REACHING RURAL VETERANS

Engaging Faith Communities and Food Pantries in Serving Veterans in Rural Areas
Reaching Rural Veterans

• Why am I here today?
• What is my role in this project?
• Who are funders and partners?
• What is the program about?
  – Mission and Strategic Goals

What do we hope to accomplish?
Reaching Rural Veterans Partnerships

Creating collaborations with VA Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, land grant universities and faith based food pantries in rural communities to provide food, services, support and education to at-risk veteran families living in rural areas.
VA Office of Rural Health

RRV Program Mission:
Mobilize and Nourish

RRV Strategic Goals:
Strengthen  Enlighten
Engage     Educate

RRV Program and Performance Outcomes
Reaching Rural Veterans Mission

**Mobilize** rural communities by improving access to and quality of care through innovative outreach with faith-based food pantries.
Reaching Rural Veterans Mission

**Nourish:** Veterans and their families are nutritionally and spiritually nourished and become more aware of resources and connections within their community.
Reaching Rural Veterans Strategic Goals

• **Strengthen** the communities **capacity** to provide food, services and resources to Veterans in rural areas (primary goal)

• **Enlighten** local faith communities, food pantries, and other community organizations about Veteran families
Reaching Rural Veterans Strategic Goals

• **Engage** local faith communities and community organizations in providing support and assistance to Veteran families

• **Educate** Veteran families in rural areas about nutrition, preventative care and healthy lifestyle changes.
Agenda

• **Military Culture**: Why is this important?
• How understanding Deployment/PTSD/Moral Injury will assist in providing effective programming.
• What are the program benefits for **Engaging Communities**
• What is the **Reaching Rural Veterans Initiative**?
Questions?

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