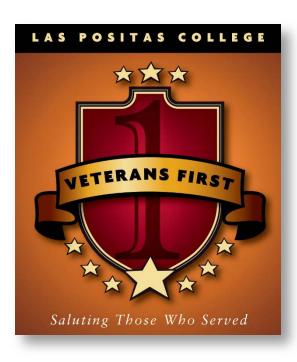


Veterans First Program



Going Beyond
Benefit Certification:
Successful
Programming for
Returning Veterans



Presentation by: Diana Z. Rodriguez Vice President, Student Services April 07, 2015



is designed to ease the transition of a serviceman or woman from military life into college and to assist them with educational, financial and other forms of support as needed to improve their chances of success at college.

VETERANS FIRST PROGRAM

BACKGROUND

LPC Student Veteran Population

- 275 Veterans Fall 2010
 - Approx. 30% are OIF/OEF Veterans
 - No services, programs, resources were available (limited to certifying benefits only)
- 385 Veterans Fall 2014
 - Approx. 82% are OIF/OEF Veterans
 - Comprehensive Veterans Program
 - Veterans Resource Center
 - Strong Community Collaborations



VETERANS FIRST PROGRAM

LAS POSITAS COLLEGE COMMITMENT

Saluting Those Who Serve

- Expand definition of service to veterans
 - Beyond certification
- Acknowledge and honor the Student Veterans experience and the transition challenges they face
 - Combat experience
 - Physical and psychological challenges
 - Correlating military experience and training to civilian career direction
 - Loss of camaraderie with their fellow servicemen/women
 - Budgeting, rent, food, school supplies with limited income
 - Relationship issues







Network of Community Support

Local Veteran Organizations

Veterans Foreign Wars, Blue Star Moms, Operation Sam, Pleasanton Military Families, Swords to Plowshares, Valley Veterans Foundation, Sentinels of Freedom, Mission Continues

Local Support Agencies

Camp Parks, Livermore VA Hospital, Concord and Oakland Vet Center, Employment Development Department, One-Stop Center, Palo Alto VA

Community Support

Livermore Rotary, RAVE (Rotary Assisting Veterans Education), Knights of Columbus

Partnership

Lawrence Livermore Lab, Safeway, Comcast, The Englander, Eight Bridges Brewing and many others



Building a Comprehensive Veterans First Program

Spring

Fall '06

25 (10 hours) Certifying Official

Student Service Program Review

Spring

Book Loan

Information/Orientation Day

Foundation Grant (\$20,000)

Gala Fundraiser

VFP Scholarship Program

Summer '07

Fall '07

80, Spring

80, Spring

Spring '08

Fall '08

Student Veteran Org established

Veterans First Program (official)

VF Program Coordinator (FT)

Spring

Spring

Veterans Business Plan

Veterans Office

Spring '09

60, Spring

Student Veteran Mentor

Veterans "Hub" (first VRC)

Operation Gateway (Orientation)

Readjustment Counseling

(Oakland/Concord)

Spring

60, Summer Fall ′09

Spring '1

Fall '1

Priority Registration

Veterans Resource Center, Bldg 1000

Rotary Assisting Veterans

Education formed

VA Palo Alto Healthcare (on campus)

Sentinels of Freedom (partnership)

Fall '1

Spring

Spring

Summer

LLNL Internships

Summer '1

Fall '14

Veterans Resource Center, Bldg 1310

Veterans Engineering Tech Cohort

VETERANS FIRST PROGRAM

Where we are now

Mission continues.....

- Over 400 student Veterans, Active Duty, Reservists, Dependents/Spouses of Veterans
- Over 230 w/ VA federal benefits
- Veterans Book Loan Program
- Veterans Text Book Borrowing Program
- Annual Honoring Veterans Day Event
 (USS Arizona WWII Veterans, Tuskegee Airmen, WASP Pilot –
 Maggie Gee, Ted Moore Air American Pilot, 9/11 Observance-10 year)
- 3rd Annual Honoring Women Veterans Event
- Operation Gateway 7 Summer 2015 (over 50 Veterans)
- Vet Center Readjustment Counselor on Campus every other week
- EDD Veterans Rep on campus in the VRC every other week
- Palo Alto VA Health Care Every other week
- Engineering Tech Program

 Veterans Co-hort. Second cohort starts in Fall 2015
- Over 40k will be awarded to LPC Veterans through local LPC Veterans scholarships
- Fundraisers Englander Golf Tournament, Cycling 4 Veterans, End of the year dinner/recognition, Veterans First merchandise sales
- 25k award by a single donor Safeway
- Veterans Resource Center

 (3 offices, computer lab, study workroom, lounge area)



VETERANS FIRST

PROGRAM

VETERANS FIRST PROGRAM

GI Bill Fulfillment of do **College Support Services** Scholarships • Book loan • Student Veteran Org • Veteran Center Readjustment Counseling College Veteran **Commitment to**

