

Los Angeles County – Department of Mental Health Adult System of Care



The VALOR Program - Collaboration Between the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, West Los Angeles Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and Veteran Service Organizations

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Veteran Facts

1

According to the RAND Corporation, it is anticipated that 30% of returning Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) veterans will meet full criteria for:

- 1) PTSD
- 2) Substance Abuse
- 3) Depression
- 4) Anxiety Disorders

2

According to the California Department of Veterans Affairs, the Southern California region encompassing Los Angeles and San Diego has the most returning OIF/OEF veterans in the nation.

3

Los Angeles County has the most homeless veterans in the United States, including single mothers with children.

4

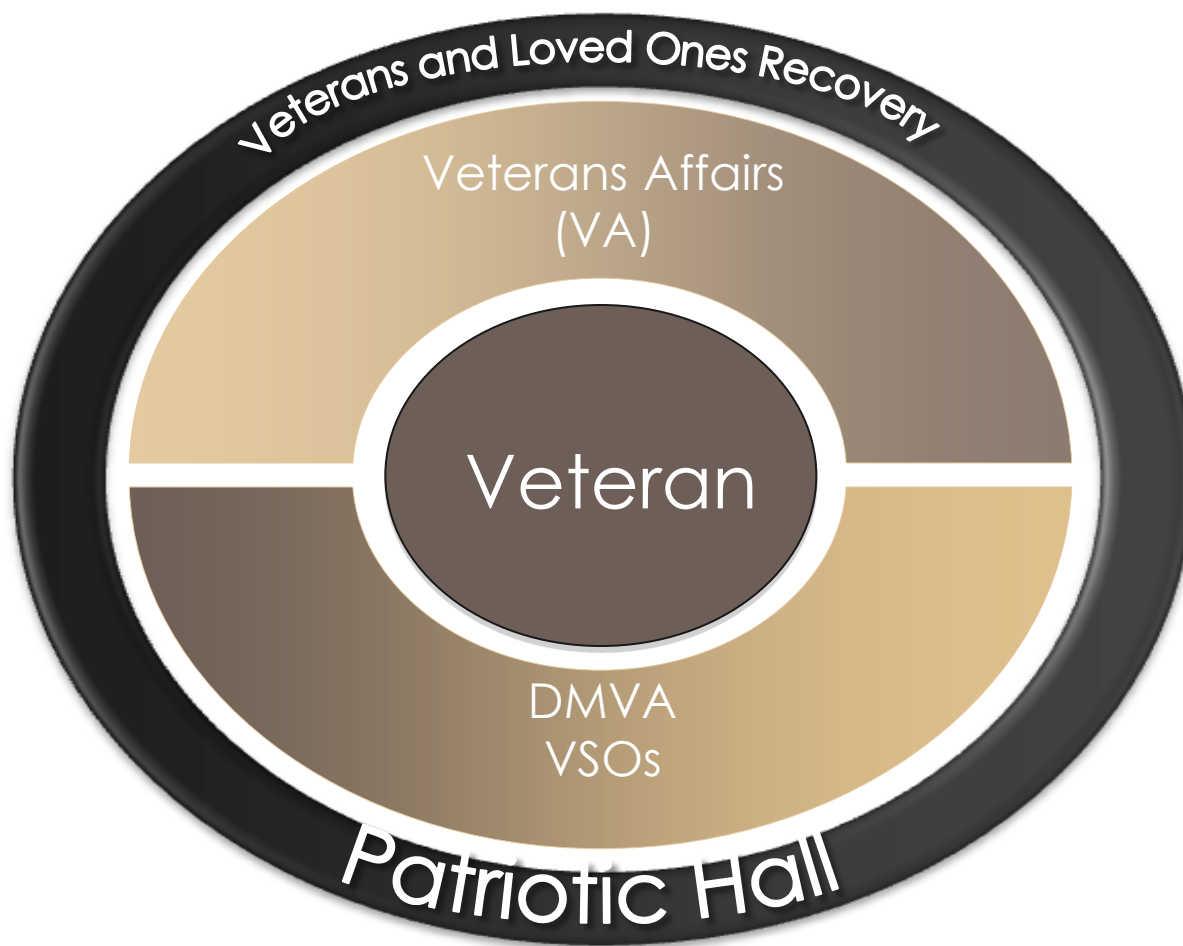
2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Point in Time Count, which includes LAHSA and Cities of Long Beach, Pasadena, and Glendale reported:

- ♻ **6,985 Homeless Veterans in Los Angeles County on a single night.**
- ♻ Approximately 12 percent of the National total.

