

LIFT A VET is a 501(c)(3) organization committed to improving quality of life for veterans through advocacy, education, and employment. Our principal aim is to assist veterans and their families worldwide through life challenges linked to military service. LIFT A VET recognizes that veterans enrich their communities through both their global experiences and their patriotic service, and that their skills are often not recognized or valued upon returning to civilian life. In addition, veterans frequently held leadership roles and developed competencies that could be leveraged in development of model communities and integrative health systems. LIFT A VET believes veterans add value that is critical to innovation, relevance, and success.

The LIFT A VET mission has three primary focus areas:

1. Mobility and Transportation Initiatives (personal, land, sea, and air)

2. Continuum of Care centers that are based on a novel, innovative, evidence-based integrative model (primary and preventive care, mental health, acute/chronic/specialty care)

3. Model Communities and Revitalization programs provide job skills training for veterans and their families, integrating community leaders and residents (technical and business incubators self-management, allied health and lay leaders).

We have a talented team of proven senior leaders in medicine, business, personnel management, energy, real estate and infrastructure development as well as the military to guide us and partner with us. They are already fully engaged in our mission.

Our intent is to drive our initiatives by leveraging the existing former Roosevelt Roads Naval Station (NSRR), Puerto Rico, by gaining site control currently held by the Local Redevelopment Authority (LRA) for investing in the infrastructure of the base at no cost to the government or municipalities of Puerto Rico. This public-private partnership investment will also add more than 500 jobs in industry, construction, and commercial sectors, with the possibility of many more in health care, communication, and transportation. This model will be developed such that it will be translatable to other rural areas where residents have little to no access to public transportation and quality health care. In addition, the health, employment and transportation needs of veterans and their families with integration of returning veterans into their local communities as community leaders and model citizens will be prioritized.

We are acutely aware of the potential gaps in medical services that face veterans who are isolated by time and distance. We have already shown that we can close that gap for individual veterans such as those in Vieques where Veterans Administration (VA) services were reduced to one clinic day per week, and separated from higher level health care by natural barriers. LIFT A VET's committed partners have articulated expertise in integrating existing VA benefits with Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and US Department of Agriculture (USDA) funding available to stimulate diverse, multigenerational economic growth for local veterans in support of revitalization of the former NSRR.