



ALAMEDA COUNTY VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMISSION

General Meeting Agenda

Monday, August 19, 2024

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

In-Person Attendance:

St Vincent De Paul, Community Room

Walk in entrance: 2272 San Pablo Ave, Oakland CA 94612

Parking entrance: 675 23rd St, Oakland CA 94612 (honk horn at gate for access)

Via Zoom Video Conference Call, use link below:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/99526750740?pwd=YlpjQ1JsRm5FM2VsNndTL3FZRmg0Zz09>

For Dial-in Option, use the number below:

+1 669 900 6833 (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 995 2675 0740 | Passcode: 995735

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/99526750740?pwd=YlpjQ1JsRm5FM2VsNndTL3FZRmg0Zz09>

Public participation at Commission meetings is encouraged. Individual public comments per agenda item shall be no more than two minutes.

10:00 – 10:02	<u>CALL TO ORDER:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum• Review and Approval of July 2024 General Meeting Minutes
10:02 – 10:03	SALUTE COLORS-IN-PLACE
10:03 – 10:04	RECITE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
10:04 – 10:05	MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR POW/MIA VETERANS
10:05 – 10:10	PUBLIC COMMENT
10:10 – 10:15	STAFF UPDATE
10:15 – 10:30	<u>Guest Speaker:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dennis Johnson, Swords to Plowshares, Veteran Treatment Court Mentor Program
10:30-11:55	<u>SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outreach (Williamson) Santa Rita Jail tour, National Night Out, CG Day, etc [10 min]• Membership (Owens), Welcome new members [5 min]• Transportation Committee (Cole) [5 min]• Executive Committee (Farmer) [5 min]• Veteran Observance Days (Gilmore), National Suicide Prevention Month in Sept - Veteran Suicide Prevention Forum on 9/4, Patriot Day 9/11, National POW Day 9/20 [20 min]• Stand Down discussion & tour (Farmer, SVDP staff) [40 min]

Andrea Ford, Agency Director

Faith M. Battles, Assistant Agency Director

11:55-11:59
12 PM

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS / ANNOUNCEMENTS
ADJOURNMENT**

Minutes



**Alameda County
Veterans Affairs Commission
General Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 15th, 2024**



6955 Foothill Blvd – Ste. 300
Oakland, CA 94605
<http://alamedasocialservices.org>

I. CALL TO ORDER

- Meeting called to order at 10:00 am
- Roll Call, Quorum Achieved.

In Attendance: (P=Present, E=Excused, A=Absent, O=Online Attendance)		County Staff Present:
G. Owens = P	M. Gilmore (Vice-Chair) = P	Jonathan Montero-Flores
J. Phair = E	N. Harrison = P	Esparanza Contreras
F. Jaffin = P	D. Williamson = P	Rhoda Turner
I. LoParo = A	K. Warner = P	Marlisa Davis
L. Diaz = A	R. Forbes = P	
R. Cole = P	D. Boldt = P	
J. McIlvain = P	S. Yohannes = P	
S. Dolgin = P		

II. AGENDA/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Item	Discussion/Recommendations
Adopt Agenda	Meeting agenda adopted by Commission as read.
Approval of Meeting Minutes	Minutes for the June 2024 meeting were approved after corrections were made noting that Commissioner Gilmore was present at the June 17 th meeting. Motion to approve: Commissioner Owens (M) Commissioner Forbes (S) Motion Passed
Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Marlisa Davis, U.S. Navy & disabled veteran stated that the VSO position interviews will be coming up during the week of the 28th, and that she applied for the position and would like the commission's support.○ Kevin Gray, an Outreach Specialist from the California Dept. of Veteran Affairs in attendance is looking forward to learning what the Commission does in Alameda County.
Guest Speaker:	Gavin O'Neil and Adrian Harper presented on the Veterans Treatment Court.
Guest Speaker:	Bob Swanson, Military Liaison provided an update on the Castro Valley Veterans Library Memorial Foundation (at 20055 Redwood Rd.)



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	<p>which has been proposed as a space for the County's VSO and/or a Veterans Community Space.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The project would take an estimated \$500k to renovate.○ The Foundation has already garnered over 800 petition responses. <p>ACTION: Swanson will be emailing Commissioners the petition link.</p>
Sub-Committee Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● VSO: Commissioner Gilmore shared the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. A letter was sent to Andrea Ford to notify the County the Commission has started an active petition to create a Stand-Alone Veterans Service Office in Alameda County.ii. The petition link can be shared with the public and accessed at: https://www.jotform.com/form/241261256961153.iii. An outline for the VSO Presentation was shared.● Veteran Observance Days: Independence<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Supervisor Miley's office presented a Proclamation for "D-Day" at the BOS meeting.ii. Coast Guard Day 2024 will be held on August 2nd.iii. National POW Day on Sept. 20th.● Membership: Greg Owens relayed the following: Vacant positions include the (1) American Veterans of War, (2) Marine Corp. League, (3) Vietnam Veterans of America, (4) Military Officers Association of America (5) Iraq/Afghanistan Veterans of America.● Transportation Committee: First Transportation sub-committee held via ZOOM on Monday, July 8th. The goal is to provide veterans transportation to/from their medical appointments safely and efficiently.● Outreach:<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Next ACVAC meeting will be held at the Vincent DePaul facility in Oakland, where the Stand Down will be held.ii. Swords to Plowshares Veterans Wellness Week July 24 – 28thiii. Coast Guard Day 2024 will be held on 8/12 at the Alameda Naval Base.iv. National Night Out will be at the Bay Fair San Leandro Bart Station on 8/6 from 4 to 7 p.m.v. Alameda County Homeless Resource Job Fair is this Thursday 7/18.iv. September is Suicide Prevention month, a Suicide Prevention Forum will be held in Hayward on 9/12.v. National POW Day Sept. 20th.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">vi. The annual Wheelchair Regatta will be held on ?vii. Fisher House Car Showviii. Pole Hiking in Piedmont on ? 8:30am to 12:30pm <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Executive Committee: Commissioner Farmer commented: An Executive meeting was held on July 8th – the VSO Presentation slides were reviewed by members.• Black Veteran Historical Corridor:<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. A special segment on the event was covered by local TV stations KRON (CH. 4) & KTVU (CH 2).ii. Special recognition and gratitude given to local artist, Shomari Smith who designed the art and booklet. <p>Stand Down After Action Report: The Stand Down will be a two-day event – September 13 & 14th at St. Vincent DePaul in Oakland.</p>
STAFF UPDATE	No updates
ORAL COMMUNICATION/ ANNOUNCEMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Logo designs for the commission will be discussed at next month's meeting.• The Mentorship program is on the web page.• The VA Palo Alto Mobile Medical Outreach Team & Partners will be at the Hayward Veterans Memorial Hall for Suicide Prevention Thursday, September 12th .• International Overdose Awareness Day will be recognized on August 28th in Palo Alto.• Quilts of Valor is looking to honor veterans and actively seeking recommendations.
ADJOURNMENT	Meeting adjourned at 12:11 pm.

Staff Updates

Date: 10 April 2024

To: Jennifer Stephens-Pierre
From: Omar Farmer, ACVAC Chairperson
CC: ACVAC Commission, Sonya Frost

Subject: Staff Updates

Jennifer,

We have not received a report on statistics from the ALCO VSO since mid-2023. The commission used to receive updates every month or, at minimum, every other month. Going forward, we would like statistics every month or every other month and have them reported during the Staff Update portion of the meeting. We haven't received any type of staff update yet this year.

We tried to discuss some of this with you at the last meeting, but you weren't online during the staff update portion. We also would like an annual update of statistics for 2023. Below is an example of what we're looking for:

- Vacancies at the VSO.
- A report on how the veteran-designated window is working out.
- Total Veteran Visits in 2023 and 2024, including all in-person and outreach visits by veterans and whether those numbers are up or down from the previous year.
- Stats on walk-in appointments and whether those numbers have increased from the previous year.
- Appointments scheduled with VSRs and whether they're up or down from the previous year.
- Whether you've had an increase in veteran contacts via phone calls, emails, and physical mail.
- A summary of outreach events for 2023 to date
- Submitted auditable claim statistics from 2023 to date.
- The rate of new veterans being supported by the VSO
- Monetary benefits received by veterans in ALCO via (1) one-time retroactive payments, (2) annualized monthly payments, and (3) total veteran compensation for 2023.
- The past 6 months of total calls, total contacts, appointments, walk-ins, VSR claims, retroactive compensation, and annualized monthly payments.
- January-April 2024 total monthly calls and contacts.
- January-April 2024 total monthly appointments and walk-ins
- January-April filed auditable claims
- January-April compensation separated into retroactive and annualized monthly payments.
- Claim and appeal wayward ratios for 2023.

In addition, here is a summary of requests that have been submitted by us this year but for which the commission has not received a current update:

- ~~Do I still need to fill out a fund's request for the street plaque initiative or was that completed by staff?~~
- ~~What date was Baqar's proclamation submitted?~~
- ~~Who will attend the Stand Down event on May 4th on behalf of the VSO?~~

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,
Omar Farmer
Chairperson ACVAC

Hi Commissioner Farmer,

Below are the written responses to your questions that I answered in my verbal presentation at the May 2024 VAC meeting.

Jennifer,

We have not received a report on statistics from the ALCO VSO since mid-2023. The commission used to receive updates every month or, at minimum, every other month. Going forward, we would like statistics every month or every other month and have them reported during the Staff Update portion of the meeting. We haven't received any type of staff update yet this year.

We tried to discuss some of this with you at the last meeting, but you weren't online during the staff update portion. We also would like an annual update of statistics for 2023. Below is an example of what we're looking for:

- Vacancies at the VSO. To date, there is one vacant VSR position and one VSO position. VSO interviews are scheduled for 8/1/2024.
- A report on how the veteran-designated window is working out. As previously discussed, shortly after the submission of your request the CVSO was located to a temporary location on the second floor due to the flood. The new processes that were implemented were going well. The CVSO has a designated window in the lobby that is attended to by the unit clerk. When a veteran enters the lobby they are prompted to request Veteran Services. The clerk monitors the cue and assigns a VSR to follow up.

- Total Veteran Visits in 2023 and 2024, including all in-person and outreach visits by veterans and whether those numbers are up or down from the previous year. **See Below:**

Date Range 1/1/23-12/31/23:

Unknown	6
eMail/Fax	1888
Incoming Mail	10
Incoming Phone Call	775
Incoming Voice Mail	908
Left Voice Mail	32
Lobby / Reception	1173
Outgoing Mail	18
Outgoing Phone Call	142
Outgoing Return Call	269
Scheduled Appointment	93
Virtual Office	25
Walk In	533
Total Visitors:	5872

- Stats on walk-in appointments and whether those numbers have increased from the

previous year. **Yes, based on my initial review the number of walk-in appts has slightly increased.**

- Appointments scheduled with VSRs and whether they're up or down from the previous

year. **Yes, there is an increase of scheduled appointments. In the time period from 1/1/24 through 6/3/24, the CVSO logged 57 scheduled appointments**

- Whether you've had an increase in veteran contacts via phone calls, emails, and physical mail. **Yes, there is an increase, please see the data points below.**

- A summary of outreach events for 2023 to date: According to my records, the CVSO attended @10 outreach events.

- *1 Standdown*
- *3 Tabling Events*
- *4 Presentations*

- Submitted auditable claim statistics from 2023 to date.

