



Veteran Mentor BOOT CAMP

Together as one, the **Justice For Vets Mentor Corps** builds on the undeniable truth that there is no bond as strong as the one that exists between those who have served their country. Our **Veteran Mentor Boot Camp** provides the foundation for a successful veteran mentor program for veterans treatment courts across the nation.

Veterans treatment courts thrive, in part, because they facilitate veterans in the community to be of service to their fellow veterans in need. **Mentor Professional Development is crucial.** Our Veteran Mentor Boot Camp is a two-day curriculum designed to provide veteran mentors working with veterans treatment court participants the knowledge and skills to support them throughout the program.



Our experienced faculty and staff encompass a broad range of disciplines, from clinicians and attorneys to current VTC mentor coordinators and mentors. This expert team will guide you as you strategically identify community resources that will allow the veteran mentors to accomplish their mission of **engaging, encouraging and empowering** their VTC participants and court teams.



The **Justice For Vets Veteran Mentor Boot Camp** features 9 training sessions:

What Is A Veterans Treatment Court?

We outline the need for the VTCs and their history and success throughout the nation, while also contrasting the VTC structure and function to the traditional court model. This session includes an overview of the VTC team, typical eligibility guidelines and general requirements for participants.

Who Are Our Veterans Who Are Justice-Involved?

This session provides an overview and discussion of the clinical and criminogenic challenges facing the typical VTC participant; including but not limited to behavioral health, familial, legal and medical issues.

Active Listening Skills

Proper communication involves more than the simple exchange of information. Actively listening to what the other person is saying is critical. Through behavior modeling and role-playing techniques, this session is designed to provide mentors with communication skills that will enhance their rapport and relationship-building ability with their mentee.

Mentor-Mentee Relationship Fundamentals

A mentor's influence can be critical to the veteran mentee's success while in the program. This session provides an overview of that role and uses case studies to help depict the ideal relationship-building rapport between mentor and mentee.

Boundaries

This session explores possible boundary issues that mentor-mentees may face during a participant's involvement in the VTC. It will emphasize how best to navigate these particular challenges and potential hazards.

Mentor Self-Care

Working with a mentee can be especially rewarding and at times, somewhat challenging. Adopting effective strategies and skills that a mentor can use which promote self-care for the purpose of reducing stress, compassion fatigue and possible traumatic stress will be focus of this session.

Resource-Mapping in Your State and Community

Mentees will engage in comparing and contrasting specific resources within their respective jurisdictions and discuss the preliminary cultivation of programs and services that will be most advantageous to the needs of their mentees.

Recovery Support Services

This session introduces services available to assist the mentee in addressing his/her unique needs such as healthcare, housing, transportation and employment. It will discuss the resources and programs available through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as well as federal, state and local agencies, to include nonprofits and veterans service organizations.

Building Your Veteran Community Coalition

This session will focus on how to build, maintain, grow and sustain the mentoring component of your VTC. It will include an overview of additional educational and training opportunities for mentors, as well as where and how to recruit new mentors and other organizations that may be of assistance to the program.