisisHandout.pdf

Training Resources: Free Online Training Options

PyschArmor Institute https://pyscharmor.org/

☐ Advanced De-escalation Techniques for Volunteers

PsychArmor Institute provides free online education and support to all Americans who work with, live with, or care for military service members, veterans, and their families. All users need to register to access the training, but there is no cost involved. There is an entire section that includes courses for volunteers and nonprofits that support veterans. Some courses that may be helpful to include in the mentor training are:

☐ Helping Others Hold On (Suicide Prevention)
☐ Invisible Wounds of War: Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Traumatic Brain
Injury, Substance Use Disorder, Depression
S.A.V.E. (Suicide Prevention) λ Setting Volunteer Boundaries
☐ Trauma-Informed Interactions with Veterans
Treatment Courts Online https://treatmentcourts.org/
Treatment Courts Online was developed by the Center for Court Innovation to share resources with the justice field about treatment courts. Courses are free, but registration is required.
☐ Confidentiality: 42 CFR and HIPAA
☐ Mental Illness, Traumatic Brain Injury, and Substance Abuse 16
 The videos in this lesson are designed to teach the neurobiology of trauma and understand post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and traumatic brain injury (TBI).
☐ Role of the VHA Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist
☐ Trauma-Informed Care – Strategies for the Clinician Working with the Veteran
Population
☐ Veterans Health Administration

Justice for Vets https://allrise.org/about/division/justice-for-vets/

Justice for Vets is a division of All Rise which was founded as the National Association of Drug Court Professionals and provides training and technical assistance to help communities bring together local, state, and federal resources to directly serve veterans involved in the justice system due to mental health disorders, trauma, and substance use.

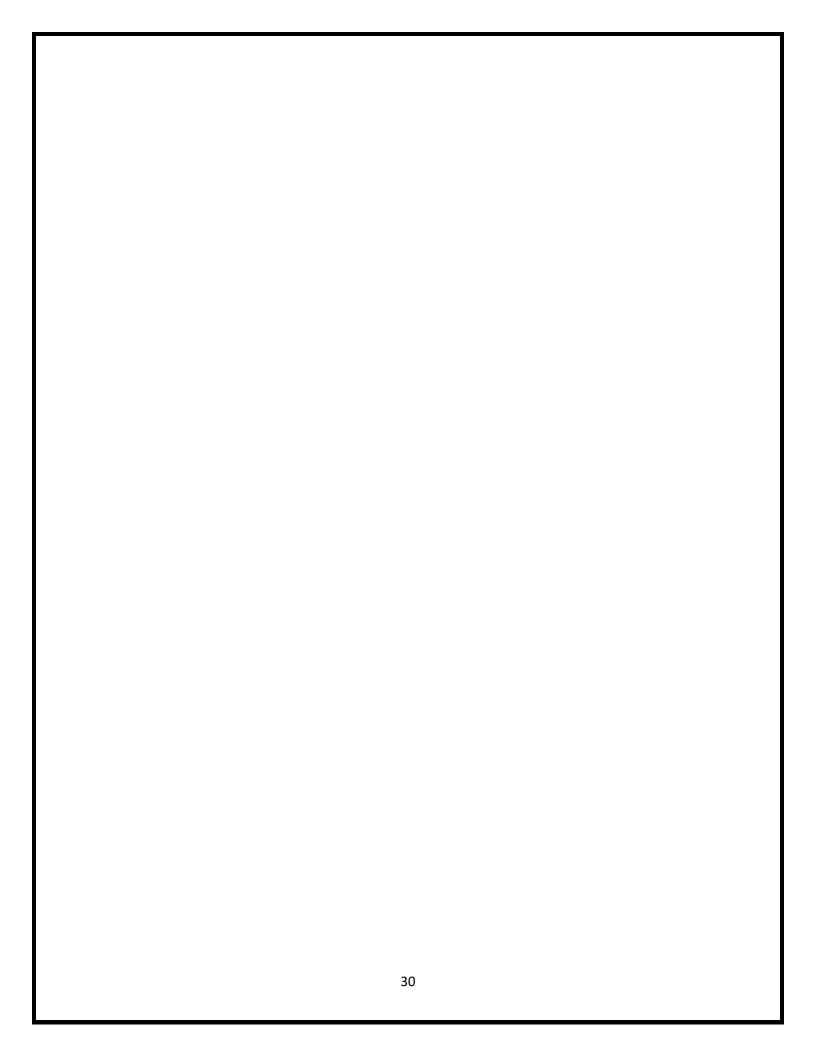
□ Volunteer Veteran Mentors: Recruit – Train – Maintain: https://allrise.org/trainings/veteran-mentor-online-courses/