Date Range: 01/01/23 to 12/31/23

Total Benefits Claims Filed:	735
Total Auditable Claims:	779
Total Auditable/NonAuditableClaims Filed:	2,345

- The rate of new veterans being supported by the VSOT **What does VSOT mean? I need further clarification on what you're requesting.**
- Monetary benefits received by veterans in ALCO via (1) one-time retroactive payments, (2) annualized monthly payments, and (3) total veteran compensation for 2023. **Unfortunately, I couldn't locate a report detailing this information as requested. I've requested assistance and will provide an update in my August 2024 report.**
- The past 6 months of total calls, total contacts, appointments, walk-ins, VSR claims, retroactive compensation, and annualized monthly payments. **See Quarterly data below:**
 - January-April 2024 total monthly calls and contacts.
 - January-April 2024 total monthly appointments and walk-ins
 - January-April filed auditable claims **Responses below:**

Visitor Log - Grouped by Type with Counts,

January 1, 2024 to March 31, 2024 (FY23/24-Q3)

Unknown	6
eMail	485
Incoming Mail	1
Incoming Phone Call	115
Incoming Voice Mail	268
Left Voice Mail	33
Lobby / Reception	522
Outgoing Mail	8
Outgoing Phone Call	85
Outgoing Return Call	120
Scheduled Appointment	23
Virtual Office	6
Walk In	137
Total Visitors:	1,809

- January-April compensation separated into retroactive and annualized monthly payments. Below is the requested data based on my understanding of your request:

Date Range: 01/01/24 to 04/30/24:

Total Claims By Vet Rep:	22	Total Award Monthly: \$ 8,055.34	Total Award Retro: \$ 28,850.60
		Total Award Lump: \$0.00	

- Claim and appeal wayward ratios for 2023. I'm not familiar with this language. For clarification, are you requesting the number of appeals in 2023?

Guest Speaker



WANTED

A Few Good VETS To Be MENTORS

If you are a veteran who would like to volunteer to assist a veteran involved in the justice system, please contact: Dennis Johnson, Swords to Plowshares, Veterans Treatment Court Mentor Coordinator

Email: johnson@stp-sf.org | Phone # (510) 844-7500



VETS HELPING VETS SINCE 1974

VETERAN TREATMENT COURT (VTC) PEER MENTORING PROGRAM

The Superior Court of Alameda County Veterans Treatment Court relies on cooperation among the criminal justice system, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, veteran's service organizations, and community treatment agencies to provide comprehensive treatment for veterans. In addition to these entities, the Court also utilizes Veteran Peer Mentors (VPMs), who are crucial to accomplishing

the Court's aims. Veteran Peer Mentors are veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces who volunteer their time to assist the Court, providing advice, personal experiences, recommendations, and guidance to Veteran Participants. Many of our Veteran Mentors come from a number of veterans' service organizations, the East Bay community and government organizations. Veteran Mentors include but are not limited to those who have served in peacetime, Vietnam, Desert Storm/Shield, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The Veteran Mentor relationship promotes and fosters, through encouragement, a "can do" attitude in the Veteran participant. The Veteran becomes motivated to accomplish his or her treatment goals, feels that he or she is not alone, and knows that the Mentor and the Court are there for them. The Alameda County VTC works hard to ensure that every participating Veteran has a Mentor to act on his/her behalf as an advocate, ally, battle buddy, and friend. Mentors will possess knowledge of both justice and VA systems, to assist the Veteran in navigating through the court, treatment, and VA systems and successfully readjust to civilian life.

VTC Peer Mentor Duties and Responsibilities

The Peer Mentor acts as a coach, a guide, a role model, an advocate and supporter for the Veteran participant. S/he encourages and guides the Veteran participant through the treatment process. This will entail listening to the concerns of the Veteran and making general suggestions, assisting the Veteran to determine what his/her needs are, and acting as a support for the Veteran at a time when s/he may feel alone in a way that only another Veteran can understand.

The Mentor should be protective of sensitive information given to him/her by the Veteran or the VTC Peer Mentor Coordinator and not reveal any information, unless it is a situation where the safety of the participant or another human being may be at risk. In those critical situations, the Mentor must inform the Mentor Coordinator to prevent harm. This information will be given to appropriate Court officials immediately.

A Mentor IS NOT:

- The mentee's Counselor
- The mentee's Lawyer
- The mentee's Doctor
- The mentee's Banker

- The mentee's Intimate Partner
- The mentee's 12-step sponsor
- The mentee's military commander

Duties and Responsibilities

- In contact weekly, via phone or in person, with the veteran participant (approximately 4-6 hours per month)
- Attend court sessions when scheduled
- Be supportive and understanding of the difficulties Veterans face
- Assist the Veteran as much as possible to resolve his/her concerns surrounding court procedures, as well as interactions with the VA system or any civic community delivery system. Be supportive and helpful to the other Mentors within the program
- Be open and responsive to supervision by the VTC Peer Mentor Coordinator
- Mentors shall take immediate action to encourage the participant to contact suicide resources, including dialing 911 or the Veterans Crisis Line yourself, if there are any indications of suicidal thoughts, attempts or plans on part of the participant. Mentors should keep current resource phone numbers on your person at all times and ensure they are updated by frequent contact with the VTC Mentor Coordinator.

Requirements

- Be a Veteran of one of the branches of the United States Military, including the Army, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, or their corresponding Reserve or Guard branches. The Mentor must have an Honorable Discharge.
- Agree to follow and abide by all policies and procedures of the Alameda County Veterans Treatment Court and its Peer Mentoring Program.
- Complete and file the application form with the VTC Mentor Coordinator and complete the screening process.
- Adhere to all VTC policies and procedures
- Not be currently on probation. Have no arrests in the past year. Be able to pass a security background check.
- Commit to program participation for a minimum of 6 months

- Complete the required initial training as specified by the Mentorship Program, prior to participation
- Participate in additional trainings throughout the time of service (times and dates will be flexible to accommodate schedules)
- Do not engage in any drug use, alcohol use, sexual activities or any other unlawful or unethical activities with the Veteran participant
- Sign confidentiality agreement

Desirable Qualities

- Be in recovery from addiction (including alcoholism)
- Have knowledge of 12-step and other recovery programs
- Have been justice-system involved in the past
- Willing, empathetic and active listener
- Encouraging and supportive
- Genuine concern for other veterans
- Tolerant and respectful of individual differences
- Knowledge of Veterans Affairs and Veterans Commission services
- Knowledge of community resources and services
- Willingness to share his/her own life struggles from military services and current life challenges
- Positive military service

VTC Peer Mentor Coordinator Duties and Responsibilities

The VTC Peer Mentor Coordinator is the direct link between each Peer Mentor and the Alameda County VTC Court Team. The Peer Mentor Coordinator is essential in maintaining the success of the Superior Court of Alameda County Veterans Treatment Court Mentorship Program. The Veteran Mentor Coordinator is responsible for recruiting prospective mentors, screening and selecting candidates, and educating them about the Veterans Court. The Veteran Mentor coordinator also coordinates all activities with the court team staff, court coordinator, and the VTC judge.

Duties and Responsibilities

- The VTC Peer Mentor Coordinator will notify the Court Coordinator and VA Social Worker or VJO immediately if the mentor has any concerns that the mentee may be suicidal.

- Recruit, screen, and train volunteer Veterans Court mentors
- Assist in the retention of VPMs
- Organize and conduct training for VPMs
- Assist in supervision of mentors
- Organize and maintain a database for the VTC Mentoring Log (see “Record-Keeping Policy”)
- Attend VTC court sessions – currently on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month
- Maintain regular contact with Court Coordinator
- Attend VTC Workgroup meetings hosted by Office of Collaborative Court Services
- Build, sustain and evolve the Veteran Peer Mentor Program

Your Role as a VTC Peer Mentor

Mission: To be a positive and uplifting influence in VTC participants' lives by offering motivation, support, and lived experience.

Do:

- Act as ally, coach, guide, role model, advocate, and friend to VTC participant.
- Be genuine, empathetic, and encouraging.
- Motivate VTC participant using a strengths-based approach.
- Be respectful and tolerant of individual differences
- Practice active listening.
- Offer your knowledge of the VA, criminal-justice system, and community resources to VTC participant.
- Make use of provided referrals when they might be beneficial to VTC participant.
- Remember that 50% of mentoring session should be just bonding. The other 50% can be problem-solving and working toward goals set forth by VTC participant.
- Personal life experience is shared for the benefit of the mentee, not the mentor.
- Document each mentoring session in the mentor log so that other mentors can refer to it in future sessions.
- Refer any interpersonal problems that may arise to peer mentor coordinator and/or client's case manager.

Do not:

- Engage in business, extend or receive loans, or accept or give gifts to/from VTC participant.
- Give money or other gifts. Do not purchase anything not paid for with court funds.
- Drive participants in your personal vehicle.
- House VTC participant.
- Make clinical recommendations.
- Give legal advice.
- Provide psychotherapy or counseling of any sort.
- Utilize stern or "tough love" approach.
- Inappropriately extend boundaries of mentoring relationship, such as engaging in a romantic relationship.
- Share home address, social media, and other personal data with the mentee.
- Meet with the VTC participant at a business or event that serves alcohol
- Put yourself in any situation where you feel that your safety or that of VTC participant is compromised.

Mentors who engage in the prohibited activities listed above will be **terminated** from the VTC mentor program.

Outreach

Date: July, 25, 2024
Dublin, D1

ACVAC Veteran Pod & Vocational Program tour

SANTA RITA JAIL



Restorative Justice

Responsibility | Rehabilitation | Reintegration

San Francisco Bay Area

Reentry Conference & Resource Fair



Archdiocese of San Francisco

VETERANS JUSTICE: INSIGHTS, AVENUES AND SOLUTIONS

This Veterans Justice Panel is a dedicated group comprised of legal experts, veterans' advocates, justice-impacted supervision, and representatives from relevant community-based and VA agencies. The purpose, of this panel presentation is to demonstrate the impact of collaborative service provisions that veterans receive and the fair treatment within the justice system as they address their unique legal challenges. The panel discussion will include issues such as access to legal services, diversion programs for veterans with mental health or substance abuse issues, understanding and navigating veterans' benefits, addressing life skills strategies for Veterans to gain during their in-custody tenure, and advocating for policies that support veterans' rights. Utilizing this collaboration with various stakeholders, our panel aims to promote justice, support, and rehabilitation for those who have served our country.

MODERATOR



Mick Gardner

Mick Gardner - Manager C.O.V.E.R.

In-custody/Out-of-custody Program/Swords to Plowshares

PANELISTS



Judge Michael Isaku Begert

San Francisco Veteran
Justice Court and Superior
Court Judge



Ron Self

Executive Director -
Veterans Healing Veterans,
Formerly Incarcerated



Megan O'Leary

(Staff) Attorney -
Veteran Upgrade -
Swords To Plowshares



Tim Healy

Health Care Reentry
Veterans - Peer Specialist,
Formerly Incarcerated



Jenna Ferrara, LCSW

Veterans Administration
- Veteran Justice
Outreach Specialist

12TH ANNUAL REENTRY CONFERENCE, RESOURCE AND JOB FAIR



Friday, September 13, 2024, 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM



PANEL TIME: 10:30 AM - HALL B



St. Mary's Cathedral - Event Center
1111 Gough Street, San Francisco



SPONSORED BY

ARCHDIOCESE OF
SAN FRANCISCO

Office of
Human Life & Dignity

Restorative Justice Ministry

FREE EVENT, register now at: sfarch.org/reentry-conference

Potential ACVAC Logos



Thank you June, Joe, & Jack for your
work on this.



