Transportation

In the Veteran Context
Introduction

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Wisconsin CVSOs

- One in each County - County Employee
- Operate under WI ss Chapter 45
- Local Veteran serving local Veterans
  - Waupaca CVSO reaches out to, coordinates with, and empowers the Veterans of Waupaca County since 1934
    - Assist
    - Educate
    - Advise
- Benefits and Services
The Discussion

Partnership with ECWRPC

Veteran Transportation Needs / Barriers

Mobility Management / Future State
Partnership with ECWRPC
2015 began attending Waupaca County Transportation Coordinating Committee Meetings eventually became a member

Met Nick Mussen - ECWRPC - Transportation study in progress

Immediately began collaborating to identify needs / barriers

- E-mail survey to veteran stakeholders
- Veteran Transportation Study - Summit (Jan 2016)
  - Held at the WVH@King campus - well attended (~30)
Veteran Transportation Needs / Barriers
Understanding the Demographic:

- 201,096 Total population of counties in the study
- 18,551 (9.22%) of the total are Veterans
- 6,831 (36.82%) of Veterans are unique patients in VA Health Care

VA Health Care Catchments in study

- 15% - Madison (Baraboo, Beaver Dam, Janesville, Freeport, Rockford)
- 43% - Milwaukee (Green Bay, Appleton, Cleveland, Union Grove)
- 42% - Tomah (Wausau, Owen, Wisconsin Rapids, La Crosse)

Wisconsin Veterans

- 45.1% Over Age 65 (National Average 45%)
- 1.2% Under Age 25 (National Average 1.4%)

COUNTIES IN STUDY

ADAMS - GREEN LAKE - JUNEAU - MARQUETTE - SHAWANO - WAUPACA - WAUSHARA

References:
CHALLENGES

● Vet age 47 (100% VA S/C) - Not enough work quarters to qualify for SSDI, bi-monthly appointments to Appleton VA

● Female Vet - Service Connected MH cannot ride with males due to nature of MH also has a service animal

● Elderly Vet has specialty appointment at Milwaukee VA, but it’s December (dark, cold, snow)

● Justice involved younger Vet, needs mobility assistance with school / job

● Chair-bound Vet specialty medical transport

● Housebound Vet access to resources
WHAT WE’RE DOING ABOUT IT

● Working closely with our ADRC / Transportation Coordinator

● Partnering with Shawano CVSO DAV van service

● Partnering with Portage CVSO / Transportation Coordinator

● Bringing the issue forward - driving the conversation

● Assisting veterans
  ○ Navigate options
  ○ Problem solve solutions
  ○ Link services
MOBILITY MANAGEMENT
FUTURE STATE
MAGIC WAND SOLUTION

Transportation for Every Citizen

- Efficient
- Reliable (HRO / Shared Consciousness)
- Affordable
- Flexible
Transportation is a quality of life enhancer
  ○ Access to resources (food, shopping, etc.)
  ○ Access to health care
  ○ Connected member of the community

Rural communities face infrastructure and access challenges
  ○ Increased distance to destinations
  ○ Limited volunteer driver pool
  ○ Limited vehicle inventory (specialty)

Current state - fragmented and inefficient

The Veteran population faces unique needs and barriers
  ○ Structure of VA Health Care System
  ○ Unique health conditions inherent to military service
    ■ Mental health - problem solving / isolation
    ■ Pain management
    ■ Assisted mobility - wheelchair accessible
Next Steps

- Mobility Management
- Portage County Model
  - Prioritize and execute

*What We Cannot Do.*
Thank You

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