Veterans & Family Support Program October 2022 Promotion Council of Administration Report

In Veterans & Family Support, October is Agent Orange Awareness Month. Please keep our veterans aware of any new illness that has been added to the list. October is also Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Let all veterans, male and female, know that the VA has programs for them.

Suicide Awareness and Mental Health is still a topic that needs our help and vigilance in keeping our veterans safe. Be aware of the various signs or indications of someone that may need help. There is an additional hot line number that any veteran or person suspecting someone needs help can call: 988-press 1. There are VA programs to help prevent veteran suicide.

Care-giving for veterans is an area that can entail many things, such as taking a vet to various appointments, helping them at home, giving support to their families, visiting them, etc.

The State of California has a Department of Veterans Affairs and is an excellent place to receive information. They have a book of information called CAL VET that you can get at www.calvet.ca.gov. It lists many resources and information for veterans.

Also, check your County as many of them have a Department for Veterans Services.

You should also be receiving the VFW Action Corps Weekly as it keeps your informed on the various action items the VFW is taking to Congress to help our veterans.

Beware of scams that are popping up that are wanting veterans to use them to apply for filing claims for benefits for which they may be eligible. The Camp LeJeune toxic water situation and the Pact Act are two of them. To report a suspected fraudulent activity, email vaoighotline@va.gov or call 800-488-8244. Remind veterans to contact a VFW Service Officer for assistance with their VA claims.

Reporting: Don't forget that when you make a donation, each donation must be reported on its own report and the amount reported in the description section of the report. Do not use the "Donation" line on the report form.

Carol Steinhauer, VFS Chairman csteinhaue@aol.com 310-675-7681