

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICES



Women Veterans Program

Sonya L. Smith, Cabinet Secretary
Theresa Figueroa, Women Veterans Coordinator

"Every Day is Veterans Day"

Women Veterans Program (WVP)

OUR MISSION

The Women Veterans Program (WVP) will be an advocate for women veterans throughout New Mexico. We will work to ensure women veterans and their eligible dependents are knowledgeable of available state and federal benefits and that women veterans have equitable access to veteran programs and services.



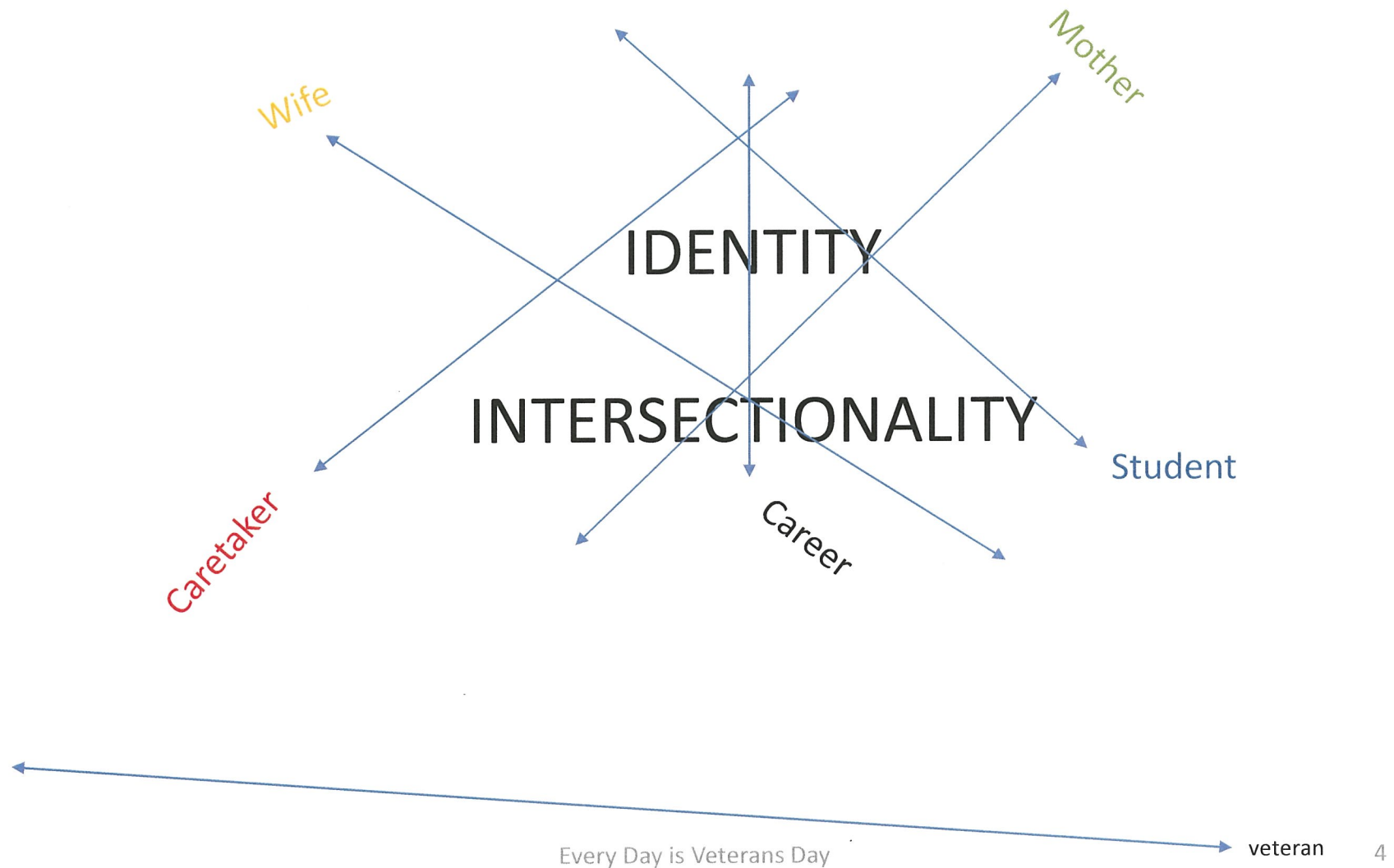
Every Day is Veterans Day



**I am a woman.
I served in the military.
I am a **veteran**.**

- Roughly 16,600 women veterans in the NM, 11% of veteran population (2021 VA)
- Women veteran enrollment with the VA healthcare system will increase by 27.4% by FY29

Why don't women veterans access benefits...



