



VETERANS MARRIAGE MANAGEMENT PROJECT

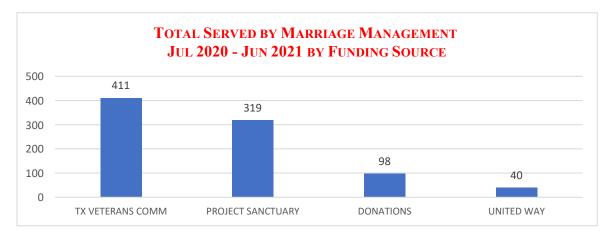
2020 - 2021

EVALUATION SUMMARY REPORT

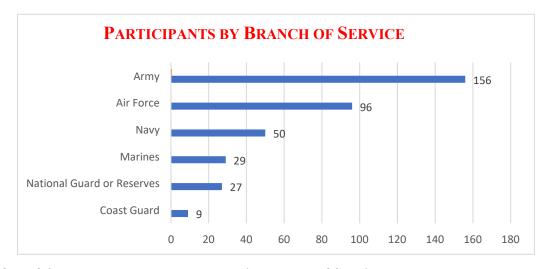
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TOTAL SERVED

<u>During the last one-year grant period, Marriage Management successfully served a</u> total of 868 Veterans and their companions!



- In response to Covid-19 restrictions, all classes presented during this grant cycle were done virtually in a three-evening format via the Zoom Video Platform.
- Despite the pandemic-caused challenges, Marriage Management still met and exceeded its goal for the Texas Veteran's Commission Fund for Veterans' Assistance by delivering 139% over the goal of 300 persons being served.
- In addition, we met our United Way goal of 40 by 100% and also served 98 more through donations and 319 more under contract with Project Sanctuary.
- It is interesting to note that of the 549 participants from grants and donations, 196 (36%), were served in August 2020! Our team delivered 13 three-evening programs in that one month! We are immensely proud of our team members for their dedication and service to our mission.



Of the 367 Veterans who reported their Branch of Service,

• 43% served in the Army, 26% Air Force, 14% Navy, 8% Marines, 7% National Guard or Reserves, and 2% Coast Guard.



TEXAS COUNTIES SERVED

County	Number	TIS COUNTIES SERVED			
Served	rvanibei	TEXAS COUNTIES SERVED			
Bexar	91				
Bell	52				
Harris	45				
Tarrant	44				
Dallas	34				
Guadalupe	23				
Denton	18				
Collin	16				
El Paso	14				
Comal	12				
Fort Bend	12				
Williamson	12				
Galveston	10				
Brazoria	8				
Nueces	8	Jashan Jakon Market Mar			
Ellis	6				
Kendall	6	Served			
Travis	6	91			
Coryell	4				
Kaufman	4				
Kerr	4				
Montgomery	4				
Wichita	4				
Rockwall	3				
Austin	2				
Caldwell	2				
Cameron	2				
Hays	2				
Johnson	2				
Maverick	2				
McLennan	2				
Medina	2				
Midland	2				
Potter	2				
San Patricio	2				
Val Verde	2				
Webb	2				
Wise	2	Powered by Bing			
Smith	1	© GeoNames, Microsoft, TomTom			



PARTICIPANT EVALUATIONS

THE FOLLOWING IS A BRIEF SUMMARY OF 287 EVALUATIONS VOLUNTARILY SUBMITTED BY PARTICIPANTS IN THE VETERANS' MARRIAGE MANAGEMENT CLASSES FUNDED BY GRANTS AND DONATIONS BETWEEN JULY 1, 2020, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2021.

A two-part retrospective evaluation tool was handed to all participants immediately after each class to determine the efficacy of the program from a participant perspective.

Part A:

Likert Scale

Participants were asked to score seven measures: If they...

- Found the training helpful;
- <u>Understood</u> he lessons very well;
- Will <u>use</u> what they learned;
- Would <u>recommend</u> this class to others;
- Felt <u>safe</u> enough to share honestly with each other;
- Judged the <u>instructors</u> as competent;
- Rates their overall <u>satisfaction</u> with the value of the class.

Part B:

Retrospective Subjective Evaluations

Participants answered additional questions to determine:

- What <u>challenges</u> did you face prior to participating in this program?
- How did this program help you overcome these challenges?
- What I <u>liked most</u> about this class was...
- Where would your relationship be if this program did not exist?
- How important to you is this program?
- Other voluntary <u>comments</u> and suggestions



PART A

LIKERT SCALE DATA

GRANT-FUNDED PROJECTS JULY 2020 – JUNE 2021

Participant Class Ratings

]	
		Class ID -	TVC 2021-2021		
	1	2	3	4	5
Regarding Today's Lesson:	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
I found it Helpful	0	0	3	31	185
i lourid it Helpful	<u> </u>	0	<u> </u>	01	100
I understood it very well	0	0	7	39	173
I will use what I learned	0	0	5	24	190
I would recommend this class to others	0	0	0	18	201
The Instructors encouraged questions and comments	0	0	5	13	201
The instructors are knowledgeable about the material being presented	0	0	2	15	202
Overall, I liked today's lesson	0	0	4	23	191
Total	0	0	26	163	1343
Pct. Of Total	0.0%	0.0%	1.7%	10.6%	87.6%
	Disagree <mark>0.0%</mark>		Neutral <mark>1.7%</mark>	Agree <mark>98.2%</mark>	

