INTRODUCTION TO VALOR

VALOR STANDS FOR VETERAN ALLIANCE ORGANIZATION. IT WAS CREATED BY NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY TO IMPROVE THE CAMPUS CLIMATE FOR MILITARY AND VETERAN STUDENTS.

OUR MISSION
The mission of VALOR is to provide a network of safe and supportive allies to military and veteran students at NDSU.

OUR GOAL
VALOR responds to the needs of the NDSU veteran and service member. The program’s goal is a welcoming environment for military and veteran students by establishing an identifiable network of people who can provide support and information. Persons who commit to VALOR membership indicates that bigotry and discrimination, specifically regarding military and veteran status, are not tolerated.
WHY DO WE NEED A VALOR PROGRAM?

★ To support and assist the men and women who have served our nation in the military
★ To improve retention
★ To decrease discrimination
★ To spread awareness
★ To improve access to resources

NOTES:
- Veteran and military members have a variety of cultural backgrounds, ethnicities and sexual orientation.
- It is important to avoid politics.
- Each veteran and military student has had a variety of life experiences. There are differences within the military population itself.
THE ROLE OF A VALOR MEMBER.

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF A VALOR MEMBER?

- Provide support, information and referral to individuals who approach you.
- Respect the person’s need for privacy and confidentiality.
- Develop a genuine and realistic professional relationship with veteran and military students.
- Gain a full picture of students’ lives and concerns.
- Make a personal contribution to improving our campus environment and the lives of our students.
- Provide honest feedback at the completion of training to improve this program.
- Participate in periodic assessments regarding the effectiveness and impact of this program.

WHAT IS YOUR ROLE AS A VALOR MEMBER?

Visibility is the most important role you have as a member of the program. Members will be expected to display VALOR materials in a location that is visible to others. Once self-identified as a VALOR member, please do the following:

- Acquaint yourself with people who are veterans or military. Learn about the culture that is distinctive to the military community. Read books, make a friend, attend a lecture or celebrate with them.
- Avoid anti-military remarks, jokes and statements. As you feel comfortable, confront these actions of hate.

VALOR MEMBERS ARE NOT EXPECTED TO:

- Be a counselor or expert regarding military.
- Create a psychological support group.
- Know the answers to all questions regarding military.
- Be the ONLY contact for veteran and military students.
- Hear intimate self-disclosures.
- Participate in political activities involving military issues.
- Provide informed referrals by learning the resources available for veterans and military in the Fargo-Moorhead community and share this information.
- Learn about the challenges unique to the veteran and military population.
MILITARY GLOSSARY

ACTIVATION: Order to active duty in state or federal service

ACTIVE DUTY: Full-time job as part of a military force for a specified time period

AIT: Advanced Individual Training

ARMORY: Headquarters and drill center of a military unit

AT: Annual Training

BRANCH OF SERVICE: Army, Marines, Navy, Coast Guard or Air Force

COMBAT VS. NON-COMBAT: Not all service members who deploy see combat

COMMANDER: Person in charge of a unit

DD-214: Department of Defense discharge form

DEMOB (PRONOUNCED DLEE-mib) or DEMOBILIZATION: disassembling troops from combat-ready status; discharge of troops

DEPENDENT: A spouse or child of a service member

DEPLOYMENT: Leaving permanent duty station and going somewhere else for an extended period of time

DOD: Department of Defense

FORT: Military base

GI BILL: A military education benefit that helps service members pay for college

KIA: Killed in Action

MOS: Military Occupation Specialty or job within the military

MOB (PRONOUNCED MOBE) or MOBILIZATION: Assembling combat-ready troops and supplies for service deployment

NST: Military Sexual Trauma; sexual assault/ harassment that occurs in a military setting

NATIONAL GUARD: Part-time military; has drill once per month and annual training; can be called up to federal or state active duty

NCO: Non-Commissioned Officer

OEF: Operation Enduring Freedom

OIF: Operation Iraqi Freedom

ORDERS: Papers from unit ordering a service member to report for duty

POW: Prisoner of War

PT: Physical Training

RESERVES: Members liable for active duty recall to augment active duty in war/national emergency

SANDBOX: A deployment to the Middle East or South East Asia

SERVICE MEMBER: Anyone who has served in one of the five military branches

TBI: Traumatic Brain Injury

TYD: Temporary Duty

USA: United States Army; branch of military, Personnel: "Soldier"

USAF: United States Air Force; branch of military, Personnel: "Airman"

USCG: United States Coast Guard; branch of military, Personnel: "Sailor"

USMC: United States Marine Corps; branch of military, Personnel: "Marine"

USN: United States Navy; branch of military, Personnel: "Sailor"
RESOURCES

NDSU

MILITARY AND VETERAN SERVICES
Ceres 217
701-231-7985
www.ndsu.edu/veterans
ndsu.veterans@ndsu.edu

VETERANS EDUCATIONAL TRAINING (VET)
Ceres 338
701-231-9706
jenni.vaudrin@ndsu.edu
www.ndsu.edu/trio/vet

