

AVVA Region 9 Report

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Since my last report, things have continued to be very busy. I am continuing to learn how to best serve our veterans and their families.

In October, I attended the AZ State Association meeting in Phoenix AZ. A large portion of the time was spent on how to better educate our veterans and their families on agent orange, Hep C, PTSD, PTSD2, TBI and suicide. Their ideas will be brought up at the next board meeting.

In November, I attended numerous veteran parades and events in Arizona.

In January, I met with the program Administrator at the GEO Arizona State Prison Complex in Kingman, AZ about ways to best serve the needs of our incarcerated veterans. I presented him with information on housing and programming the veterans together. This has been very successful in other areas. He is looking into this. Let's keep our fingers crossed.

In February, I had the opportunity to visit Ogden, Utah and attend the VVA / AVVA Chapter 1079 meeting. During this time I presented AVVA Chapter 1079 with their Incorporation Charter and we held a formal swearing in ceremony. I also had the opportunity to share with them some ways to help veterans and their families in their area and I even learned a few things from them too. This is what it is all about – working together to help all veterans and their families. I had a great time at the meeting and I want to thank you for the invitation. You're awesome.

In March, I attended and worked the two day Tri State Veterans Standdown in Bullhead, AZ. My job was to register veterans who wished to participate and direct them to the services they needed. All totaled 390 veterans received services over the two day period and 14 homeless veterans are now no longer on the streets. Great job to the Jerry Ambrose Veterans Council who coordinates this event. I appreciated the opportunity to help serve our veterans and their families.

Also since my last report I have completed the Region 9 Budget, attended go to meetings, responded to and wrote numerous emails, made various phone calls, wrote an after action report for the trip to Utah, participated in a disciplinary action, and created a flyer for 2017 Project Friendship.

Every month, I attend Chamber of Commerce meetings to promote AVVA and I attend the monthly meetings of the Jerry Ambrose Veterans Council, which is an organization of organizations and individuals working to improve the lives of veterans and their families, especially the homeless and those at risk of becoming homeless.

Thank you Region 9 for all of your hard work and support to help our veterans and their families. Please know that I am here to help you in any way I can and I am committed to continuing to learn as much as possible to best serve you.

Casey