



# VETERANS VOICES

Conversations. Events. Resources.



\* Stories of \*  
**SERVICE**



**digital studios**



## MISSION

To use the power of public media to create a community platform that explores conversations, events, and resources which serve transitioning military, veterans, and their families.

## SUMMARY

KLRN, the Emmy award-winning public television station serving 30 counties in South Central Texas, in partnership with local and regional businesses, foundations, and non-profits, is launching **VETERANS VOICES**, a multi-year initiative, to serve veterans and their families on a local and national level.

## COMMUNITY NEED

With the drawdown of the troops, an estimated 40,000 to 50,000 veterans and their families will relocate to the region in the next five years.

## GOALS

- Create a community platform for veterans to share their stories and by doing so help them begin to heal.
- Raise awareness of issues veterans and their families face.
- Connect veterans and their families with resources to assist them as they transition to civilian life.
- Help military families thrive.

## VETERANS VOICES ADVISORY PANEL

### Charles G. Rodriguez, Ph.D.

Major General, United States Army  
Retired Chief of Staff & Vice President  
for Strategic Initiatives & Military  
Affairs  
Texas A&M University-San Antonio

### Melissa Beach

Military and Veterans Community  
Council Lead  
Director, Training and Services  
San Antonio Area Foundation

### Ricardo Wade

Senior Master Sergeant, USAF, (Ret)  
Military Outreach Coordinator  
2-1-1 Texas United Way  
United Way of San Antonio and Bexar  
County

### Martha Spinks, Ph.D.

Lt. Colonel, United States Army Retired  
Director, Bexar Area Agency on Aging  
Alamo Area Council of Governments

### Alan L. Peterson, Ph.D., ABPP

Professor and Chief  
Department of Psychiatry  
University of Texas Health Science  
Center at San Antonio

### Queta L. Marquez

United States Marine Corps Retired  
County Veterans Service Officer  
Bexar County Veterans Service Office

### Julie Coffey

Community Affairs Leader  
Military Child Education Coalition

### Rodney E. Leonard

Veteran Services Representative-South  
U.S. Office of Personnel Management

### Barbara Lau

Special Projects  
Bob Woodruff Foundation

### Candy Martin

Gold Star Mother

### Chuck Bunch

United States Air Force Retired  
Director of Military Relations and  
Business Development  
Red McCombs Toyota

### Steve Fogle

Chairman  
Returning Heroes Home

### Mary Beth Fisk

Chief Executive Officer  
The Ecumenical Center for Education,  
Counseling, Health

### Janet Sanchez

Founder/ President  
Esposas Militares Hispanas USA

### Van Mitchell

Director of Business Operations and  
Development at American GI Forum

PROJECTS	DESCRIPTION	TIMELINE
<b>Coming Home San Antonio</b>	Web-only series which tells the story of transitioning military and their families. Local & national promotion (PBS Digital Studios).	May - July 2014
<b>Veterans Employment Web Series</b>	Web-only series that teaches transitioning military, veterans, and their families how to find employment with the federal government.	Fall 2014
<b>Veterans Academy</b>	Monthly workshops to help transitioning military and veterans find employment in San Antonio. Partnership between Texas Veterans Commission, US Office of Personnel Mgmt & KLRN.	Fall 2014
<b>MAKERS: Women in War</b>	Screening of MAKERS: WOMEN WHO MAKE AMERICA "Women in War" documentary followed by a local panel discussion.	Fall 2014
<b>The Telling Project</b>	KLRN received a Corporation for Public Broadcasting grant to produce & broadcast The Telling Project in which veterans & their families stage the 'telling' of their stories.	May-October 2014
<b>Veterans Town Hall Series</b>	Town hall meetings to discuss veteran issues using Online Video Engagement Experience (OVEE) software to engage online audiences during broadcast.	Winter 2015
<b>Gold Star Family Event</b>	Host an in studio event for Gold Star Families with a PBS KIDS character (i.e. Sesame Workshops Walk-Around Elmo)	May 2015
<b>Ready, Set, Grow! Workshop Series</b>	Educational Outreach workshops for military families/caregivers and their children birth to age 5.	Spring 2015
<b>Sweepin' the Clouds Away Workshops</b>	Outreach to improve emotional well-being, parental resilience, and social connections of military and their families.	Spring 2015
<b>La Batalla</b>	Screening and panel discussion of La Batalla which focuses on Latino Soldiers in Vietnam.	Spring 2015
<b>Last Days in Vietnam <i>American Experience</i></b>	Screening & panel discussion of new documentary to mark 40th anniversary of the fall of Saigon	Spring 2015
<b>Online Veterans Film Festival</b>	Online film festival using PBS and local content to foster dialog between veterans and civilians.	Fall 2015
<b>Vietnam Screening &amp; Event with Ken Burns</b>	Screening and panel discussion of Ken Burns VIETNAM documentary featuring Ken Burns	2017
	<a href="http://klrn.org/veterans">klrn.org/veterans</a>	