



Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans Site Visit Report



Date: April 17, 2019

Location: MAC-V HQ Metro Office

Dept. Rehab Committee Members: Wilson Spence, Darrel Redepenning, Bill Brockberg, Roy Bressler and Dan Tengwall. Dept. Service Officer, Jeremy Wolfsteller.

RE: The American Legion Dept. Rehabilitation Committee is tasked with staying engaged with agencies that aid Minnesota veterans. The committee does this by conducting System Worth Saving Site Visits throughout the year. These locations include Sioux Falls, Fargo, St. Cloud and Minneapolis VA Healthcare Systems, St. Paul and Fargo Regional Offices, Minneapolis, Hastings, Luverne, Fergus Falls and Silver Bay Veterans Homes. Additional Site Visits are conducted at VA CBOC's, Vets Centers, and Minnesota nonprofits that serve veterans when the budget allows.

Meeting Attendance: Chairman Brockberg, Wilson Spence, Dan Tangwall, Gary Munkholm and Jeremy Wolfsteller. MAC-V Leadership _____

MAC-V Overview:

Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans (MACV) is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization that has been serving Veterans and their families who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless across the state of Minnesota for over 25 years. Our mission is to End Veteran Homelessness in Minnesota by providing housing, employment and legal services. We accomplish our mission by providing these services directly and in collaboration with community partners.

Programs and Services

- Permanent Housing
- Transitional Housing
- Outreach Assistance
- Emergency Assistance
- Civil Legal Assistance

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- Funding sources are 60% government and 40% non-government. MAC-V is Minnesota's only organization receiving VA funding through Supportive Services for Veterans and Families (SSVF). Allocation from SSVF was \$700,000 for direct assistance to veterans. 60% was focused directly on homeless veterans and 40% geared toward prevention. When VA estimates Minnesota to be "functional zero" within the homeless community, SSVF will continue to provide funding but flip the percentages where its 60% prevention and 40% homeless.
- Housing and Urban Development VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) provides a subsidized rent opportunity to low income veterans that are homeless. MAC-V partners with the Federal VA Healthcare Systems in MN to place veterans in receipt of these vouchers into permanent or transitional housing.
- State funding: \$750,000 was provided via grant through Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs.
- MAC-V operates in cooperation with Minnesota's Continuum of Care (CoC). CoC is a community strategic plan to organize and deliver housing and services to reduce the incidence of homelessness by assisting homeless individuals, youth and families with children to move to self-sufficiency and permanent housing. There are 10 CoC in Minnesota and 4 of them have declared a functional end to veteran homelessness.

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- Housing services include direct financial assistance through one-time grants to help cover security deposits, etc. Types of housing offered through MAC-V include 12 Structured Independent Living (SIL) models, two can accommodate families. All SIL housing is for a maximum of 24 months. These housing models are located in Mankato, Metropolitan area, St. Cloud, Duluth and Hibbing. Residents service coordinators are managing SIL housing in the metro area. The other type of housing is permanent supportive Housing (PSH), Mankato, MN has 11 units located in the *Paul & Dorothy Radichel Veteran Townhomes*, Duluth, MN has 11 beds in the *Duluth Veterans Place*. MAC-V also provides a FTE assigned to St. Cloud's Linden Grove Units. MAC-V manages their client's through 39 case workers.
- MAC-V offers employment opportunities via job clubs and working with an established continuum of care in the community. This includes the State Department of Employment and Economic Development Veterans Program within MN's Work Force Centers. Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans is able to provide veterans caseworkers to facilitate their need for employment by using grants from Department of Labor Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP) Program which provides funding to non-profits that assist homeless veterans with resources in job training and placement.
- In 2018 MAC-V provided over 5,500 services to veterans. 1,266 in direct housing and employment services. 2,103 received services at MAC-V Stand Down Events and 2,291 received legal assistance.
- Many of MAC-V clients originate from county veteran service office referrals and the state homeless registry. 74% of MN counties had a veteran become a client. 72% of the clients had a disability status including physical, mental health/PTSD, chemical dependency and traumatic brain injury.
- MAC-V operates a Vet-Law Program that delivers pro-bono legal assistance to veterans. They do this through legal partnerships across the state. Legal clinics are monthly at Mpls VA Medical Center, and quarterly at St. Cloud VA Medical Center and Anoka County Veterans Office. Vet-Law assisted 2,291 veterans in 2018. Top legal issues addressed were, landlord issues, family law, criminal, VA benefits, licensing issues.

Chairman: Bill Brockberg

Secretary: Jeremy Wolfsteller