

## Member Description

### COIN-MIRECC Veteran Research Engagement Board

**Position Title:** Veteran Research Engagement Board Member for the COIN and MIRECC research groups at the Denver VHA

- **Center of Innovation for Veteran-Centered and Value Driven Care (COIN) Mission:** Conduct high quality health services research that promotes Veteran-centered and value-driven care, generate and disseminate knowledge that contributes to the well-being of Veterans, work collaboratively with VA policy and operational leaders to implement research findings into clinical care, and train the next generation of health services researchers and leaders.
- **VISN 19 Mental Illness Research, Education and Clinical Centers (MIRECC) Mission:** Study suicide with the goal of reducing suicidal ideation and behaviors in the Veteran population. Towards this end, the work of the VISN 19 MIRECC is focused on promising clinical interventions, as well as the cognitive and neurobiological underpinnings of suicidal thoughts and behaviors that may lead to innovative prevention strategies.

#### **Position Objectives:**

- 1) Engage in collaborative discussion to aid VA researchers and the VA research mission.
- 2) Provide feedback on VA grant and research ideas.
- 3) Provide guidance on the dissemination of research and best practice by:
  - Identifying strategies to improve the spread and utilization of information
  - Evaluating products and informational materials to ensure they are relevant and useful to consumers
  - Identifying ways to measure the impact of dissemination efforts

**Position Summary:** A Veteran engagement member is a Veteran that brings their unique military background, health conditions, and health consumer perspective to the research arena. He or she engages as a stakeholder with MIRECC and COIN researchers spanning the research process from topic generation to dissemination and implementation of results.

**Training:** A 2 hour orientation session; ongoing training as appropriate.

#### **Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Shares perspectives, experiences, and suggestions during meetings and through online collaboration
- Commits to the Veteran Research Engagement Board by upholding its purpose through meaningful engagement
- Acts as a sounding board for COIN and MIRECC grant and research ideas
- Presents ideas to improve VA research processes as consumers of the end product
- Respects the collaborative process and is willing to listen to differing views
- Encourages all board members to share ideas and viewpoints
- Respects Veteran and research confidentiality at all times
- Commits to attending monthly 2 hour meetings and engaging electronically outside of meetings when necessary

#### **Successful Veteran Research Engagement Board members are able to:**

- Share perspectives, insights, and information in constructive ways
- Shows concern for more than one issue
- Listens well
- Respects differing opinions
- Speaks comfortably in a group

- Looks for opportunities to partner and collaborate on finding solutions
- Maintains open and productive communication with researchers
- Respect the limitations of the research environment in meeting individual needs

**Compensation:**

- \$599.99 annually

**Selection Process for Participation:**

- Submit Veteran Research Engagement Board Statement of Interest to Kelty Fehling, 720-857-5126, ([Kelty.fehling@va.gov](mailto:Kelty.fehling@va.gov)) or Leah Wendleton, 303-399-8020 x4637, ([leah.wendleton@va.gov](mailto:leah.wendleton@va.gov))
- Complete in-person interview with COIN and MIRECC liasons and standing Board members