

Macomb Veterans Action Collaborative Minutes  
Virtual Meeting and In-person meeting  
Monday, June 12, 2023

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Laura Rios at 9:07 A.M.

**II. ATTENDEES:**

Laura Rios	Gabriella Barthlow	April Winkleman
William Browning	Moniisha Scott	Paul Salcepuedes
Pazz Colston	Kara Fields	Mark Kilgore
Christina Mariani	Madeline Habib	Stephen Boegehold
Nikkie Hochberg	Angela Nichols	Mark Scott
Laura Schultz	Adam Haarklau	Scott Bentas
Diane Laskey	Katie Carroll	Lisa Marie Duncan-Edwards

**III. INTRODUCTIONS/APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Meeting was called to order by Laura Rios at 9:07 AM**

The February 6, 2022 meeting minutes were approved and recorded as written.

**IV. SPECIAL SPEAKER: NONE Open Discussion with group**

Open discussion on Service Animals Laura led discussion.

Explained VA Process and challenges VA rules health system, solutions for distributing information.

Laura asked around table for feedback:

Diane Laskey asked that we show what is needed to qualify and educate for this process. Laura shared information about the Saginaw area trainer.

Adam asked if there can be a training to understand how to get a service dog

Christina wants to know eligibility criteria to share with their clients.

April asked for resources about \*programs cost factors and ADA certification licenses

Angela wants to know about legitimate organizations list, website research mentioned

Bill said VA does NOT provide service animals and they do provide online certified organizations on their website. he is sending education and flyers to Laura to distribute to the group.

Kara shared her Veteran student's real-life experiences and resources for PTSD service animals

Paul wants service dogs defined, qualifications and steps to process

Katie wants exact information that can be given to Veterans for clear directions

Laura Shultz wants clear information to share

Mark Scott wants education on laws and protections under ADA  
Lisa Marie shared VA Rules and requirements  
Stephen Boegehold wants to understand educational materials  
Pazz wants education and resources  
Madeline concluded after hearing group share 4 areas of focus:  
Service Animal definition  
Eligibility and laws  
Cost and Training of animal  
Resources

Paul and Kara stated they will help Madeline put this document together.

**V. AGENCY UPDATES/ROUND ROBIN:**

Diane Laskey said their HUB has been updated.  
Adam stated he is at Macomb community Library on Mondays  
and he left flyers to share  
Christina VA suicide training always available Suicide prevention month coming  
up so lots of events will be posted flyers will be sent to Laura to share  
April Winkleman is Veteran MRS contact  
Mark Kilgore said Care has free children's camps he sent flyers to Laura  
Stephen B remind us 844-464-8447 is how people can call in to get assigned  
to their DHHS rep.  
Paul s. new program called Michigan Incarceration Integration program  
transitions Veterans from prison back into working world given their circumstances  
Bill Browning shared stats from Bruce Township outreach event and its success  
hesitated to go to their website for upcoming events regarding PACT ACT  
Pazz shared golf outing last week was a success and JAY DOG Junk removal has been an  
excellent partner for their non-profit  
Monisha reminded us of their showers and social worker support from Veteran resource  
center

**VI. VCAT UPDATE/MVAA UPDATES:**

**VII. NEXT MEETING: August 7th, 2023**

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 AM