

JOHN McCAIN
ARIZONA

CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON
ARMED SERVICES
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY
AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

United States Senate

May 23, 2016

218 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0303
(202) 224-2235

2201 EAST CAMELBACK ROAD
SUITE 115
PHOENIX, AZ 85016
(602) 952-2410

122 NORTH CORTEZ STREET
SUITE 108
PRESCOTT, AZ 86301
(928) 445-0833

407 WEST CONGRESS STREET
SUITE 103
TUCSON, AZ 85701
(520) 670-6334

TELEPHONE FOR HEARING IMPAIRED
(602) 952-0170

Ms. Deborah Amdur
Director, Phoenix VA Health Care System
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
650 East Indian School Road
Phoenix, AZ 85012

Dear Ms. Amdur,

I write to thank you for your leadership in creating within the Phoenix VA Health Care System a community outreach pilot program established under the *Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention for American Veterans Act*. I am hopeful that this initiative will address the spectrum of mental health disorders affecting veterans.

Ensuring that this pilot program performs as intended requires that you effectively leverage local veterans' organizations and support within the community. As you further develop this program, I ask that you take into particular consideration veterans living in rural and outlying areas who have limited access to resources and services.

Also, I understand TriWest is similarly developing a mental health program inspired by the Clay Hunt Act. To achieve maximum efficiency and ensure cost-effective resources, both efforts should work in conjunction to eliminate duplicative services and identify any gaps in access.

As you go forward with this pilot program, I invite you to contact me for any assistance should the program confront any impediments, especially one that may be amenable to a legislative remedy. I look forward to working with you on your initiative.

Sincerely,



John McCain
United States Senator