

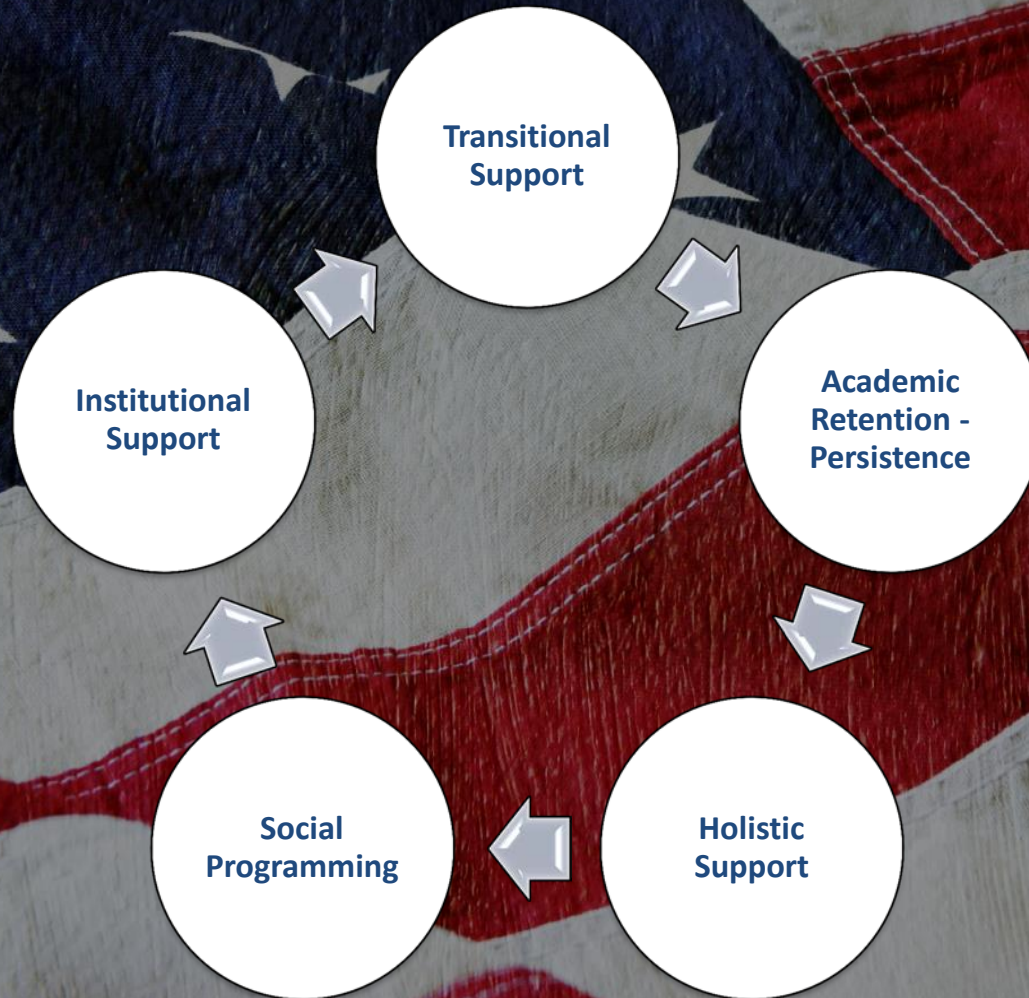
Cuyamaca College Veterans Services and Success Initiatives



Cuyamaca College Veterans Data

- **Veteran Students Served – AY 2014/2015**
 - 909 (2013/2014: 703)
- **Success Data (2013/2014)**
 - Course Retention - 91% (85% other students)
 - Course Success – 74% (70%)
 - Persistence – 75% (73%)
 - Mean Units Completed – 8 (5)
 - GPA – 2.75 (2.72)
 - Graduation – 57 students (10% of all grads)

