



# ***Harm Reduction and Veterans Supportive Services - Panel Questions***

- ***What are some challenges that you have noticed with regards to Stigma and Veterans ?***
- ***As Suicide among Veterans continues to spike; how can we become more sensitized to this increasing need ?***
- ***How do you see Harm Reduction Playing a pivotal role in providing Veterans Supportive Services?***



# Update : Veterans Supported Recovery

**THE LAUNCHING OF TRAINING MUDULES AND CURRENT DESIGNATIONS**



# VETERANS ALREADY A SPECIAL POPULATION

- Veterans have been a Special Service Population for quite some time. The Longest war in our History has recently ended and our soldiers have returned home.
- The unique circumstances with which they face on and off the battle fields continue to evolve. The actual concept of Soldier/Warrior/Veteran comes from a sense of camaraderie.
- We march, eat sleep and fight together in a bond like no-other. This is a concept in which peer services was born.
- Those with lived experience form a bond that eventually allows for greater success.





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- **Over the years several advancements were made as we noticed that there were several areas in which the veteran needed assistance.**
    - **The navigation from military life to civilian life.**
      - **Jobs**
      - **Career**
      - **Family**
      - **community**
    - **The navigation of the Veterans Administration system.**
      - **Benefits**
      - **Medical, Psychiatric and Behavioral Health Care**
      - **Housing**
      - **Veterans Treatment Courts (Judge Russell (Buffalo) Judge Ferdinand (Brooklyn) etc.**





# **LATEST UPDATE**

- **Launching of the Veterans Specialty Designation (VSR) on Veteran's Day 2021**
- **Currently 7 VSR's have received the designation**
- **30 Currently enrolled**
- **We hope VSR's to be in as many Veterans Services Programs, Courts and Hospitals throughout the state as possible.**
- **Ambitions of going National as we present at the Next National Coalition of Homeless Veterans Conference in 2023**