Fisher House Fundraiser



PLUMBERS, PIPEFITTERS,
& HVACR FITTERS



APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING CENTER
SAN MATEO COUNTY, CA



8th Annual Car Show

(No FEE to bring your car)

All Cars, Trucks, and Motorcycles

Special Raffle for Car Participants Only!

Daland Body Shop Inc.

Saturday, August 24, 2024

11am - 4pm

Car entries please arrive by 9am

you can reserve a space by calling (650) 780-7306



Wall of Heroes

To have a picture of your Veteran on our wall of
Heroes and Honor them, either email or scan your photo to
Anna at acarlos@redwoodcity.org or,

Phone: (650) 670-9709 to make an appointment



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
Caring for Kids



**BBQ, Raffle, Music,
Bounce House,
Veteran Resource tables
and much more!**



**Veterans Memorial Center
1455 Madison Ave.**

Redwood City, CA 94061





26th ANNUAL PICYA WHEELCHAIR REGATTA

September 28 2024 at Encinal Yacht Club



PICYA is hosting its 26th Annual Wheelchair Regatta. This event will once again provide disabled veterans, many confined to wheelchairs, with the rare opportunity to experience a boat cruise on the Oakland Estuary and San Francisco Bay along the San Francisco City front.



On their return, our guests will be treated to a picnic luncheon and entertainment on the grounds of Encinal Yacht Club. Most of our honored guests are U.S. Veterans residing in Northern California Veterans' Homes and Hospitals.

In order to make this event successful, powerboat skippers/owners are needed to donate their time and boat to host one or more guests aboard their vessel.

Volunteers from each of our PICYA member clubs will make this a most memorable day for our guests, and for those donating their assistance as well. Many volunteers are also needed ashore to assist in welcoming, boarding, preparing and serving lunch, and entertainment.

If you can assist with this rewarding community service project, please complete and return the form located at picya.org or sign-up with one of our partners. It will give you a great feeling and gives veterans a fantastic day. We need skippers and boats, kitchen crew, hosts (Wheelchair pushing), and tax deductible donations. There is something for everyone to do.

The MBWR has a limited amount of space for disabled veterans that are being cared for outside the VA hospitals. If you know a disabled veteran that would not otherwise be able to enjoy a cruise on the Bay or the camaraderie of his fellow veterans, please refer them to us to register for attendance.

For volunteer registration and donation information go to www.picya.org/event/mbwr/2024 or email Chairs; Logistics & Volunteers - Winston Bumpus - sycwin@gmail.com Skippers - Linda Blue - linda.a.blue@gmail.com



You're Invited to the 2024

RICHARD VALLE MEMORIAL VETERANS DAY LUNCH

FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 8, 2024
11:00 AM - 1:00PM

HAYWARD ^{New Location!}
VETERANS MEMORIAL
22737 Main St. Hayward



PRESENTED BY
ELISA MÁRQUEZ
SUPERVISOR
Alameda County District 2



RSVP for yourself and up to
one additional guest by
Friday, October 25, 2024 at
gabriela.christy@acgov.org
or 510-272-6692



PLEASE JOIN THE
ALAMEDA COUNTY



VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMISSION



TOWN HALL MEETING

Location: St Vincent DePaul, on
2272 San Pablo Ave, Oakland in the
Community Center

The parking entrance is on
675 23rd St 94612.

[Click here for the location](#)



**Monday, August 19th,
2024, 10 am to 12 pm**

or join via Zoom:

[https://zoom.us/j/99526750740?](https://zoom.us/j/99526750740?pwd=YlpjQ1JsRm5FM2VsNndTL3FZRmg0Zz09)

[pwd=YlpjQ1JsRm5FM2VsNndTL3FZRmg0Zz09](#)

Dial-in #: +1 669 900 6833

Meeting ID: 995 2675 0740 | Passcode: 995735

For more information about the commission,

WWW.TINYURL.COM/ALCOVETS

**Coast Guard Day, Coast
Guard Island, Alameda, D3**



**American Legion, Post 68,
Hayward VMB, D2**



Coast Guard Day, Coast Guard Island, Alameda, D3



**National Night Out
Bayfair BART
Station, San
Leandro, D4**



Membership

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2.92.030 OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE
OF THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA RELATING TO THE ALAMEDA COUNTY
VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMISSION**

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Alameda ordains as follows:

Section 2.92.030 of the Administrative Code of the County of Alameda is amended to read:

Section 2.92.030 – Composition of the commission.

- A. Two representatives of the American Legion; two representatives of the Veterans of Foreign Wars; two representatives of the Vietnam Veterans of America; two representatives of Disabled American Veterans; one representative of American Veterans of Wars, AMVETS; two representatives of Women Veterans (Members at Large); one representative of the Marine Corp League; **one representative of the Iraq/Afghanistan Veterans of America; one representative of the Military Officers Association of America**; one representative of District 1 (Member at Large); one representative of District 2 (Member at Large); one representative of District 3 (Member at Large); one representative of District 4 (Member at Large); one representative of District 5 (Member at Large); two representatives of veterans who are not otherwise affiliated with a chartered veteran's organization (Members at Large); and one non-veteran representative of widows and dependents of veterans that is a non-voting advisory position (Member at Large).
- B. Appointments to the Commission shall be made by the board of supervisors from recommendations made by the district commanders of the respective organizations named in part A, except in the cases of the five veterans identified as representing Districts 1 through District 5. Those appointments shall be chosen and made by the board of supervisors. In addition, the board of supervisors shall appoint, based upon recommendations by the Commission, the following: two at-large positions of veterans who are not affiliated with a chartered veteran's organization, and one non-voting, non-veteran at-large position representing widows and dependents of veterans.

Approved as to form:
DONNA ZIEGLER, COUNTY COUNSEL

By: _____

Victoria Wu
Assistant County Counsel

Transportation Committee

Date: Aug 13, 2024

Transportation Subcommittee Meeting Notes

Purpose: Getting veterans to and from their appointments, safely, efficiently, and on time.

Members: Nathaniel Harrison, Diane Williamson, Omar Farmer, Bob Cole

Schedule: Tuesday, August 13th, from 10-10:30 am

- Omar talked to BART about a discount. SMART cards cost a discounted fixed rate? Confirm what veterans can qualify for in terms of a discount. Disabled and senior passengers qualify for SMART cards.
- Chonita travel trains people. A potential guest speaker. Works jointly with Andrea.
- Diane tried to get ahold of someone at the SF VA Transportation Dept but got the run around and sent to the Veteran Experience Dept.
- Diane learned that the times for the Oakland clinic shuttle to take you to the various locations are set times. Wanda at Oakland Clinic is a point of contact to ask for the schedule.
- Omar to follow up with StP and the mental health clinic vans to be a potential shuttle for the Stand Down.
- Bob saw a shuttle schedule at the Martinez clinic that also had all of the pertinent contact info. Contact them and see if they can point us in the right direction for the Oakland Clinic and SF VA.
- VA.gov and type in Community Care and the info is available.
- Next meeting will be on 8/23 at 9:30 am. Will discuss end goals for Transportation Committee. Discounts on BART or AC Transit, etc.

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

Veterans must be beneficiary travel (BT) eligible to receive Uber Health rides.

BT eligibility criteria:

- Service connected (SC) rating of 30 percent or more, or
- Traveling to / from treatment of an SC condition, or
- Receive VA pension, or
- Income does not exceed the maximum annual VA pension rate

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- Veteran must be BT eligible
- Veteran must be ambulatory and able to get in/out of vehicle unassisted
- Veteran must be traveling for a VA scheduled appointment for examination, care, or treatment
- An approved VA common carrier consult must be in the Veteran's medical record identifying that the Veteran has a valid need for common carrier or lacks a privately owned vehicle.
- A VA employee should enter the Uber Health ride request for tracking and monitoring purposes

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do Veterans need the Uber app to receive transportation?

No. Veterans do not need the Uber app. Veterans will receive ride notifications via text messages.

Who should Veterans contact to schedule a ride?

Veterans should contact their VAMC transportation office to schedule a ride.

How long will the driver wait before leaving?

Uber drivers will wait up to 5 minutes after they arrive for pickup. After 5 minutes, drivers can choose to cancel the trip.

Will the Veteran be charged any cost?

No. Veterans will not be charged for the ride nor are they required or expected to pay tips to the driver. The VAMC that scheduled the trip will handle all payments for rides.

What if the Veteran can't make it to their appointment or it's canceled?

The Veteran should contact their VAMC to cancel the scheduled Uber Health ride or to reschedule the ride for another date and time.

Are Veterans able to change the drop-off location once they are in the vehicle?

No. Veterans are not able to change the drop-off address or add stops once in the vehicle. The driver will only transport Veterans to / from their appointment / residence.



*Expanding Healthcare
Access for Veterans
with Uber Health*



VHA

U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

WHAT IS THE VHA-UBER HEALTH CONNECT (VUHC) INITIATIVE?



The VUHC Initiative provides Veterans with a supplemental transportation option to get to and from approved medical appointments via Uber Health



The VUHC Initiative is a partnership between the VHA and Uber Health



The VUHC Initiative aims to

- 1) Improve Veterans' access to healthcare and transportation experience,
- 2) Reduce missed appointments, no-shows, and cancellations, and
- 3) Achieve cost-savings for the Department of Veterans Affairs

QUESTIONS?

Beneficiary Travel eligible Veterans may contact their local VA Medical Center Veteran Transportation Office to learn more about the VHA Uber Health Connect Initiative.

PROGRAM BENEFITS

- Improved Veterans' access to VHA healthcare outcomes and improved quality of life
- No cost to Veterans and no need to file a claim
- Simple and quick process to request a ride
- Cost-effective third-party alternative
- Cost savings from fewer no-shows and quicker discharges

Executive Committee

Date: August 13, 2024

Executive Committee Meeting Notes

Members: Michael Gilmore (absent), Omar Farmer, Greg Owens, Ronnie Forbes, James "Skip" Phair

Schedule: Meets monthly, no less than 10 times per year. Met from 5:30-6:20 pm.

- Reviewed architectural drawings of Pt Alameda and discussed the potential timeline for the completion of the project.
- Discussed the GRIID and explained the different categories and how it will be divided up. Will focus on developing comprehensive information then decide upon a scoring chart after taking into consideration the population, demographics, and resources of each district.
- Shared the ALCO ethics code of conduct document and stated that we believe this is a new requirement in addition to the Ethics Training.
- Discussed the potential budget.
- Shared that the VSO had responded to our request for statistics request.
- Mentioned the green light program for the Veterans day.

Return a signed copy of this document to:
Clerk of the Board, Attn. Boards and Commissions, 1221 Oak St., Suite 536, Oakland CA 94612

ALAMEDA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTE ORDER

The following action was taken by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors on 06/18/2024

Approved as Recommended ☒ **Other** ☐

Read title, waived the reading of the Ordinance in its entirety and adopted Ordinance O-2024-19

Unanimous ☐ **Tam:** ☒ **Haubert:** ☐ **Miley:** ☐ **Márquez:** ☐ **Carson:** ☐ - ☒
Vote Key: N=No; A=Abstain; X=Excused

Documents accompanying this matter:

Ordinance: O-2024-19

Documents to be signed by Agency/Purchasing Agent:

File No. 31173
Item No. 50

Copies sent to:

Ellen Duenas, Qic 20104

Special Notes:



I certify that the foregoing is a correct copy of a Minute Order adopted by the Board of Supervisors, Alameda County, State of California.