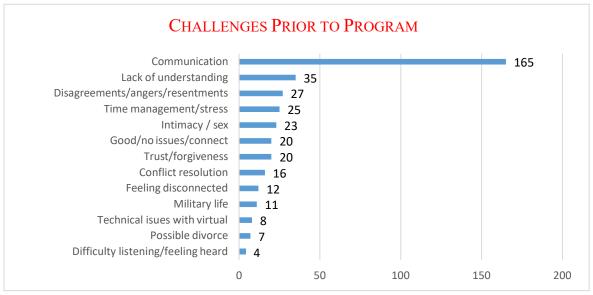
OF THE 219 EVALUATIONS RECEIVED FROM TVC PARTICIPANTS:

- 98.2% OF RESPONSES WERE POSITIVE OVERALL;
- 87.6% GAVE THE HIGHEST RATED SCORE.
- THERE WERE NO NEGATIVE SCORES.
- ALL PARTICIPANTS UNDERSTOOD THE MATERIAL, WILL USE IT AND WOULD RECOMMEND THE CLASS TO OTHERS

PART B SUBJECTIVE EVALUATION SUMMARY 287 RESPONDENTS



Question 1: What challenges did you face prior to participating in this program?



- "Prior to this program, my husband and I faced the issues of trust and rebuilding trust. We also had a problem with actually knowing one another and the needs that are required for each other.
- "We just did our routine."
- "Having my partner communicate and open up."
- "Actually, sitting face to face with my partner and listening and understanding my partner instead of talking over her. And also talking to her and not at her. (If that makes sense)"
- "I was dealing with a build-up of resentment, and I was losing my ability to see the positive contributions that my husband was making to our marriage. I had trouble setting boundaries with him regarding the way he expressed his upset to me, and I was finding ways to avoid him, in an effort to manage the stress I felt from being around him."
- "We are both stubborn."
- "Not knowing how to resolve issues."
- "Having my husband communicate with me without giving me orders."
- "My wife and I were growing apart, this program really helped us confront the tough problems we were facing and talk through them."
- "Our challenges were understanding each other and communicating with each other. We were starting to get into heated arguments because we didn't know how to effectively communicate."



CHALLENGES OVERCOME Tools Increased communication 60 New ways to communicate 52 Increased understanding 51 discussing issues without argument 39 Huddle 31 Improved relationship 27 Awareness/identify issues 20 Improved listening 13

Question 2: How did this program help you overcome these challenges?

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Quotes from participant evaluations:

Dealing with triggers/issues

See other's point of view Increased respect

• "This program helped us in understanding that it is okay to have difference of opinions and individuality but as long as we are meeting each other needs and staying consistent we can allow ourselves to be more open."

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- We are learning that there is a lot more than just sexual relations that keeps a relationship above water."
- "Opened up our eyes that there are other ways to deal with issues with our spouse and not just fight and yell. When we do the Huddle, my husband opened up."
- "It exposed some sore wounds but offered help to address [them]"
- "It helped me understand my spouse can only do so much and I have to be willing to move forward and forgive the mistakes that caused us to be in this position."
- "It helped me identify negative actions on my part and to be mindful of the things I say to my partner. We are learning how to improve our marriage."
- "It helped us start working on some issues."
- "Misunderstandings happen but being able to talk through it helps."
- "It moved barriers."



LIKED Instructors 87 Material Covered 67 Interactive/participation 56 Real Life Examples /Applicable 48 PracticeHands On 27 Huddles 22 Worked on relationship/set goals/gave us hope 18 Knowing other have similar problems 18 Open Atmosphere 18 Humor/Light Hearted 17 **RAM Board** 14 Safe 13 Everything Liked virtual format Talking with spouse 50 60 70 100 0 10 20 30 40 80 90

Question 3: What I liked about the program was:

- "Knowing we aren't the only couple going thru the same issues and all the resources provided."
- "Interacting with other couples that are going through similar experiences, knowing my wife and I are not alone with these feelings. The RAM Board, placed on our bathroom mirror, helps us to visually see what we need to work on."
- "I liked the tools that were given to help us communicate better. I also enjoyed having other couples around to relate. The instructors were very kind and honest and very authentic."
- "How engaged our couple instructors were. Using their own personal experiences to help us."
- "It was geared toward the military."
- "The healthy ways to voice concerns without getting on attack."
- "I think the way the instructors openly shared their issues throughout their marriage really helped me see the implications of the information they were presenting. It was more engaging that simply being presented stuff from a book."



WITHOUT THIS PROGRAM Struggling 69 59 Improving because of program Stuck/no change/stagnate 45 Good 35 divorced 22 Not sure Unresolved issues 18 Seeking counseling/other program 11 Headed in wrong directions 10

Question 4: Where would your relationship be if this program did not exist?