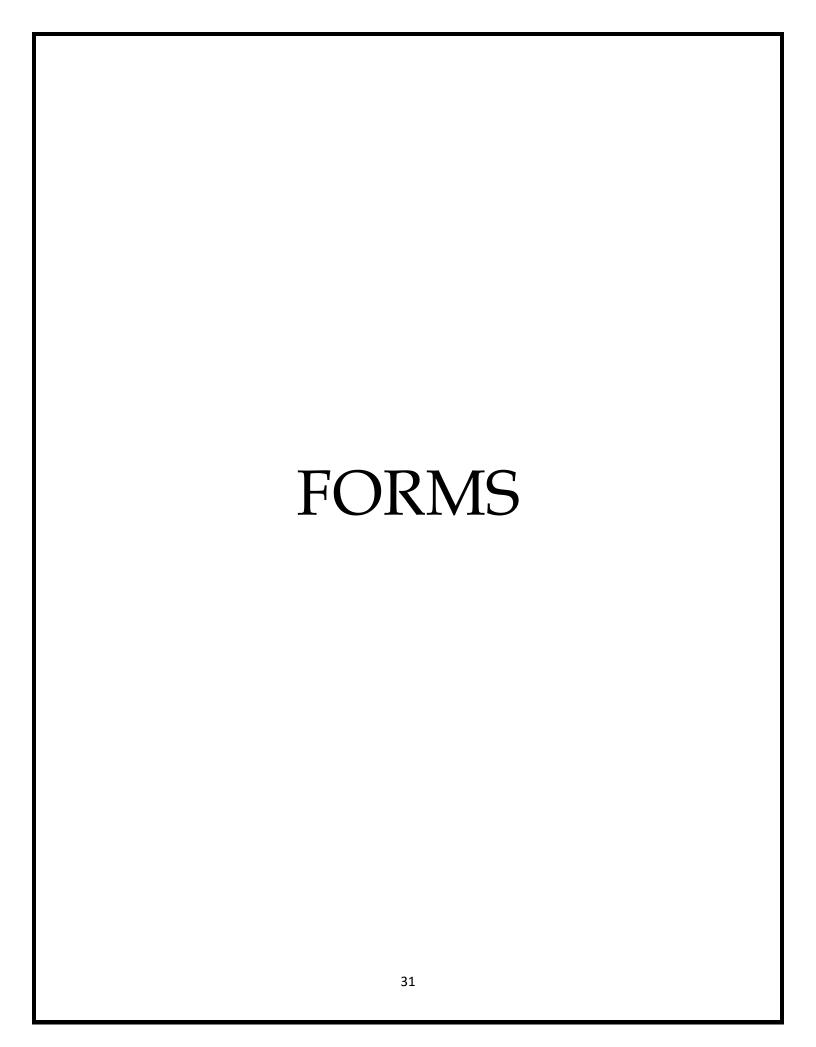
Transportation

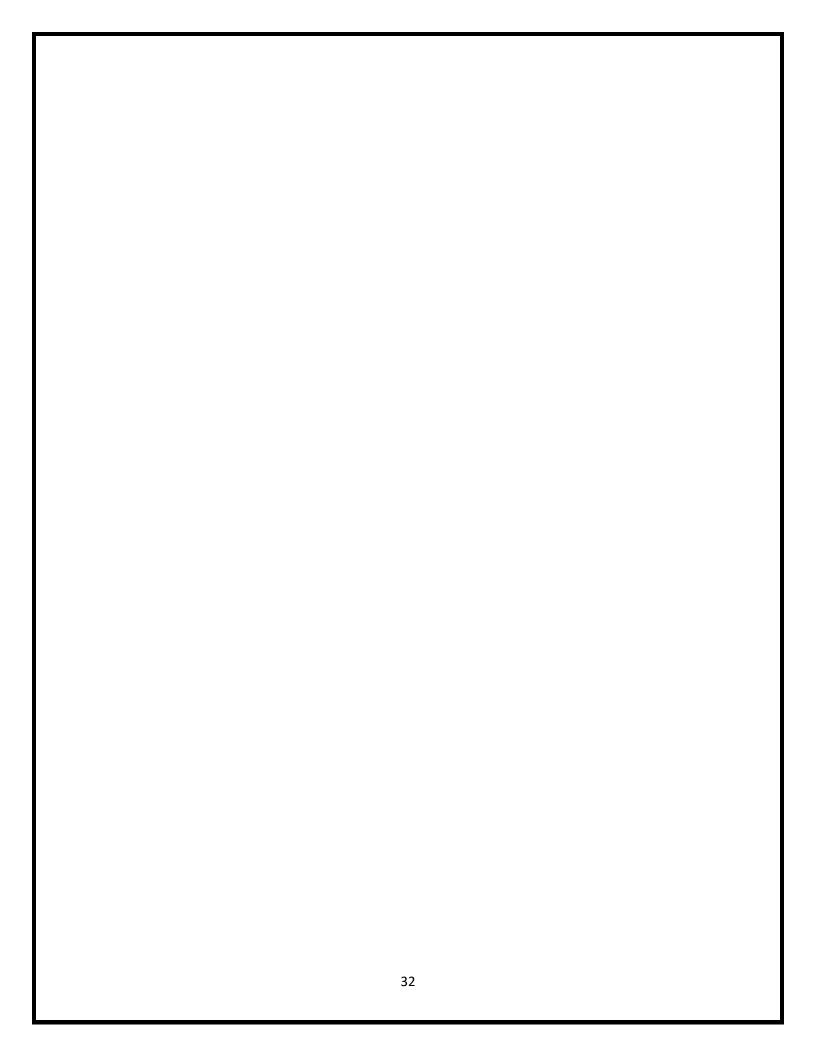
Access to transportation can be difficult for some VTC participants. Lack of public transportation, loss of driving privileges, and limited funding to pay for transportation can all be an issue for the veteran participant. Depending on resources, some courts may be able to provide bus fares or gas cards to offset these expenses for participants. See: https://www.veterans.nd.gov/benefits-and-services/transportation/grand-forks-county-transportation Some Veterans Service Organizations, such as the DAV (Disabled American Veterans), may be able to provide some transportation services for veterans who also have a disability.

Conclusion

No matter the conflict in which a veteran served, they may face a variety of challenges after their time in uniform. Some of those challenges may result in a veteran being involved in the criminal justice system. VTCs are a specialized judicial process that recognizes the unique circumstances of our veterans. The practice and experience of VTCs have demonstrated that the mentor program greatly assists participants in the successful completion of the VTC program. This manual is to assist in diverting veterans from the traditional justice system and give them treatment and tools for rehabilitation and readjustment.







