## DuPage County Vet Center 750 Shoreline Drive, Suite 150 Aurora, IL

Tom Weisner
Mayor's office
City of Aurora
44 E. Downer Place
Aurora, IL 60507



RE: Veterans Advisory Council for Aurora

## Dear Mayor Weisner:

I would like to provide you with some information about the DuPage County Vet Center located at 750 Shoreline Drive in Aurora. The Vet Center is part of the Department of Veterans Affairs and is one of over 300 Vet Centers in the United States. Our primary mission is to provide mental health counseling for combat veterans and their families. As such we provide individual, group, and family therapy for any veteran who served in combat from World War II forward. I am enclosing a copy of our flyer which outlines all the eligibility criteria for our service. We also provide therapy for anyone who was sexually harassed or traumatized in the military and family therapy for anyone who has lost a service member in combat. Vet Centers have been in existence since December of 1979, but the DuPage County Vet Center opened its doors in April of 2009. Currently, I am the acting team leader at the DuPage County Vet Center, providing clinical and administrative oversight until a new team leader can be employed.

Given that introduction, I wanted to propose that Dale Anderson, the office manager at the DuPage County Vet center serve on Aurora's Veterans Advisory Council. Dale is uniquely qualified to serve in this capacity for a number of reasons

- He is a 20 year navy veteran who retired in 1993, but remains active in veterans service organizations such as the Retired Enlisted Association and the American Association of Naval Hospital Corpsman.
- Dale is knowledgeable about a wide range of resources available to veterans in the Chicagoland area resources that include federal and state benefits as well as non-for-profit organizations that offer support to veterans.
- Because of his experience the last 3 years at the Vet Center, he is intimately aware of the challenges that veterans of all ages face

• He is an extremely organized individual. When Dale takes on a task you can be sure that it will be completed quickly and efficiently.

The DuPage County Vet Center is eager to serve veterans in Aurora and I feel like Dale's participation on this committee would be one way for us to do this.

If you require more information, please feel free to contact either myself or Dale. Our contact information is provided below.

Sincerely,

Jeanne A. Douglas, Ph.D.

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Acting Team Leader

DuPage County Vet Center

Dale Anderson