

Justice Involved Veterans - Rosenthal

Incarcerated Veterans

Bureau of Justice Statistics (2011-12) – Bronson et al, 2015

181,500 incarcerated in prison or jail (down from 203,000 in 2004)
Rate of incarceration lower than that of non-Veterans
(855 per 100,000 vs. 968 per 100,000)

77% received military discharges that were honorable or under honorable conditions

2001 to 2012 – those discharged during OEF/OIF/OND
13% of those in prison
25% of those in jail

25% of those in prison served in combat, 31% of those in jail

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Profile: Incarcerated Veterans (Bronson et al con'd)

- 43% in prison with 4 or more arrests vs. 55% of non-Veterans
- 48% in prison and 55% in jail told by a MH professional had a MH disorder
- Of those who served in combat, 60/67% told had MH disorder (vs. 44/49% non-combat Veterans) – prison/jail
- 23/31% jail told by a MH professional had PTSD vs. 11/15% non-Veterans

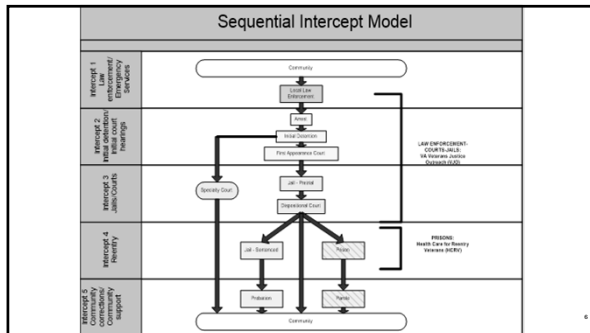
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VHA Justice Programs: Mission & Vision

Mission
To identify justice-involved Veterans and contact them through outreach, in order to facilitate access to VA services at the earliest possible point. Veterans Justice Programs accomplish this by building and maintaining partnerships between VA and key elements of the criminal justice system.

Vision
Every justice-involved Veteran will have access to the care, services and other benefits to help him or her maximize their potential for success and stability in the community, including by avoiding homelessness and ending their involvement in the justice system.

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VHA Justice Outreach Services

<p>Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gain access to the jail - Identify Veterans and Determine Eligibility - Conduct outreach, assessment, and case management for Veterans in local courts and jails - Provide/coordinate training for law enforcement personnel - Linkage to VA and Community Services/Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of VJO Specialists funded: 261 • Number local jail facilities serviced: 1,284 of 3,385 US jails • Number of Veterans receiving VJO services (Oct. 2009 – Jan. 2017): 140,379 	<p>Health Care for Reentry Veterans (HCRV)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gain access to the prison - Educate Veterans' groups about VA and VA services - Identify Veterans and Determine Eligibility - Reentry Planning - Linkage to VA and Community Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of HCRV Specialists funded: 44 • Number of state and federal prisons serviced: 998 of 1,254 US prisons • Number of incarcerated Veterans receiving reentry services (Aug. 2007- Jan. 2017): 76,963
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Outcomes: What We Know So Far?

Recent research by a VA investigator demonstrated that:

- Most Veterans seen in VJO and HCRV have a mental health (VJO 77%; HCRV 57%) or substance use disorder (VJO 71%; HCRV 47%) diagnosis, or both (VJO 58%; HCRV 35%).
- Within one year of their VJO outreach visit, 97% of Veterans with mental health diagnoses had had at least one VHA mental health visit, and 78% had had at least six visits. (HCRV: 93%; 52%)
- Within the same timeframe, 72% of Veterans with substance use disorder diagnoses had had at least one VHA substance use disorder visit, and 54% had had at least six. (HCRV: 57%; 39%)

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VA Structure and Facilities - California

Veterans Integrated Service Networks (21 and 22)

VISN 21 San Francisco	VISN 22 Greater Los Angeles
Palo Alto	Long Beach
Sacramento (Northern CA)	Loma Linda
Fresno (Central CA)	San Diego

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VA Justice System Coverage - California

Prisons

VISN 21 20 prisons (2 women's)	VISN 22 15 prisons (1 women's)
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Jails

VISN 21 31 Jails	VISN 22 9 Jails
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Veterans Treatment Courts and Veterans Tracks

VISN 21 Veterans Treatment Courts = 20 Veterans Tracks = 1	VISN 22 Veterans Treatment Courts = 11 Veterans Tracks = 4
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CA State Department of Veterans Affairs

MISSION
Serve California's veterans and their families.

VISION
CalVet will be the state's leading advocate and resource so veterans can achieve the highest quality of life.