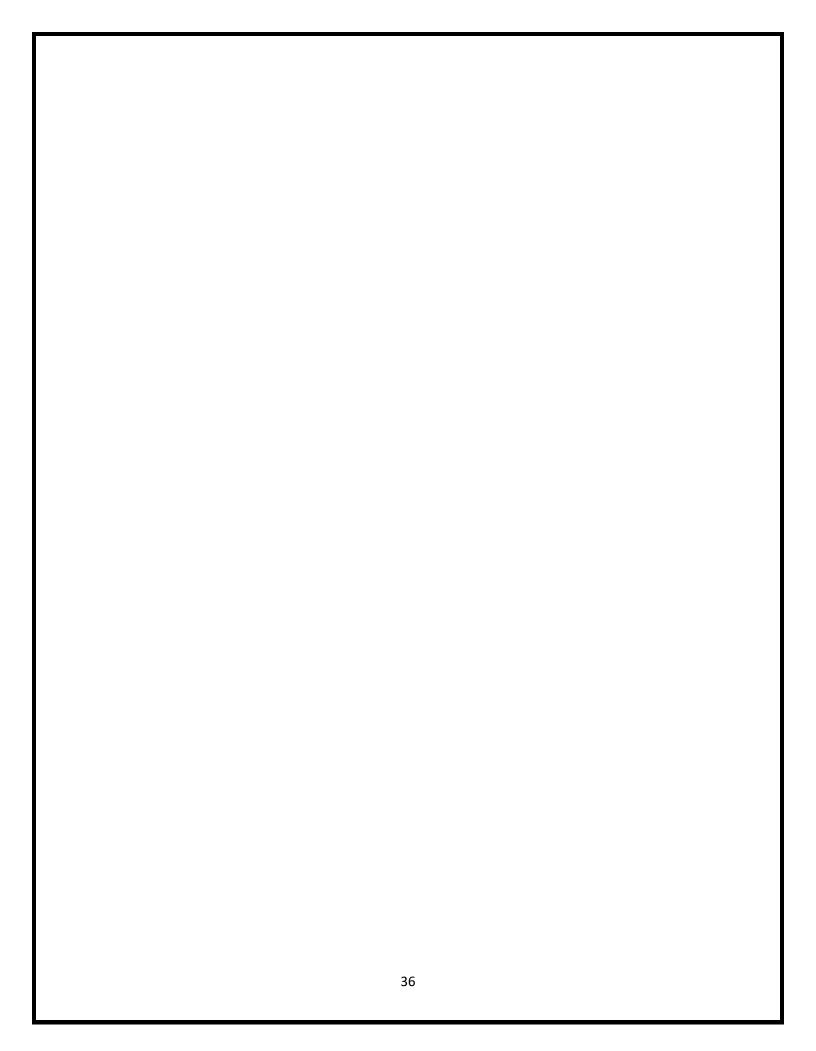
Volunteer Mentor Application Form

Name:	Email:	
Address:	City:	Zip:
Phone (day):	Phone (evening):	
Why do you want to be a Veteran	Mentor?	
What characteristics or qualities do for this program?	o you possess that would make y	you a good mentor
Have you ever been arrested? If so	o, explain.	
Do you drink alcohol? If so, how o	often do you drink? How much d	lo you drink?
Have you ever been addicted to de	rugs of any kind? If so, please ex	plain.
Are you in recovery from drugs as	nd/or alcohol?	
Do you currently, or have you eve (PTSD)?	r, suffered from Post-Traumatic	Stress Disorder
Have you ever had thoughts of sel	f-harm or suicide?	
What might other people say abou	nt you if asked about your charac	eter?
Past Volunteer Experiences (include	de organization/agency, position	n, and supervisor):

Employment (include most recent company, and position):
What are your hobbies, interests, and skills?
References: Please give the names, addresses, and phone/email of three non-family members who can provide references on your ability to perform this volunteer position.
1,
2
3
Branch of Service: (check one): □ Army □ Navy □ Marines □ Air Force □ Space Force □ Reserve □ Coast Guard □ Air National Guard □ Army National Guard
Dates of Service: From to
Type of Discharge: Retired? Yes \(\Bar{\sigma} \) No \(\Bar{\sigma} \)
Did you serve in a combat zone? Yes / No. If yes, which zone (s)?
Your primary position in the service?
Mentee Preference: Male or Female
Branch preference: Yes/No: If yes, branch:

Northeast Central Judicial District Veterans Treatment Court Mentor Agreement

I	agree to the following to be a mentor in the
Veter	ans Treatment Court of the Northeast Central Judicial District
	I will adhere to the Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) policies and procedures
	I commit to participation for a minimum of six months year
	I will participate in mentor training provided by the VTC
	I will have contact with the veteran at least every two weeks via phone contact
	and at least monthly for face-to-face meetings.
	I will strictly avoid any drug use, sexual activities, or any other unlawful
	activities with the veteran
	I hereby allow the VTC to perform a check of my background, including criminal
	records, volunteer experience, military service, and personal references
	I will respect the veteran's privacy. I will not discuss his/her name, address,
	background, family relationships, or the nature of his/her problems outside of
	what is required for the VTC. I understand that confidentiality continues even if
	cease to be a volunteer
	I will respect and preserve the confidentiality of information given to me by the
	veteran unless the veteran discloses an intent to harm any person, including self,
	or engage in unlawful activity. If I learn of such information, I will immediately
	notify the VTC mentor coordinator.
<u> </u>	
Signa	ture Date

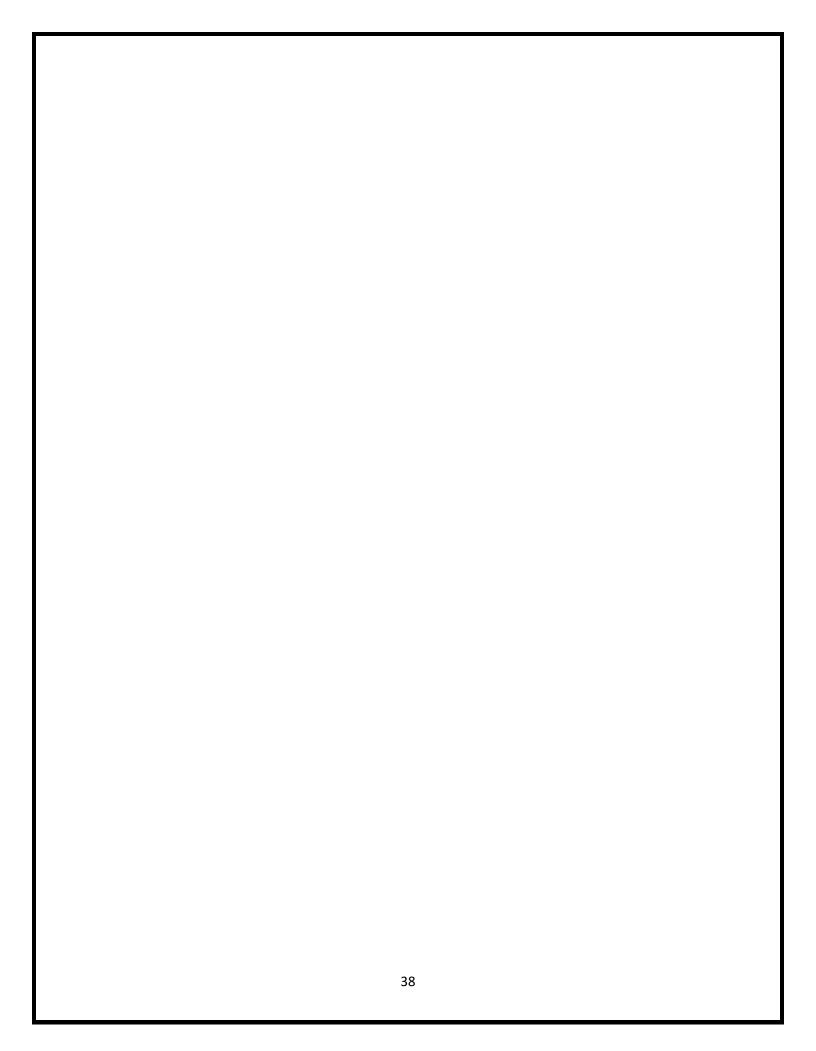


Background Check Authorization

Please read this form carefully and sign in the space provided below. Your written authorization is required for the completion of the application process to serve as a **Veteran Mentor**.

I hereby authorize the Northeast Central Judicial District Veterans Treatment Court and the Department of Veterans Affairs to investigate my background to evaluate my qualifications for the volunteer position of Veterans Treatment Court mentor for the Northeast Judicial District Court. I hereby consent to a criminal background check and release of any information and/or records held by any public agency, a branch of the military, law enforcement office, business, employer, or other institution to evaluate my character and fitness for this volunteer position. I understand that I may withhold my consent and that in such a case, the application process is terminated and an investigation will not take place.

