



VFW Chaplain Networking

Presented by VFW National Chaplain Darren Atkins

- **Purpose:** Build relationships to support veterans and families.
- **Focus:** Referrals, resources, coordinated care, mutual support.

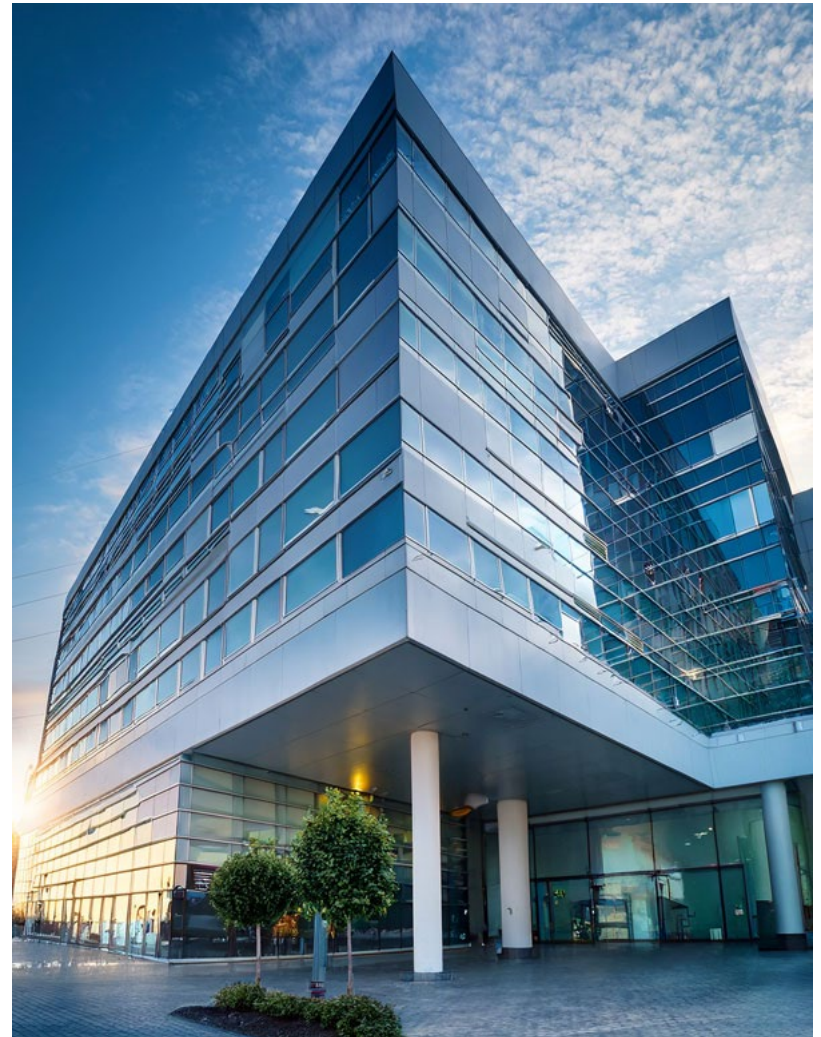
Why Networking Matters



- Improves referrals
- Enhances crisis response
- Expands access to resources
- Builds peer support
- Strengthens community care

