

Vision Statement:

The Vision of the Jasper County Veterans Treatment Court Program is “No Veteran left behind.”

The Jasper County Veterans Mentoring program has been developed to assist veterans to achieve their individualized goals. It has been shown that veterans progress in some areas more favorably when working with another veteran who had similar experiences. It is anticipated that the mentors supportive relationship maintained throughout treatment will increase the likelihood that a veteran will remain in treatment and improve his or her chances for sobriety and law-abiding behavior.

Volunteer Mentor Role Description:

The role of the mentor is to act as a coach, guide, role model, advocate, and support for the individuals he or she is working with as they go through the court process. It is also the role of the mentor to assist the veteran in navigating the VA benefits process.

Mentor’s Duties and Responsibilities:

- Attend court sessions when possible.
- Be supportive and understanding of the difficulties veterans face.
- Be supportive and helpful to the other mentors within the program

Qualifications of a Mentor:

- Be a veteran of one of the branches of the United States Military, including the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, or their corresponding Reserve or Guard branches with an other than dishonorable discharge
- Adhere to all of the Jasper County Veterans Treatment Court Program policies and procedures
- Commit to program participation for a minimum of six months
- Complete the required orientation and training
- Participate in additional trainings throughout time of service as needed

Recommended Qualities:

- Reliable and Accountable
- Willing listener
- Encouraging and supportive
- Tolerant and respectful of individual difference

Screening Policy:

Each potential mentor must go through an initial screening process with the Mentor Coordinator. Following the application and screening process the Mentor Coordinator will present to the Veterans Court team the application submitted by the potential mentor. At that time a decision will be made by the team as to the acceptance or denial of the applicant.

Matching Mentors with Program Participants:

The Mentor Coordinator will serve as the point of contact and will assist in matching mentors with participating veterans at each court appearance. Whenever possible the Mentor Coordinator will make matches based on the following criteria:

- Matching branch of service
- Identified similarities, interests and skills
- Similar age/gender/ethnicity

Record-Keeping Policy:

Each contact between mentor and mentee is documented in the Mentoring Log that is updated at each court appearance by the mentor.

Confidentiality Policy:

Mentors training will include a mandatory confidentiality workshop. Instructions on Federal and State confidentiality policy will be reviewed including but not limited to: what information should be kept confidential, who has access to confidential materials, what confidential information can be used for, how it will be kept confidential, and the limits of confidentiality. In addition, guidelines will be reviewed specific to what information should be included and should not be included in the log as well as how information about the mentors will be protected.

Unacceptable Behavior Policy:

It is the policy of the Jasper County Veterans Treatment Court Program that unacceptable behaviors will not be tolerated while a mentor is participating in the program. Behaviors that do not match with the mission, vision, goals, or values of the Veterans Treatment Court Program will be considered unacceptable and are prohibited during court proceedings and mentoring sessions. Any unacceptable behavior, as determined by the Court Services Officer, the Judge, or any team members, will result in a warning and/or disciplinary action including suspension or termination from the program.

On behalf of the Jasper County Veterans Court, we look forward to the opportunity and partnership with our mentors. We value the service, sacrifice, and commitment to the Veterans Court Program and cannot thank you enough for your interest in becoming a mentor.

JASPER COUNTY VETERANS COURT MENTORING PROGRAM

| | |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Last Name: _____ | First Name: _____ |
| Address: _____ | City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ |
| DOB: _____ | |

| | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Email Address: _____ | | | |
| Phone 1: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Home | <input type="checkbox"/> Work | <input type="checkbox"/> Cell |
| Phone 2: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Home | <input type="checkbox"/> Work | <input type="checkbox"/> Cell |

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Branch of Service: _____ | Length of Service: _____ |
| Occupation: _____ | Type of Discharge: _____ |

| |
|---|
| What does being a “mentor” mean to you? |
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |

| |
|--|
| What motivated you to want to participate in Veterans Court? |
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |

| |
|---|
| What skills and experiences do you bring to the mentoring program that will be helpful to you, the other mentors, or the veterans in the program? |
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |

JASPER COUNTY VETERANS COURT MENTORING PROGRAM

What are you hoping to take away from volunteering with the Veterans Court Mentoring Program?

**Please note that you may be requested to participate in observation, training, shadowing, and supervision as part of entry into the mentoring program. Mentors may also be requested to attend additional training and monthly group supervision meetings.*

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
|--|--|

Signature Date

Please e-mail your completed application to Jared Prater at jared.prater@courts.mo.gov, or by fax to 417-782-7172. Thank you for your interest in becoming a mentor for the Jasper County Veterans Court.

