

WOMEN VETS ON POINT



Our goals



To bridge the gap in effective care and support for women Veterans we aim to:

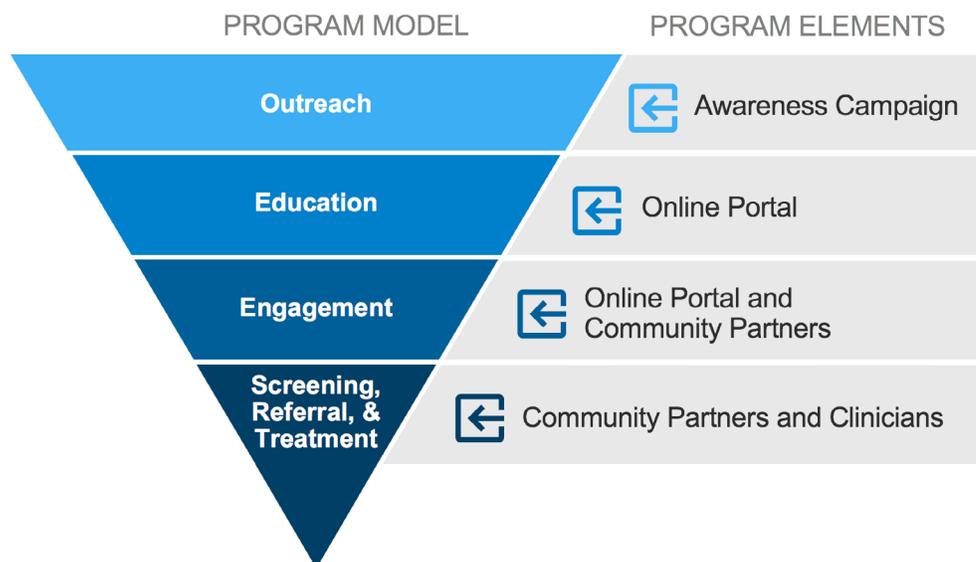
Promote mental health awareness, treatment acceptability, and engagement among women Veterans using gender-specific, evidence-based outreach.

Mobilize and engage community providers, broadening the network of support for women Veterans with mental health and readjustment needs.

Deliver information, resources, and peer support to provide women Veterans with mental health treatment and tools for self-management and self-care.

Gender and Veteran-centric care

Expanded services are not enough; we must ensure that Veterans **know** about services, **believe** that they are effective, and **engage** in treatment and support services.



ISSUE BRIEF:



The state of **women Veterans' health** in the United States and in California



DEMOGRAPHICS

California has the second largest population of women Veterans in the U.S.



POPULATION OF WOMEN VETERANS

UNITED STATES
2,035,213

CALIFORNIA
164,516

LOS ANGELES
(COUNTY)
19,000+

LOS ANGELES
(CITY)
7,000+

MENTAL HEALTH

PTSD and depression are among the top health diagnoses for women Veterans treated at the VA.

Depression, anxiety, and sleep disorders were the most often reported mental health conditions among women Veterans in California.

Nationwide, a survey found that **24% of women Veterans** were hesitant to seek care for mental health issues.



A 2011 SURVEY OF CALIFORNIA WOMEN VETERANS FOUND:

46% → of respondents reported a current mental health problem

22% → of respondents reported current PTSD

29% → of respondents reported current anxiety

BARRIERS TO CARE

36% → of women Veterans aged 18–34—and 19% of all women Veterans—reported delayed or unmet healthcare needs.

BARRIERS INCLUDE:

- ⊗ Lack of awareness of care services and eligibility
- ⊗ Perception that services are not sensitive to concerns of women
- ⊗ Inability to get time off from work
- ⊗ Lack of transportation

SUICIDE



WOMEN VETERANS ARE MORE LIKELY TO DIE BY SUICIDE THAN NON-SERVING WOMEN.

6x AS LIKELY → women Veterans are **6 times as likely** to die by suicide than non-serving women

12x AS LIKELY → women Veterans aged 18–29 are **12 times as likely** to die by suicide than non-serving women

SEXUAL ASSAULT



NATIONWIDE:

22% → of active duty servicewomen experienced a sexual assault in 2014

32% → of VA disability claims involving PTSD related to Military Sexual Trauma (MST) were rejected

39% → of homeless women Veterans screen positive for MST



IN CALIFORNIA:

37% → of women Veterans reported experiencing MST