



RISFAC

(Regional Inter-Service Family Assistance Committee)

January 2016

Region 5, Northwest Ohio

<http://homefront.ohio.gov/RISFAC/Region5RISFAC.aspx>

January 12, 2016 Meeting Summary

Featured Presentation: Toledo Veterans Treatment Court: Lee Armstrong

First VTC was Buffalo Drug and Mental Health Court. Judge Robert Russell, presiding (2008). Took 2 ½ years to get Toledo VTC up and running. Currently 5 VTC s. VTC courts in Ohio (Hamilton, Mansfield, Stark, Youngstown, Toledo). Process is complete when the Ohio Supreme Court approves your application and process. Toledo VTC first court date was January 16, 2015. Ohio Supreme Court granted our VTC status in June 2015. First two graduates will be January 22, 2016 in Ohio (Hamilton, Mansfield, Stark, Youngstown, Toledo). To provide Veterans with substance abuse, alcoholism and mental health treatment coupled with academic/vocational skills improvement, while actively assisting with residential, outpatient and/or transitional services leading to job placement and job retention and to help them obtain safe housing. A specialized criminal court docket was established to address the needs of veteran-defendants with substance dependency and/or mental illness issues. Primarily non-violent felony or misdemeanor offenses (violent offenses: case by case). Substitution of treatment problem solving model for traditional court processing. Veterans are identified through evidence based screening and assessments. Usually done at the County Jails by the Deputies and Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator.

Veteran Mentors “Leave no one behind” Coach, Guide, Role Model, Advocate, Current or former member of the Armed Services, Genuine concern for veterans, Be in good standing with the law, Adhere to VTC policies and procedures, Committed to the VTC program and the Veterans success. Complete training program. To be eligible you must meet some guidelines. Combat and Non-combat, Violent Offenders, Active Duty, Reservists, National Guard, High Risk, High Need, Military Discharge Status, Voluntarily participate in a judicially supervised treatment plan. Women Veterans are two times more likely to become **homeless than non’ Veteran women**

• **NOT a way to avoid jail or punishment for Veterans!**

:Ohio Military Kids:

What is OMTC

Military Teen Councils are established at the national and state level to educate and empower Military Connected Youth locally, regionally and nationally. The goal is to create teen ambassadors of patriotism, diversity, moral character, intellectual achievement and service to others.

Who’s Qualified?

13-18 year olds who are currently enrolled in school. Members must have a family member serving in any military branch. Mature, responsible, organized individuals with strong collaborative skills. Those who are able to maintain regular contact and respond to requests in a timely manner. Members who wish to have fun and promote events and youth participation.

Call or Email **Mark Scherer** for an application:

614-336-4214

mark.a.scherer7.ctr@mail.mil

Upcoming Meetings

- Apr 12, 2016 (Mansfield: American Red Cross, 39 N. Park, Mansfield, OH 44902)
- Jul 12, 2016 (Bowling Green: 1245 W. Newton Road, Bowling Green, OH 43402)

<http://homefront.ohio.gov/RISFAC>

The RISFAC serves all branches of the Military, Veterans and their families and is sponsored by the Ohio National Guard Family Readiness & Warrior Support Program.

Meeting Facilitators / TFAC’s: Margret Szymanski | 614-336-4312 | margret.r.szymanski2.ctr@mail.mil

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Tabitha Hoke-Mujihad | 614-336-4466 | tabitha.l.hoke-mujihad.ctr@mail.mil

ATTENDANCE ROSTER - MANSFIELD RISFAC, REGION 5 - January 12, 2016

Troy Amundson (LTC) OH Army National Guard—Camp Perry
 Lee Armstrong Veterans Court Asst. Mentor Coord.
 Veronica Bauer U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Vet Center
 Crystal Bennett Fulton County Veterans Service Commission
 Derrick Card (SGT) U.S. Army Recruiter BG
 Cheryl Hagen Employment Coordinator
 Monica Hoskins (ABLE) Advocate for Basic Legal Equality
 Leon Johnson/Keri Pfeifer VFW
 Steve Korb (MVRC) Military Veterans Resource Center
 La Kelvin Hill Kids Peace
 Robert Markowski (SFC) Army Reserve
Loren Pancake (SFC) 323rd MP's
 Charles Smith VFW
 Curtis VanVlerah (SSG) Cco 1-148



Staying safe when driving this winter

Trunk necessities. Food supplies like granola bars and water even if frozen can thaw. But everyone should have a full container of washer fluid, a light-weight snow shovel, lined work gloves, blanket, a good quality ice-scraper/snow brush combo, a bright flashlight that will stand or hang on its own, a set of emergency reflectors, a first-aid kit that can withstand freezing temperatures, and some folding traction mats.



