

## **2017 Port Angeles Stand Down After Action:**

Total seen	288
Veterans	283
Female Veterans	50
Homeless veterans	75
Homeless female Veterans	12
Dependents	16
Homeless Non Veterans	5

### **AARP**

Total Seen:	158
Action Taken:	140

Helped veterans learn about fraud protection and guidance if it happens by providing help to for alleviating any problems incurred.

Presented John Braasch the Andrus Award.

### **Assured Hospice:**

Total Seen	32
Action Taken	

No “problems” but we gave away many items, shared hospice information and made connections.

### **Barber Shop:**

**Buff’s Beauty Bar** Provided 43 veterans with outstanding haircuts.

It was amazing to see the transformation of the veterans before and after their haircut

### **Breast, cervical, colon health programs at VIMO.**

Total Seen	40
Action Taken	1 (woman who had no insurance)

One gentleman told me about how he requested (insisted) that he be completely “put under” during his colonoscopy, or else he would not have it done. The doctor finally agreed and he had it done. After hearing that story, a woman came to my table and we talked about the mammogram, pap smear and colonoscopy. She said that she didn’t think that could do the colonoscopy because it was an invasive procedure. She has a personal history of sexual abuse from her childhood and would not even try to do that. I took the information from the gentleman’s story and suggested that she ask her doctor to let her be completely “put under” during the procedure so she wouldn’t be traumatized by the invasiveness of the procedure. Actually there are so many sexual abuse survivors that all invasive testing should have an alternative way to be done so that fear does not keep the important testing from being done.

I met a woman (wife of a vet) last year that needed all 3 of the services that my program provides; I gave her my brochure, name, and phone number. I really thought she would call me but she never did call. Today I saw her again and told her I’d waited for her to call lase year, and really wanted to help her this year. I hope she’ll call this time.

I herd a lot of stories about Breast, Cervical or Colon cancers-personal stories of relatives or friends. Everyone seems to have been affected in some way from cancer. These screenings are so important! Screenings can save lives.

**Clallam County Transit:**

Total Seen	60
Action Taken	5

Promoting - Straight Shot – getting people to the VA hospital in Seattle.  
I just love this event! I worked it last year and asked to come back this year. The food is great, the volunteers are amazing and the veterans are usually hilarious, I just enjoy talking to them

**Concerned Citizens:**

Total Seen	46
Action Taken	10

Connected someone w/needed services. Heard lots of jokes.

**Disabled American Veterans (DAV)**

Total Seen	18
Action Taken	

We gave people our information to come and see us with all their information, military, VA and all other.

**Unable to take problems or claims in this setting.**

Enjoyed hearing from vets we have helped who have gotten compensation for their claims.

**Dental Screening:**

Total Seen	23
Action Taken	23

Many patients do not have insurance to help with dental. I am personally going to make it my goal to help veterans get the care they need with or without insurance.

Every veteran that stopped by my booth was kind, and courteous. Every story that was told to me was emotional and joyless at the same time.

I saw so many veterans with high anxiety and depression; it will be a work in progress to get them in the clinic to be seen. 90% all patients were new.

This event was very organized!

**DSHS Mobile Service Van**

Total Seen	27
Action Taken	

Just being able to help our veterans in any way possible. They deserve everything!!  
Awesome event!!

**Health Screenings:**

Total Seen: 43

Action Taken: 41

Patient connected to medical and housing services.

Patient had medications refilled to control his high blood pressure.

Patient scheduled for diagnostic services for possible cancerous growth.

Helping a patient with lupus get access to medication and a doctor.

Vets standing in a line ready to get their immunizations, not caring about who was around them and having them tell stories about how they did this in the military, getting the shot before they were allowed to eat. Listening to all the stories from the veterans from the different eras was great. It was great to see them smile and laugh.

The location was perfect and everything we needed, can't think of how to improve.

Thanks to Voices for Veterans for allowing us to participate in this effort.

