SIZE Doesn’t Matter – VICTORY! Is in the Veterans Center

Tammy Micallef, M.S. USN(Retired)
Tammy Micallef, M.S.C., USN(ret)

- Twenty-one years Active Naval Service.
  - Career Counselor
  - Instructor
- Ten years Higher Education Veterans Services.
- One year Director of State Approving Agency.
- Certified Secondary Education Teacher – Special Education and English Language Arts
- Master’s Degree in Counseling
Objectives

Provide Student Success Services in a supportive environment geared to helping all student veterans and military connected students succeed in educational goals.

Develop relationships with external partners and stakeholders in order to provide additional support services to assist student veterans and military connected students successfully reach their educational goals.
Issues Impacting Military Connected Students
Who are the military-connected students?

- Diverse group
- Feel alone
- Sometimes unaware of injuries

Untapped resources
- Need understanding, compassion, and respect
Resources, Services, & Strategies
SAC-VA/Military and Community Advisory Committee

- Community Veteran Service Providers
- San Antonio College Stakeholders
- Local Military Installation Representatives
- Current Veteran Students
- MOU Partners
Partnerships – VA-VSOC

- Provide information on all VA benefits
- Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment
- Vocational Exploration and Career Counseling
- College Credit for Military Experience & Training
- Job Placement Assistance & Referrals
- Assistance and Information on Electing Healthcare Benefits
- Information and Referrals for VA Medical and Mental Health Services
- Referrals to Local Vet Center
- Referrals to On-Campus, Community and VA resources

Vet Success on Campus Counselor
Sylvia M. Rodriguez, MS
sylvia.rodriguez1@va.gov

Educate.........Support.........Graduate.........Employment→VetSuccess!!!!
Partnerships – Disability Claims

Disabled American Veterans is a nonprofit organization that helps more than one million veterans every year connect with the healthcare, disability, employment, education and financial benefits they’ve earned.

DAV is dedicated to the purpose of empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity. They accomplish this by ensuring that veterans and their families can access the full range of benefits available to them. They fight for the interests of America’s injured heroes on Capitol Hill and educate the public about the great sacrifices and needs of veterans transitioning back to civilian life.

The DAV provides professional assistance to veterans and their families in obtaining benefits and services earned through military service and provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and other agencies of government at no cost. In 2017, DAV helped attain more than $4 billion in new and retroactive benefits to care of veterans, their families and survivors.

Al Lopez
Department of Texas
Dept. Service Officer
sac.dav2018@gmail.com
210-486-1625
Partnerships – Birdwell Foundation

PTSD Foundation
Serving the San Antonio College Community

The PTSD Foundation was created by military veterans that met after running support groups for fellow veterans. They saw the shortage of compassion and willingness to help ANYONE, not just combat veterans suffering the effects of PTSD.

YOU ARE NOT ALONE!
Come see us at the S.A.C Victory Center BLDG 22, RM-106 (210)486-1639
Partnerships - Employment Services and Assistance

- EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOPS
- Workintexas website/Job Readiness
- Resume Types/Applicant Tracking System
- Summary of Qualifications/STAR Writing
- Resume Writing/Cover Letters
- 30 Second Elevator Speech/Networking
- Interviewing/Veteran Employer Liaison
- Dress for Success/Job Fair Preparedness
- LinkedIn/VA Federal Resume Introduction
- Job Fair
Partnerships - University Representatives
Suggestions for Best Practices
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Not just a place, but a mindset

- Academic Advising (peer advisors)
- Benefit Certification
- Transition and Career Services
- Tutoring Center
- Classrooms
- Student Lounge
- Robust VA Workstudy contingent
Victory! Center  – San Antonio College

Students
• Serving all Active Service Members
• Veterans
• Family Members

Statistics
• Fall 2022 Students served – 2444
• Total college enrollment 18,333
• Chapter 33 – 522
• Chapter 31 – 120
• Chapter 30 / 1606 – 36
• Chapter 35 – 413
• Hazlewood – 424
• Tuition Assistance 113
• Dependent MyCAA – 11
• No benefits – 607
AlamoAdvise

- Institutes
- Touchpoints
- Individual Success Plan (ISP)
- Mission Statement
- Transfer Intent
School Certifying Officials

- 24-48 Hour Certification
- SCO of the Day
- Certification Checklists
- Drop Reports
- Tuition and Fee Billing after Census
Victory! Center – San Antonio College

One Stop-Shop

- Business Office/Bursar
- Admissions & Records
- Financial Aid
- Virtual assistance to remote students
Victory! Center – San Antonio College

Tutoring Center

- 2022 – 2451 tutoring sessions
  - Average session 1 hour 10 minutes
- 100% of students tutored would recommend to others
- 43% used tutoring 1-2 times per week
- 97% reported increased subject knowledge and better grade as a result of tutoring
- 90% rated service at 5 on scale of 1-5
Victory Center Video
Thank you to everyone who attended.

For everyone who has served or is a military spouse or child-
THANK YOU!!