



\*\*\*\*\* CONSORTIUM of \*\*\*\*\*  
MICHIGAN VETERANS EDUCATORS

## Annual Activity Report for 2016-2017

In 2015, CMVE sought funding from The Kresge Foundation to strengthen its network. Along with project support from the Midwestern Higher Education Compact's Multi-State Collaborative on Military Credit, the network is helping Michigan's military-affiliated students experience optimal success in completing their educational goals by providing rich professional development to educators across the state. This report details CMVE's activities from August 2016-August 2017.

### Highlighted Activities

- **4<sup>th</sup> Annual CMVE Conference:** 90 educators attended the two-day conference September 27-28, 2016 in Lansing with the theme of *"Collaboration, Connection, Community: Critical Elements to Student Veteran Success.* The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Chris Cate, Vice President of Research at Student Veterans of America and activities also included 12 concurrent sessions from seven Michigan institutions and other strategic partners and 5 roundtable discussions on a variety of critical topics.
- **Regional Workshop Series:** Nearly 100 educators participated in the 2017 CMVE Spring Regional Workshop Series at four campuses in March and April 2017. This year's workshops centered on the theme of *"Scaling Veteran Success Strategies to Your Campus,"* and featured student veteran speakers, a presentation on recent national research around student veteran success, action-oriented small group discussions, and a keynote address from Wendy Lang, Director of Operation College Promise, a national policy, research, and education program based at Thomas Edison State University in New Jersey.
- **Webinars:** More than 100 CMVE members attended webinars on *Understanding the Needs of Student Veterans in the Classroom; Student Veterans – In Their Own Words;* and *Voc Rehab – A Boon for Student Veterans.* Webinar recordings are available on the [CMVE website](#).
- **MI-litary Equivalency Project:** CMVE continues to actively engage with the Multi-State Collaborative on Military Credit (MCMC) coordinated by the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC). CMVE's Academic Credit knowledge community launched the MI-litary Equivalency Project in October 2016 with a variety of virtual and in-person activities drawing attendance from nearly 200 participants. A repository of resources and archived project materials are available on the MEP website: <https://micmve.org/military-equivalency-project/>.

- **Knowledge Communities:** CMVE’s knowledge communities focus on current and emerging issues affecting military-affiliated students in their respective areas of focus, including a new community for School Certifying Officials (SCOs). CMVE members are encouraged to reach out to knowledge community chairs to join and share ideas for programming or promising practices to feature for the network. Current CMVE Knowledge Communities are:
  - Academic Credit – Julie Lavender, [julie.lavender@kirtland.edu](mailto:julie.lavender@kirtland.edu)
  - Post-Military Career Success – Steven Lipnicki, [lipnicks@gvsu.edu](mailto:lipnicks@gvsu.edu)
  - Outreach & Strategic Partnerships – Sarah Mellon, [mellonsa@vps.msu.edu](mailto:mellonsa@vps.msu.edu)
  - SCO/School Certifying Official Support – Gail Bock, [GJBock@hfcc.edu](mailto:GJBock@hfcc.edu)
  - SVA/Student Veteran Organization Support – currently vacant (*self-nominations welcomed!*)
  
- **Strategic Partnerships:** The CMVE Steering Committee shifted the focus of the Outreach knowledge community to emphasize strategic partnerships to help spread awareness of educational benefits available to military-connected populations and highlight the educational opportunities at CMVE institutions. CMVE continues to engage actively with state entities (such as MVAA and the Michigan National Guard), veteran serving organizations (including regional VCATs active in Michigan’s 10 prosperity regions), and leaders of related professional development organizations in Michigan (such as the Michigan Student Success Network, MACRAO, etc.).
  
- **Veterans on Campus training:** CMVE is committed to support faculty and staff to be prepared to serve veterans on campus. The Veterans on Campus training program seeks to educate faculty, staff, and students about military cultural competency and how to help create an environment supportive of student veterans. The training program is available to all employees at Michigan’s public institutions of higher education. As of August 2017, 483 faculty and staff at 24 colleges and universities have completed this training module. Institutions have implemented friendly competitions or incentives to complete the training while other colleges and universities have integrated this tool into their HR and faculty development strategies by adding this resource to HR manual materials, embedding into overall HR programming efforts, and creating new websites to showcase the tool. The tool is available through June 2018. To login and use Kognito, visit <http://www.kognitocampus.com/login>, create a username and password, and use the enrollment key: michiganvets for access to the *Veterans on Campus* training.