Print Full Name			Date	
Date of birth: M/DD/YY	SSAN		or DOD ID #	
States of previous residence:				
Signature of Applicant:				
Please include a copy of your DD214/Napplication.	NGB22 or DD21	15 (discharge	e document), with your	
Please send this application and agreen Treatment Court, Grand Forks County)1

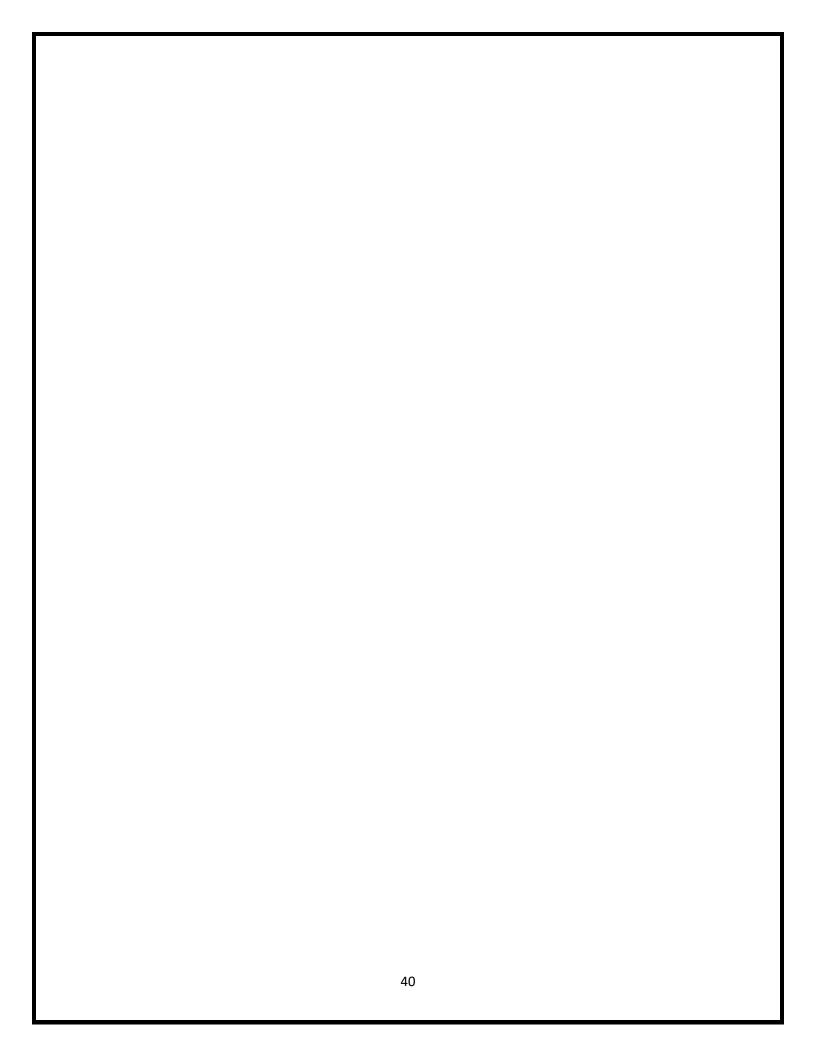


Northeast Central Judicial District

Veterans Treatment Court

Release of Information

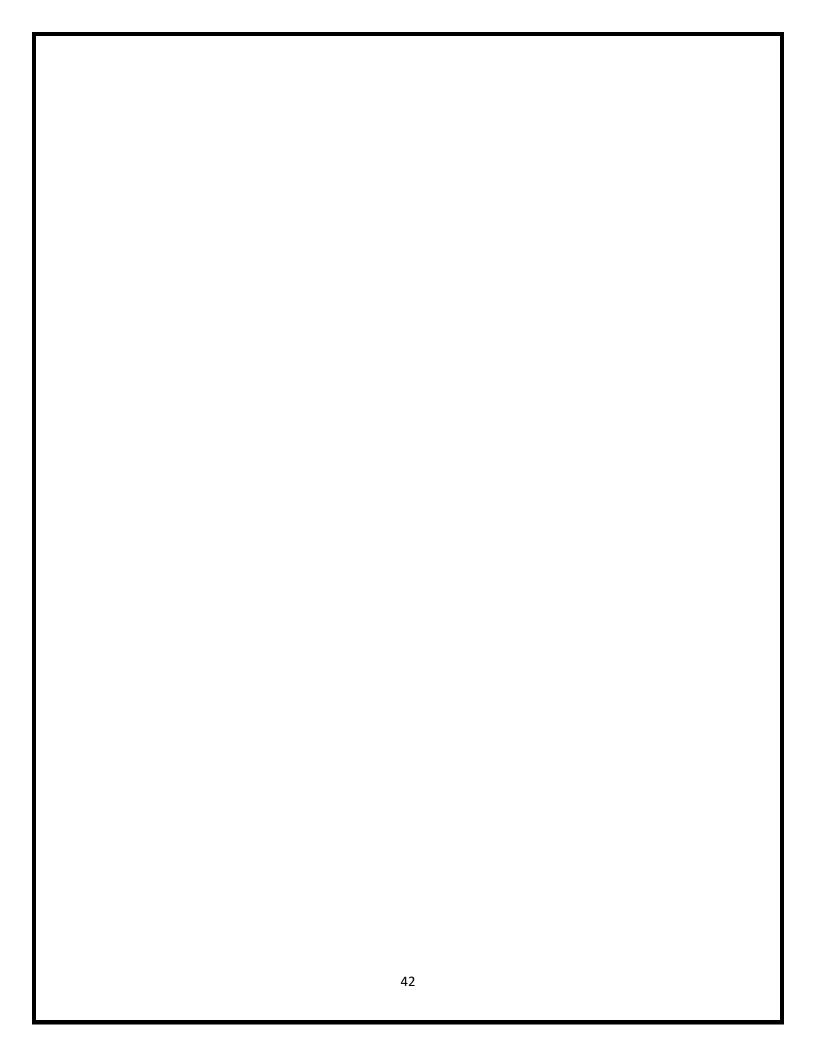
This is consent for the release of information regarding:				
Social Security #D	Date of Birth			
I authorizethe following specific information:	to release or obtain (Circle one)			
This information may be used only for the purpo				
I understand I have the right to see this informat revoke this consent in writing to both the person receiving information. Any information already consent. I understand the requested or provided involving Grand Forks County Veterans Treatme	tion at any time. I understand that I can a/agency giving and the person/agency released may be used as stated in the information is needed for purposes			
This consent is valid until:				
This consent is not automatically renewable. It experied specified unless revoked in writing sooned I have read this release or it has been read to me,	er. By my signature below, I affirm that			
Participant's Signature:				
Date:				
Consent Witnessed By:				



Mentor Feedback Form:

Thank you for your time and commitment to the VTC. Please complete this form to provide feedback to the court. The information you give us will be used to shape the program going forward and your input is important. Thank you.