ATTEST:
Clerk of the Board
Board of Supervisors

By: Rhonda Bailey
Deputy



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

1221 Oak Street, Suite 450, Oakland, California 94612-4296
Telephone (510) 272-6700 Facsimile (510) 272-5020

REVISED

DONNA R. ZIEGLER
COUNTY COUNSEL

Agenda Item 50: June 4, 2024

May 20, 2024

HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

County of Alameda
1221 Oak Street, Suite 536
Oakland, California

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF CODE OF ETHICS FOR BOARD AND COMMISSION MEMBERS

Dear Board Members:

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt an ordinance amending the County of Alameda Administrative Code by adding Section 2.02.200 Code of Ethics – Board and Commission Members.

Discussion/Summary:

The purpose of this proposed action is to codify the County of Alameda's commitment to ethical conduct when conducting County business. This Code of Ethics sets forth the guiding principles for public officials. The County of Alameda is committed to the highest standards of conduct by and among elected and appointed county officials in the performance of their duties. This Code of Ethics seeks to ensure that promoting the common good is the hallmark of the decision-making process for all. Adopting this set of principles and locating them in a single section of the County's Administrative Code provides transparency for all board and commission members, officials, employees, vendors, contractors, and members of the public regarding expected standards of performance for Board and Commission members. This is a companion to a similar action your Board took to adopt a Code of Ethics for County employees.

In addition to establishing guiding principles, the Code of Ethics provides that a copy of it shall be provided to all board and commission members sitting at the time of the adoption of Section 2.02.200 and provided to each person appointed to a board or commission along with the Oath of Office. And, as with the oath of office, Board and Commission members shall not be seated until a signed copy is returned to the Clerk of the Board.

Financing:

Any costs associated with this action are negligible and should not result in an increase in net County costs.

Board of Supervisors
May 20, 2024
Page 2

Vision 2026 Goal:

This action aligns with the County's mission, vision, and values, which are:

OUR MISSION: We strive to enrich the lives of Alameda County residents through visionary policies and accessible, responsive, and effective services.

OUR VISION: We want Alameda County to be recognized as one of the best counties in which to live, work and do business.

OUR VALUES: Our values include integrity, honesty, respect, fiscal stewardship, commitment, accessibility, responsiveness, leadership, teamwork, diversity, environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and compassion.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D. Ziegler', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

DONNA R. ZIEGLER
County Counsel

cc: Susan Muranishi, County Administrator
Anika Campbell-Belton, Clerk of the Board

Attachment

Approved as to Form
DONNA R. ZIEGLER, County Counsel



Donna R. Ziegler

Ordinance No. 2024-19

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING
TITLE 2, CHAPTER 2.02, OF THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Alameda ordains as follows:

SECTION I

Title 2, Chapter 2.02, of the County of Alameda Administrative Code is hereby amended by adding Section 2.02.200 as set forth below:

2.02.200 CODE OF ETHICS – BOARD AND COMMISSION MEMBERS

This Code of Ethics sets forth the guiding principles for public officials. The County of Alameda is committed to the highest standards of conduct by and among elected and appointed county officials in the performance of their duties. This Code of Ethics seeks to ensure that promoting the common good is the hallmark of the decision-making process for all by adopting the following principles.

- A. Promote decisions that serve the public interest and promote the greatest public good.
- B. Actively promote public confidence in county government through your actions.
- C. Recognize and support the public's right to know the public's business.
- D. Involve citizens in the decision-making process and welcome divergent points of view.
- E. Respond to the public in ways that are complete, clear, and easy to understand.
- F. Maintain a respectful attitude toward employees, other public officials, and colleagues.
- G. Respect and protect privileged information (i.e., personnel matters, litigation).
- H. Be a good listener, carefully considering all opinions and points of view.
- I. Be informed on the background on issues before your commission or board.
- J. Work in partnership with other governmental agencies, political subdivisions, and organizations to further the interest of the county.
- K. Void outside interests that will interfere or conflict with maintaining an objective and impartial perspective.
- L. Carefully guard against conflict of interest or its appearance in your actions or decisions.

- M. Accepting gifts, services, or any object of value from any source offered to influence a decision is prohibited.
- N. Efforts to influence or attempt to influence other officials to act in a manner benefiting your personal/financial interests are prohibited.
- O. Evaluate recommendations (or decisions) to identify the best service, product or alternative at minimal cost without sacrificing quality or fiscal responsibility.
- P. Comply with all laws and regulations applicable to an appointed official and those governing the conduct of meetings.

This Code of Ethics governs the conduct of board and commission members. A copy of it shall be provided to all board and commission members sitting at the time of the adoption of this Section 2.02.200.

A copy of this Code of Ethics shall be provided to each person appointed to a board or commission with the Oath of Office and shall be signed and returned by the official to the Clerk of the Board prior to being seated on the board or commission.

SECTION II

This ordinance shall take effect and be in force thirty (30) days from and after the date of passage, and before the expiration of fifteen days after its passage, shall be published once with the names of the members voting for and against the same in a newspaper of general circulation published in the County of Alameda.

This ordinance was adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Alameda, State of California, on the 18th day of June, 2024, by the following called vote:

AYES: Supervisors Carson, Haubert, Marquez & President Miley - 4

NOES: None

EXCUSED: Supervisor Tam - 1

ABSTAINED: None



President of the Board of Supervisors
County of Alameda, State of California

ATTEST:

Anika Campbell-Belton,
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: RB Bailey, Deputy

Confirmation of receipt of the Alameda County Code of Ethics for Board and Commission Members. I have read and understand the Code of Ethics set forth as guiding principles for public officials.

Print Name

Name of Board or Commission

Signature

Date

Please return a copy of this document to the Clerk of the Board:

Mailing address: Clerk of the Board's Office
Attn: Boards and Commissions
1221 Oak Street, Suite 536
Oakland, CA 94612

You may return this Receipt of Confirmation via email cbs@acgov.org, fax (510) 208-9660 or U.S. Mail to address above.

Date: 22 July 2024

To: Alameda County Veterans Affairs Commission
From: Omar Farmer, Chairperson
Cc: Executive Committee

Subject: To develop a scorecard for each ALCO district based off of our GRIID / Groups, Resources, Ideas, Initiatives, Doings. This will assist us to learn how each district can be a stronger advocate for veterans. Further, it provides us with up to date information that can be shared with the BoS when we need to provide them with advice and assistance regarding veterans and their families (Reference - ACVAC ByLaws Article 3, Section 1).

GRIID - Groups, Resources, Ideas, Initiatives, Doings

Groups - veteran or paramilitary groups

Resources - veteran businesses or locations offering veteran specific assistance

Ideas - ways an area can better support veterans

Initiatives - veteran projects underway for a specific area

Doings - veteran themed events or happenings in an area

District 1 **Commissioners** - Forbes, Gilmore, Gordillo, Phair

Groups: VFW D10, American Legion Post?, Sea Cadets?, Quilts of Valor

Resources: Santa Rita Jail Veteran Pod, Pleasanton VMB, Camp Parks, Fremont Satellite VSO, Las Positas VRC, Livermore VMB, Fremont VMB, 1 Nation Dream Makers

Ideas:

Initiatives:

Doings: Livermore Military Banner Program, Dublin Military Banner Program, Fremont Independence Day Parade, Tri Valley Veteran day parade, Livermore Veterans Park, Richard Valle Annual Veterans Day Luncheon

District 2 **Commissioners** - Bruenner, Jaffin

Groups: American Legion 68?, Sea Cadets Hancock Squadron, USMC Adolescent Group?,
USMC League San Leandro?

Resources: Hayward VMB, Cal State East Bay VRC, Hayward Library VRC

Ideas:

Initiatives: Eden Housing veteran affordable housing - 15 units reserved for veterans

through the VASH voucher program and 10 units, First Presbyterian Church of Hayward, 2490 Grove Way, Castro Valley, CA, 94546 has proposed 199 housing units on their property of which 25% will be reserved for Veterans. They need funding.

Doings: Veteran Suicide Prevention Forum, Richard Valle Veterans Day Lunch

District 3 Commissioners - Boldt, Dolgin, LoParo, McIlvain, Owens

Groups: MOAA, Sea Cadet Grey Ghosts

Resources: ALCO Veteran Treatment Court, Coast Guard Island, Alameda VMB, College of Alameda VRC, Laney College VRC, StP Jack London Square, Alameda Naval Air Museum, USS Hornet Museum

Ideas: Women Veterans Historical Corridor

Initiatives: Development of Women Veteran section of Alameda Naval Air Museum, Pt. Alameda Clinic

Doings: Alameda Independence Day Parade, Alameda Memorial Day event, Coast Guard Day on CGI, Women Veterans Recognition Day event, Laney College Stand Down, various USS Hornet veteran observance day events.

District 4 Commissioners - Harrison, Warner

Groups:

Resources: ALCO VSO, Merritt College VRC, San Leandro Library VRC

Ideas:

Initiatives: Castro Valley Library development

Doings: Castro Valley veteran memorial, Castro Valley Memorial Day event

District 5 Commissioners - Cole, Farmer, Williamson, Yohannes

Groups: DAV Berkeley, DAV Oakland, VFW Post?, TVMN, OMI

Resources: DAV VSO, AMVETS VSO, Cal Vet VSO, Oakland VMB, Albany VMB, Berkeley VMB, Berkeley City College VRC, UCB VRC, UCB ROTC, Oakland Clinic & Mental Health Center, Piedmont Veteran Hall, Samuel Merritt VRC

Ideas: Veteran preference hiring

Initiatives: BVHC

Doings: Veterans Day event, SVDP Stand Down, Piedmont Independence Day Parade, OMI Pass In Reviews

Omar

The \$240 million Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic and Columbarium at Alameda Point (the former Alameda Naval Air Station, Alameda, CA) is still active.

\$110 million in federal funding is committed (and in the bank). \$26 million is from Congresswoman Barbara Lee.

Attached are the architect's renderings of the 624 acre parcel acquired by the VA and the VA Clinic and Columbarium that will be constructed on 112 acres of this parcel.

*Conway B. Jones, Jr.

Colonel, USAF (Retired)

Former Chairman, Alameda County Veterans Affairs Commission



VETERANS AFFAIRS
Northern California Healthcare System

OPC – MAIN LOBBY



VETERANS AFFAIRS
Northern California Healthcare System

OPC- EXTERIOR



OPC- WEST ELEVATION



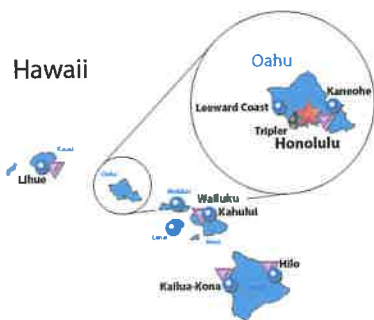
NATIONAL CEMETERY - OVERVIEW



VETERANS AFFAIRS
Northern California Healthcare System

VA Sierra Pacific Network (VISN 21)

VA Sites of Care by Health Care System



American Samoa

Northern Mariana Islands

Guam



Health Care System (HCS)

Sites and Level of Care

- ★ VISN 21 Headquarters
- ★ VA Medical Centers
- ▲ VA Division (Inpatient/Outpatient)
- VA Outpatient Sites of Care
- Other Outpatient Services Site
- ◆ VA/DoD Joint Venture Site
- ▼ Vet Centers

Facility Service Areas

- VA Sierra Nevada HCS
- VA North California HCS
- VA San Francisco HCS
- VA Southern Nevada HCS
- VA Palo Alto HCS
- VA Central California HCS
- VA Pacific Islands HCS
- Manila Regional Office and VA Clinic

Veteran Observance Days

Veteran Observance Days Ad hoc:

Members: Omar, Fred, Mike, Joe, Skip

<u>Date & Name</u>	<u>Commissioners</u>	<u>Events</u>
Jan. 25 — Anniversary of the U.S. & Allied Victory at the Battle of the Bulge		
Feb. 3 — Four Chaplains Day		
Feb. 9 — Anniversary of the U.S. Victory at the Battle of Guadalcanal		
Feb. 28 — Anniversary of the U.S.-Led Victory in the Persian Gulf War		
March 3 — Navy Reserve Birthday		Naval Reserve Base Alameda event?
<i>March 13 — K-9 Veterans Day</i>		
March 15-17 — Anniversary of the First Caucus of The American Legion		
March 25 — National Medal of Honor Day		
March 26 — Anniversary of the U.S. Victory at the Battle of Iwo Jima		
<i>March 29 — Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day</i>		USS Hornet event.
April 5 — Gold Star Spouses Day		
May 1 — Silver Star Service Banner Day		
<i>Friday before Mother's Day in May — Military Spouse Appreciation Day</i>		
May 8 — Anniversary of Victory in Europe Day		
<i>Armed Forces Day - May 18th (3rd Sat in May)</i>		Mike Paddle discount?
<i>The Last Monday in May — Memorial Day</i>		American Legion Alameda Event, USS Hornet,
<i>June is PTSD Awareness Month</i>		Collaborate with Mission 22? Las Positas event?
June 6 — Anniversary of the D-Day Landings at Normandy		
June 7 — Anniversary of the U.S. Victory at the Battle of Midway		
<i>June 12 — Women Veterans Day</i>		Planning for VAC Event on 6/12 in progress
June 14 — Flag Day and the Founding of the U.S. Army (Army Birthday)		
June 22 — Anniversary of the U.S. & Allied Victory at the Battle of Okinawa		
<i>June 27 — PTSD Awareness Day</i>		Promote through VAC
<i>July 4 — Independence Day</i>		City of Alameda parade,
<i>July 27 — National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day</i>		
Aug. 4 — Anniversary of the Founding of the U.S. Coast Guard (Coast Guard Birthday)		Coast Guard Island event? Yes the Coast Guard has an event every year on Base Alameda
Aug. 7 — National Purple Heart Day		
Aug. 30 — Anniversary of the Final Withdrawal from Afghanistan		
<i>September is National Suicide Prevention Month</i>		<i>Veteran Suicide Prevention Forum at Hayward VMB 9/4/24 6-7 pm</i> <i>Stand Down 9/13-14, 9a-3p Homeless Vets 7x more likely to commit suicide</i>
Sept. 2 — Anniversary of Victory Over Japan Day		
<i>Sept. 11 — Patriot Day</i>		OFD had an event at city hall last year.
Sept. 18 — Anniversary of the Founding of the U.S. Air Force (Air Force Birthday)		
<i>September 20- National POW day</i>		USS Hornet to host event

The Third Friday in September — National POW/MIA Recognition Day		
Oct. 13 — Anniversary of the Founding of the U.S. Navy (Navy Birthday)		
November Is National Veterans and Military Families Month		
Nov. 10 — Anniversary of the Founding of the U.S. Marine Corps (Marine Corps Birthday)		
Nov. 11 — Veterans Day	Omar, et al.	VAC annual event at Frank Ogawa plaza. Alameda American Legion event.
Dec. 7 — Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day		
Dec. 15 — Anniversary of the Official End of War in Iraq		
Dec. 20 — Anniversary of the Foundation of the U.S. Space Force (Space Force Birthday)		Binge watch 1st season of Star Trek
Dec. 20 — Anniversary of the Foundation of the U.S. Space Force (Space Force Birthday)		

The Alameda County Veterans Affairs Commission presents

RSVP Here



Send questions in advance
to: veterans@acgov.org

Join the fight to save lives!
Nationwide, 16-18 veterans
commit suicide per day!

Veteran Suicide Prevention Forum

In recognition of National Suicide Prevention Month

*Featuring a Panel of Prevention &
Intervention Subject Matter Experts*

**Location: Hayward Veterans
Memorial Building on 22737 Main St,
Hayward 94541 in the Army Room**

DATE: SEPTEMBER 4TH, 6-7 PM

ADMISSION IS FREE FOR ALL!

**Free parking is available on site
10-min walk to Hayward BART**



EVENT PRESS RELEASE

Veteran Suicide Prevention Forum

DATE & TIME:

9/4/24, 6-7 PM

LOCATION:

22737 MAIN ST, HAYWARD CA. 94541
HAYWARD VETERAN MEMORIAL
BUILDING, ARMY ROOM



Overview

Join the fight to save lives! The Alameda County Veterans' Affairs Commission is hosting a Veteran Suicide Prevention Forum, in recognition of September being National Suicide Prevention Month. This FREE event will feature a panel of suicide prevention and intervention subject matter experts who will share best practices, local statistics, and lessons learned. Then they'll take questions. Multiple service providers will also be present. Veterans and non-veterans are encouraged to attend.

About

Nationwide, 16-18 veterans commit suicide per day. That's one veteran lost every 1 hour and 22 minutes. Further, veterans are 3x more likely to commit suicide than their non-veteran peers. To combat this issue, a mobile medical outreach unit has been holding events at the Hayward Veteran Memorial Building for the past several months. Our goal is to promote their efforts and those of other suicide prevention professionals while highlighting calls-to-action during the forum.

Commission's Role

The Commission promotes, develops, and identifies the needs of veterans and their families. Veteran suicide is an issue of paramount importance. We hope this event provides the veteran community and public at large with more tools and resources to effect positive change in Alameda County.



Press Contact:

Omar Farmer
Chairperson



www.alco-acvac



ofarmer@hotmail.com



[\(415\) 513-8024](tel:(415)513-8024)

• • • VETERAN SUICIDE PREVENTION FORUM - AGENDA • • •

Wednesday, September 4th, 6-6:45 or 7 PM

• • • BY: ALCO VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMISSION (ACVAC) • • •

Welcome & Opening

8 min

Item 1

- Introduce yourself & describe ACVAC's purpose
- Explain the purpose and history of National Suicide Prevention Month
- Welcome Panelists and provide them with 1 min for opening statements:
Ari Davis - ALCO DPH Violence Prevention Epidemiologist

Lashelle Burch - VA Suicide Prevention, Community Engagement & Partnerships Coordinator

Eric Wick - Swords to Plowshares, Veteran Suicide Prevention Trainer

Ethel Gilmore - Military Widow and Dependent, Suicide Loss Survivor

Item 2 Ari Davis Presentation

20 min

- Veteran Suicide in ALCO (10 min)
- Q&A (10 min)

Item 3 Question One

5 min

- What is driving the increase in veteran suicide? (i.e. Why?)

Item 4 Question Two

5 min

- What can the public do about it?

Item 5 Question & Answer

Up to 20 min

- Take questions from the public
- And/or read questions sent in advance
- Or ask more pre-created questions

Item 6 Thank You & Goodnight

Approximately 2 min

- Panelists
- American Legion Post 68
- Honored Guests

Promote 9/13-14 Stand Down & 9/12 Suicide Prevention Mobile Medical Outreach

• • •

Veteran Suicide in Alameda County

Matt Beyers

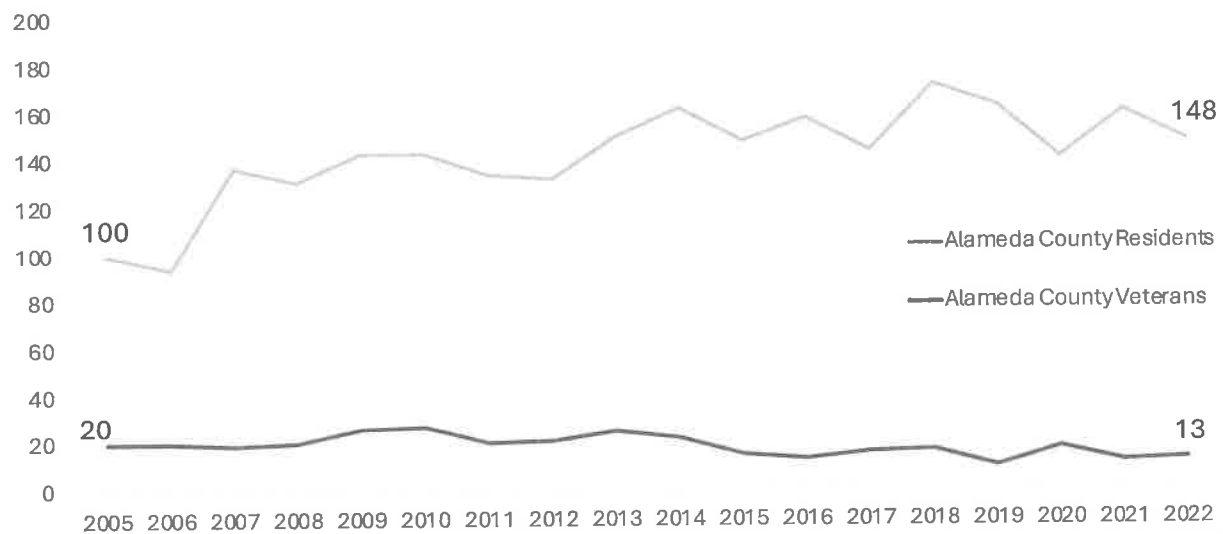
matt.beyers@acgov.org

June 12, 2024

Over Time

- The count of suicides by veterans has dropped slightly since 2005, while the count among Alameda County residents has risen.

**Suicide Deaths of Veterans and Alameda County Residents
by Year, 2005-2022**

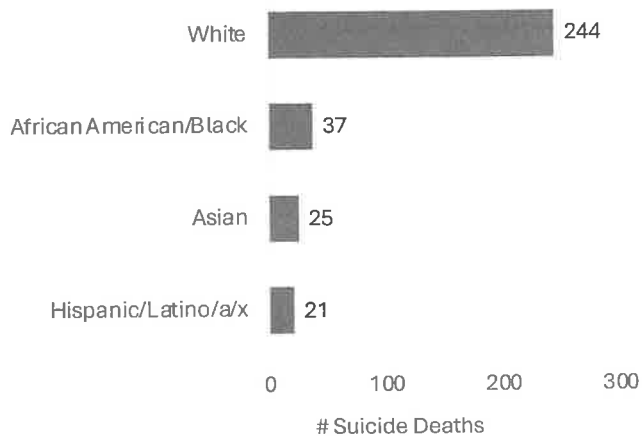


By Race/Ethnicity

- White veterans make up most of the veteran deaths in Alameda County.