No cost flu shot options for Veterans

VA health care facilities

You may receive a no-cost flu shot during any scheduled appointment, if you are admitted to one of our VA health care facilities, or at one of the convenient walk-in flu stations. For more information on locations and hours [contact your local VA health care facility](#).

Walgreens nationwide

If you are a Veteran patient in the VA system, you may choose to get a no-cost flu shot at a local Walgreens between now and March 31, 2016. No appointment is required; simply go to any Walgreens, tell the pharmacist you receive care at a VA facility and show your Veterans Identification Card and another form of photo ID. **Use Group Code # 5933XBAYV.** Your immunization record will be updated electronically in your local VA electronic health record.

Welcome to the Family Readiness & Warrior Support TEAM!

The National Guard Employment Enhancement Program was created to connect service members and their Families to employment opportunities that in turn build a strong base to ensure the Soldiers and Airmen remain focused on performing their military duties to their full potential. We will assist by focusing on two areas.

- 1) Engage with Employers and Local Community Leaders to cultivate and maintain a working partnership that creates a Veteran friendly environment and to identify positions that we can fill.
- 2) Work with unemployed or underemployed service members or their family to find meaningful employment. We will provide a multitude of services to ensure they are ready to interview and accept the new position.

Please contact the ESS in your Region with any additional questions.

ONG Employment Support Specialists

CHERYL HAGAN, Contractor
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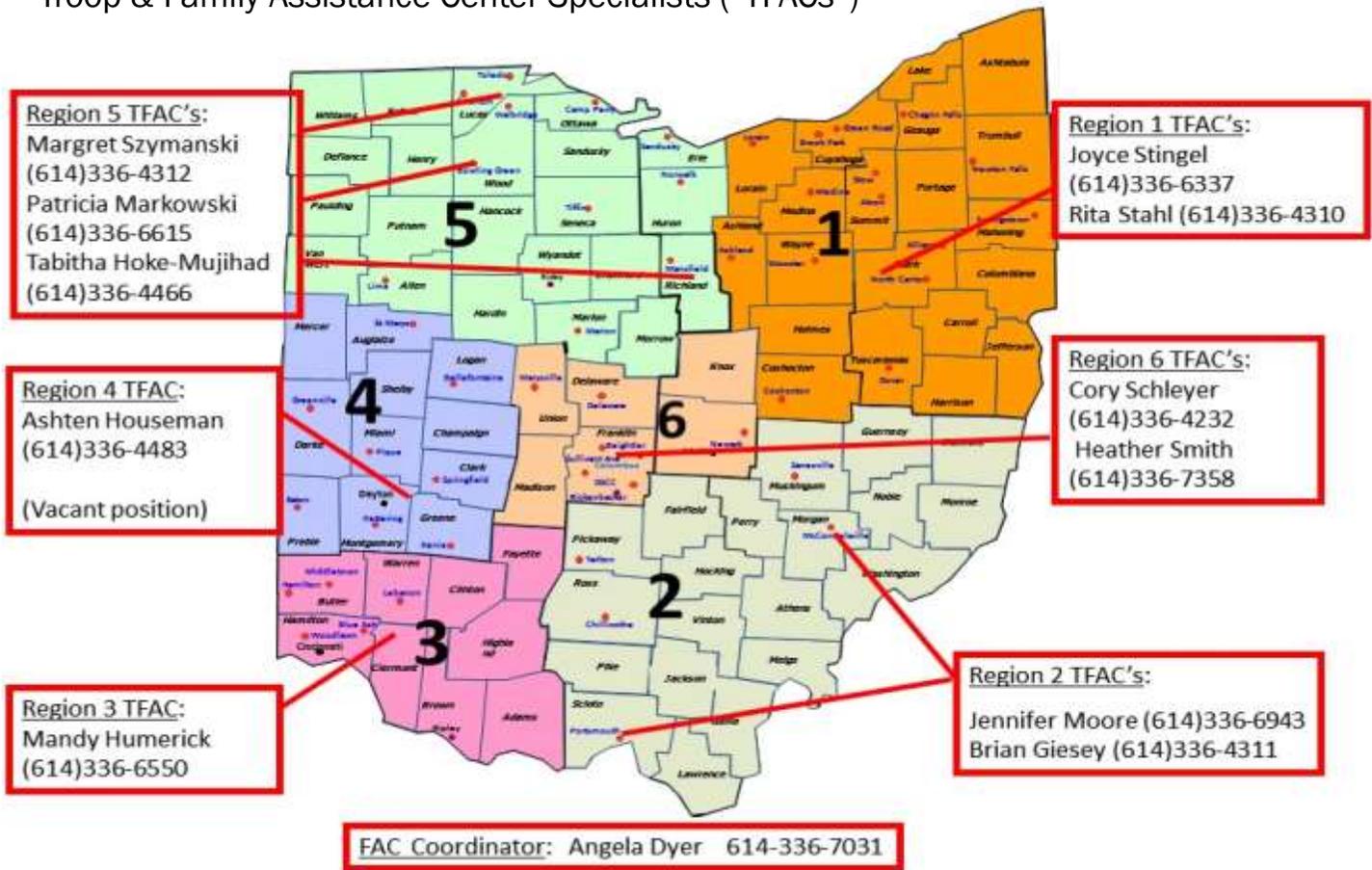
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DAVID KELLY, Contractor
Lead Employment Coordinator
Region 6
Office: 614-336-7366
Mobile: 614-400-7888
david.r.kelly14.ctr@mail.mil



