



## JUSTICE FOR VETS

**15,000**  
currently served  
by veterans  
treatment  
courts<sup>1</sup>

**5,700**  
volunteer  
veteran mentors  
in VTCs<sup>1</sup>

**334**  
VTCs in the  
US<sup>1</sup>

**460,000**  
Iraq/Afghanistan  
veterans suffer  
from PTSD or  
depression<sup>2</sup>

**345,000**  
Iraq/Afghanistan  
veterans have a  
substance use  
disorder<sup>2</sup>

**181,500**  
incarcerated  
veterans in  
the US<sup>3</sup>

## BENEFITS THEY'VE EARNED

## SUPPORT THEY DESERVE

The majority of our veterans return home strengthened by their military service, but many struggle with trauma, mental illness (such as PTSD), and substance use disorders. These issues can be exacerbated by the loss of structure and camaraderie found in the military. Veterans treatment courts (VTCs) provide treatment, accountability, and mentoring, and they help connect justice-involved veterans with the benefits they've earned. VTCs save the lives, families, and futures of our veterans while also saving taxpayer dollars.

The most recent study, published by the *Community Mental Health Journal*, found that **veterans who participate in veterans treatment courts experience significant improvement** in:

- ✓ Depression
- ✓ PTSD
- ✓ Substance use
- ✓ Mental and emotional health
- ✓ Housing
- ✓ Relationships and social connection
- ✓ Overall functioning and well-being

<sup>1</sup> Justice For Vets (2015).

<sup>2</sup> Tanielian, T. & Jaycox, L. (2008). *Invisible Wounds of War: Psychological and Cognitive Injuries, Their Consequences, and Services to Assist Recovery*. Washington, DC: RAND Ctr. For Military Health Policy and Research.

<sup>3</sup> Berzofsky, M., Bronson, J., & Noonan, M. (2015). *Veterans in Prison and Jail, 2011-12*. US Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics. Available at: <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/vpj1112.pdf>.

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