Race/Ethnicity	Suicide Deaths		All Veteran Deaths		Suicide as % of All Deaths
	#	%	#	%	
American Indian/Alaskan Native	<10	NA	80	0.2%	NA
Pacific Islander	<10	NA	112	0.3%	NA
Multirace	<10	NA	291	0.9%	NA
Hispanic/Latino/a/x	21	6.3%	2,164	6.7%	0.97%
Asian	25	7.5%	1,843	5.7%	1.36%
African American/Black	37	11.1%	5,962	18.6%	0.62%
White	244	73.1%	21,658	67.4%	1.13%
All Races	334	100.0%	32,132	100.0%	1.04%

Suicide Deaths of Veterans By Race/Ethnicity, 2005 - 2022

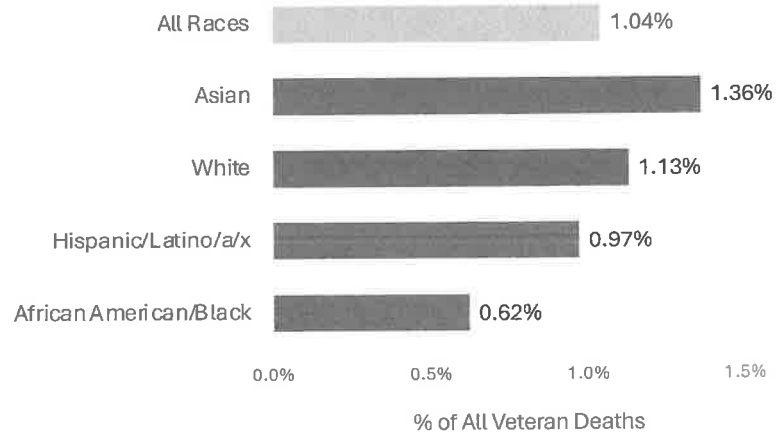


By Race/Ethnicity

- Suicide as a percentage of veteran deaths ranges from 1.36% of Asian veterans to 0.62% of American American/Black veterans.

Race/Ethnicity	Suicide Deaths		All Veteran Deaths		Suicide as % of All Deaths
	#	%	#	%	
American Indian/Alaskan Native	<10	NA	80	0.2%	NA
Pacific Islander	<10	NA	112	0.3%	NA
Multirace	<10	NA	291	0.9%	NA
Hispanic/Latino/a/x	21	6.3%	2,164	6.7%	0.97%
Asian	25	7.5%	1,843	5.7%	1.36%
African American/Black	37	11.1%	5,962	18.6%	0.62%
White	244	73.1%	21,658	67.4%	1.13%
All Races	334	100.0%	32,132	100.0%	1.04%

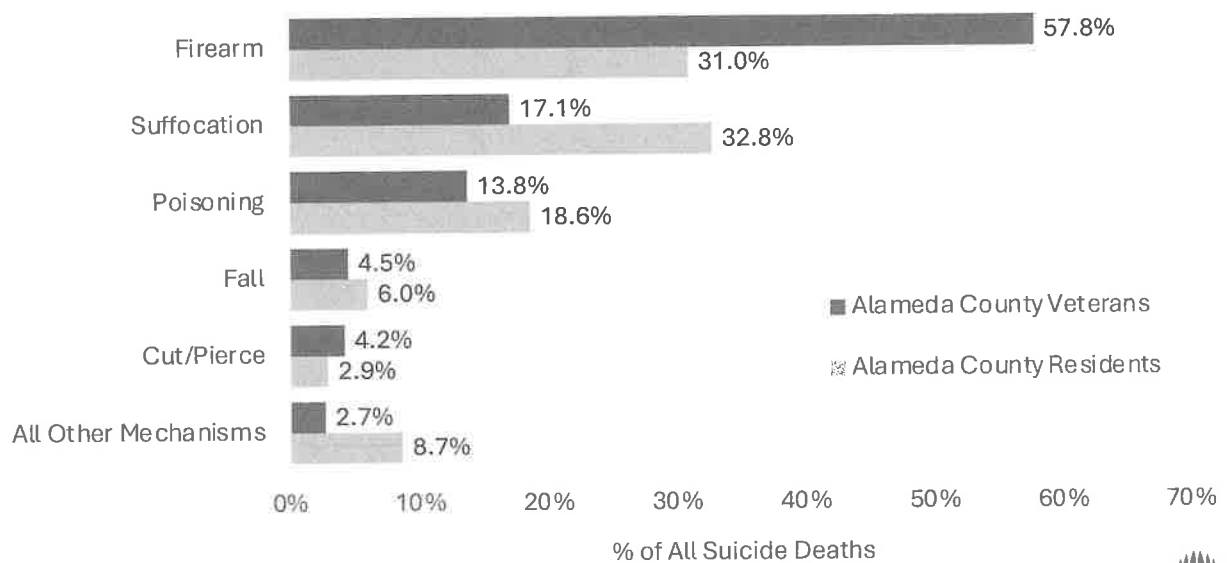
**Suicide Deaths of Veterans as % of All Deaths
2005 - 2022**



By Mechanism

- Veteran suicides are more likely to be due to firearms than suicides among all Alameda County residents.

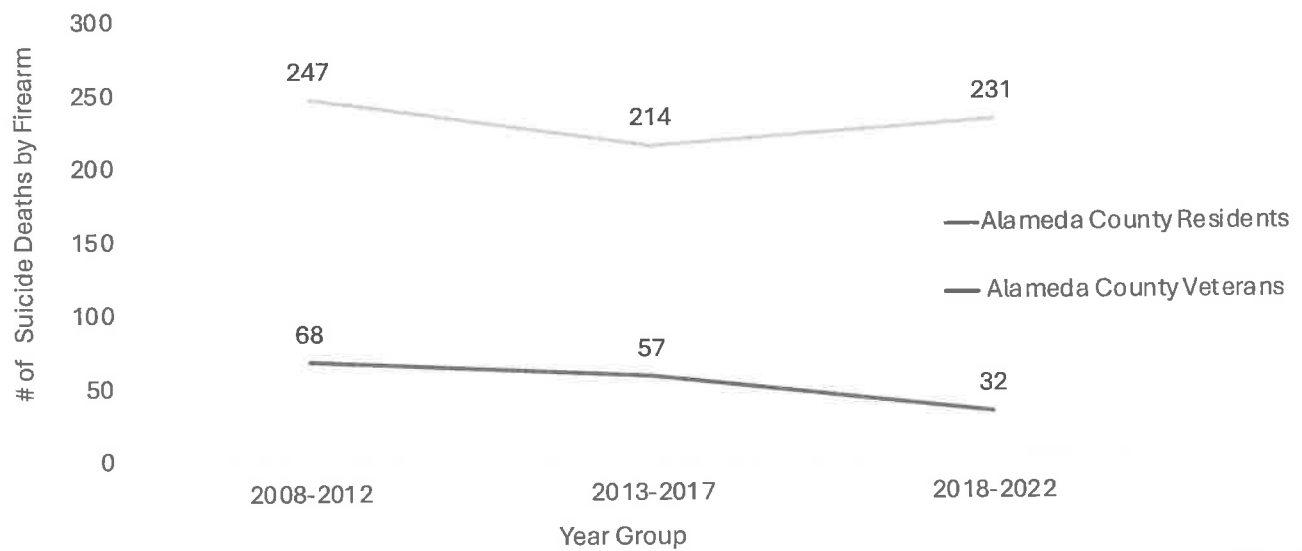
**Suicide Deaths of Veterans and Residents of Alameda County
by Mechanism, 2005-2022**



Firearm

- The number of veteran suicide deaths due to firearms has decreased.

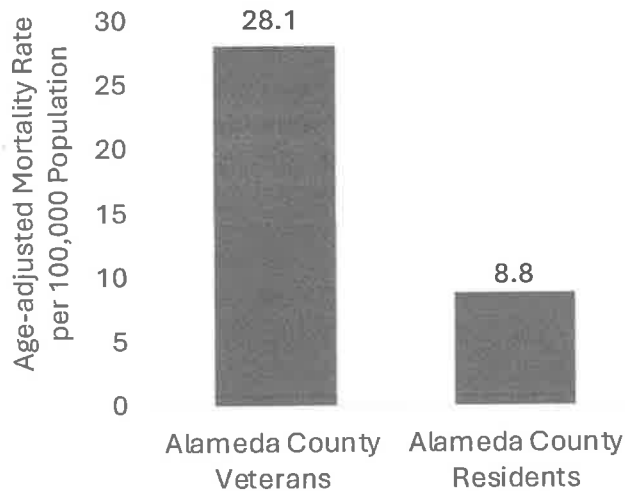
Suicide Deaths by Firearm of Veterans and Residents of Alameda County, 2008-2022



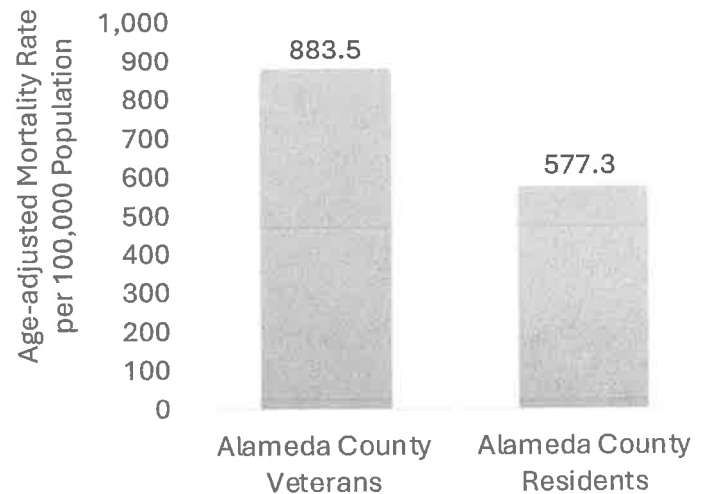
Mortality Rate

- Veterans of Alameda County are 3.2 times more likely to die by suicide than all residents of Alameda County, and the overall veteran mortality rate is 1.5 times that of Alameda County.

**Suicide Mortality Rate of Veterans and Residents of Alameda County
2018 - 2022**



**All-Cause Mortality Rate of Veterans and Residents of Alameda County
2018 - 2022**



By the Numbers

6,392

In 2021, 6,392 veterans died from suicide. That's one every 82 minutes:6 seconds...

17.5

In 2021, 17.5 veterans died from suicide per day.

203

In 2021, the suicide rate for Veterans was 203% greater than for non-Veteran U.S. adults.

72.2

In 2021, among U.S. adults who died from suicide, firearms were more commonly involved among Veterans (72.2%) than non-Veterans (52.2%).

2

In 2021, suicide was the second leading cause of death for all veterans ages 18-44.

2023 VA National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report



Know a veteran experiencing tough times? We can help.

WGVG

Swords to Plowshares

(415) 727-VETS (8327)

Our Service Centers:

San Francisco

1060 Howard Street

San Francisco, CA 94103

(415) 252-4788

Oakland

330 Franklin Street, Ste. 100

Oakland, CA 94607

(510) 844-7500

Follow us: [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#)
Sign up for our email updates: <https://www.swords-to-plowshares.org/get-involved>





ATTENTION MILITARY VETERANS

VA PALO ALTO MOBILE MEDICAL OUTREACH TEAM & PARTNERS IN HAYWARD

MEET REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE VA PALO ALTO MOBILE MEDICAL OUTREACH TEAM & PARTNERS.

*. *PROVIDERS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE THE DAY OF PROGRAM.**

- PROVIDES EXAMINATIONS, CONSULTATIONS, AND REFERRALS TO ENROLLED VETERANS IN THE VA HEALTHCARE SYSTEM.
- ASSIST WITH INFORMATION ABOUT VETERAN ENROLLMENT FOR VA HEALTHCARE.
- RECEIVE INFORMATION ABOUT OTHER VA RESOURCES AND MUCH MORE!