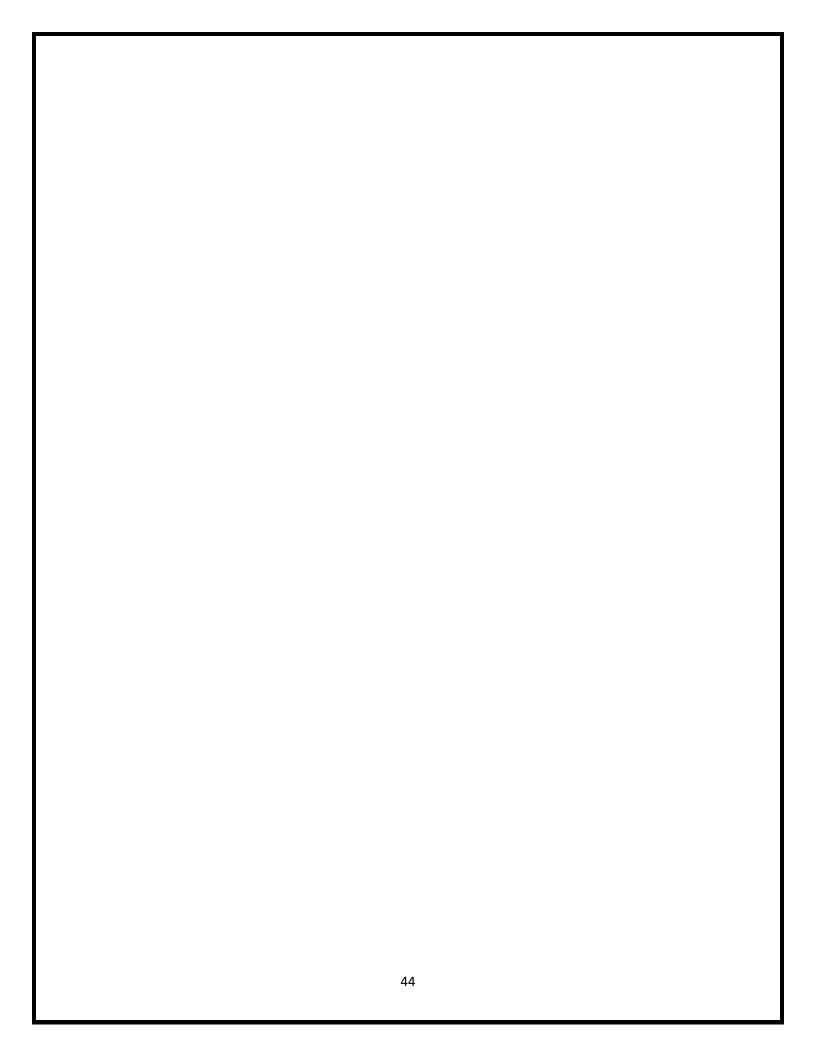
1. What worked well with the program?
2. What DID NOT work with the program?
3. What suggestions do you have to improve the court processes and mentor experience?
If you know of any other veterans who may be interested in becoming a mentor, please refer them to your mentor coordinator.
Name:
Phone Number:
Email:



Mentee Information Form

Date assigned:

Name:	Marital Status:	Children:	Hometown:	
Date of birth:	Driver's License: Yes/No	Military Service Branch Information:	Education:	
		Retired: Yes/No		
	INFORMA'	TION		
Preferred contact met	hod: Phone:	or Email:		
Nickname (if preferred):				
Military Job Title and Rank:				
Deployed: yes/no; if yes, where:				
Synopsis of current charge:				
Synopsis of current disposition:				



Community Resources and Support Information

Grand Forks Workforce Center

1501 28th Avenue South Grand Forks, ND 58201

Phone: 701-795-3700

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Tuesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Wednesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Thursday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Friday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST

Saturday: Closed

Fargo Workforce Center

1350 32nd Street South Fargo, ND 58103

Phone: <u>701-239-7300</u>

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Tuesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Wednesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Thursday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Friday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST

Saturday: Closed

Devils Lake Workforce Center

301 College Drive South Devils Lake, ND 58301

Phone: <u>701-662-9300</u>

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Tuesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Wednesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Thursday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Friday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST

Saturday: Closed

Veteran's Employment Team Program:

Grand Forks Workforce Center

1501 28th Avenue South Grand Forks, ND 58201

Phone: 701-795-3700

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Tuesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Wednesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Thursday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Friday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST

Saturday: Closed

Wounded Warriors:

Warriors to Work

https://www.woundedwarriorproject.org/progra

ms/warriors-to-work

Nearest location: Chicago

Phone: <u>630-522-4774</u> Fax: 630-368-0648

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Tuesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Wednesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Thursday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Friday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST

Saturday: Closed

Social Security Administration

402 Demers Ave Suite 300 Grand Forks, ND 58201 888-617-0456

Tuesday 10 AM-4 PM
Wednesday 10 AM-4 PM
Thursday 10 AM-4 PM
Friday 10 AM-4 PM
Saturday 10 AM-7 PM

Sunday Closed

Monday 10 AM–4 PM

Medicaid (Must apply):

Grand Forks County Office Admin-Only Location

Phone: <u>701-787-8535</u>

Website: http://www.nd.gov/dhs/locations/count

<u>ysocialserv/18.html</u> Sunday: Closed

Monday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Tuesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Wednesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Thursday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Friday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST

Saturday: Closed

Adult Education:

Grand Forks Adult Learning Center

500 Stanford Road Grand Forks, ND 58203

Phone: 701-795-2777

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Tuesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Wednesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Thursday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Friday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST

Saturday: Closed

Food Shelf:

Grand Forks Salvation Army

1600 University Avenue Grand Forks, ND 58203

Phone: 701-775-2597

Notes: Office closed from 11:30 to 1.

