





**UNITED VETERANS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL of MINNESOTA**  
in collaboration with  
**ATTRIDGE CONSULTING & SHADOW CULTURE**

**AN URGENT CALL FOR HELP REACHING OUT TO MILITARY VETERANS**  
We are in the midst of a state-wide economic, medical, and social disaster that is unfolding due to the pandemic, civil unrest, government policies, and lockdowns. Join us to get a baseline status check and connect the 350,000 MN Military Vets with resources and each other. The time for waiting is over. Now, we must act.

**NO**  
VETERAN  
LEFT  
BEHIND



# THE PROBLEM

The pandemic, lockdowns, civil unrest, and government mandates have disrupted almost every aspect of life.

We are seeing signs of desperation and hopelessness with cascading effects:

**anger,  
suicide,  
anxiety,  
depression,  
homelessness,  
unemployment,  
substance abuse,  
& domestic violence.**

Economic realities are forcing elected officials to adjust budget expenditures, but nobody is doing the work to understand how Minnesota military veterans are coping through it all.



## THE SOLUTION

# MINNESOTA VETERANS WELLNESS SURVEY

UVLC is organizing a statewide campaign to contact military veterans across Minnesota with a resources and resiliency survey. Think of it like a SITREP or a SALUTE report after enemy contact. We need to find out "WHO needs WHAT" and "WHO can HELP". Due to the effects of lockdowns and the closing of services and businesses, we believe it's critical to understand the specifics of what individual veterans and their families are going through.





## OUR COMMITMENTS

Military veterans and those now in uniform chose to serve their country. They served us. Some were harmed. All were forever changed. We pledged to care for them and their families.

Recently, more veterans and their families have been harmed. We who love and serve Minnesota's military veterans know that we must take action, but the extent of damage is unclear.

### **We need to find out what is happening to individuals and their families:**

Do they have children at home? How are the children doing?  
Are they caring for someone at home?  
Are they helping others?  
Are they well or unwell?  
Discouraged? Demoralized?

### **We need to find out about their livelihood and savings:**

Are they able to cover living expenses?  
Impending expenses, medical bills?  
Are they at risk for becoming "unsheltered"?  
What sort of assistance would make sense?  
Have they been asked?

# TIMELINE

## SURVEY 1

Early spring of 2021  
Activate partner network  
Establish baseline data

(optional future follow up surveys)

SURVEY 2 - TBD - 2021

Trend data & special topic sections

SURVEY 3 - TBD - 2021

Trend data & special topic sections

SURVEY 4 - TBD - 2021

Trend data & special topic sections





# ENDORSEMENTS



## JESSI ATHERTON

ARMY VETERAN, MENTAL HEALTH NURSE  
BOARD MEMBER MN ASSISTANCE COUNCIL FOR VETERANS



"To make improvements in the health of our communities, we first need to identify how our communities are doing. These remain unprecedented times and now more than ever, the focus is on mental health and suicide prevention needs to be at the forefront of the conversation. As a mental health nurse, Veteran, and advocate, this survey is of great value. It will tell us how a large sample of Minnesota Veterans are doing, what their needs are, and what we can do to address those needs. This survey allows Veterans to get their voices heard. We hope the survey will inspire other service organizations and communities to confront the issues that our Veterans are facing and work towards prevention and mental wellness."

# ENDORSEMENTS



## TODD KEMERY

MARINE CORPS VETERAN  
PRESIDENT OF MINNESOTA  
PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA

"As a Marine Corps Veteran living with a spinal cord injury, I support this campaign. As President of Minnesota Paralyzed Veterans of America, I encourage every veteran service organization to help UVLC distribute this survey. We need to find out how Minnesota military veterans are coping amidst this unfolding tragedy."



# ENDORSEMENTS



## GREG PETERSON

AIR FORCE VETERAN  
PRESIDENT - MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION OF  
COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS

“The Minnesota Association of County Veterans Service Officers is a group of 145 County Government Appointees (and Veterans ourselves) who strive to assist each Minnesota Veteran. Many Vets never step forward, believing that benefits, which they earned, are for someone more deserving. The US Veterans Administration makes a guess as to the number of Veterans living in Minnesota. This survey will provide us with raw numbers so that we can better serve those who have worn the fabric of our Nation.”

# TEAM



## MIKE RIVARD

Project Lead  
US Naval Officer - Vietnam War  
Underwater Demolition Team 12  
BA in Literature & Philosophy  
Vice Chairman at UVLC of Minnesota  
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## DR. MARK ATTRIDGE

President of Attridge Consulting  
PhD in Psychology - MA in Communication  
25+ years conducting professional surveys  
40+ corporate and non-profit clients  
40+ peer-reviewed published papers/books  
275+ written works, professional workshops,  
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## PAUL RIEDNER

Marketing Consultant  
US Army Veteran - Iraq War  
86th Engineer Deep Sea Dive Team  
Founder of SHADOW CULTURE LLC  
MBA - BA in Economics  
50+ military veteran interviews  
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## **WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?**

Tell us what are important questions to include on the survey ranked by importance to you. Plan for getting involved to use your organization's member contact list to invite veterans to take the survey. THANK YOU!

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# **NO VETERAN LEFT BEHIND**