



Collaboration and Resource Development for Rural Veteran Treatment Courts

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Guam is a U.S. Territory

- Guam is a U. S. Territory, located in the western Pacific Ocean, near Japan and the Philippines
- 30 miles long
- Est. population (2018): 167,772
- Chamorro is the indigenous language, but English is the primary language
- Considered rural despite having a population > 50,000





Guam Veterans Treatment Court

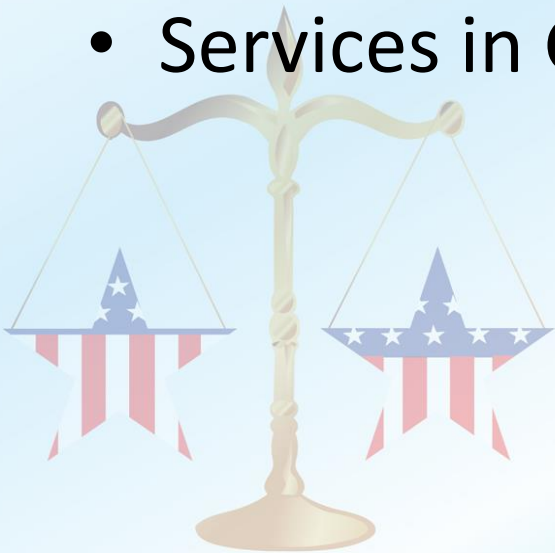
- Justice for Veterans Act of 2013 (Title 7, Guam Code Annotated, Section 2101 (d))
- Judicial Council of Guam Resolution JC15-007
- BJA Implementation Grant (2014)
- Guam VTC launched September 10, 2015





Guam's Veteran Population

- Guam has the highest rate of enlistment per capita in the United States
- 1 in 8 adults have served in the armed forces
- 24,000 estimated Veterans on Guam
- Services in Guam for vets is lacking





Guam Vets Lack On-Island Services

- “Guam: A high concentration of veterans, but rock-bottom VA funding” – The Washington Post (Oct. 29, 2014)
- Guam’s Community Based Outpatient Clinic provides primary health care to eligible veterans using **“available resources”**
- Closest VA Hospital is 3,000 miles away in HI

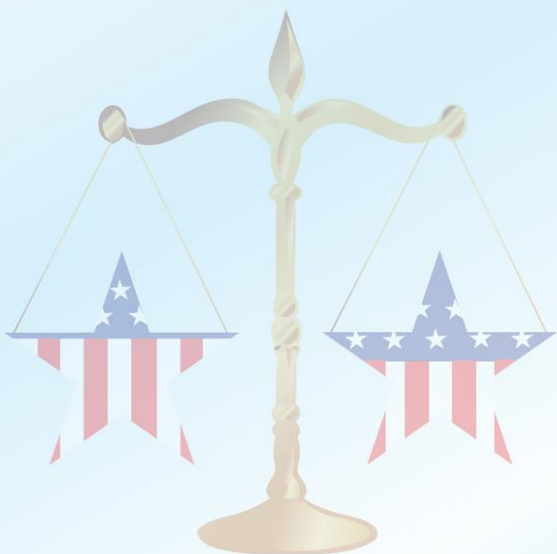




Guam Vets: Comparison of Services

VA Facilities (as of 9/30/2017)	Guam	National
Number of Inpatient Care Sites	0	154
Number of Outpatient Care Sites	1	1,029
VA Facilities (FY 2016)	1	300
Number of VBA Regional Offices	0	56
Number of National and State Cemeteries	1	246

Source: US Dept. of Veterans Affairs (Sept. 27, 2018)





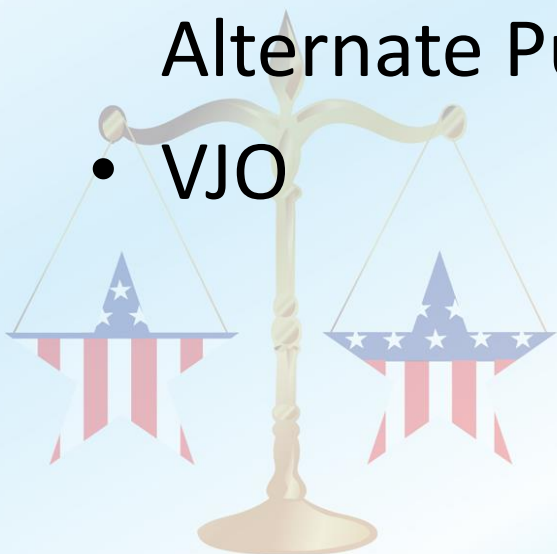
VTC (Original) Stakeholders (cir. 2013)

- Guam VA Benefits Office
- VA Guam CBOC
- VA Guam Vet Center
- Guam Veterans Affairs Office
- Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center
- Guam Police Department
- Guam Office of the Attorney General
- Guam Office of the Attorney General
- Public Defender Services Corporation and Alternate Public Defender, Private Attorney Panel



VTC Stakeholders (circ. 2019)

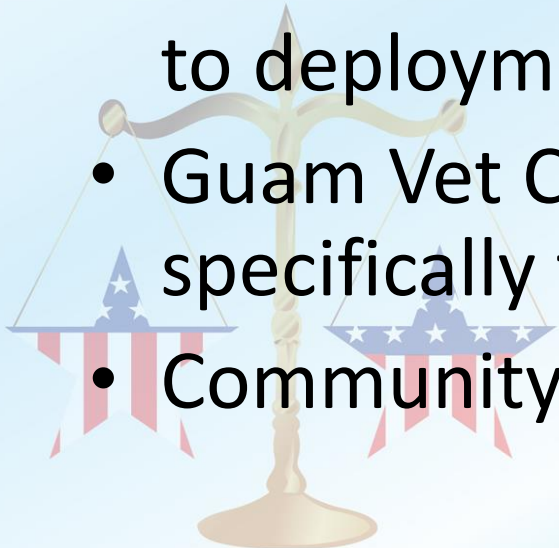
- VA Guam Vet Center
- Guam Office of the Attorney General
- Guam Office of the Attorney General
- Public Defender Services Corporation and Alternate Public Defender
- VJO





Creative Resource Development

- Buy-In from core group of stakeholders was high... in the beginning
- Involvement of stakeholders dropped dramatically over time
- Mentor Program began strong, dwindled due to deployment of mentor corps
- Guam Vet Center created programs specifically for VTC participants
- Community supervisors became networkers





2019 BJC Enhancement Grant

- Enhancement grant:
 - Aftercare services
 - Peer to Peer counseling
 - VTC Mentor Coordinator
 - Mentor stipend



