OUTCOME
Student veterans and military-connected students will develop connection and belonging on campus through the support of the veteran community and the assistance of the Veterans Resource Center (VRC).

OUTCOME SUPPORTS
☒ University: Goal 1
☒ Division: Goal 2
☐ Department:
☐ Other:

DATA COLLECTION METHODS
• Survey

OUTCOME TYPE
☐ Performance Outcome
☒ Student Learning Outcome

ASSESSMENT APPROACH
☐ Direct assessment
☒ Indirect assessment

METHODS AND MEASURES
The VRC believes that student veteran persistence is supported by developing a community with their peers. Connection and belonging, with the support of their veteran peers and the VRC, enriches students’ experiences and improves their well-being.

Indirect Assessment
An end of year survey will be used to collect data on the following:
1. Did students feel connected to a campus community as a result of the VRC?
   a. “Connection to a Campus Community” is defined as the respondent’s belief that they are linked to campus programs, colleges, and other efforts that support their success or facilitate positive relationships with students, faculty, and staff

2. Did students feel a sense of belonging on campus as a result of the VRC?
   a. “Sense of Belonging” is defined as the respondent’s ability to be themselves and to feel a sense of acceptance on campus

CRITERIA OF SUCCESS
• 80% felt connected to a campus community as a result of VRC services
• 80% felt a sense of belonging as a result of VRC services

DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS
The survey was distributed during the spring semester. A total of 176 students responded to the survey. After reviewing the data, we found that 52% (88 of 176 respondents) indicated that they utilized at least one personal support resource promoted or provided by the VRC. 99% of the students (87 of 88 respondents) who utilized at least one personal support resource provided data related to its effect on their campus connection and sense of belonging. Of those who utilized a service provided by the VRC:
• 75% (64 of 87) agreed or strongly agreed that they felt connected to a campus community as a result of VRC personal support services
• 77% (67 of 87) agreed or strongly agreed that they felt a sense of belonging as a result of VRC personal support services
IMPROVEMENT ACTIONS
Overall, the criteria of success was not met for this academic year. The VRC plans to utilize the data to improve students experiences with regards to building a community and sense of belonging. In addition to the quantitative data analysis above, the survey also allowed respondents to provide qualitative responses for how to improve the VRC. Based on all of the data available, the following improvement actions have been identified:

1. **Provide Diverse Events that Foster Personal Connections**
   Hosting events that appeal to a wide variety of students helps facilitate personal connections, which has been the center’s most effective strategy for creating campus connection and a sense of belonging
   - A. “Hold more events that facilitate connections between students of the same Major and between Alumni and students.”
   - B. “Maybe have more events more consistently”

2. **Maintain Our Commitment to Inclusivity**
   Ensuring all members of the military-connected community feel welcome and invited may foster personal connection
   - A. “There were several Family Fun Days that were held a while back that my wife and I attended. I feel that some veterans would like to incorporate more family events to include their loved ones. This doesn't exclude single people, though.”
   - B. “It’s really intimidating to go to a resource centers events”

3. **Update the Questionnaire**
   The questionnaire logic filtered these questions only to students who indicated that they utilized at least one personal support resource. It was incorrect to assume that personal support services are the only manner in which students can develop a connection or sense of belonging. If this remains an outcome on future assessments, the questionnaire should allow all respondents to answers these questions.