Saturday/Sunday: Closed

Monday: 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM CST Tuesday: 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM CST Wednesday: 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM CST Thursday: 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM CST Friday: 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM CST

Food Pantries:

St Joseph's Social Care and Thrift Store

620 8th Avenue South Grand Forks, ND 58201

Phone: 701-795-8614

Friday/Saturday/Sunday: Closed

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM CST Wednesday: 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM CST Thursday: 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM CST

Hope Church Community Care Center & Food Pantry

1726 South Washington Street

Suite S11

Grand Forks, ND 58201

Phone: 701-757-3480

Call to schedule an appointment on Monday or

Tuesday

Friday/Saturday/Sunday: Closed Monday: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST Tuesday: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST Wednesday: 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Thursday: 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM CST

Great Plains Food Bank

1720 3rd Ave N Fargo, ND 58102 701-232-6219 info@greatplainsfoodbank.org

Red River Valley Community Action

Tuesday's by appointment (Clients must call by Monday, 4 pm) 1013 N 5th St (Enter through the alley) 701-746-5431 Grand Forks ND 5820

Northlands Rescue Mission

420 Division Avenue Grand Forks, ND 58201

Phone: 701-772-6600 ext.206

Notes: Door 2

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST Tuesday: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST Wednesday: 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM CST Thursday: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST Friday: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST

Saturday: Closed

Full Cart - Feeding Children

Admin Location only - must call or email

Phone: 888-891-6447
Email: support@fullcart.org
Website: https://www.fullcart.org

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST Tuesday: 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST Wednesday: 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST Thursday: 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST Friday: 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST

Saturday: Closed

Emergency food:

American Red Cross Hero Care & Emergency Communications Center

Phone: <u>877-272-7337</u>

Sunday: Open 24 Hours Monday: Open 24 Hours Tuesday: Open 24 Hours Wednesday: Open 24 Hours Thursday: Open 24 Hours Friday: Open 24 Hours Saturday: Open 24 Hours

Silent Warrior Foundation (For Veterans) Administration Location only:

Must Email -

silentwarriorfoundation@gmail.com

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST Tuesday: 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST Wednesday: 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST Thursday: 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST Friday: 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST

Saturday: Closed

Housing:

Housing vouchers (must apply):

Grand Forks Housing Authority

1405 1st Avenue North Grand Forks, ND 58203

Phone: <u>701-746-2545</u>

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Tuesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Wednesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Thursday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Friday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST

Saturday: Closed

United Way of Grand Forks, East Grand Forks & Area

1407 24th Avenue South

Suite 400

Grand Forks, ND 58201

Phone: 701-775-8661

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Tuesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Wednesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Thursday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Friday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST

Saturday: Closed

Red River Community Action

Homeless Veterans (Need to complete referral

form)

4212 Gateway Drive Grand Forks ND 58203

Phone: 701-746-5431

Social Work Services – for Housing along with Stand Downs-Homeless Veterans and VA Supportive Housing

Veterans Health Administration (VHA) - Fargo VA Health Care System

2101 Elm Street North Fargo, ND 58102

Phone: 800-410-9723

Sunday: Open 24 Hours Monday: Open 24 Hours Tuesday: Open 24 Hours Wednesday: Open 24 Hours Thursday: Open 24 Hours Friday: Open 24 Hours Saturday: Open 24 Hours

Veterans Health Administration (VHA) - St. Cloud VA Medical Center

4801 Veterans Drive St. Cloud, MN 56303

Phone: 320-252-1670

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM CST Tuesday: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM CST Wednesday: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM CST Thursday: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM CST Friday: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM CST

Saturday: Closed

Veterans Health Administration (VHA) -Minneapolis VA Health Care System

1 Veterans Drive

Minneapolis, MN 55417

Phone: <u>612-725-2000</u>

Open 24 hours Monday - Sunday

Transportation:

St Joseph's Social Care

620 8th Avenue South Grand Forks, ND 58201

Phone: 701-795-8614

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Tuesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Wednesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Thursday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Friday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST

Saturday: Closed

Veterans Health Administration (VHA) - Fargo VA Health Care System

2101 Elm Street North Fargo, ND 58102

Phone: 800-410-9723

Sunday: Open 24 Hours Monday: Open 24 Hours Tuesday: Open 24 Hours Wednesday: Open 24 Hours Thursday: Open 24 Hours Friday: Open 24 Hours Saturday: Open 24 Hours

Veterans Health Administration (VHA) - St. Cloud VA Medical Center

4801 Veterans Drive St. Cloud, MN 56303

Phone: 320-252-1670

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM CST Tuesday: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM CST Wednesday: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM CST Thursday: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM CST Friday: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM CST

Saturday: Closed

Veterans Health Administration (VHA) -Minneapolis VA Health Care System

1 Veterans Drive Minneapolis, MN 55417

Phone: <u>612-725-2000</u>

Sunday: Open 24 Hours Monday: Open 24 Hours Tuesday: Open 24 Hours Wednesday: Open 24 Hours Thursday: Open 24 Hours Friday: Open 24 Hours Saturday: Open 24 Hours

Health Care: Addiction treatment:

Ideal Option - Grand Forks

3301 30th Avenue South

Ste. #102

Grand Forks, ND 58201

Phone: 877-522-1275

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 7:30 AM - 6:00 PM CST Tuesday: 7:30 AM - 6:00 PM CST Wednesday: 7:30 AM - 6:00 PM CST Thursday: 7:30 AM - 6:00 PM CST

Friday: Closed Saturday: Closed

Ideal Option - Fargo

3345 39th Street South

Ste. #1

Fargo, ND 58104

Phone: <u>701-476-7200</u>

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 7:30 AM - 6:00 PM CST

Tuesday: Closed

Wednesday: 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM CST Thursday: 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM CST

Friday: Closed Saturday: Closed

Ideal Option - Bismarck

549 Airport Road Bismarck, ND 58504

Phone: 877-522-1275

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 7:30 AM - 6:00 PM CST Tuesday: 7:30 AM - 6:00 PM CST Wednesday: 7:30 AM - 6:00 PM CST Thursday: 7:30 AM - 6:00 PM CST

Friday: Closed Saturday: Closed

Indian Health Service - Bemidji

522 Minnesota Ave NW Bemidji, MN 56601

Phone: <u>218-444-0452</u>

Notes: States served: IL, IN, MI, MN, WI.

