



NATION'S FINEST

VETERAN SERVICES

California Veterans Health Initiative:

Bringing mental health services to
Veterans no matter where they are

2.9.26



**SAFE.
SEEN.
STRONG.**



WE BELIEVE that every Veteran and their family deserves to live with dignity, respect, and a real sense of belonging.



For too many Veterans, the hardest part of Service begins when the uniform comes off. Veterans come home ready to rebuild—but face battles most never see: finding stable housing; facing limited access to care; and experiencing the loss of purpose that can follow.

At Nation's Finest, we meet Veterans where they are—on doorsteps, in shelters, in moments of doubt—and we walk beside them as they rebuild their lives.



OUR MISSION is to give every Veteran the support and respect they need to live their best life.



Too many Veterans feel cut off or alone — feelings of isolation can take a toll.

85%

of Veterans with a substance use disorder go untreated.

33%

of America's homeless Veterans are in CA, AZ, and NV.

69%

of homeless Veterans in CA are unsheltered.

17.6

Veterans die by suicide each day.

2023 National Survey, CBHSQ, SAMHSA, HHS2023
HUD 2024 AHAR Report
2024 Suicide Prevention Annual Report, VA



SERVING VETERANS

				
 <p>LEVEL 1 Finding Safety</p>	 <p>LEVEL 2 Building Stability</p>	 <p>LEVEL 3 Healing Inside and Out</p>	 <p>LEVEL 4 Planning What's Next</p>	 <p>LEVEL 5 Owning Your Purpose</p>
Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Behavioral Health Support	Benefits Navigation	Life & Goal Planning
Suicide Prevention Support	Community-Based Housing	Mental Health Services	VA Benefits & Case Management	Life Skills, Budgeting & Training
Food Assistance	Permanent Supportive Housing	Substance-Use & Recovery Support	Veteran Claims Support	Technology Access & Internet Use
Clothing & Hygiene Supplies	Housing Assistance	Art Therapy	VA Coordination	Employment Services
Transportation Assistance	Rental Subsidy	Group Therapy & Support Groups	Social Services Navigation	Job Search Support
Mobile Service Units	Case Management		Resource Referrals	Peer Support
	Healthcare Navigation		Community Partner Referrals	Family Support Services
	Legal Services Referral			
	Financial Wellness Support			



We're meeting Veterans where they are—
and putting more boots on the ground.



2,030+

15+ of the most rural
communities helped

30 brick-and-mortar
service locations

55+ counties in CA,
AZ, and NV
supported

VETERANS given a new
home in their community



Our efforts are adding up.

