

## Understanding your veteran population

Congratulations on making the first step to developing your own roadmap to helping veterans and their families! You can do this – we have faith in you!

The most important thing to remember is that not all communities are the same. For some of us distance to services is not a problem yet for others this is an enormous barrier. Some communities have strong support networks and community action groups and for others your initiative might be the first step to bringing focus on veteran needs.

We began our journey by using the THRIVE Tool that was produced by the Prevention Institute.

This tool allows communities to evaluate the health and safety of their individual communities and allows you to understand how structural drivers like racism and poverty can affect our environment. You can use this tool to engage your population in a valuable discussion about how you can best help and prioritize your actions to where they will bring the most change.

<https://www.preventioninstitute.org/tools/thrive-tool-health-resilience-vulnerable-environments>

You can download a copy of our THRIVE assessment as a guide to doing your own. Good luck!





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