

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

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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)

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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:

<http://www.va.gov/vetdata/> - <http://www.doa.state.wi.us/divisions/intergovernmental-relations/demographic-services-center/estimates>

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

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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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