

# VHWC DISPATCH

March 2025

## FOUNDATION

The VHWC brings together parties to build or expand pathways through which Veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces and their care partners optimize health and wellness outcomes.

## CONTACT Us

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## CORE TEAM UPDATE

We continue to take small, yet incremental, steps to bring priority area activity suggestions to fruition. Save the date meeting notices along with a more refined scope of potential activity were distributed. We welcome self-nominations from individuals who would be interested to serve as chairs or co-chairs of specific activities. The staff of the Core Team are here to offer administrative support if desired. If you are looking for a reminder about the full discussions in each priority area, all meeting minutes are shared on the website. As always, if you are unable to join the meeting(s) as scheduled, we welcome ideas or suggestions via email to [ihp.vhwc@msu.edu](mailto:ihp.vhwc@msu.edu). The upcoming meeting schedule is:

- [Oral Health](#) – Tuesday, 4/1/25, 1200 - 1300
- [Housing Insecurity](#) – Wednesday, 4/2/25, 1200 - 1300
- [Suicide Prevention](#) – Thursday, 4/3/25, 1200 - 1300
- [Transition Supports](#) – Friday, 4/4/25, 1200 - 1300

We are interested to expand awareness of our initiatives and increase participation from individuals having military service. Please let your networks know how they can subscribe to receive our communications. Opportunities to stay connected include sharing our newsletters, visiting our website for the latest updates, and subscribing for VHWC news. We encourage you to contact us if you have additional suggestions about how to participate. If you're interested in joining the VHWC Advisory Council or want to explore ways to get involved with specific projects, be sure to subscribe on our [website](#).

On behalf of the Advisory Council and Administrative Core Team, we honor all who have served and extend our gratitude for your dedication to our country.

## ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT:

We are pleased to highlight VETLIFE, [www.vetlifetoday.org](http://www.vetlifetoday.org). VETLIFE is a non-profit organization that was founded by veteran families to serve veteran families. They host a variety of events and resources at no charge to veterans and families. They recently launched a mobile app, Battle Buddy, that supports connecting veterans to benefits they have earned. We are in the process of scheduling a webinar and demonstration on this tool so stay tuned to our events page. More information is available here: <https://www.vetlifetoday.org/battlebuddy>.

## PROGRESS REPORT: 2025 PRIORITY AREAS

Our next meetings are scheduled for early April. Our goal for these meetings is to drill down to identify specific project(s) needing support and the description of the support(s) needed. Stay tuned for more details next month.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

### Webinars:

Core Team members are scheduling additional webinars over the next few months. In addition to the Battle Buddy session, another topic that is in development is learning about the VA's Medical Foster Home Program. Our goal is to record sessions when allowable so the information will be available after the scheduled live session(s).

We continue to seek partnerships with those interested in delivering online content on health and wellness topics of interest for veterans and care partners. Please reach out at [ihp.vhwc@msu.edu](mailto:ihp.vhwc@msu.edu) to be included on the speakers bureau list. Be sure to include your contact information, topic(s) of interest, and identify "Speakers Bureau" in the subject line so we can follow-up.

### Events:

The **28<sup>th</sup> Annual Michigan Rural Health Conference** will take place April 24-25, 2025, at Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. Find details and registration information [here](#). Continuing education credits are available for social work and community health workers. Space is limited so register soon!

We are happy to share information on upcoming events with our network through the [Resources and Events](#) tab of our website. Organizations looking to advertise an event or obtain assistance with hosting events can send event information and/or requests about the nature of support needed to [ihp.vhwc@msu.edu](mailto:ihp.vhwc@msu.edu). We will share the request with our networks to help fill gaps.

## HOW TO GET INVOLVED

The VHWC offers various ways to engage in our work:

- Subscribe at our website to make sure you receive the latest updates and information and share this content with your networks.
- Stay informed about the latest developments by participating with Advisory Council or subcommittee activities.
- Volunteer your expertise: Whether you have ever served in the military, are a health care professional, community leader, or advocate, your input can make a difference.

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*“As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.”*

*John F. Kennedy*

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