

Oklahoma City Rural Transportation for veterans in rural towns

Project Abstract

The Oklahoma City Vet Center in Oklahoma is seeking a grant to expand our Oklahoma City Rural Transportation program with the objective of helping local veterans reach our Oklahoma City office. The objective is, by the end of the year, to give every veteran outside of the Oklahoma City area at least 1 ride to and from our Oklahoma City office. The Oklahoma City Rural Transportation program is based on the latest research on safe and effective methods of transportation. Funding the amount of \$35,000 is requested for the creation of a transportation treasury and the creation of a department specifically for the Oklahoma City Rural Transportation program.

Statement of Need

The Oklahoma City Vet Center services 276 Veterans based in Oklahoma County. Of these 276 veterans who live in Oklahoma County, 59 of them are spread across rural neighborhoods. These veterans may or may not have reliable transportation. Other veterans in this population may or may not be fit to operate a motor vehicle. Oklahoma City Vet Center is eligible for a transportation grant if the requester is a VA accredited Veterans Service Organization (VSO).

Oklahoma City Rural Transportation program

The Oklahoma City Rural Transportation (OKCRT) program utilizes a system of private transport to get our veterans from point A (their home) to point B (Oklahoma City Vet Center). The goal is to find a safe, reliable, and cost effective method for getting our veterans to their scheduled appointments. Our rural-based veterans stand to benefit from this complimentary service. If our veterans miss their appointments, they may “fall through the cracks”, meaning that they may end up receiving no further resources from our Oklahoma City Vet Center.

Goals & Objectives

The goal of the Oklahoma City Rural Transportation (OKCRT) program is to empower our veterans, who live in rural neighborhoods, with the resources they need to receive services from our Oklahoma City office.

The main objectives include:

1. Establish a Oklahoma City Rural Transportation (OKCRT) department, who solely deals with veteran transportation requests.
2. Provide safe and reliable transportation to our veterans so they can schedule appointments with confidence.
3. Send out Oklahoma City Rural Transportation (OKCRT) fliers to veterans who live in rural areas with the intention of spreading awareness to the program.