PLEASE BRING:

- IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS REGARDING ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT INTO THE VA HEALTHCARE SYSTEM, PLEASE BRING A COPY OF YOUR DD-214.
- LIST OF CURRENT MEDICATIONS.

NEXT VISITS:

- ~~THURSDAY, AUGUST 15 - CANCELLED~~
- THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

HAYWARD VETERANS MEMORIAL HALL

22737 MAIN ST, HAYWARD, CA 94541

**PLEASE CONTACT
LIBRARIAN HECTOR
VILLASEÑOR AT
HECTOR.VILLASENOR@
HAYWARD-CA.GOV OR
(510) 881-7974 FOR
MORE INFORMATION.**



THIS PROGRAM IS A COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE VA PALO ALTO MOBILE MEDICAL OUTREACH TEAM AND PARTNERS, THE VETERANS CONNECT @THE LIBRARY PROGRAM, THE HAYWARD PUBLIC LIBRARY AND THE HAYWARD VETERANS MEMORIAL HALL



VETS HELPING VETS SINCE 1974

SSG Fox Program

Suicide Prevention Education for

Providers and Advocates

**Increase awareness and build skills that will assist your work with
veterans experiencing mental health challenges**

**Swords to Plowshares provides FREE trainings for providers,
advocates, and organizations to learn veteran-centered
approaches to mental health and suicide prevention care.**

We cover:

SUICIDE AWARENESS

Gain information on the specific experiences and conditions that elevate suicide rates among veterans, debunk misconceptions, and understand the impact of community

SUICIDE PREVENTION

Build confidence in your ability to spot a veteran in crisis and learn tips to engage these veterans with lifesaving care

INCIDENT RESPONSE

Craft well-informed incident response plans for times when a veteran presents with suicidal ideation

LETHAL MEANS REDUCTION

Learn helpful skills to foster a safe and preventative environment, including how to properly use gun locks and how to safely store guns, other weapons, and items

COMBAT TO COMMUNITY

Learn to build community relationships with veterans and engage with cultural factors that may impact a veteran's transition to civilian life

DE-ESCALATION STRATEGIES

Expand awareness of techniques to reduce the intensity of potentially violent or critical situations without using physical force

PEER SUPPORT

Engage with peer support resources designed to support veterans experiencing mental health crises

**Interested in
collaborating?
Contact us!**

BY EMAIL
ssgfox@stp-sf.org

BY PHONE
(415) 727-VETS (8387)

BY WEB
swords-to-plowshares.org/contact



INTERNATIONAL OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY SAVE A LIFE

**AUGUST 28, 2024
AT 12 PM**

BLDG 101 ATRIUM
PALO ALTO DIVISION
3801 MIRANDA AVE
PALO ALTO, CA 94304

VAPAHCS Suicide Prevention and Pharmacy have partnered to provide training for Veterans, caregivers, and staff to learn how to administer the life-saving opioid overdose treatment, Naloxone. In addition to the live demo, there will be educational materials, resources and information on how to receive a prescription of naloxone. This event is open to Veterans and Caregivers.

Join us to:

- » Learn the signs of overdose
- » Learn about naloxone, its availability and how to use it
- » Help people struggling with opioid use disorder find the right care and treatment.



VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
150 Patton Avenue, Suite 200
Palo Alto, CA 94304

Stand Up/Down

EVENT PRESS RELEASE

DRAFT

Stand Down in the Town!

DATE & TIME:

SEPT 13TH & 14TH, 2024

9 AM TO 3 PM BOTH DAYS

LOCATION:

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

2272 SAN PABLO AVE OAKLAND 94612



Overview

The Alameda County Veterans' Affairs Commission and St. Vincent De Paul (SVDP) are collaborating to create a Stand Down event. Stand Down is a term used to describe a resource fair for homeless veterans. All services provided are FREE. They include showers, food, resume writing, interview preparation, hygiene kits, housing placement, legal services, healthcare and wellness, employment, reentry resources, food, laundry access, clothing, transportation, and veteran benefits assistance. The event is being held indoors. No one needing services will be turned away.

About

According to the 2024 Alameda County point-in-time report, there are 9,450 homeless people in the county. With 58% of them residing in Oakland. Of the 524 who identify as veterans approximately 330 are in Oakland. SVDP is located next to multiple homeless encampments and is across the street from the Oakland VA Clinic. Combined this makes the event centrally located to the population being served and proximate to key veteran resources. The event is also being held during National Suicide Prevention Month. Homeless veterans are 7x more likely to commit suicide than their non-veteran peers. Suicide prevention call-to-action themes will be promoted during the event.

Commission's Role

The Commission researches matters relating to veterans and their families as they may pertain to meeting their basic needs for veteran's benefits, food, shelter, employment, and transportation all of which will be provided at the Stand Down. One of the Alameda County Vision 2026 goals is to eliminate homelessness in the county. This event was created to assist with achieving that objective.



Press Contact:

Omar Farmer
Chairperson

 www.alco-acvac
 ofarmer@hotmail.com
 (415) 513-8024



Date: 8/15/24

STAND DOWN in the TOWN



Organized by the:

Alameda County, Veterans Affairs Commission

& the Society of St. Vincent De Paul



Prepared by Omar Farmer, Chairperson, Alameda County Veterans Affairs Commission

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2. Statistics

3. Facility & Resources



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Overview

Fall Flyer




THE ALAMEDA COUNTY VETERANS AFFAIRS
COMMISSION & ST. VINCENT DE PAUL PRESENT



**STAND DOWN IN
THE TOWN**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★





ADDRESS: ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
2272 SAN PABLO AVE. OAKLAND



DATE: SEPTEMBER 13 & 14, 9 AM - 3 PM

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

FREE SERVICES PROVIDED:
EMPLOYMENT, LEGAL, HOUSING, HEALTHCARE,
SHOWERS, LAUNDRY, OVERNIGHT SHELTER,
RE-ENTRY, VETERAN BENEFITS, FOOD, GUEST
SPEAKERS, WELLNESS, BASIC NEEDS, MORE!



QUESTIONS
VETERANS@ACQV.Org

Stand Down Definition

In times of war, exhausted combat units requiring time to rest and recover were removed from the battlefields to a place of security and safety. At secure areas, troops were able to take care of personal hygiene, get clean uniforms, enjoy warm meals, receive medical and dental care, mail and receive letters, and enjoy the camaraderie of friends in a safe environment.

Today, Stand Down refers to a grassroots, community-based intervention program designed to help the nation's unhoused veterans on any given night "combat" life on the streets. Both regular St Vincent De Paul (SVDP) clients and veterans will be brought together at SVDP both days and provided access to the community resources needed to begin rebuilding their lives. This is a way to afford them the opportunity to renew their spirit, health and overall sense of well-being.



Event W's + How

- **Who** – for both unhoused veterans and unhoused students:

➤ **Unhoused Veterans:** There are approx. 524 unhoused veterans in the county out of 9,450 total. Vets historically represent 6-9% (page 25) of the unhoused population.

- **What** – Stand Down is term used for resource fairs for unhoused veterans.
- **When** – on Friday Sept 13th and Saturday Sept 14th from 9 am to 3 pm both days. You can park in the dirt parking lot off of MLK Blvd & West Grand on Friday. Secure parking for Saturday is TBD.
- **Where** – at St Vincent De Paul (SVDP) on 2272 San Pablo Ave Oakland 94612.

W's + How, continued

- **How** – through our partnerships with the SVDP the Alameda County Veterans Affairs Commission, and 30+ community based organizations who will have tables at the event.
- **Why** – Oakland has the highest concentration of veterans in the county and many unhoused residents live in the vicinity of SVDP's site. 58% of the unhoused population is in Oakland. SVDP is located in the middle of an encampment area and also across the street from the Oakland VA Clinic creating a unique opportunity to be proximate to our target population.

Statistics

ALCO 2022 PIT Statistics / 9,747 total

[Link to 2022 report \(page 23\)](#)

1.	Oakland	52%	5,055	total homeless
2.	Berkeley	11%	1,057	
3.	Fremont	11%	1,026	
4.	Unincorporated	5%	509	
5.	Union City	4%	489	
6.	San Leandro	4%	409	
7.	Hayward	4%	381	
8.	Alameda	3%	264	
9.	Livermore	2%	242	
10.	Emeryville, Newark, Pleasanton	1% each	91, 58, 72	
11.	Piedmont, Dublin, Albany	<1% each	42, 29, 23	

**Approximately
550 Veterans!**

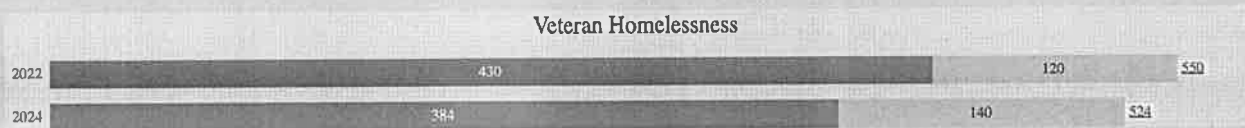
Unincorporated areas: Castro Valley, Ashland, Cherryland, San Lorenzo, Sunol, Hillcrest Knolls, Happy Valley, Fairview, Castlewood

National 2023 PIT Statistics

EXHIBIT 5.12: CoCs with the Highest Percentages of Veterans Experiencing Homelessness who were Unsheltered
By CoC Category, 2023

CoC Name	Veterans Experiencing Homelessness	Percent Unsheltered	CoC Name	Veterans Experiencing Homelessness	Percent Unsheltered
Major City CoCs			Other Largely Urban CoCs		
Oakland, Berkeley/Alameda County, CA	552	77.9%	Oxnard, San Buenaventura/Ventura County, CA	180	74.4%
San Francisco, CA	548	73.7%	Eugene, Springfield/Lane County, OR	197	74.1%
San Jose/Santa Clara City & County, CA	479	73.3%	Santa Rosa, Petaluma/Sonoma County, CA	110	67.3%
Los Angeles City & County, CA	3,874	72.4%	Spokane City & County, WA	129	33.3%
Fresno City & County/Madera County, CA	235	72.3%	St. Petersburg, Clearwater, Largo/Pinellas County, FL	292	25.7%
Largely Suburban CoCs			Largely Rural CoCs		
Imperial County CoC, CA	142	99.3%	Chattanooga/Southeast Tennessee CoC	147	85.7%
San Bernardino City & County CoC, CA	231	87.9%	Georgia Balance of State CoC	284	79.2%
Watsonville/Santa Cruz City & County CoC, CA	159	87.4%	Oregon Balance of State CoC	503	77.5%
Riverside City & County CoC, CA	252	78.6%	Humboldt County CoC, CA	183	72.1%
Ft Lauderdale/Broward County CoC, FL	128	73.4%	Colorado Balance of State CoC	207	67.6%

74



- In 2024, **524** veterans were estimated to be **experiencing homelessness** on a single night in January. A -5% decrease from 2022's Count.
- There were **140** veterans counted in Shelter Projects. A 17% increase from 2022. 27% of the Veterans experiencing homelessness in 2024 were **sheltered**.
- There were **384** veterans estimated to be living **unsheltered**. A -11% decrease from 2022. 73% of the Veterans experiencing homelessness in 2024 were unsheltered.

