

2004 Current Fiscal Year Report: VA Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Task Force

Report Run Date: 04/26/2024 07:48:01 PM

1. Department or Agency

Department of Veterans Affairs

2. Fiscal Year

2004

3. Committee or Subcommittee

VA Vocational Rehabilitation and
Employment Task Force

3b. GSA

Committee No.

16571

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter Renewal Date

04/23/2003

7. Expected Term Date

04/23/2004

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

Yes

8b. Specific Termination Authority

Secretary decision

8c. Actual Term Date

04/23/2004

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Terminate

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

No

10b. Legislation Pending?

11. Establishment Authority

Agency Authority

12. Specific Establishment Authority

Secretary decision

13. Effective Date

04/23/2003

14. Committee Type

Ad hoc

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee

Non Scientific Program Advisory
Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

1

16b. Report Date

03/01/2004

Report Title

VA Rehabilitation and Employment
Task Force Report to the Secretary

Number of Committee Reports Listed:

1

17a.

Open

2

17b. Closed0

17c. Partially Closed0

Other Activities0

17d. Total2

Meetings and Dates

Purpose

Start

End

The Task Force discussed potential recommendations designed to improve VA's ability to deliver employment and vocational rehabilitation services. That discussion focused on issues that fall generally within the Task Force's areas of emphasis – internal management, systems integration, employment, and independent living services.

10/22/2003 - 10/22/2003

The principal purpose of the meeting was to conduct final deliberations on those recommendations contained in the Task Force report which was formally presented to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

02/18/2004 - 02/18/2004

Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 2

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$83,285.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$23,937.00	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$34,203.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$3,045.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$286.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$2,535.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$4,611.00	\$0.00
18d. Total	\$151,902.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.40	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Task Force completed an independent review

of the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) Program and made recommendations to the Secretary on improving the Department's ability to provide comprehensive services and assistance to veterans with service-connected disabilities and employment handicaps in becoming employable, and obtaining and maintaining suitable employment. The principal Task Force recommendations calls for VA to implement a new, comprehensive, employment-drive service delivery system. The Task Force also makes recommendations in the areas of strategic partnerships, program, organization, work process, and integrating capacities.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

There were 12 members on the Task Force. The Secretary observed diversity when selecting Task Force members. He sought out members who had expertise in vocational rehabilitation and employment services. Attention was given to equitable geographic distribution as well as to ethnic and gender representation. The Secretary appointed Task Force members who demonstrated awareness or understanding of the views of VA's diverse stakeholders that include veterans, veterans service organizations, congressional committees, and veteran-focused special interest groups.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The Task Force conducted 2 fact-finding sessions.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The Task Force was essential to acquiring

constructive, forward-thinking recommendations that will improve the delivery of training, employment, and independent living services. Advice from subject matter experts enhanced the Department's efforts to restore the capability of veterans with disabilities to the greatest extent possible and to improve the quality of their lives and that of their families. The Task Force focused on training, employment and independent living services. The Secretary determined that the Department does not have the resources to conduct an objective assessment of the VR&E Program. Past General Accounting Office reports have commented that the VR&E program was too much process-driven and not focusing enough on developing performance goals specifically tied to employment-based outcomes.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

The Task Force did not hold closed meetings.

21. Remarks

Designated Federal Officer

John O'Hara Management Analyst

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Anderson, Peggy	05/01/2003	04/23/2004	State Coordinator of Employer Development, AL Dept. of Rehab. Svcs.	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Bollinger, John	05/01/2003	04/23/2004	Deputy Executive Director, Paralyzed Veterans of America	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Boyd, Theresa	05/01/2003	04/23/2004	Senior Consultant, Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Campinell,, Anthony	05/01/2003	04/23/2004	Assoc. Chief Consultant, Veterans Health Administration Psychosocial Rehab. Program	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Chorpenning, Pat	05/01/2003	04/23/2004	Director, Arizona Dept. of Veterans Affairs	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Drach, Ron	05/01/2003	04/23/2004	Dir. of Strategic Plan. and Legis. Affs., Vets. Employ. \$ Trng., Dept. of Labor, DC	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Hardy, Dorcas	05/01/2003	04/23/2004	President, Dorcas R. Hardy & Associates	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
McLendon, Mike	10/01/2003	04/23/2004	President, McLendon and Associates	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Morrison,, Malcolm	05/01/2003	04/23/2004		Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Reese, Edward	05/01/2003	04/23/2004	National Service Director, Disabled American Veterans	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Suter, Sue	05/01/2003	04/23/2004	CEO, Morrison Informatics	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Wadsworth, Doug	05/01/2003	04/23/2004	Director, Veterans Benefits Administration Regional Office, Salt Lake City, UT	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 12

Narrative Description

The Task Force conducted an independent review of the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment program within the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA). The Task Force provided

recommendations to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on improving comprehensive services and assistance to veterans with service-connected disabilities and employment handicaps in becoming employable, and obtaining and maintaining suitable employment. The Task Force also assessed independent living services provided by VBA.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

NA

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cost Savings Comments

The Task Force terminated April 2004.

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

110

Number of Recommendations Comments

NA

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

VA is currently developing plans to implement most of the Task Force recommendations. However, at this point, it is difficult to estimate a percentage to be implemented.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

See the above comment.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable ☒

Agency Feedback Comments

NA

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other



Action Comments

See comment above regarding implementation plans.

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

NA

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO



Online Agency Web Site



Online Committee Web Site



Online GSA FACA Web Site



Publications



Other



Access Comments

NA