7,400+ Veteran families supported annually

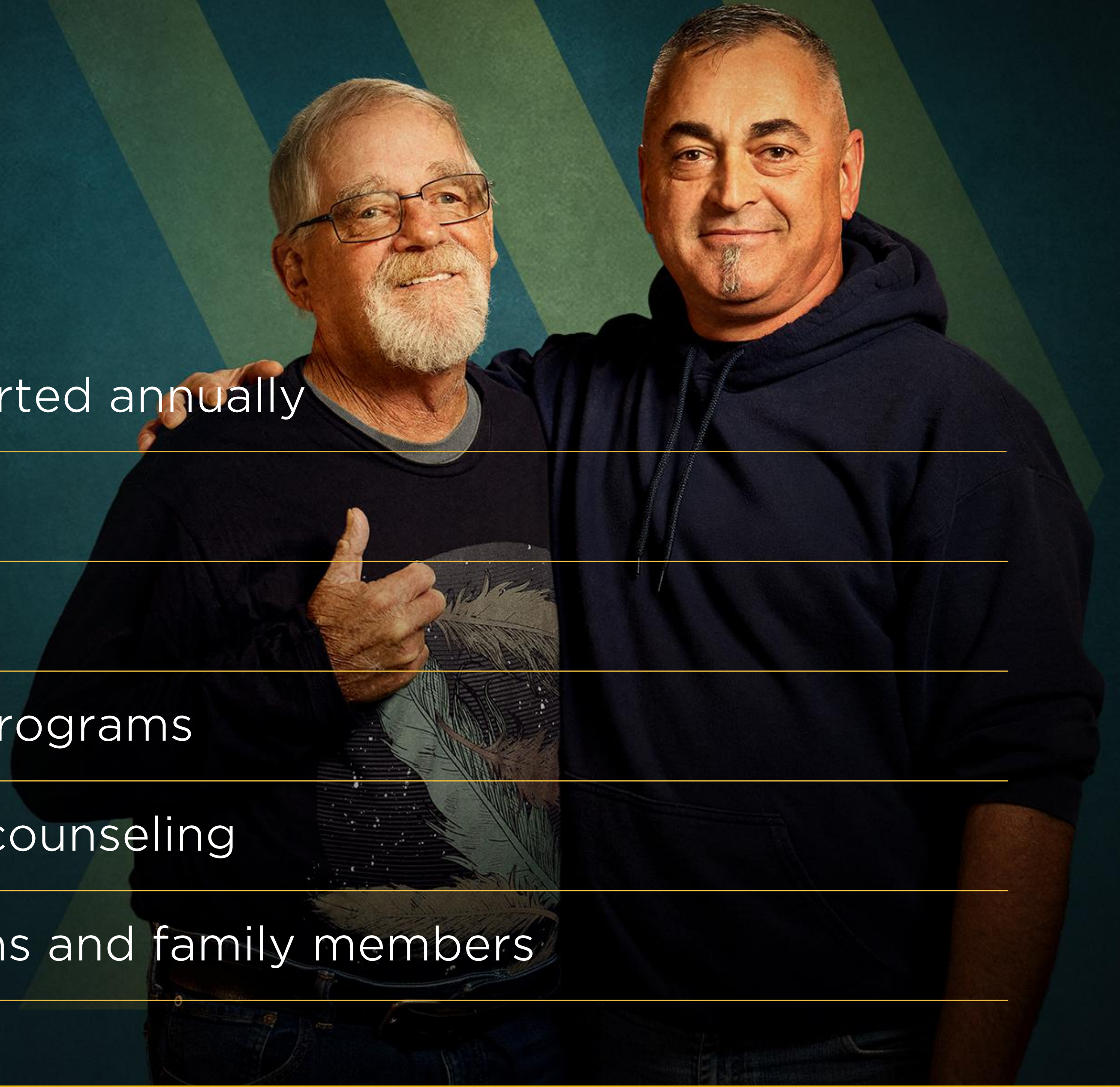
292,400+ Meals provided

97,400+ Safe nights

3,572 Veterans enrolled into programs

560+ Veterans provided with counseling

140+ Jobs secured for Veterans and family members



CVHI: OUR JOURNEY



CALIFORNIA VETERANS HEALTH INITIATIVE (CVHI)

In partnership with CalVet and the Cohen Veteran Network, the CVHI program was implemented to help support the mental health needs of Veterans and their family.

Therapy sessions (individual, couples, and family) are available via telehealth and in person depending on location.





WE MEET VETERANS WHERE THEY ARE— AND HELP THEM BUILD WHAT'S NEXT

Nation's Finest covers the North Valley Region and meets Veterans where they are—on doorsteps, in shelters, in moments of doubt—and we walk beside them as they rebuild their lives.