Scope and Range of CDVA Focus
Education
Employment
Health Care
Housing
Advocacy/Assistance
VA Claims

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CA Legislation

- **Senate Bill 1227, adding Penal Code Section 1001.80**, to authorize the diversion of a defendant who is on active duty or a Veteran to a mental health treatment program.
- **Assembly Bill 2098, amending Penal Code Section 1170.9**, to authorize a defendant who is on active duty or a Veteran to have their eligibility for a treatment program considered in sentencing.
- **Senate Bill 1110, amending Penal Code Section 858**, to require judges to notify defendants who are on active duty or Veterans of the restorative relief available under Penal Code §1170.9 when they are arraigned.

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Veteran Relevant Activity – CA System

Prisons

Jails

Courts

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VA-Justice System Partnership - VRSS

Veteran Re-Entry Search Service

- Justice agency uploads list to secure VRSS site
- VRSS cross-references DOD database and provides list of those with military service
- List is sent to justice agency and VA Specialist
- VRSS locates two to three times more individuals with a history of military service

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Partnered Success Examples

Cognitive Processing Therapy Training/Treatment Project

Legal Clinics

Law Enforcement Education and Liaison

Veterans Treatment Court

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Limits on VA Authorization

Can provide:

- Outreach, assessment, referral and linkage to services
- Treatment for justice-involved Veterans who are not incarcerated

Title 38 CFR 17.38 (c)(5) does not allow VHA to provide:

- Hospital and outpatient care for a Veteran who is
 - Either a patient or inmate in an institution of another government agency
 - If that agency has a duty to give that care or services

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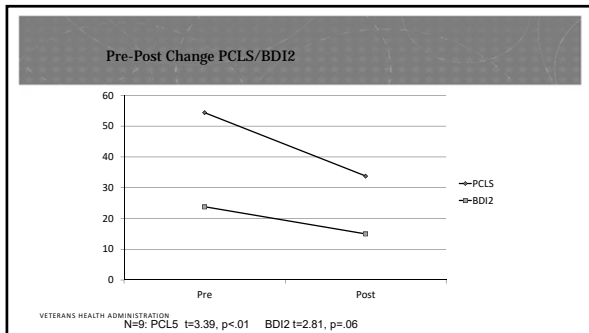
**CPT Training Project - Model Developed
(in Collaboration with VA Office of Mental Health)**

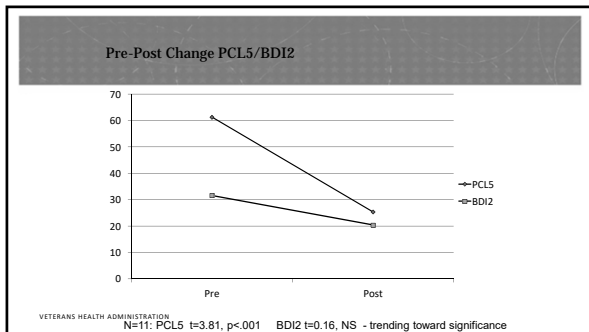
Inclusion in VA 3-Day trainings
1:1 and group; 12-session treatment course

Match inmates to treatment
Initiate treatment and receipt of 6-month CPT case consultation

Utilize trauma and depression clinical scales
For both clinical and program evaluation purposes

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Access to Legal Services

- VHA Directive 2011-034: VA medical centers making office space available for legal service providers to work with Veterans
- Legal services for homeless and at-risk Veterans through VHA Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program
- Promoting legal service providers' participation in SSVF as subcontractors (example: DoJ Access to Justice Initiative webinar)

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Police Training Initiative

VA Police Training Initiative

- Partnership between Veterans Justice Programs, VA Law Enforcement Training Center, VA mental health providers
- Topics: verbal crisis de-escalation skills, mental health and other clinical issues, VA and other resources for justice-involved Veterans
- Goal: Train all VA Police officers (3,000+ trained)

Application to community law enforcement, CIT

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VA Partnership with Veterans Treatment Courts

Veterans Treatment Courts:

- Hybrid Drug and Mental Health Treatment Courts, serving Veteran defendants
- Veteran camaraderie, volunteer Veteran Mentors
- Meet existing previously unmet need that was anticipated to continue to grow substantially

VA Contributions:

- VJO Specialist on treatment team: in courtroom when in session
- Linkage to health care services at VA medical centers
- Benefits assistance: VBA participation (both in and out of court)
- Provision of recidivism risk/prevention treatment (e.g. MRT)

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Santa Clara Co Veterans Treatment Court

- Began in November 2008 (3rd to open in the country)
- Developed to make treatment and services a priority
- Bring the VA and other services into the courtroom
- Create a partnership between the VA AND county treatment services AND community resources
- Refer and monitor offenders while in treatment

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Looking to the Future

What is Most Needed

What are the Barriers/Challenges

What are the Solutions

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**Your Role in the
Justice Involved Veteran Agenda**

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