

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-212

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING JOHN FARNEY AS A COUNTY BOARD MEMBER IN DISTRICT 3 TO REPLACE STAN HARPER FOR AN UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2024

WHEREAS, Stan Harper, a County Board Member in District 3 for Champaign County with a term ending November 30, 2024, submitted his resignation from that office effective July 20, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to 10 ILCS 5/25-11, when a vacancy occurs in any elective county office, the County Board shall declare that such vacancy exists and notification thereof shall be given to the county central committee of each established political party, and the vacancy shall be filled within 60 days by appointment of the County Board Chair with the advice and consent of the County Board; and

WHEREAS, Notification of the vacancy was sent to the county central committee of each established political party; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to a recommendation from the Republican Central Committee, the County Board Chair recommends the appointment of John Farney to fill the unexpired term of County Board Member in District 3 ending on November 30, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the County Board Chair also recommends the appointment of John Farney to serve as a member of the Facilities Committee replacing Stan Harper; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive recommends the appointment of John Farney to serve as a County Board Liaison on the Extension Services Council replacing Stan Harper;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED By the County Board of Champaign County that the appointment of John Farney to fill the unexpired term ending November 30, 2024 of Champaign County Board Member District 3 is hereby approved.

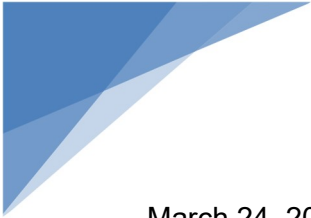
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that John Farney is appointed as a member of the County Facilities Committee and a liaison to the Extension Services Council.

PRESENTED, PASSED, APPROVED, AND RECORDED this 24th day of August A.D. 2023.

Kyle Patterson, Chair
Champaign County Board

Recorded
& Attest: _____
Aaron Ammons, County Clerk
and ex-officio Clerk of the
Champaign County Board
Date: _____

Approved: _____
Steve Summers, County Executive
Date: _____



March 24, 2023

Robbie C. Walker
VA Accredited Claims Agent, LLC
601 S. Century Blvd
Suite 1503
P.O. Box 5791
Rantoul, IL 61866

Kyle Patterson, Champaign Board Chair.
Jeff Wilson, Champaign County Board Member- District 1.
Champaign County Board
Brookens Administrative Center
1776 East Washington Street
Urbana, Illinois 61802-4581

Subject: Stop the Violence Program for Veterans and Their Families

Dear Honorable Kyle Patterson and Honorable Jeff Wilson:

This letter of intent outlines a proposal that will provide transformative training and a pathway for healing and support for primarily veterans and their dependents on the dangers of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) illness. Targeting Champaign County Citizens, we are seeking \$500,000 annually over a three-year period that will provide a combination of training, education, support and capacity building that will reduce the violence in Champaign County caused by PTSD. The funding will support the following programmatic goals:

- Educate veterans and their families by providing mental health resources and training that will help implement community violence and intervention strategies to reduce violence in Champaign County.
- Increase the leadership and capacity of veterans and veteran supporters to lead and facilitate guided discussions focused on the cause and effects of PTSD and its direct connection to violent behavior.
- Provide interactive workshops and training for veterans and their families focused on mental health and PTSD.



Program Components

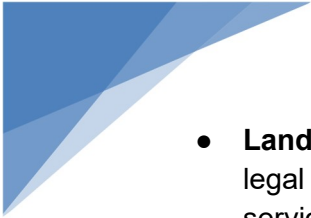
Based on the goals above, below are the major program components that will be implemented over a three-year period. In the first year, the implementation of core programmatic components, but also help build a sustainable model.

