

Respondent



45

Rosemarie Ritz



21:38



Time to complete

1. Please provide your name, position title, and contact information. \*

Rosemarie Ritz RN , cell 610 462 3358, brownrosemarie@yahoo.com

2. Is this submission an idea for a Promising Practice or existing Promising Practice? \*

☒ Idea for a Promising Practice

☐ Existing Promising Practice

3. What is the name of your Promising Practice? \*

VIP

4. What type of Veterans does this practice serve? \*

☐ Rural

☐ Urban

☒ Both

5. How does this practice promote vaccine acceptance? \*

Have VIP (Vaccine Immunization Float Pool) "The Experts" who keep up with continuing changes and advances, and Currently focus on Covid, flu but also promote all immunizations. Travel to different VA medical center, CBOCS, VA community centers, Listening to veteran, staff and community concerns to help educate them re: vaccination truths and myths and would like to add in promote preventive medicine and health lifestyle initiatives ( Whole Health )

6. What are the specific steps you took, or would take, to implement your practice and the timeline/timeframe for each? \*

In the spirit of the HRO (High Reliability Organization) monthly theme "Deference to Expertise," I would like to propose the following: My suggestion is to have a VA pilot program where there is a designated team for COVID and Flu vaccinations to help ease the current burden on staff members. This program can be called, VA Immunization Float Pool (VIP). The VIP's are coming to help keep your CBOC afloat. The program can have floating nurse(s) and MSA(s) to travel to CBOC's, VA medical centers, and veteran's centers to run Covid/and or flu vaccine clinics. Positive Outcome • Getting veterans vaccinated on a timely basis from the VA. • Relieve the burden of VA staff members allowing them to focus on current job and needs of veterans. • Decrease stress and workload of staff in this stressful time and help bring relief by providing a distinct team to administer COVID vaccine, flu vaccine, and potentially COVID boosters. I know staff would definitely appreciate the help, and I would be interested in working at the VA to pilot the position either full-time or my current part-time status. Background: In one of my previous positions as Community Health nurse for City of Bethlehem assisting and running immunization and flu clinics, and another as Clinical Float nurse for LVPG traveling to a variety of offices within the network to assist staffing when needed. While working this position, I observed the staff was always grateful to have the extra hand especially when there was added tasks such as flu shots. Thank you for your time, Rosemarie Ritz RN AOPC Pact 9 Rosemarie.Ritz@VA.gov Brownrosemarie@yahoo.com Cell 610 462 3358

7. What departments are involved in implementing your practice? \*

Can include VA Medical center, CBOC's, VA community centers, VA run clinics in community. Wherever needed

8. What are the costs associated with your practice? \*

Start with pilot program -start with 1 Nurse and 1 MSA, travel to where needed.

9. What primary metric data is tracked and collected to determine your practice's success? \*

Have evaluation box 1-for veterans Re: scheduling and getting vaccines when needed in a timely manner satisfaction 0-5 2- for staff - If helped ease workload, and decrease stress due to not having to take on extra immunization clinic workload

10. What are the potential risks or barriers of implementing your practice and the proposed mitigations? \*

None- Start off with 1 MSA and 1 Nurse and upon successfully run clinics. Would need evaluate if need to expand