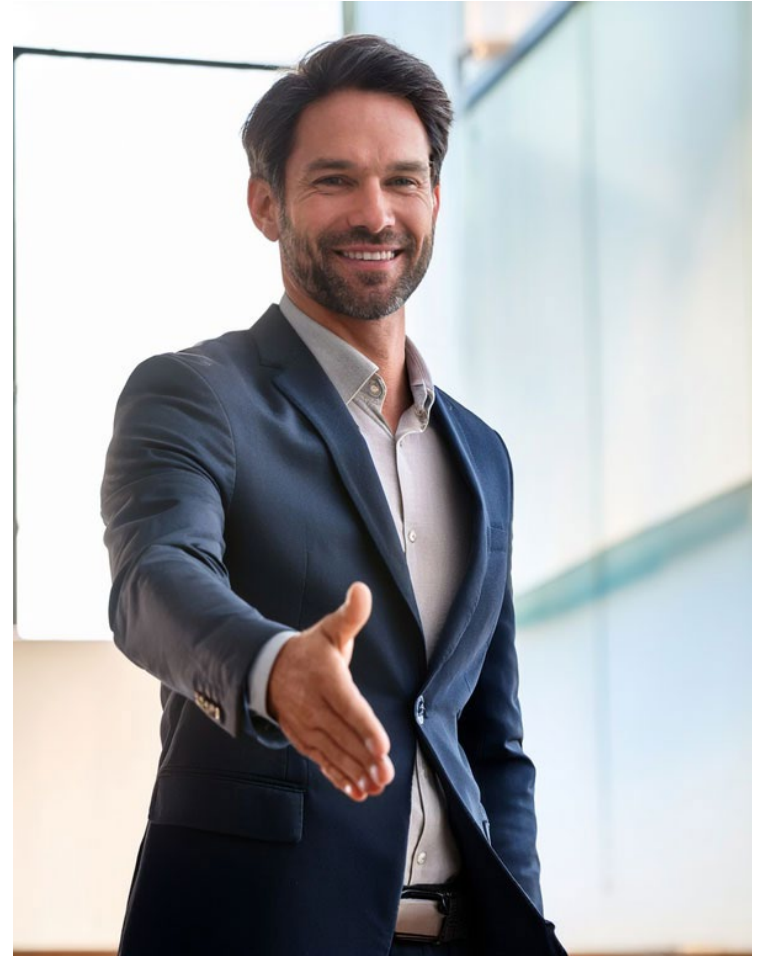
Key Partners

- VA & Vet Centers
- County Veteran Service Officers
- Hospitals & Hospice
- Mental health providers
- Clergy & nonprofits
- Law enforcement peer programs



Building Your Network

- Take initiative
- Introduce yourself
- Build rapport
- Maintain relationships



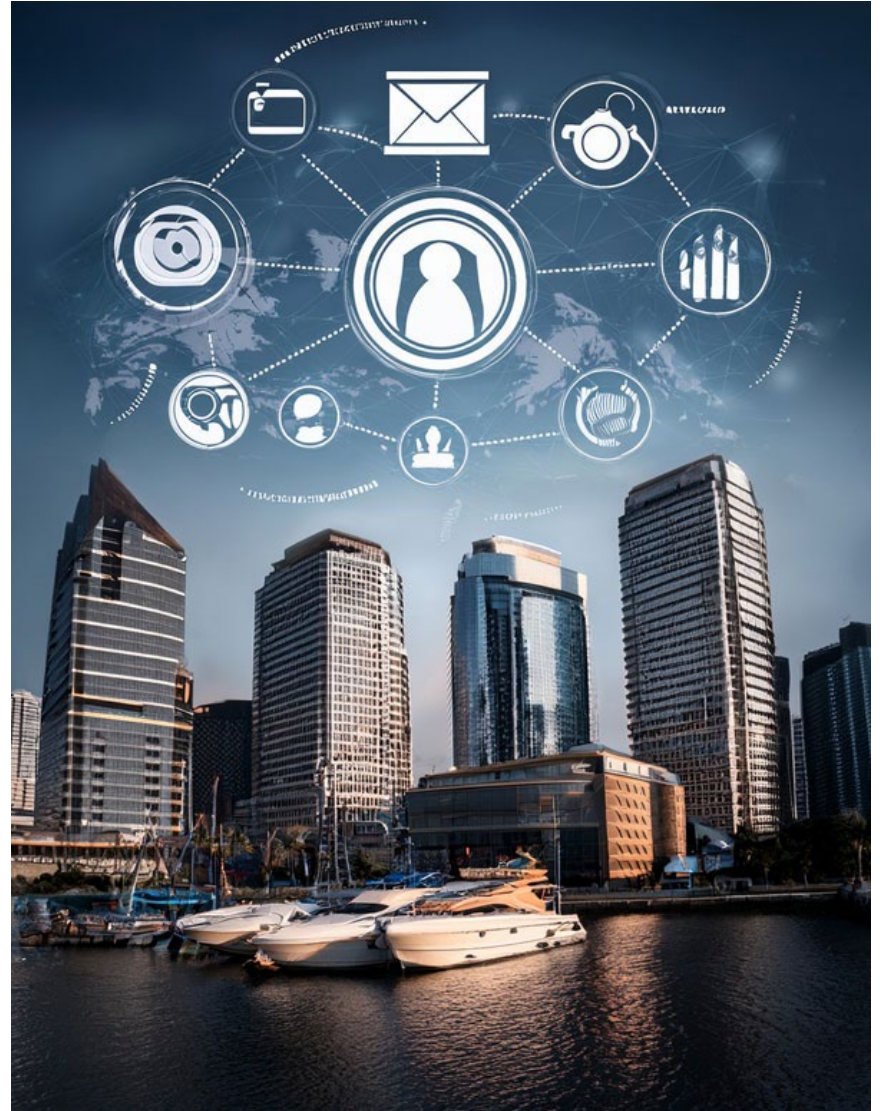
Networking Practices



- Elevator pitch
- Follow-up etiquette
- Confidentiality boundaries
- Professional communication

Coordination Tools

- Shared contact lists
- Group email
- Digital collaboration tools



Group Sharing



- Share one key contact
- Discuss one challenge
- Offer one networking idea



In Closing...

*Continued
collaboration
strengthens our ability
to serve veterans and
their families.*



Questions?

