

Veterans Services- Oct. 2025 Ex-officio Report

Veteran Services updates:

I want to remind everyone that VSR Sharon Neu and I will be away at the CACVSO Fall training conference in Tuolumne County from October 19th to the 24th. I also want to remind everyone about the upcoming veteran appreciation BBQ on Halloween, October 31st, at the Veterans Memorial Building. All veterans and their families are invited to enjoy free food and meet our office staff. There will also be a costume contest, so please encourage every veteran you know to come in costume for a chance to win.

VSO Summary:

Last Fri. 10/03/25 I was invited to take a tour at Hearts Landing Ranch located in Granite Bay. It was inspiring to see the animals, many with their own stories of resilience, and hear how they are able to connect so deeply with people very quickly. The Equine specialist explained how the horses sensitive and empathetic presence provided immediate, non-verbal feedback to those receiving therapy. Hearts Landing Ranch uses a specialized, ground-based approach to equine therapy, which feels more personal and direct than traditional therapy. The sessions facilitate a new and effective way to communicate, build trust, and address personal struggles. The combination of a peaceful, natural ranch setting and the guidance of the mental health professionals in conjunction with equine specialists make for a very supportive experience. You may remember that they presented to the commission a few months back along with Caleb Boas from the Citrus

Heights Vet Center. I just wanted to bring them to your attention again, and let you know they are doing great things in their mission to help veterans. They are obviously not located in El Dorado County. However, they do assist many veterans from our county.

Special request:

At the last meeting it was requested that I go to Georgetown to see if the VFW hall would be sufficient to hold a Veteran Affairs Commission (VAC) meeting. Myself along with Admin Tech Courtney Frame drove out to the Georgetown VFW, and although it will work it would be difficult. We would not have IT support so if there were any issues with the recording or zoom we may not be able to remedy them.

Sept. 2025 VSO Summary:

125 Walk In clients

108 Scheduled Appointments

292 Phone calls

South Lake Tahoe Updates:

No update. VSR II Tisha Holy continues to provides services to the clients located in SLT.