The Mission of the Sedgwick County Veterans Treatment Court is to enhance public safety while restoring dignity and accountability for justice involved Veterans through innovative, comprehensive and collaborative community-based partnerships.



Sedgwick County Veterans Treatment Court is a collaboration between the Office of Judicial Administration, 18th Judicial District Court, Sedgwick County District Attorney's Office, Robert J. Dole VA Medical Center, Sedgwick County Department of Corrections, Sedgwick County Sheriff's Department, and Kansas State Board of Indigents' Defense Services.

If we are willing to send them, we must be willing to mend them...support Veterans and help reduce Veteran suicide, call 988 press 1.



Contacts:

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Saundra Haas Court Coordinator Phone: 316-660-4909 Email: <u>Saundra.Haas@kscourts.org</u>

#### Address:

Veterans Treatment Court Sedgwick County Courthouse 525 N. Main, 11<sup>th</sup> floor Wichita, KS 67203

Veterans Treatment Court has a webpage! <u>https://www.dc18.org/</u>veterans-treatment-court.

Thank You

Veterans Treatment Court staff want to thank you and your families for your service and sacrifice to our country.



## **BECOME A MENTOR**

#### THE SEDGWICK COUNTY VETERANS TREATMENT COURT IS IN NEED OF VETERAN MENTORS.

There are veterans who come home from military service and struggle adjusting back to civilian life due to emotionally traumatic experiences while serving, suffering service-related injuries, including mental health or substance use problems or a variety of other reasons.

Sedgwick County Veterans Treatment Court is assisting our justice involved veterans!

We are looking for Veteran Mentors to walk alongside these justice involved Veterans while they work through the criminal justice system to afford veterans opportunities to transition into civilian life and regain stability.

# What Is Veterans Treatment Court ?

The Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) is an unique alternative sentencing approach for Veterans from incarceration to supervised treatment and supportive services. The primary objective of VTC is to promote public safety by providing an intra-agency, non-adversarial treatment strategy to Veterans in the criminal justice system who suffer from mental illness and/or substance use issues.

## The Mentor Component!

A key component of the VTC is the Mentor Program. Veterans are assigned a volunteer Veteran Mentor. Veterans need a support system that includes someone who understands military experience and different aspects of military culture. Every effort is made to recruit mentors from all branches and periods of service.



# How Can You Help?

The VTC is currently recruiting volunteer Veteran Mentors. If you have served in the United Stated Armed Forces, were discharged honorably, and have the desire to give back to your fellow Veterans please contact the VTC Mentor Coordinator or the VTC Court Coordinator TODAY! Our contact information is on the back of this flyer.



# Engage, Encourage, Empower

The role of the VTC Veteran Mentor is to function as a coach, guide, role model, advocate, and a support person for the individual veteran participant (mentee) with whom he/she is working. <u>Engage</u> the participant by ensuring he/she understands progress through the program will be up to him/her. <u>Encourage</u> the participant by ensuring he/she is not alone in this endeavor and he/she has a broad support network to assist the participant, to include you. <u>Empower</u> your participant by pointing out successes and failures are directly due to his/her efforts, no one else.

## VTC Mentor Criteria

- Be a United States Military Veteran.
- Be discharged/released with disposition <u>other than</u> dishonorable.
- Not currently on probation for any crime (felony or misdemeanor). Have no felony/ misdemeanor convictions within the last 3 years.
- Listen to podcasts <u>Justice for Vets Podcast</u>
  <u>- All Rise</u> and/or watch video(s) <u>Treatment</u>
  <u>Courts All Rise</u> introducing you to a VTC
  Program.
- Complete the application form, provide a valid DD 214, and copy of your photo ID.
- Complete an interview with VTC Coordinator.

# Responsibilities of Mentors

Meet with participants to assist in resolving their issues.

Maintain VTC confidentiality standards.

Communicate with the Mentor Coordinator to resolve any issues regarding time commitments, resistant participants, or unmanageable challenges.

Attend Mentor meetings and participate in trainings.

Keep a mentor log and submit the log weekly or bi-weekly before court.

Attend as many court hearings as possible.