What can we do for you?
Support assistance in your:
⇒ Job Search / Networking
⇒ Resume / Interviews

Troop & Family Assistance Center Specialists (“TFACs”)



24 Hour Joint Operations Center
 1-888-637-9053

ONG Transition Assistance Advisors
 (Michael Magnusson and Terry Dean)
 614-336-7349 or 614-336-4192

Tricare Benefits Assistance
 877-874-2273

Ohio Cares
 800-761-0868

Community Outreach
 614-336-7002

Sexual Assault Response Coordinator
 877-751-5628

Military OneSource
 800-342-9647

American Red Cross
 800-696-3873

Survivor Outreach Services Coordinators
 614-336-4284 (Melissa Wise)
 614-336-8820 (Rita Kreitzer)
 614-336-7375 (Susan Bogan)
 614-336-4138 (Steve Brunn)
 740-637-0348 (Tara Reyna)

Psychological Health Coordinators
 Barbara Herbst 614-336-8999
 Colin Fowler 614-336-6000 ext.4291

Employer Support of the Guard & Reserve (ESGR) 614-336-7444

Airman & Family Readiness Program Managers

Judy York - 180th FW 419-868-4550

Jane Esprit - 178th FW 937-525-2583, ext. 2583

Vacant - 179th AW 419-520-6600

Carolyn Ebert - 121st ARW 614-492-4417, ext. 5

ID Center (NW Ohio) 180th FW, Swanton, Ohio
 Call for appointment 419-868-4225



VA | Defining
HEALTH CARE | **EXCELLENCE**
In the 21st Century



VETERANS

★ *Are You Enrolled In VA Healthcare?*

★ *Do You Use Myhealthvet?*

If the answer is "NO", then we can help !!!

We will be hosting an Outreach Seminar to help our Veterans enroll in the VA Healthcare System. We will also register Veterans to use the *Myhealthvet* website and explain the advantages of using this VA feature right from the comfort of your own home!

The Ann Arbor VA Medical Center Will Also Be Here To:

- ★ **Check Blood Pressure**
- ★ **Check Your Weight**
- ★ **And If Interested, Body Fat Analysis**

There will also be a Registered Dietician on hand to discuss diet tips and answer any questions you may have regarding your diet and living a healthier lifestyle.

DON'T MISS THIS GREAT OPPORTUNITY !!!

If you have never enrolled with VA Healthcare, you will need:

- * Copy of your Report of Separation or DD214
- * Gross Annual Income for you and spouse (for 2015)
- * Combined "out-of-pocket" medical expenses for you and dependents for 2015
- * Insurance Cards
- * Dependents Social Security numbers, dates of birth and marriage

****Seating is LIMITED, please call Kellie to reserve your seat.**

Transportation will be available, if needed.

Refreshments will be served !!



When: Tuesday, February 16th
Time: 10 am to 2 pm (Orientation begins at 10)
Place: Fulton County Veterans Service Office
604 S. Shoop Ave. First Floor
419-337-9266



Through April 18th... Free Income Tax Filing Assistance

This tax season, MVRC is partnering with the **Ohio Benefit Bank** to offer free income tax filing assistance to military veterans and their spouses.

Our only requirements are that veterans filing jointly with a spouse have a combined income of **\$98,000** or less, and everyone else have an income of **\$68,000** or less.

How do I file?

Make an appointment with one of our Certified Tax Counselors, or visit our website to file on your own: bit.ly/mvrc-taxes

**MVRC assistance, available by phone or email, will only be available to veterans and spouses.*

Open to everyone—not just vets! Visit our self-serve link to file your taxes on your own: bit.ly/mvrc-taxes

Contact **Herb Jones** at **614-638-4834** or herb.jones@mivetsrc.org to schedule your appointment.

Visit mivetsrc.org/taxes for more information.