ALCO 2024 PIT Statistics / 9,450 total

[Link to 2024 report](#)

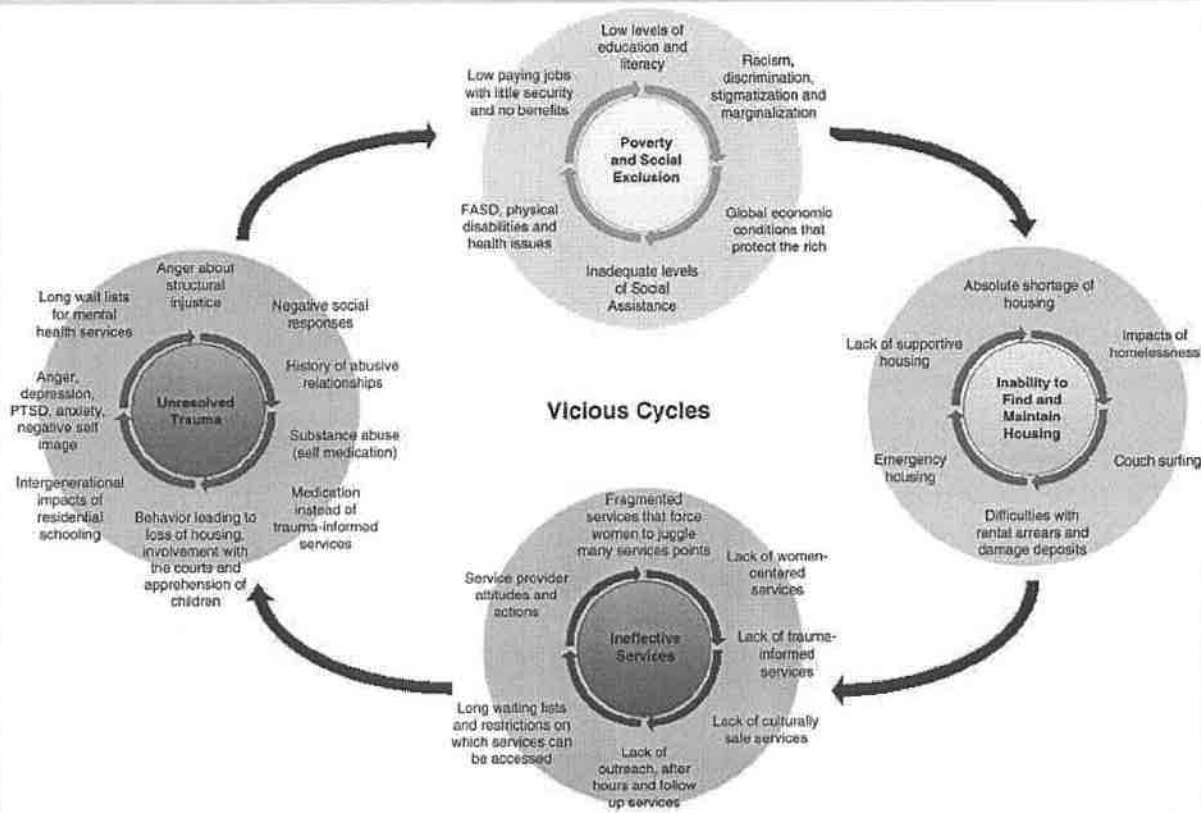
1.	Oakland-D5	58%	5,493	+438
2.	Berkeley-D5	8.9%	844	-213
3.	Fremont-D1	8.5%	809	-217
4.	Hayward-D2	5.4%	512	+131
5.	Alameda-D3	4.8%	455	+191
6.	Unincorporated-D4	3.1%	294	-215
7.	Union City-D2	2%	190	-299
8.	San Leandro-D4	3%	283	-126
9.	Livermore-D1	2.9%	276	+34
10.	Emeryville, Newark, Pleasanton	<1% each	37 (-54), 75 (+17), 69 (-3)	
11.	Piedmont, Dublin, Albany	<1% each	3 (-39), 24 (-5), 89 (+66)	

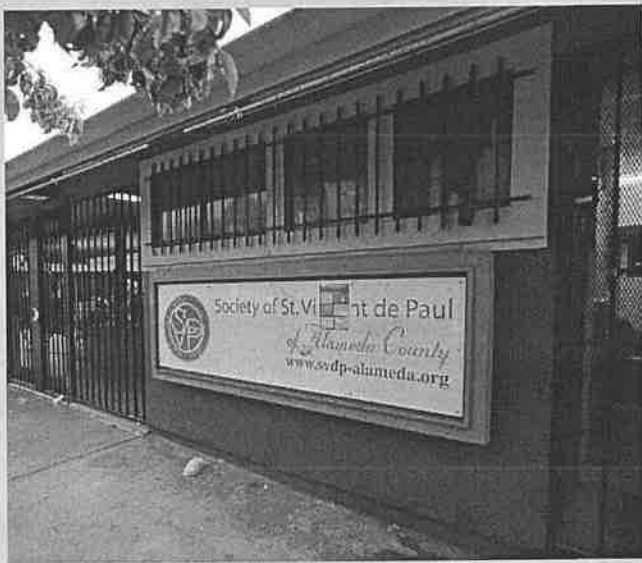
Unincorporated areas: Castro Valley, Ashland, Cherryland, San Lorenzo, Sunol, Hillcrest Knolls, Happy Valley, Fairview, Castlewood

Homeless Veteran Demographics

Oakland 430k population – #1	Berkeley 122k population – #4	Fremont 238k population – #2	3 of the 4 Largest Cities
District 5	District 5	District 1	Area Totals
58% of homeless population	8.9% of homeless population	8.5% of homeless population	75% total
5,493 total homeless	844 total homeless	809 total homeless	7,146 (6-9% vets)
330	50.6 Veterans	48.5 Veterans	429 at a 6% rate
Rest of ALCO Homeless Population / 2304 = 138 Vets	429 Homeless Vets in Oakland, Berkeley, Fremont	429 + 138 = 567 Homeless Vets at a 6% rate	Approximately 567 Homeless Vets

Facility & Resources





675 23rd St:
General Entrance



2272 San Pablo Ave:
Dedicated Veteran Entrance

St Vincent De Paul Resources

- Showers
- Laundry
- Overnight Shelter
- Food
- Clothing
- Presentation Area
- Stand Down Services Center
- Computer Lab for Resumes, Headshots, & Interview Prep



Grilling Area



Courtyard



Food Prep



Cafeteria



Community Center



Presentation Area



Computer Lab



Lounge



Clothes Pantry



Overnight Shelter



Washers



Dryers



Showers

Service Providers

Employment

Oakland Police Department
AC Transit
Berkeley Lab (9/13)
Swords to Plowshares (Training)
Caltrans
Insight Global (resumes, headshots, interview prep)
Plumbers Union?
Hired Labs
West Oakland Job Resource Center?
Metro 1 Loss Prevention?
Social Security Office?
BACS?
Safeway
Women Building the Bay?
Rising Sun Construction (training)?
Southwest Airlines?
Goodwill?
ALCO Workforce Development?

Housing

Insight Housing
Operation Dignity?
EOCP?
Building A Solid Foundation?
Home Match (#2, 1/2 days)
BACS

Justice Involved

Veteran Treatment Court
BOSS
Christian Center?

Transportation

Transportation Subcommittee

Service Providers

VA Benefits

Disabled American Veterans NSO
AMVETS NSO?
ALCO VSO (9/13)

Financial

UNIFY Credit Union

Basic Needs & Resource Navigation

American Red Cross
Oakland Public Library (9/14)
The Veteran Community Media Network

Legal

Andrea Henson Esq.

Healthcare & Wellness

Veterans Center (Counseling)
Sierra Club (Wellness)
First Step Recovery (Counseling)
VA Palo Alto Suicide Prevention
VA Women Veterans Healthcare
VA H-PACT Mobile Medical Unit
Swords to Plowshares
Vet Boats?
Healthcare for the Homeless?
Oakland Homelessness Division?
Downtown Streets Program – Berkeley



VA H-PACT Mobile Medical Unit

Event Schedule

Friday

9 am	Stand Down begins
9-10 am	Breakfast
10-11 am	DAV Vet Benefits Seminar
11-1 pm	TVCMN event
12-1 pm	Lunch
1-2 pm	DAV Vet Benefits Seminar
3 pm	Event Ends

Saturday

9 am	Stand Down begins
9-10 am	Breakfast
10-11 am	DAV Vet Benefits Seminar
12-1	Lunch
1-2 pm	DAV Vet Benefits Seminar
1-3 pm	CM Fife visit
3 pm	Event Ends

Outreach



Outreach Network

Events/Centers	Basic Needs	Faith Based	Shelters/Temp Housing	Street Outreach
Coliseum Fair				MACRO
Reentry Forum				OPD
OPL				CHP
				FPD
				OFD
				FFD
				BPD
				BFD
				SVDP
				StP
				VTC/JVO/SRJ

Outreach - July

- Met with Stand Down Subcommittee
- Created outreach flyer
- Attended July 18th Homeless resource fair at the Coliseum
- Toured Santa Rita Jail – Veteran Pod on July 25th
- Discussed with VTC & VJVO to do outreach to unhoused vets in their program

Outreach - August

- Coordinated outreach via the faith based community.
- Conducted August 19th ACVAC meeting at SVDP and toured the site with commissioners and attendees.
- Coordinate street outreach with SVDP, StP, ACVAC
- Disseminate Press Release
- Coordinate street outreach with: Office of Homeless Care and Coordination, Encampment Response Team, ALCO Downtown Streets Program, Berkeley Stair Center, Homeless Action Team, Public Works Agency
- Presenting to Veteran Treatment Court on August 30th 2-2:30p
- Center of Reentry Excellence, Community Resource Forum, August 29th 11a-3p

Outreach - September

- Event to be advertised in the September, Street Spirit event section
- Give flyer to PD's and MACRO to distribute
- Attend Berkeley food event next to Veteran Memorial Building
- Speak at Transitional Housing locations: Operation Dignity, 40th & Telegraph, etc.
- Disseminate flyer to the Oakland Library network
- Event to be held on 9/13 and 9/14

Faith Based Outreach

"And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. ³ You therefore must endure^{al} hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. ⁴ No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier." ~2 Timothy 2-4~

Greetings in Christ,

On behalf of the Alameda County Veterans Affairs Commission (ACVAC). We are sending this letter to all the local churches in the Oakland area in hopes of reaching vets that may be in your respective congregations. On September 13th and 14th our organization and the Society of St. Vincent De Paul will be hosting a Stand Down event at 2272 San Pablo Ave from 9 am to 3 pm both days. Stand Down is another name for a homeless resource fair targeted at veterans. In addition, all veterans that need services are allowed to attend. No one will be turned away.

The categories of services being provided at the event are: employment, legal assistance, re-entry, housing, basic needs, health care, wellness, food, transportation, and veteran benefits. Would it be possible to make an announcement during services and/or post a flyer about the event?. I've included a flyer for you to post.

We believe with a passion that it's important for our vets to know the services available to them. If a vet you know has questions about any of the above-mentioned topics, we'd like to invite them to the Stand Down event, or they can reach out to us directly. With your help, we can get the word out in our community and help our veterans. You can contact me anytime:

Omar Farmer, U.S. Navy
veterans@acgov.org
415.513.8024

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

God bless you

Questions?

veterans@acgov.org