**Illinois Joining Forces Board of Directors Meeting Minutes December 15, 2022**

**Attendees:**

Stephanie Kifowit Terry Prince Erica Borggren

Sgt. Major Ballowe for Maj. General Neely Nick Gross John DeBlasio

Matt Schachman Megan Everett Craig Wilcox

**Staff in Attendance:** Brenda Osuch, Jim Dolan, Joshua Taylor

**Not in Attendance:**

John Schwan

Sen. Cristina Castro

**Minutes:**

* Meeting Called to Order
* Roll Call (Confirm Quorum)
* 2022 Board of Directors September Meeting Minutes Approved

Interim Executive Director’s Update

1.) New Staff and Open Positions

a.) Program Manager – Josh Taylor

b.) Veteran Community Care Specialist – Michael Pedroza

c.) Program Manager, Behavioral Health – Open

d.) Education & Outreach Manager – Open

2.) Marquette Hamlin Group – Contract Renewal

a.) Discussions evolving about possibly marketing with Unite Us. Openly discussed

branding change to bring more awareness to veteran resources with updated logo.

3.) November 3 – Springfield Summit and Veteran Resource Fair **–** Outcome/Lessons Learned

a.)First ever regional Summit & was open for veteran attendance; 75 registered, 65

attended; Future dates, to include the Annual Summit date in April, will be discussed

and chosen in January.

VSC/CCC Update - Senior Director of Development (Jim Dolan)

1.) 211 Metro Chicago

a.) IJF is partnering with United Way team behind the 211 Metro Chicago development.

We will help provide Military Cultural Competency Trainings to

individuals/organizations that need/require it; 211 Metro Chicago also allows access

to entire state of 211 resources and data; more regions already in existence.

2.) VSC Update

a.) Veteran Resources Community Network (previously MyVA Communities)

conversations evolving for a partnership. Also working on a more formalized

relationship with the Quad Counties Military Advisory Committee.

3.) Care Coordination CenterUpdate

a.) Continuing to work on restructuring internal database of resource providers and

make it more sophisticated and user friendly. Environmental sweeps are still being

conducted and organized to streamline providers by geo-specific regions.

Grants and Contracts**:**

1.) IWAP Contract (Brenda)

a.)Service contract that is providing staff after hours to allow for 24/7 warm line

assistance for Care Coordination Center.

2.) SSG Fox Grant (Brenda)

a.) Awarded; $594,000 for education, outreach, and soft case management for suicide

prevention and assistance

b.) Vets 4 Warriors have partnered to help with call volume and pick up overflow calls

3.) McCormick Grant (Brenda)

a.) Awarded; 2 year, $600k grant

4.) Cook County – Honor Grant (Brenda)

a.)Awarded; 2 year, $25k each year in part with the Honor Grant Cook County. Will

allow for crisis intercept mapping/analysis of veterans and the services they utilized

5.) Duchossois Family Foundation (Brenda)

a.) Grant accepted; $1M over 3 years to assist with developing a veteran community

support platform. Will provide a more formal, user-friendly online resource

directory for veterans.

6.) Unite Us – Contract (Brenda)

a.) Carryover debt forgiveness contract that we were verbally notified to have fulfilled

debt obligation. Providing IJF with a tech platform, free of charge, for social services

agencies to easily refer clients from agency to agency, including data sharing.

7.) LSSI **–** Designated Coordinating Organization (Brenda)

a.) Two partnership grants submitted: one for creating behavioral health clinic, the

other to build a more formalized partnership; More discussions to be had.

8.)Dr. Scholls (Jim)

a.) Approved for $10k in general operating funds

9.) SBB Research Group Foundation (Jim)

a.) Awarded $5k for general services, regularly award on a monthly basis.

10.) Dunham (Jim)

a.) Approved for $60k in Aurora area to build engagement, community development,

and host summer Summit 2023. Starting to network with local resources to build

awareness and knowledge of care providers/agencies.

11.) Bob Woodruff (Jim)

a.) Have donated over $62k to IJF over four-year span. Funds used to support local

providers on food insecurity issues.

Treasurer’s Report (Stephanie Kifowit) FY 2023 – Year to Date (Unaudited)

1.) Over 9% on current budget year; All expenditures aligned and on track; EOY Deficit of

$65,970.62, but EDLI loan helped offset.

Executive Session (recording ended)

Adjournment