Veterans Success Initiatives: High Impact Practice



Comprehensive Wraparound Services

- One-Stop Veterans Services Office
- VA Certification and Priority Registration
 - DD214 waiver for exercise science
- “Boots to Books” New Student Orientation
- Dedicated 100% assigned Counselor/MFT
 - Assigned adjunct counselors
 - 1-1 counseling and educational planning
- DSPS Services for Veterans Accommodations
- Educational and Social Programming/VRC
- Annual Advancement Ceremony and Dinner

Veterans Initiatives Highlights

- \$20K two-year grant from the Foundation
 - Additional \$1,000 in mini-grants
- Jerome's Furniture of El Cajon
 - Furnished the Veterans Services Office/VSO "One Stop"
- El Cajon Elks "Freedom Grant" award
 - Sponsored FA14 Veterans BBQ, academic survival kits, and funding for textbook library
- "Got Your 6" Champions (GCCCD)
 - 8 hrs of training via VET NET Ally and Welcome Home: Veterans on Campus for faculty and staff
- Veteran targeted health/wellness, career and transfer workshops
- Mobil VA Unit through the San Diego Vets Center
- V.E.T.S. (*Veterans Education and Transition Services*) Advisory Committee to commence in May 2015

Opportunities to Enhance Initiatives

- Veterans Initiatives Coordination
- Programming to meet the needs of women veterans
- Coordinated funding for one-to-one tutoring for veterans
- Access to local military bases
- Resources to fully implement all current and future initiatives



The background of the image is a close-up, slightly blurred view of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes in shades of red, white, and blue. The text is overlaid on this background.

“A culture change is happening here, which is to the veterans’ benefit.”

~2010 ACE Veterans Success Jam:
Ensuring Success for Returning Veterans

Grossmont College Veterans Services and Success Initiatives



General Background

- 76% of Veterans using the GI Bill at a postsecondary school in California attend Community College
- A significant number of Veterans are nontraditional learners
- A number of veterans are academically at risk
- The enrollment of veterans is expected to increase dramatically

Grossmont College Veterans Data

- **Veteran Students Served – AY 2014/2015**
 - 1106 certifications
- **Success Data (Fall 2014 Degree Applicable Courses)**
 - Course Retention - 87%
 - Course Success – 72%
- **2014/15 Veteran Graduates ~100**
- **2014/15 Veteran Graduates' GPA 3.08**
- **2014/15 Number of Degrees conferred 163**
- **Ave # of Degrees/ Veteran Graduate 1.68**

Veteran Services

- VA Certification and Priority Registration
- Enhanced support for the VRC
- Enhanced Counseling Services
 - 4 “Veteran” counselors
 - 1-1 counseling and educational planning
 - Triage counseling
 - Multi-location counseling
- DSPS Services for Veterans Accommodations
- Academic Tutoring for Veterans

Veterans Resource Center

- The VRC was founded at Grossmont College 10 year ago
- Located in Bld. 21 RM 253
- Computer lab/Assistive technology, specialized software for nontraditional learners
- Study area
- Peer support and mentoring
- Academic counseling
- Financial aid information and application assistance
- Referral to on/off campus resources (e.g., DSPS, campus Veteran Services Office and community veterans agencies)
- Focus:
 - Academics
 - Camaraderie
 - Wellness

VRC Usage Grossmont College

Number of Visits

Use	SP14	SU14	FA14
Studying or Tutoring	228	45	537
Computer	886	216	1049
Networking	38	2	307
Workshops	8	0	15
Other*	221	78	232
Total Visits	1381	341	2140

*Unknown, SVO meeting, etc.

Grossmont College VRC

Current Needs

- **Space Restructure**
 - **Confidential Counseling Space**
 - Remodel office space, add staff computers, desk, etc.
 - **Clearly designated space**
 - Add room dividers to support designated usage of space
 - **Increase Staff efficiency**
 - Add a window to allow monitoring of computer lab and other spaces at the same time

Grossmont College VRC Future Vision

- Increase services available to veterans within the space of the VRC
- Seeking MFT/LCSW intern
- Stabilize staffing
- Stabilize funding
- Increase connection with outside resources



Thank You for Your Support



GCCCD

Veterans Services and
Success Initiatives

Q&A