 Greater Miami Valley MyVeteran Community created in region

What: Dayton, OH — The United States Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs has selected the Miami Valley as one of 50 communities around the country to create a MyVeteran Community.

The primary mission of a MyVeteran Community is to improve support to Veterans, service members and their families by connecting regional Veterans service providers, resources, advocates and other stakeholders. In late 2015, the Greater Miami Valley MyVeteran Community came together under the leadership of retired Air Force Col. Cassie Barlow and retired Air Force Lt. Col. John McCance.

The chairs of the MyVeteran Community reached out to the 16 county Greater Miami Valley region and asked Veteran Services Organizations (VSO) to come together to formulate a mission, vision and charter. The vision of the Greater Miami Valley MyVeteran Community is to be a “National Leader in Serving Veterans.”

The Greater Miami Valley MyVeteran Community developed a charter that focused on three primary areas:

1) Identify, highlight and advertise resources around the region available to Veterans, transitioning service members and families. The group will accomplish this task primarily by supporting the ongoing United Way VetLink 211 efforts to identify and connect Veterans with resources.

2) Identify and facilitate forums where service providers can learn about each other in order to work together to enhance effectiveness and improve outcomes. The group will accomplish this task through a large annual event for the region that brings together Veterans and Veteran Service Providers. This year’s event will be at Wright State University’s Student Union on Tuesday, May 24 from 3 to 6 p.m. More information will be forthcoming.

3) Host listening sessions in all 16 counties of the Region in order to gather Veterans’ needs.

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