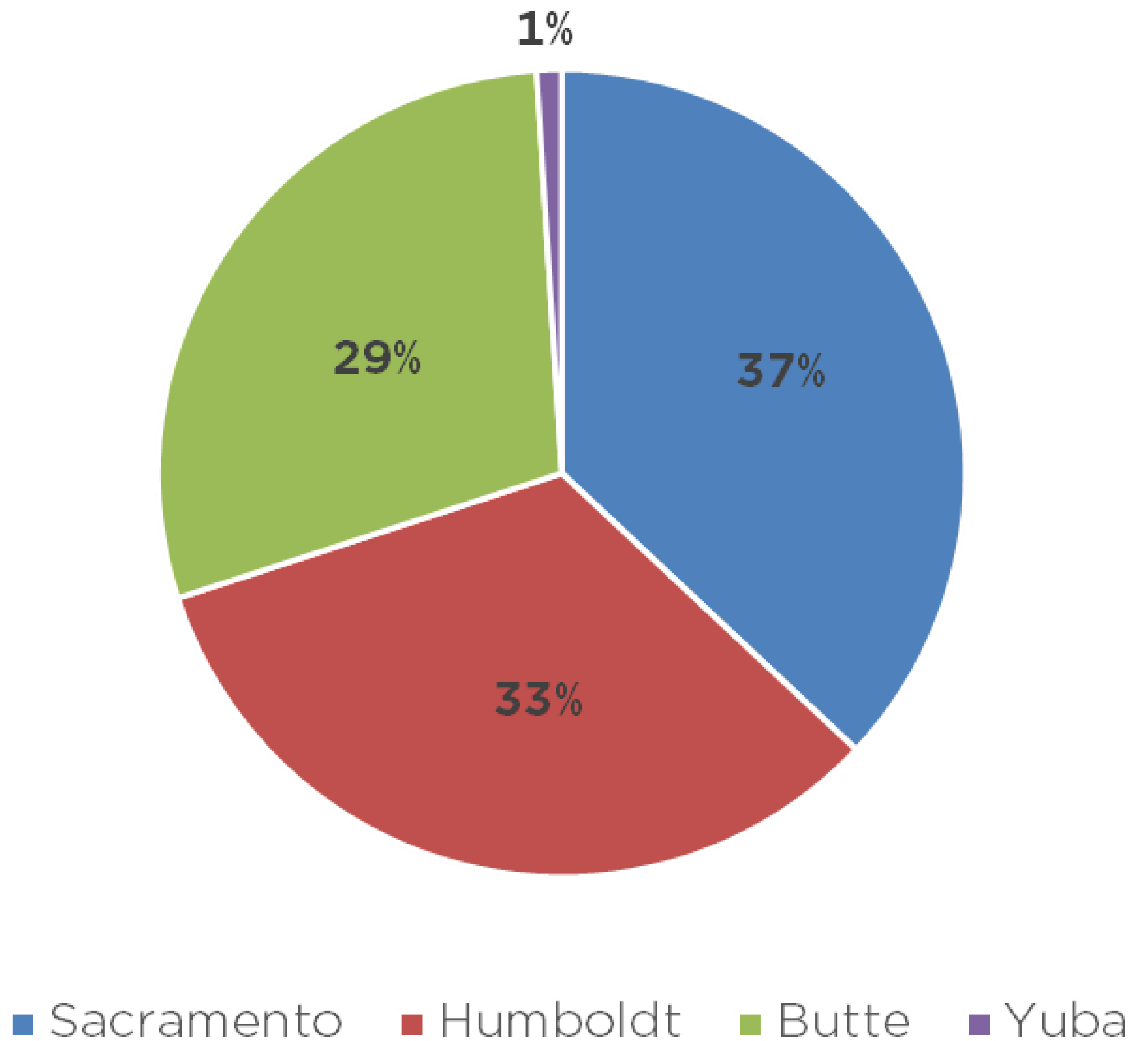
TOP FOUR COUNTIES

Top four counties where we are seeing the most interest in mental health services being offered

DEMOGRAPHIC SUMMARY:

- Majority are white male Veterans from the Post-9/11 generation.
- Male Veterans: 66%
- Female Veterans: 34%