**Healthy Families:**

Total Seen: 22

Action Taken:

No significant problems solved today, but because of this event I anticipate working with some of the veterans or some of their family members.

A former police officer shared about his experience working with abused children.

A grandmother and a former government worker (working with mentally ill veterans) shared their appreciation of the work we are doing to assist victims of DV and SA and our efforts to prevent it.

A veteran revealed that he was a product of a rape.

**Housing:****Serenity House:**

Total Seen: 16

Action Taken: 3

Veteran with a service animal did not know he could utilize shelter to get out of the cold.

I have worked with a chronically homeless veteran for 2 years, he had been previously engaged with housing services for 4 years prior. I helped house his a year ago but today he finally took a step towards mental health help and be honest about what he was going through.

More veteran outreach, see a lot of non-vets when we know many are out there struggling.

**Peninsula Housing Authority:**

Total Seen: 15

Action Taken: 5

5 housing applications handed out.

Lots of positive comments about the housing authority's redevelopment project.

**Sarge's Place:**

Total Seen: 18

Action Taken: 6

Coordinated a place for phoneless vet to call from and check on referrals  
Screened potential referrals.

Many referrals to the Peninsula Housing Authority for the waiting list and  
OlyCap for LiHeap.

Referred several veterans for assessment to enter Sarge's Place.

Provided a safe place for veterans to talk about whatever they wanted to talk  
about.

Saw some former clients who are successfully and stable housed.

**Olympic Peninsula Community Action (OlyCap)**

Total Seen: 25

Action Taken: 10 (Liheap)

Referrals for low-income energy assistance.

Enjoyable conversations with veterans from past stand downs.

OlyCap is housing a homeless veteran and his daughter from the Port  
Townsend stand down.

**Sequim Valley Lions Club:**

Total Served: 79

Action Taken: 10

Gave out 22 pair of reader glasses.

Gave out 17 pair of sunglasses.

Arranged for 7 eye exams for Rx glasses.

A teenager stopped by to thank Lions for providing her with her first pair glasses.

**Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe Employment Services:**

Total Seen: 8

Action Taken: 6

Service Provider made no comments as to what action was taken.

**Massage Therapy:**

Total Served 17

Relieved pain, provided education about what massage can do.

Our veterans are in such need of massage therapy, I am hoping to provide message to  
veterans nation wide.

Thank you so much for having me! I want to be back next year.

**MyHealthEVet:**

Total Seen 23

Action Taken 5

Reset 2 passwords.

**New Leash on Life:**

Total Seen 62

Action Taken 62

3 vets will be followed up with for service dog training classes.

Most memorable – A Desert Storm Vet with multiple combat related issues stopped by. I

will start looking for a dog.

**NAMI:**

Total Seen: 8

Action Taken: 7

Informed about programs and upcoming NAMI events.

I helped one vet with a friend with mental health issues, he sounded desperate.

**NW Veterans Resource Center:**

Total Seen 44

Action Taken 6

3 gift cards given out for a total of \$750.

Connected homeless veteran living in a truck to CBOC Olivia Rieber.

One of the veterans receiving a gift card was homeless. He is now housed and using the gift card to purchase his first household goods, including a bed which he hasn't slept in for "a very long time".

**Para Transit:**

Total Seen: 12

Action Taken: 2

**Peninsula College:**

Total Seen 26

Action Taken 2

**Peninsula Community Behavioral Health:**

Total Seen 20

Action Taken 6

Clients back into outpatient services.

Talked to Coast Guard Master Chief.

Gave resources – gave phone numbers and 3 referrals.

Great to meet lots of great providers and veterans that stopped by to tell their stories.

**Peninsula Friends of Animals:**

Total Seen: 150

Action Taken: 125

Food for animals.

**ProBono Lawyers of Clallam and Jefferson Counties:**

Total Seen 20

Action Taken At least half of these clients will follow up with us next week to take specific legal actions.

Many veterans came into our booth and left relieved after an attorney consultation.