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Tuesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Wednesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Thursday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Friday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST

Saturday: Closed

Medication for Addiction Treatment (MAT)

Spectra Health 212 S 4th St Suite 301 Grand Forks, ND 701-757-2100 Spectrahealth.org

Community Medical Services 2424 32nd Ave Suite 102 Grand Forks, ND 855-203-6352 Communitymedicalservices.org

Ideal Option 3301 30th Ave S Suite 102 Grand Forks, ND 877-522-1275 Idealoption.com Monday-Thursday Same day/walk-in

Addiction Counseling:

Agassiz Associates 2424 32nd Ave S Suite 202 Grand Forks, ND 701-746-6336 Agassizassociates.com Accepts SUD vouchers and most insurance providers

Drake Counseling
311 4th St S Suite 106
Grand Forks, ND
701-757-3200
Drakecounselingservices.com
Accepts SUD vouchers and most insurance providers

NE Human Service Center 151 S 4th St Suite 401 Grand Forks, ND 701-795-3000

Crisis line: 800-845-3731

Walk-in assessments: Monday-Friday 8a-5p Accepts ND residents regardless of ability to pay

Alluma (formerly NW Mental Health Center) 603 Bruce Street Crookston, MN 218-281-3940

Crisis line: 800-282-5005

Serves clients from MN or ND; sliding fee scale

RiverView Recovery Center 210 Gateway Dr. NE Suite 4 218-230-0787 Accepts most insurance providers

Substance Use Disorder:

Veterans Health Administration (VHA) - Fargo VA Health Care System

2101 Elm Street North Fargo, ND 58102

Phone: 800-410-9723

Sunday: Open 24 Hours Monday: Open 24 Hours Tuesday: Open 24 Hours Wednesday: Open 24 Hours Thursday: Open 24 Hours Friday: Open 24 Hours Saturday: Open 24 Hours

Veterans Health Administration (VHA) - St. Cloud VA Medical Center

4801 Veterans Drive St. Cloud, MN 56303

Phone: <u>320-252-1670</u>

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM CST Tuesday: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM CST Wednesday: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM CST Thursday: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM CST Friday: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM CST

Saturday: Closed

Veterans Health Administration (VHA) -Minneapolis VA Health Care System

1 Veterans Drive Minneapolis, MN 55417

Phone: 612-725-2000

Sunday: Open 24 Hours Monday: Open 24 Hours Tuesday: Open 24 Hours Wednesday: Open 24 Hours Thursday: Open 24 Hours Friday: Open 24 Hours Saturday: Open 24 Hours

Women for Sobriety

Phone: 215-536-8026

Email: contact@womenforsobriety.org

Sunday: Open 24 Hours Monday: Open 24 Hours Tuesday: Open 24 Hours Wednesday: Open 24 Hours Thursday: Open 24 Hours Friday: Open 24 Hours Saturday: Open 24 Hours

Women Veteran's Healthcare

Veterans Health Administration (VHA) - Fargo VA Health Care System

2101 Elm Street North Fargo, ND 58102

Phone: 800-410-9723

Sunday: Open 24 Hours Monday: Open 24 Hours Tuesday: Open 24 Hours Wednesday: Open 24 Hours Thursday: Open 24 Hours Friday: Open 24 Hours Saturday: Open 24 Hours

Veterans Health Administration (VHA) - St. Cloud VA Medical Center

4801 Veterans Drive St. Cloud, MN 56303

Phone: <u>320-252-1670</u>

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM CST Tuesday: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM CST Wednesday: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM CST Thursday: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM CST Friday: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM CST

Saturday: Closed

Veterans Health Administration (VHA) -Minneapolis VA Health Care System

1 Veterans Drive

Minneapolis, MN 55417

Phone: <u>612-725-2000</u>

Sunday: Open 24 Hours Monday: Open 24 Hours Tuesday: Open 24 Hours Wednesday: Open 24 Hours Thursday: Open 24 Hours Friday: Open 24 Hours Saturday: Open 24 Hours

Health Education:

Affordable Healthcare (Medical/Dental): Spectra Health Grand Forks Medical

212 South 4th Street

Ste 301

Grand Forks, ND 58201

Phone: <u>701-757-2100</u>

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Tuesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Wednesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Thursday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Friday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST

Saturday: Closed

Any Positive Change (APC) Project Syringe Service Program:

APC Program

212 South 4th Street Grand Forks, ND 58201

Phone: 701-787-8129

Saturday/Sunday/Tuesday/Wednesday: Closed

Monday: 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM CST Thursday: 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM CST Friday: 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM CST

Amputee Support Group & Resource Center

Hanger Clinic: Prosthetics & Orthotics https://hangerclinic.com/patients/emotion al-support/

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM CST Tuesday: 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM CST Wednesday: 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM CST Thursday: 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM CST Friday: 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM CST

Saturday: Closed

Warrior Integration Now (WIN) by Mission 22

https://mission22.com/programs/veterans

Mission 22

17040 Pilkington Road Suite 200 Lake Oswego, OR 97035

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM CST Tuesday: 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM CST Wednesday: 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM CST Thursday: 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM CST Friday: 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM CST

Saturday: Closed

50 Legs

https://50legs.org/50legs.org/tps://50leghttps://50legs.org/s.org/Admin-Only

Location

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST Tuesday: 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST Wednesday: 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST Thursday: 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST Friday: 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST

Saturday: Closed

inTransition Program through the DOD Defense Health Agency

Behavioral Health

1-800-424-7877

Veterans Inc.

www.veteransinc.org 800-482-2565

701—892-4630 (Fargo)

US Veterans Magazine

A variety of resources from jobs to entrepreneurship to events to education

https://usveteransmagazine.com

Veterans Legal Institute

Provides pro bono legal assistance to homeless, at-risk, disabled and low-income current and former service members to eradicate barriers to housing, healthcare, education, and employment and foster selfsufficiency.

https://vetslegal.org

Group Organization – Vietnam Veterans:

Vietnam Veterans Of America - Chapter #374

339 Center Avenue South Mayville, ND 58257

Phone: 701-430-1856

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Tuesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Wednesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Thursday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Friday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST

Saturday: Closed

Vietnam Veterans Of America - North Dakota State Council

105 Code Avenue North Park River, ND 58270

Phone: <u>701-284-6426</u> Sunday: Closed

Monday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Tuesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Wednesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Thursday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Friday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST

Saturday: Closed

Vietnam Veterans Of America - Chapter #941

PO Box 7327 Fargo, ND 58106

Phone: 218-236-0959

Email: larrynicholson02@gmail.com Website: http://www.vva941.org/

Sunday: Closed

Monday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Tuesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Wednesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Thursday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST Friday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CST

Saturday: Closed

Local area:

Narcotics Anonymous

(Recovery Group): Antenna Building 401 N 7th St

Saturday: 7:00 pm - 8:00 pmSunday: 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

(Living in Recovery Group): University Lutheran Church

2122 University Ave

Monday: 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm Sunday: 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm Wednesday: 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Celebrate Recovery

Freedom Church 308 DeMers Ave Grand Forks, ND Tuesdays – 630pm

HOPE Church 1601 17th Ave S Grand Forks, ND Thursdays – 630pm

Alcoholics Anonymous:

Sunrise Group Antenna Building 401 N 7th St Tuesday: 6:30 am

Red River Group Antenna Building 401 N 7th St Tuesday: Noon

Red River Group 401 N 7th St Tuesday: 5:30 pm

First Things First Group (In-person and online)

Wesley United Methodist Church

1600 4th Ave N

Tuesday: 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Way of Life Group

Other Grand Forks area supports:

Northland Christian Counseling Center Grand Cities Mall 1615 17th Ave S. 701 795 8550

Augustana Lutheran Church 520 University Ave 701 775 3187 Tuesday: 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm

AA

Tuesday Night Group (reduced Attendance) in person and online 1917 S Washington St Tuesday: 8:00 pm

Mountain Brook (Mental Health) 112 N 3rd St 701 746 4530

Third Street Clinic 360 Division Ave # 200 701-772-1263

Valley Community Health Center 212 S 4th St 701 757 2100

Red River Valley Community Action – Food Distribution center 1013 N 5th St 701-746-5431

Community Service/Restitution Social services organization 311 S 4th St #201 · (701) 775-3403

Prairie Harvest Mental Health Social services organization 930 N 3rd St (701) 795-9143

Grand Forks Housing Authority 1405 1st Ave N (701) 746-2545 GF Vet Center 3001 S 32nd Ave 701-620-1448 Beaudrey.vreeland@va.gov

Salvation Army - Food Distribution Center 1600 University Ave (701) 775-2597

Community Violence Intervention Center Crisis line: 866-746-8900 Office: 701-746-0405

Community Connect (partners with Community Options)
Facilitates application counseling
701-620-1029 or 701-772-1715

Share House Chemical Dependency treatment program Residential and Assessment 1122 North 43rd St. Grand Forks ND 58203 701-354-3716 (day); after hours 701-354-3716

22 A Day Outdoors, LLC Michael Ortiz 701.317.8652 22ADayOutdoors@gmail.com

Arts for Vets Kimberly Forness Wilson & Sonia Brumskill artsforvets@gmail.com 701.330.3072

Love in Action- Grand Forks 818 University AVe Grand Forks ND 58201 701 330 8775 Email: hello@loveinactiongf.org https://www.loveinactiongf.org/ FirstLight Home Care
Lori Morin, Care Coordinator
Imorin@firstlighthomecare.com
3001 32nd Ave S
Suite 18
Grand Forks ND 58201
701 757 0568
NDcentral.FirstLightHomeCare.com

Community Health Services, Inc. 1113 W 11th St Grafton, ND 58237 701.352.4048 http://chsiclinics.org/

Father's Farm 4440 78th St NE Wolford ND 58385 701.583.2880 https://www.fathersfarmnd.org/

Hometown Hero Outdoors P O Box 210 Stillwater, MN 55082 651.583.6304

https://hometownherooutdoors.org/

Email: info@hometownherooutdoors.org

Statewide resources:

Training/Various support resources: First Link: myfirstlink.org

Recovery/Behavioral, Mental Health: Better Together North Dakota: bettertogethernd.com

Brain Injury Network: ndbin.org/resource-directory/advocacy

Burleigh County:

VA Outpatient Clinic 2700 State St Bismarck ND 58503 701 221 9152 Vet Center 619 Riverwood Dr Bismarck ND 58554 701 667 1418

Military Service Center 4200 Miriam Ave Bismarck ND 58501 701 333 3800

Bismarck AMVETS Club 2402 Railroad Ave Bismarck ND 58501 701 258 8324

VFW Post #1326 (Helping Hand Fund-combat veterans)
1235 S. 12th St.
Bismarck, ND 58501
701 222 1525

The Village Family Service Center First Step Recovery 2207 E Main Ave Bismarck, ND 58501 701 255 1165

Good Road Recovery Center 1308 Elbowoods LN Bismarck, ND 58503 701 751 8260

Heartview Foundation 101 E Broadway Ave Bismarck, ND 58501 701 222 0386

Coal Country Community Health Center 1312 Highway 49 North Beulah, ND 58523 701 873 4445

Ward County:

Marco-Minot Recovery Community Organization 2201 15th St SW LL Suite 3 Minot, ND 58701 701 509 3796 or 701 720 7578 The Village Family Service Center First Step Recovery 20 1st St SW Suite 250 Minot, ND 58701 701 852 3328

Harmony Center 720 Western Ave, Suite 201 Minot, ND 58701 701-852-3263

Addiction Treatment Center 300 30th Ave NW Suite D Minot, ND 58703 701 858 1801

Prairie Recovery Center 7785 St Gertrude Ave Raleigh ND 58564 701 597 3419

Vet Center 3300 S Broadway Minot ND 58701 701 852 0177

VA Clinic 3400 S. Broadway Minot, ND 58701 701 418 2600

VFW Post 753 1100 31st St SE Minot, ND 58701 701 839 6772

AMVETS Post 26 1949 N Broadway Minot, ND 58703 701 852 1532

Peer Support/Recovery Groups:

Face it TOGETHER 701-260-5895 kal@faceittogethernd.org F5 Project 701-741-7256 eric@f5project.org Housing and peer support

Additional resources:

Team Rubicon
https://teamrubiconusa.org/
Unites the skills and experiences of military veterans with first responders to rapidly deploy

Mission Continues
https://www.missioncontinues.org/
This connects veterans with service opportunities

Team RWB (Red, White, and Blue)
https://www.teamrwb.org/
This connects veterans and their community

Gary Sinisi Foundation (Avalon Network) https://www.garysinisefoundation.org/
For PTSD and Mental Health

Minority Vets of America https://minorityvets.org/
For underrepresented veterans including women, people of color, LGTBQ, and religious minorities

Elizabeth Dole Foundation – Hidden Heroeshttps://www.elizabethdolefoundation.org/ hidden-heroes/ For caregivers of veterans

Light House Church (Fargo) – Free Through Recovery Program http://lighthousechurchfargo.org/

Behavioral Health (ND): https://www.behavioralhealth.nd.gov/ or https://www.behavioralhealth.nd.gov/addiction/ FTR Adult Children of Alcoholics & Dysfunctional Families World Service Organization; https://adultchildren.org

National Association for Black Veterans: www.nabvets.org

American Legion: www.legion.org

Vietnam Veterans of America: www.vva.org

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Thank you to Veterans Treatment Courts that have been established in Michigan, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Montana, Washington (state), and others for freely sharing their VTC mentor manuals, information, and training information through the web pages they created to hallmark their particular VTC. Thank you, too, to the various justice-oriented organizations such as All Rise-Justice for Vets, COSSUP, TASC-Center for Justice and Health, and others for your online training modules, webinars, and podcasts.

Thank you volunteer veteran mentors!
Without your participation, we could not do the work we do.