Increasing Veteran's Services

- ⌚ DMH policy was changed on October 6, 2008 allowing veterans, regardless of military discharge status, to be seen at all directly-operated clinics.
- ⌚ No eligible veteran shall be denied mental health services, to the extent resources are available, based on his or her status as a veteran.

Veterans Programs



VALOR

“Veterans and Loved Ones Recovery”

Homeless Outreach

-  Funded via SAMHSA PATH grant

Medi-Cal and MHSA Clinical Services

-  DMH at Patriotic Hall is a certified Medi-Cal Provider
-  CA Mental Health Services Act Funded

HUD-VASH

-  Funded via VA HUD-VASH Grant

Homeless Outreach Team

1

Provide county-wide resources coordination, linkage, and field-based services for outreach and engagement to homeless veterans.

2

Provide linkage and referral to mental health and substance abuse treatment housing resources, and employment assistance programs. In addition, advocacy and coordination of veterans' mental health resources between agencies in Los Angeles County will also be an area of focus.

3

Provide mental health outreach and engagement to homeless veterans who reside in encampment, streets, underpasses, parks, library premises, emergency rooms, and other locations where homeless persons frequent.

4

Collaborate with community providers who specialize in homeless and mental health service provision for veterans, including those that provide temporary shelter beds.

5

Pursue opportunities to replicate Project 50-like efforts specifically targeted to homeless veterans and their families, and select a specific program(s) for further development.



Veterans Affairs Walk-in Screening Clinic

- ⌘ Vested
- ⌘ Apply for Housing
- ⌘ Case Management
- ⌘ File Claims
- ⌘ Mental Health Services
- ⌘ Substance Abuse Programs
- ⌘ Two DMH Psychiatric Social Workers Co-located
 - ⌘ Assistance for Non-VA eligible homeless veterans
 - ⌘ Linkages to FSP and Edelman MHC



Department of Military Veteran Affairs



- ⚙️ Veteran System Navigator will provide targeted assistance to veterans experiencing difficulties accessing mental health treatment by referring the Veteran to DMH if they identify mental health needs.

Employment
Education



Benefits Assessments
Housing



Case Management
Substance Abuse

Patriotic Hall

- **Three Areas of Focus**

- 1) Increase efficiency of homeless outreach for veterans.*
- 2) Strategic programs for military and Veterans families.
- 3) Serve as resource center for other Veterans programs housed at Patriotic Hall.

FOCUS on Military and Veteran's Families

- Expansion of Evidence Based Practices (EBPs) i.e. Families OverComing Under Stress (FOCUS).
- VALOR staff trained to provide FOCUS services.
- FOCUS family resiliency sessions addresses family's multiple stressors resulting from military deployments.

Resource Center at Patriotic Hall

- VALOR staff provides mental health assessment, linkage, and consultation services for service providers at Patriotic Hall.
- Serving veterans via “no wrong door” access.
- Screening for mental health issues and substance abuse, time limited therapy and evidence based services.

Resource Center at Patriotic Hall (cont.)

- VALOR staff is mobile and address “high needs” areas and populations throughout the County.
 - Deployed at four locations across DMH.
 - ***Downtown, Edelman, Long Beach, and San Fernando Valley Mental Health Centers***
 - Augment the provision of co-located services.
 - ***Long Beach VA Medical Center***
 - ***West Los Angeles VA Medical Center***

HUD-VASH

- Housing First-Assertive Community Treatment (HF-ACT) Team
 - Housing as a basic human right
 - Consumer driven and recovery oriented
- Intensive Case Management and Housing services for 50 Chronically Homeless Veterans
 - 24/7 availability
 - “Anything it takes”