COUNSELING CENTER
Ceres 212
701-231-7671
www.ndsu.edu/counseling

STUDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES
Bison Connection / Ceres 202
701-231-6200
ndsu.bisonconnection@ndsu.edu
www.ndsu.edu/bisonconnection/financialaid

DISABILITY SERVICES
Wallman Wellness Center 170
701-231-5205
ndsu.disability.services@ndsu.edu
www.ndsu.edu/disabilityservices

FARGO-MOORHEAD COMMUNITY

VA REGIONAL OFFICE
2101 N. Elm St., Fargo
701-232-3241
www.fargo.va.gov

VET CENTER
3310 Flechtner Drive, Suite 100, Fargo
701-237-0942
www.va.gov/directory/guide/facility.asp?ID=5132

FARGO MILITARY SERVICE CENTER
2219 12th St. N., Fargo
701-451-6090
joanna.zerweinski@us.army.mil

JOB SERVICE NORTH DAKOTA – VETERAN REPRESENTATIVE
1350 32nd St. S., Fargo
701-239-7358 or 701-239-7338
www.jobsnd.com/individuals/veterans

BRANCH-SPECIFIC

★ NORTH DAKOTA NATIONAL GUARD
SARC (SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE COORDINATOR)
Heather Mattson: 701-333-3293 or 701-204-3555
SARC Helpline: 701-425-4821

SUICIDE PREVENTION
Cathy Peterson: 701-333-3080 or 701-955-0284
CW4 Shelly Sizer: 701-333-3295

★ MINNESOTA NATIONAL GUARD
SARC (SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE COORDINATOR)
CW2 Jennifer Diaz: 651-282-4078
or jennifer.diaz.mil@mail.mil

FEDERAL/NATIONAL

SUICIDE PREVENTION
National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255
SUGGESTED READINGS

• “The Blog of War” by Matthew Currier Burden
• “Down Range: to Iraq and Back” by Bridget C. Cantrell and Chuck Dean
• “From Baghdad, With Love” by Lt. Col. Jay Koplman
• “From Breckenridge to Bastogne” by Merle Mc Morrow
• “To Hell and Back” by Audie Murphy
• “Marine Sniper” by Charles Henderson
• “On Killing: The Psychological Cost of Learning to Kill in War and Society” by Lt. Col. Dave Grossman
• “The Sheriff of Ramadi” by Dick Couch
• “We Were Soldiers Once and Young” by Lt. Gen Harold G. Moore and Joseph L. Gelloway
• “Where Men Win Glory: The Odyssey of Pat Tillman” by Jon Krakauer
• “With the Old Breed: At Peleliu and Okinawa” by Eugene B. Sledge
• “Women at War” by James E. Wise Jr. and Scott Baron

RECOMMENDED MOVIES

• “Band of Brothers” HBO, producer. (2001)
• “Enemy at the Gates” Jean-Jacques Annaud, dir. (2001)
• “Flags of Our Fathers”
• “Generation Kill”
• “Good Morning, Vietnam”
• “The Hurt Locker”
• “Letters from Iwo Jima”
• “Lone Survivor”
• “The Monuments Men”
• “The Pacific”
• “Saving Private Ryan”
• “Stripes”
• “We Were Soldiers”

DOCUMENTARIES

• “Restrepo” (2010) (Netflix)

NDSU NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

NDSU does not discriminate in its programs and activities on the basis of age, color, gender expression/identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, participation in lawful off-campus activity, physical or mental disability, pregnancy, public assistance status, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, spousal relationship to current employee, or veteran status, as applicable. Direct inquiries to: Vice Provost, Title IX/ADA Coordinator, Old Main 201, 701-231-7708, ndsu.eoa@ndsu.edu.
I agree to be a recognized member of VALOR for the military and veteran community at NDSU.

I AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING:

1. I will prominently display a VALOR decal or sign in my work or living space.
2. I will create an environment that welcomes military and veterans to talk with me openly. I will listen attentively, participate in the conversation and respect their values and decisions.
3. I will actively address concerns of inappropriate materials, language, jokes and incidents that negatively impact veterans and members of the military.
4. I will encourage persons who have experienced or witnessed acts of bias, bigotry or hate on our campus to report those experiences so they can be addressed. (Reports can be made online at www.ndsu.edu/biasreport or to the vice provost and Title IX/ADA coordinator in Old Main 201.)
5. I will display an open and willing attitude to learn about resources, campus organizations, training topics and community issues relevant to military members and veterans.
6. I will participate in periodic assessment of VALOR’s effectiveness with regard to training and changing the campus climate to be more appreciative of diversity.
7. I will continue to educate myself about military and veteran issues.

I have freely chosen to be a member of the Veteran Alliance Organization in my campus community. I will treat each individual with respect and dignity. I will confront offensive jokes, remarks or mistreatment of any individual. I will do my best to create a safe, supportive and inclusive community for everyone.

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