WVP ADVOCACY AND SERVICES

- Perform outreach to improve women veterans' awareness of eligible state and federal benefits
- Assess needs of women veterans throughout the state
- Co-chair of the NM Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide Among SMVF
- Women Veteran issues:
 - Access to medical/behavioral health care
 - Homelessness
 - MST/ PTSD
 - Community Resources
 - Suicide Prevention
 - Substance Abuse
 - Childcare

WVP Priorities

Equal access to care

Military Sexual Trauma (MST)

Homelessness

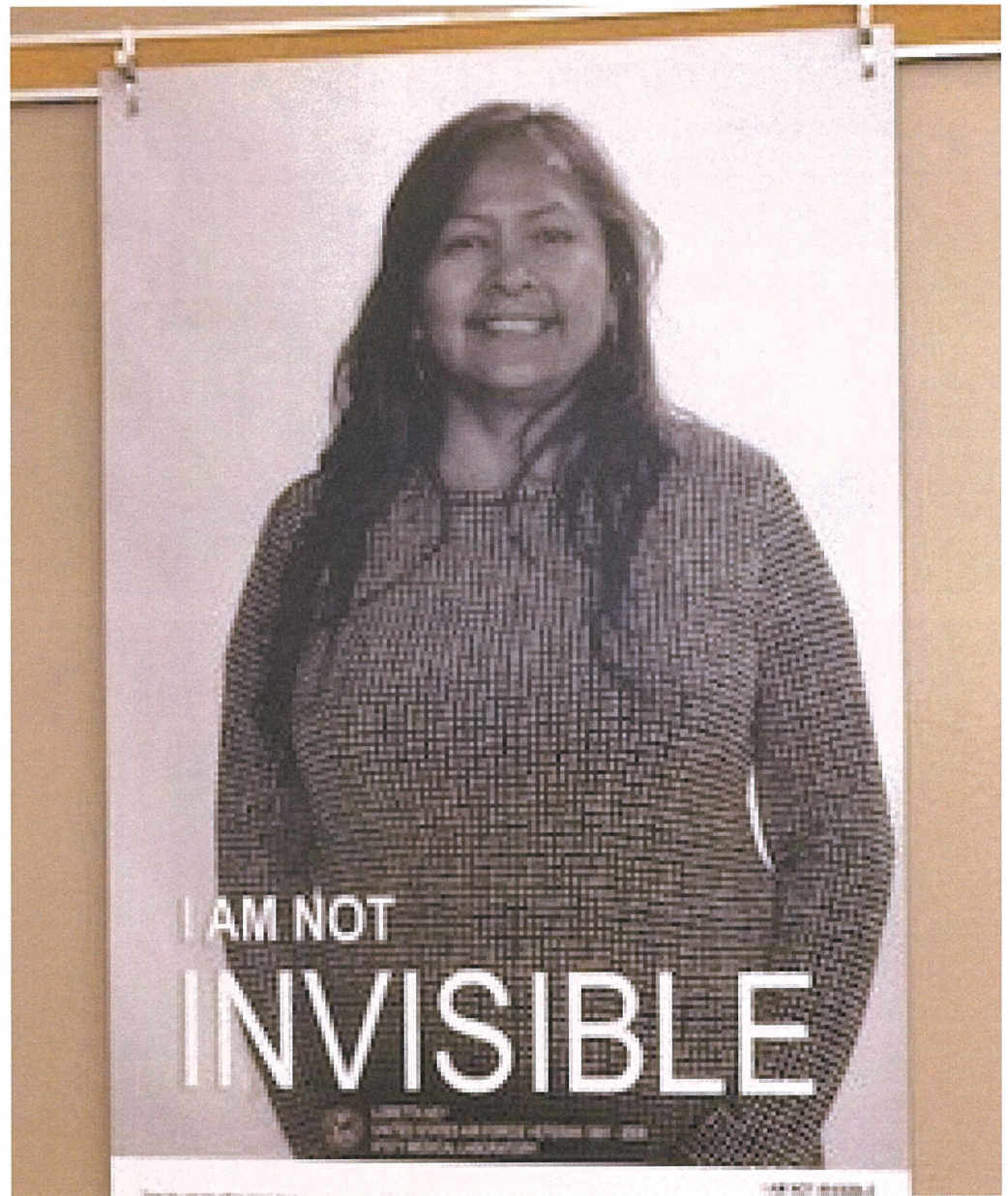
PTSD



Women Veterans Conference 6/12/22

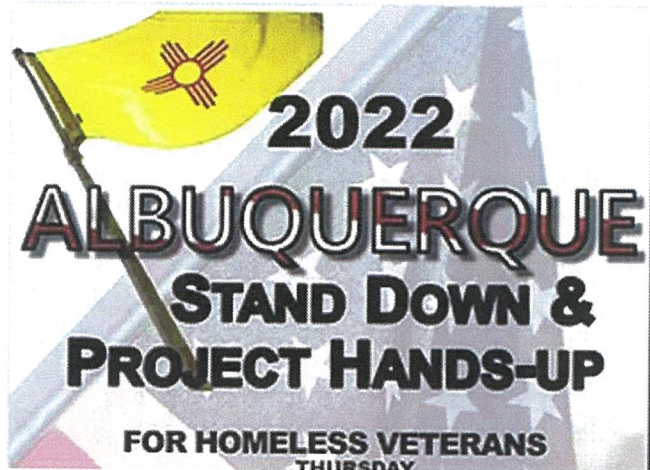
Every Day is Veterans Day

I AM NOT
INVISIBLE



Every Day is Veterans Day

Plan of Action



- Increase outreach
Collaborate with VSOs on outreach efforts
Develop marketing and communication materials for women vets
- Research ongoing changes and needs
Conduct two surveys
- Provide current and relevant information
Conduct Women Veteran specific Town Halls
Host Second Women Veterans Conference
- Advocate
Host PACT Act information sessions

Contact Information

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