**Red Cross:**

Total Seen 93

Action Taken 87

We talked with a wonderful gentleman who shared stories of his service in VietNam and what he faced when he returned.

Handed out 64 comfort hygiene kits.

Handed out 40 1<sup>st</sup> aid kits.

Handed out 12 Chap Sticks.

5 people interested in volunteering.

**Senior Information and Assistance:**

Total Seen 14

Action Taken 7

Going to follow up on some information for several folks including a home visit for possible services.

Information on Port Townsend Senior Information and Assistance office/housing.

Medicare benefits for in-home care.

In-home care handbook.

Medical savings program information.

Medicare enrollment October 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Sequim Valley Lions**

Total Seen 125

Action Taken 115

Eye exams and eye glasses provided as well as dozens of reading glasses and glasses cases.

We explained to the veterans, strongly support eyesight and hearing partnered with Wal-Mart for free exams and glasses. Twice a year hold spaghetti feed for veterans.

It is a pleasure to serve our veterans.

**S.H.I.B.A.**

Total Seen 14

Action Taken 3

Finding out they are eligible for the Medical Savings program which will give them more money in their pocket.

It was gratifying to hear veterans so willing to share their problems.

**VA Healthcare Enrollment:**

Total Seen 20

Action Taken 21

Explained Healthcare System

Imported records from other VAs

Enrolled veterans in Health Care

Advised veterans about other VA services and programs.

**VA Homeless Veteran Outreach (Benefits):**

Total Seen 25  
Action Taken 9

Delivered information on emergency utility assistance.

Delivered information on homeless programs.

Made referrals for shelter.

Screening for HUD/VASH housing.

Met several veterans camping outside or sleeping in vehicles who were very appreciative of outdoor equipment available.

Connected with several veterans eligible for VA housing programs.

Great event, very well organized.

**Vet Connect:**

Total Seen 20  
Action Taken 20

All Veterans assisted with locating needed services.

Informed veterans on VA healthcare policy for ER visits – he did not know this was available.

Drove homeless veterans back to Port Townsend

**VFW-FRA:**

Total Seen 26  
Action Taken 11

Claims issues, DD-214s

Great food, service providers, this event is great for the veterans in our community.

**Washington Relay**

Total Seen 48  
Action Taken 18

Providing communication access via application for landline telephones designed for people with hearing/speech difficulties, or via mobile apps.

I've met people who did not know about this resource available and were excited to have the opportunity to access the telephone through our state program, especially getting equipment they need at no cost if the proper criteria is met.

This was an excellent stand down, organized, plenty of food and beverages, organizations, community services such as barber, masseur, dental services, etc.

I would love to have the opportunity to be back at future events.

**WorkSource**

Total Seen 26  
Action Taken 7

I worked with one homeless veteran to help with housing to help from DAV back to

WorkSource tomorrow for employment help.

**Clothing Room:**

Served 140  
99 veterans  
83 Male  
16 Female  
21 dependents of veterans  
12 children  
30 homeless veterans

The Coast Guard was wonderful. They shook hands with each veteran and said, "I am your shopping buddy. What branch of the service were you in Sir". It put the veterans at ease.

**Outdoor Equipment Trailer:**

Twenty-three people came for outdoor equipment. 20 were veterans and three were non-veterans. The non-veterans did not receive any outdoor equipment.

The veterans served in the following services:

Navy: 5 - Army: 7 - Air Force: 3 - Marines: 4 - Coast Guard: 1

One the sailors came having a hard time but left with a smile.

One from the army had been there last year. This person had never smiled. However they left in a good mood with a smile.

Thanks to everyone who help all the veterans. It improves their lives.

**Meals:** There were approximately 700 OUTSTANDING meals served by Reath Ellefson.

A special thanks goes out to the US Coast Guard personnel stationed at US Coast Guard Station Ediz Hook who participated in the stand down. Their help was invaluable and greatly appreciated.