



## *Front Lines – April 2017 Edition*

Greetings and welcome to the April 2017 edition of *Front Lines*, the unofficial newsletter of Cuyahoga Community College's Veterans Initiative. Here's a look at what's happening...

**How Are We Doing? – Annual Tri-C Student Veterans Survey:** As part of our efforts to look for new ways to improve our services to you, the Tri-C Veterans Initiative conducts an annual survey to get your direct feedback. This year's survey can be found at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VeteransBXPQ9BM>. It is also posted on the Tri-C Veterans website at: [www.tri-c.edu/veterans](http://www.tri-c.edu/veterans). This year's survey will be open until the end of the Spring Semester, May 14, 2017.

**Early Registration – Fall 2017:** As the result of the recent passage of Ohio House Bill 488, veterans at ALL State of Ohio institutions of higher learning are now eligible for early/priority registration. Early registration for Fall 2017 Semester at Tri-C starts April 10, 2017 and runs through April 16. Veteran students will be notified via their Tri-C e-mail account on MyTri-C Space. Note there is no early/priority registration for Summer 2017 Semester.

**Counseling Appointments:** All veteran students, whether attending Summer or Fall 2017 Semester classes, should be calling to make appointments with Counseling **now** to discuss/review schedules. Do not wait until the last minute.

**Veteran Campus Support Teams Ready To Go:** All veteran students -- especially those of you new to Tri-C this semester -- are reminded that the Veterans Campus Support Teams at each respective Tri-C campus (EAST, METRO, WEST, WEST SHORE, The Veterans Education Connection Center at Louis Stokes VAMC – Wade Park), and the Veterans Service Office at Brunswick University Center) are "open for business." The Support Teams will be able to assist you with day-to-day access to resources and opportunities both here at the College and in the Greater Cleveland Community. These folks are your "first starting point" in helping you with veteran issues both on and off campus. Your Veteran Campus Support Teams are comprised of specialists from key departments which data tracking has shown are those departments in which veterans require services. A complete listing can be found in the off the College Veterans website at: [www.tri-c.edu/veterans](http://www.tri-c.edu/veterans)

**Note:** In all cases, it is recommended to call first to schedule an appointment with the Support Team members at your campus.

**GI Bill Certifying Officials:** All student veterans using any form of the GI Bill are also reminded that whenever you register for classes, add classes, or drop classes... YOU MUST SEE YOUR CAMPUS GI BILL CERTIFYING OFFICIALS. The Certifiers are the direct link with the Regional VA Educational Benefits Office in Buffalo. Your GI Bill Certifiers are as follows:

At WEST and Brunswick it is Mr. Damian Thorkelson (216-987-5203) and Kristie Ignacio (216) 987-5406. At EAST it is Ms. Vanessa Traylor (216-987-2009) and Maria Oriti (216) 987-2118. At METRO it is Ms. Della Hilbert (216-987-4164). At Corporate College West & Westshore it is Michelle Knoll (216) 987-5884.

**Veterans Upward Bound:** the next Cuyahoga Community College Academic Enrichment course(s) begins March 25, 2017. Weekend, day, and evening sessions are available. The Academic Enrichment (AE) course assists eligible US Military veterans prepare for English, math, and computer studies. All AE courses, including books and supplies, are **no cost to eligible veterans**. Call 216-987-4938 for more information. Check out the VUB website at: [www.tric.edu/apply/specialinterest/veterans/Pages/VeteransUpwardBound.aspx](http://www.tric.edu/apply/specialinterest/veterans/Pages/VeteransUpwardBound.aspx).



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs



## Receive Care Specific to Women Veterans

[Get Started](#)



### Women Veterans: Explore your health care resources

Did you know VA has designated women's health primary care providers at every medical center? VA is evolving to fit the unique needs of women Veterans.

Women Veterans may be eligible to receive comprehensive primary care, specialty care, mental health care, emergency care, and women's health specialty care.

Specialty care services include:

- Gynecology Care
- Breast Cancer Screening and Advanced Breast Care
- Fertility Treatments
- Maternity Care
- Newborn Care for 7 days

## Volunteers Needed:



United Way of  
Greater Cleveland



## Volunteers Needed!

### Day of Service for our Veterans Event

**Date:** Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup>

**Time:** 9:00am-1:00pm

**Location:** Tri-C Metro *Tri-C Recreation Center Gym*

2900 Community College Ave, Cleveland Ohio 44115

**WHAT:** United Way's Day of Service for our Veterans event will connect veterans to much-needed United Way basic need services and other community resources. We need a variety of volunteers to help.

**Volunteers needed for...**

- Veteran Escorts
- Veteran Intake/Assessment
- Event Logistics
- And More!

**\*\*\*\*Light Refreshments Available**

**CONTACT:** To sign up as a volunteer contact Karlie Haines, United Way of Greater Cleveland Engagement Associate 216-436-2128

**VA Fixes Veterans Crisis Line:** On March 21, the VA released the following statement in response to the recently released VA Office of Inspector General report that reviewed processes from June 6 through December 15, 2016, of the Veterans Crisis Line (VCL):

The VA has announced that the challenges with the VCL have been resolved. Prior to the opening of its new Atlanta call center, the call roll-over rate often exceeded 30 percent. The current call roll over rate is less than 1 percent, with over 99 percent of all calls being answered by the VCL.

To reach a trained VA professional who is specially trained to attend to emotional crises for Veterans and Service members: Dial the National Suicide Prevention Hotline number, 1-800-273-TALK (8255). Veterans should choose option 1 to reach a VCL Responder; Text 838255 and a VCL responder will text back.

### Special Events

*Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center Events Calendar*

<http://www.cleveland.va.gov/calendar.asp>

*Ohio Veterans Memorial Park Events Calendar*

<http://www.ovmp.org/>

*Cleveland Tank Plant Homecoming Military Show and Swap Meet:* The International Exposition (I-X) Center and the Military Vehicle Preservation Association announced the 42<sup>nd</sup> annual MVPA International Convention will be held in conjunction with the Cleveland Tank Plant Homecoming Military Show and Swap Meet June 22-24, 2017 at the I-X Center. [www.IXClevelandTankShow.com](http://www.IXClevelandTankShow.com)

**Benefits Support:** The Veterans Service Commission will have a representative in the following Cuyahoga County Public Library branches on selected dates 9 AM – 3 PM to assist Veterans with filing for VA benefits, temporary financial assistance and transportation (bus tickets) for VA appointments.

- North Olmsted Branch
- North Royalton Branch
- Solon Branch
- South Euclid-Lyndhurst Branch

See the following link for further information: [M:\BSD\\_Veterans Service Commission Poster \(3\) \(3\).pdf](#)

That's it for now... More as I get it...

*CDR Rick DeChant, USCG (ret)*  
*Executive Director*  
*Veteran Services & Programs*  
*Cuyahoga Community College*