Enrolled MH Clients

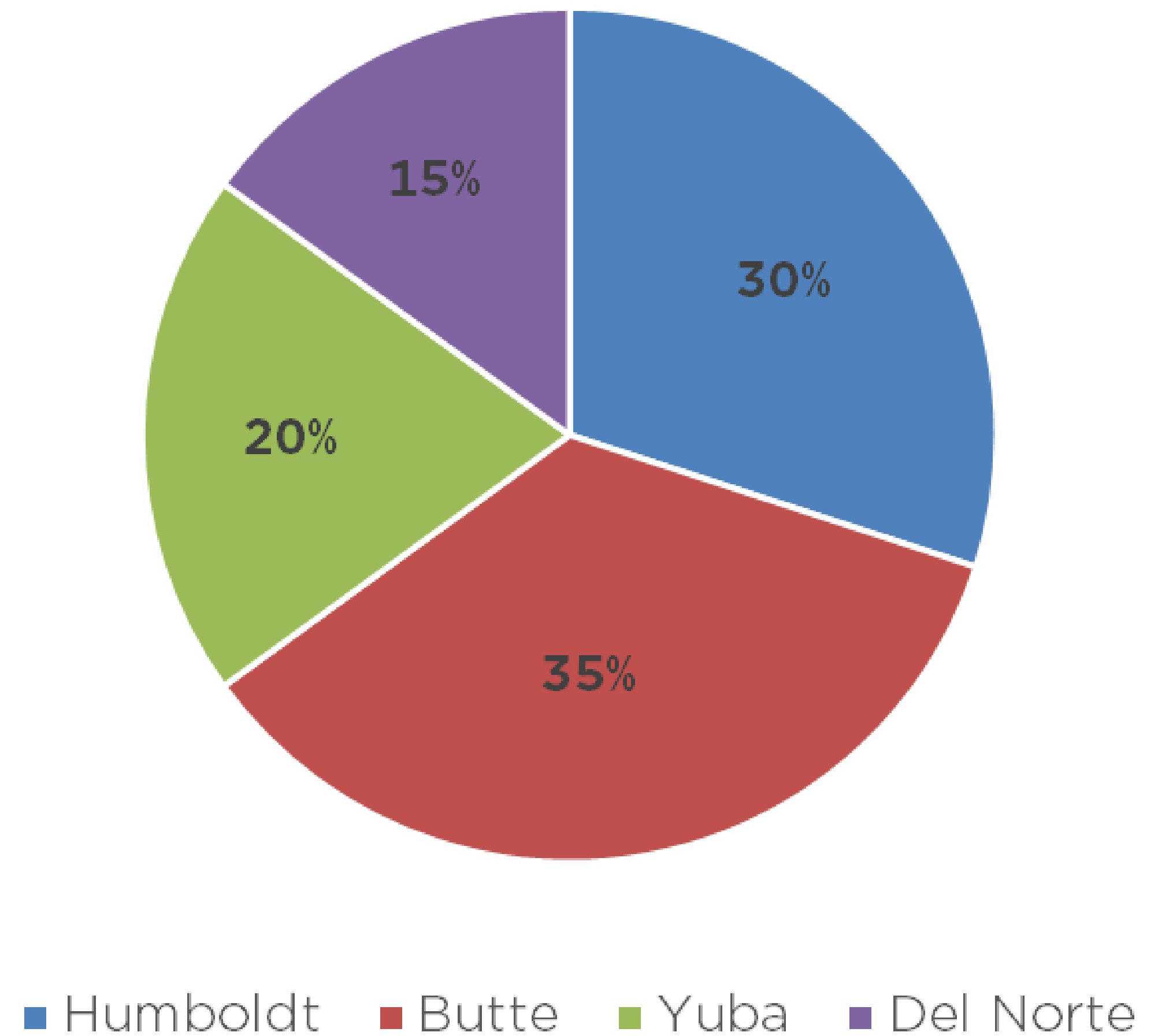


Top four counties where we are seeing the most interest in and connection to community resources

CONNECTION TO RESOURCES:

- County VSOs
- Housing service providers
- Social Security
- CalFresh

Connect to Community Resources



Community partners do a lot of good — but we can't do it alone.

Challenges:

Encampments removed quickly

Stigma related to MH services

Waitlists for individual therapy

Adverse weather

Celebrations:

Positive engagement with police/fire depts

Increased demand for outreach/collaboration

Short wait list for clinical services

High satisfaction with clinician and referrals



Community partners do a lot of good — but we can't do it alone.

Impact (Year One):

Engaged 738 Veteran and families

81 Veterans enrolled in outpatient MH

54% Veterans enrolled in housing programs

87% Veterans participating in group therapy

Focus (Year Two):

Increase outreach to rural counties

Increase enrollment in peer support services

Continue to build community partner network

Continue to seek additional funding



It comes down to all of us. Everyone plays a part – opening doors, offering resources, or simply showing up.

ACCESSIBILITY

We have noted an increased usage of and comfort with telehealth.

DEMAND

We see an increasing demand for outpatient individual therapy

RETENTION

We have found a noticeable increase in retention in outpatient mental health services for those Veterans with stable housing.

ELIGIBILITY

Veterans are still unsure of what benefits they are eligible for.

AWARENESS

Despite the efforts of so many, Veterans still do not have adequate awareness of resources in their area.

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**A few voices heard.
Thousands more ready.**

“Dylan was wonderful to speak with. I established **a great connection with her**. We had a lot in common. Even when I would frequently interrupt her, she was patient and answered every question.”

“I am **grateful and hopeful** because of the work I am doing with Sam.”

“I’m looking forward to the **opportunity to receive mental health services** with Robert, a male Veteran clinician.”





THANK YOU

