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Central Community College  
G.R.A.D.E.S





GRADES Video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T7KFICY3vHI>

# Guiding Reintegration And Directing Educational Success



## Faculty & Staff Personal Develop Series - Community Outreach

- Understanding Challenges and barriers our Veterans face in the class room
- Brain Injury 101
- Understanding Post Traumatic Stress
- Best Practices engaging Veterans in the Classroom
- Women Warriors

**“Having Education as an outlet when you come home from a combat zone is one of the most grounding and focusing avenues a veteran has to his [/her] advantage.”**

*Rick Scavetta, veteran of the Army Reserves, Chronicles of Higher Education – June 6, 2007*

# Identifying the Need

- 50% Increased enrollment
- Lack of military culture on campus
- Low engagement
- Negative experiences on campus
- Feeling alienated or misunderstood
- Challenges adjusting to civilian and college lifestyles
- Low persistence rate (47%)
- Low graduation rate (21%)

***Overall Concept: To create a learning community on campus and a positive environment for our Veteran Students.***

***It did much more than that.***

# Objectives



Partnered with the OEF/OIF  
Department from the VA



- Military Culture- Increase Knowledge
  - Who are Veteran Students – **Erase stigmas**
  - Civilian vs. Military vs. Education -**Identity change/ Cultural Shift**
  - Life in the Military/ Deployment/ Combat
- Challenges - Identifying
  - After effects of deployment and emotional stress
  - PTS **Know signs and symptoms**
  - TBI **Know Signs and symptoms**
  - Able to refer to internal and external resources
- Positive Environment
  - Communication **?’s To ask and not to ask**
  - Comfort level to discuss struggles with student
  - Handle Classroom Discussion on sensitive issues
  - Recognize way to make curriculum, classroom, office space
  - Knowledge of on and off campus services
  - Empower Veterans **Leaders, professional, experienced**
- **Veterans & Military Services (Center/ Dedicated Staff)** 
  - **Service and Programs provided**
  - **Dedicated Resource for them as well**
  - **Gain Faculty Trust**

# Examples of

## Faculty & Staff Personal Develop Series - Community Outreach

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**VETERANS & MILITARY RESOURCE CENTER**

- **MILITARY CULTURE**
- **PTSD & TBI**
- **REINTEGRATION**
- **MILITARY SPOUSE**
- **FINANCIAL MATTERS & RESOURCES**

**G.R.A.D.E.S** Guiding Reintegration and Directing Educational Success

NEBRASKA METHODIST COLLEGE  
THE JOSE HARRER CAMPUS

Central COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# Key Element: Student Veterans



1.4 million Veterans will be returning home nationwide in the next 4 years, and we want to make sure our communities are well-equipped to welcome these servicemen and women home.



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THE  
DUES  
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# METROPOLITAN

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## COMMUNITY COLLEGE





### Centers of Excellence for Veteran Student Success Grant

**MISSION**  
To provide student veterans, their families and their colleges with resources, support and services needed to be successful in college and in life.

**GOALS**  
To create a model program to support student veterans' success in college  
To identify and address the unique needs of student veterans  
To establish a model of best practices and to serve as a resource for other Colleges requesting similar programs across the nation.

**OBJECTIVES**

- Increase single point of contact from 0 to 100%
- Increase enrollment from 175 to 200 (2015-16)
- Increase year-to-year persistence from 47% to 50% and completion rate from 27% to 30% (2015-16)
- 100 Student Success Stories (2015-16)

**VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER**





# Impact on Campus

## Effectiveness

- Graduation Rates (62%)
- Increase in Persistence (68%)
- Increase in Graduation Rates (61%)
- Survey
  - 2011- 21.7% Declared CCC “Veteran Friendly”
  - 2014- 85%
- Instructors report that they are more comfortable communicating with and referring students who may need assistance acclimating to the college culture
- Participation increase to Veteran Specific events on campus

# Reviews from Faculty

Travis, the in-service was one of the best I have ever attended. You did a superb job of explaining the working of a veteran's mind. The videos were also very well done and extremely informative. Thanks for giving us the tools to assist!

David Schultz

Accounting Instructor

Central Community College - Hastings Campus

# Reviews from Faculty

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to attend the session yesterday. It made me realize why my Dad was the way he was and some of the things he did. Wish I could have known a lot of the information I learned yesterday when my father was still alive.

Thanks Again!

Tricia Stephens

Registration Office Assistant

# Reviews from Faculty

Thanks Travis!

It was a great presentation and I look forward to using the supplied information with veteran students.

Troy Davis

Advanced Manufacturing Design Technology Instructor

Central Community College-Hastings

# Adaptive: Community Outreach

- Two Day PTSD and BI Trainings
  - Nebraska Veterans Task Force
- Operation Reintegration
- No Wrong Door
  - VetSet
- Vet-talks
- Two year Colleges
- Four Year Colleges

Healthcare Providers  
Mental Health Providers  
Family  
Spouses

Children  
Veterans – Not  
Connected to services  
Community Leaders







Secondary Outcome:

Student Growth



This professional development series has made a direct impact to Central Community College's culture and has made lasting impact to the surrounding communities:



