



MyVeHU Module Descriptions

Content Overview for the MyVeHU Training Sessions

MODULE 1: On Military Culture and The Wounds of War

This session provides an overview of military culture with an emphasis on its conflict with civilian culture. It describes specific sources of conflict and suggests an approach for pastoral care with these conflicts. Additionally, this session describes common wounds of war and the life impact of those wounds on warriors and their families after they return home and suggests a pastoral care approach to helping.

MODULE 2: Pastoral Care with Veterans and Their Families

This session involves a discussion of the fundamentals of Pastoral Care with attention given to the definition of "Spirituality" in relation to the development of meaning and purpose in life. Special emphasis is placed upon the significance of listening to the unique story of each Veteran. The Veteran's Past, Present, and Future story is explored to facilitate better understanding of the Veteran's spiritual distress and spiritual care needs. The session concludes with a discussion of the roles of clergy in the care of Service Members, Veterans and their families, including pastoral responses and resources.

MODULE 3: Mental Health Services and Referrals

This session is designed to provide community clergy with an overview of mental health services available in many rural communities. The overview uses VA services as a model but can be applied to other mental health settings, as well. In addition, it will review key advantages and disadvantages for referral options. Using downloadable handouts, this session provides detailed steps for making referrals to the VA, community mental health agencies, licensed providers through medical insurance, Medicare and chaplains of military units.

MODULE 4: Building Community Partnerships

Local communities are often the most important and most neglected resources for reintegration of our returning service members. This session looks at the responsibility and roles that communities have historically played in reintegration and how we can form community partnerships today. Particular attention will be given to practical lessons learned from the pilot project, "VA/Clergy Partnership for Rural Veterans," that builds community partnerships between faith communities, local mental health providers, and others to help our Veterans and their families come "all the way home."