- **Outreach and Recruitment:** A team of staff and partners will focus on recruiting 50 veterans and their families (a total of about 180 people) in the first year to participate in training and workshop opportunities. A broader awareness campaign with materials and resources will target all veterans and the community in Champaign County.
- **Trauma and Trauma Informed Care/Seeking Safety:** On a quarterly basis, training will be offered to veterans and families about mental health and PTSD, with a focus on violence prevention. This will cover PTSD and substance abuse disorders. In addition, TBRI and Making Sense of Your Worth will be offered on a quarterly basis, Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI) training will be provided and on an annual basis, the Making Sense of Your Worth program will be provided.
- **Peer Support Groups:** This program will build the leadership skills and capacity of veterans and others to help facilitate peer support groups for veterans and their families.
- **Steering Committee:** A steering committee representing the Veterans Administration, other partners and lived experience representatives will be convened on a regular basis to guide the implementation and evaluation of the program.

Team Expertise and Background

Our effort will include a team of experts and partners who will provide leadership, training, facilitation and resources to people served in this program.

- **Robbie C. Walker VA Accredited Claims Agent, LLC** is an affiliate of the Veterans Benefit Administration located in Chicago, IL., and has over 30 years of dedicated service in State & Federal Agencies. Also has over 20 years in connection with the Veteran Healthcare Administration located in Danville, IL. Agent, Walker is a 20-year member of VFW & The American Legion serving at Post, County, District, State and National levels. Robbie C. Walker will provide leadership and direction over this program, and will serve as a conduit in assisting veterans with determining eligibility.
- Our **Community Partners from VA Medical Center Danville Public Affairs Office**, will provide a program booth with paraphernalia. License Clinical Staff available.

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- **Land of Lincoln Legal Services through Attorney Nicole Massey** will provide free legal advice to qualified veterans. Land of Lincoln Legal Aid provides free civil legal services to qualifying Veterans to address housing and financial instability issues. Services include assistance with criminal record expungement and sealing, social security and VA Benefits issues, and family and eviction matters. Attorney Nicole Massey earned her Law Degree from the University of Illinois.
 - **Bishop Byron Smith**, will be retained as a consultant to provide mental health and PTSD training with a focus on its impact on community violence. He has over two decades in the areas of mental health and community development. In addition to being a pastor at Gethsemane Christian Love Church, he has been an adjunct professor and mental health clinician along with his involvement with the Drew Child Development Center and Chabad Residential Treatment Center for Men. In addition, he has been a professor at Claremont School of Theology, Azusa Pacific University, Argosy University, and Antioch University provided considerable guidance and instruction in strategies to aid both believers and nonbelievers.
 - **Grace Weltman, Communities in Motion**, will be retained as a consultant to provide awareness about Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI) and deliver on an annual basis, Making Sense of Your Worth (MSOYW), which will allow participants to understand how past trauma impacts their own self-worth and how they can create a path to healing. Ms. Weltman has over two decades in the area of facilitation, training and community development, helping to address complex social and economic challenges in different communities. With expertise in homelessness, foster care and early childhood education, Ms. Weltman understands the effects of trauma on people and communities. She has a program evaluation background and will assist with evaluating the program on an annual basis.

Program Budget

The budget below is a preliminary 12-month budget that illustrates what it would take to implement the program. It is anticipated that in Year 2 and 3 that expenses will increase as more program participants increases.



12-Month Budget for Champaign County Veterans Project	
Personnel	
Director, Robbie Walker	\$80,000
Outreach Specialist	\$35,000
Administrative Support	\$25,000
Youth and Young Adult Interns	\$15,000
Subtotal	\$155,000
Fringe Benefits (25% applies to Outreach and Admin Support)	\$15,000
Total Personnel	\$170,000
Program	
Supplies	\$5,000
Training Materials	\$15,000
Printing/Copying of Outreach Materials	\$7,500
Food and Refreshments	\$18,000
Stipends	\$20,000
Consultants	\$220,000
Total Program	\$285,500
Administration	
Telephone/Internet Service	\$2,652
Printer/Copier Ink	\$1,478
Commercial Business Insurance	\$653
Office Space	\$5,365
Computer Equipment	\$10,000
Total Administration	\$20,148
Grand Subtotal	\$475,648
Administrative Fee (5%)	\$23,782
Grand Total	\$499,430

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to discussing this proposed program with you further.

Sincerely,

Robbie C. Walker