



South Shore Community Partners in Prevention

**South Shore Community Partners in Prevention (CHNA 23)
Wednesday, November 9, 2022
9:00 A.M. to 10:15 A.M.
Plymouth Public Library**

In attendance: Rebecca Faherty, VAMC; Brian Martin, PCSO; George Gorgizian, PCSO; Marie Cuomo, VAMC, James Frazier, PCSO; Lindsay Reik, PCAL; Kelly Macomber, Plymouth Public Schools; Joy Mirriore-Santan, VA; Trista Maccini, VA; Leslie Wright, VA- Suicide Prevention; Meaghan Groves, Harbor Health Community Health Center; Susan West, BID Plymouth; Tom Cumiskey, Plymouth Public Library; Mike Jackman, SSCPP Chair, Congressman Keating's Office, Kim Scotland, United Way/SSCPP

Mike Jackman, SSCPP Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:20am.

All voted to approve the October general meeting minutes.

Major Topic: Veterans Health Panel

Presenters:

- VA Boston: Becky Faherty, Veterans Housing; Dr. Leslie Wright, Suicide Prevention; Marie Cuomo, Transportation Specialist
- Plymouth County Sheriff's Office: George Gorgizian, Brian Martin and Jim Frazier, Veterans Services/Re-entry Specialists
- MA Military Support Foundation: Mickey Wiernasz, Vice President
- All slides, resources, and flyers shared by presenters can be found on the SSCPP website [here](#).
- Mickey shared the *MA Military Support Foundation* established an empowerment center in Plymouth for anyone who is a veteran or on active duty. Can access food pantry and shop once a week at no cost (up to 50lbs/visit).
- Are hosting a program to help get veterans connected to their benefits with the VA. This event is on November 15th and November 16th at the Taunton Armory. Offers coats, haircuts, lunch and more.
- Members from the *Boston VA* shared about mental health services, housing (HUD-VASH), and transportation.

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Serving the communities of Carver, Duxbury, Halifax, Hanover, Hanson, Kingston, Marshfield, Pembroke, Plymouth, Plympton, and Rockland

- Mental Health: Veterans crisis line can be accessed by dialing 988 and pressing 1. The 1-800 goes to the same place. A person will typically be connected to a mental health clinician within a business day. Only 2% of the calls to the crisis line resulted in emergency dispatch response.
- HUD-VASH is for veterans experiencing homelessness or about to experience homelessness. There are currently 986 veterans in housing and 69 veterans with vouchers actively looking for housing. Must be VA eligible to access the program.
- Transportation: Reimbursement for transportation is now done all online. Have laptops at all campuses for veterans to use. Also have an option called "My Healthy Vet".
- The *Plymouth County Sheriff's Department* shared the many resources they offer including substance use disorder unit, sheriff's anti-violence unit, re-entry program (includes job training, resume, sober housing, etc.), education department, and print shop. Also offer re-entry services in the community and put together a CORI-friendly job fair twice a year. Jim Frazier spends some of his time at the Brockton Mayor's office helping to get people IDs, social security cards, etc.
- Once convicted, after a certain period, a veteran loses VA benefits so need to work on this right away when they are incarcerated to be sure they do not lose anything before they leave. George helps with this.

Adjourned at 10:33am

Next Meeting: December 14th

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