Quotes from participant evaluations:

• "Honestly, very rocky and most likely headed towards divorce."

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- "We would still be yelling or ordering each other around."
- "This class was helpful."
- "Less positive communication and affection."

In a rut

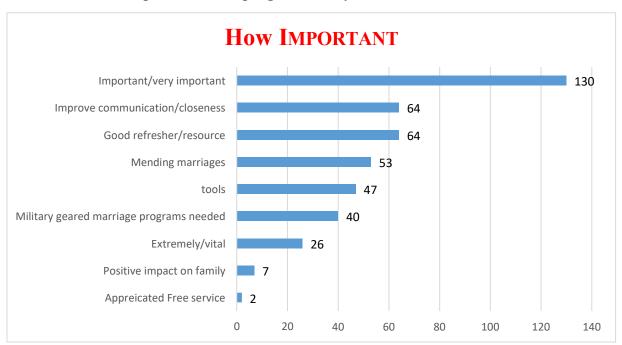
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- "I think we would have continued to experience slow leaks and imbalances that would have robbed the vitality and cooperation needed for a meaningful partnership."
- "In the garbage."
- "I honestly do not know; I'm happy that I was afforded the opportunity to be part of this class. It taught me and my spouse tools."
- "We have been in a really good place for a few years. These tools are very helpful to help us continue to grow together and not become complacent in our marriage."

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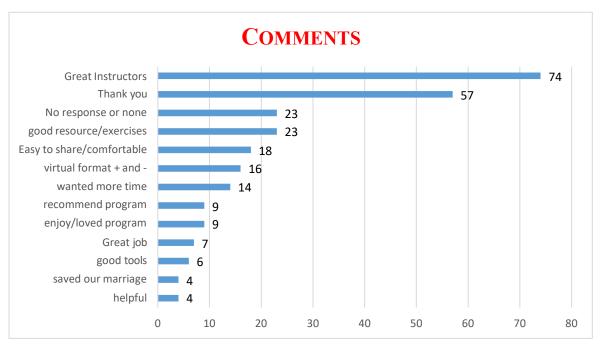


Question 5: How important is this program? Why?

- "My husband and I struggled for years to find help for a multitude of things that stemmed from our relationship's military roots. From his PTSD to our marital problems, it has been hard to get the help we both needed. For us, paying for expensive therapy has not been an option, so having a place to turn that won't hurt us financially has been an incredible opportunity."
- "Love my husband and want a happy, healthy relationship where we both try to give each other what we need and to work as a couple."
- "It is absolutely important. Not all Airmen seek improvement in their relationship and don't have the means to do so.
- "This program is fantastic."
- "This program, I believe, is the answer that will really benefit military couples. There is a disconnect when spouses are apart so learning the skills this class teaches will help supremely in their lives."



Question 6: Other comments you would like to share...



- "Greatly enjoyed the experience, and glad we were able to participate."
- "Facilitators were so amazing, and I loved the candidness and openness."
- This was really good, and I loved the workbooks and exercises. Keep up the good work!!!!"
- "I am indebted to both of you for the wonderful tips and experiences you share with us. Your service is highly appreciated, especially for us as soldiers."
- "I believe this program saved my marriage."
- "I would hope for more lessons pertaining to conflict resolution."
- "Loved the virtual environment! Relieved the stress of having to rush to another location, find childcare, get off work early..."
- "Outstanding course, outstanding instructors."
- "Thank you for developing this program. And for letting us go through it pre-deployment for free. In the days prior to starting it, I was honestly concerned about whether our marriage would survive the deployment. I hope to use the communication tools presented during this course to ensure it does, in fact, survive and hopefully thrive."



OTHER PRIOR UNSOLICITED COMMENTS

FOLLOWING ARE COMMENTS FROM PAST MARRIAGE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS THAT EXEMPLIFY THE CRITICAL NEED AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE WORK WE DO.

- "This class was amazing."
- "Great class and the instructors are AWESOME."
- "We came together as a couple."
- "Thank you for providing the tools to help us stay together. Would like to participate in follow-up group."
- Today's young military couples NEED these classes. We need a more concerted effort behind getting couples here."
- "This was an absolutely amazing program. The way [the facilitator couple] taught it together was awesome & how transparent they were. Y'all are called to do this. May God continue to bless your marriage & ministry & family."
- "Please keep helping couples. We need it desperately."
- "It is very important for military marriages because we have trouble balancing both. Many divorces are over the exact same things this program is trying to attack."
- "Thank you for helping me understand my defects also thank you for the opportunity to be a part of this class. I have work still to do but I truly believe with material presented in this my marriage will survive."
- "R" called the Marriage Management Office this morning to personally thank Marriage Management for, in his words, "saving his marriage, and probably saving his life." He spoke of his struggles with his wife, and his recent struggles with law enforcement, being disconnected from everybody and everything. He stated that going through this program gave him the tools, and the hope of coming back, and being welcomed back. He and his wife are determined to continue the materials and the huddles."

Director's Note:

Marriage Management provides critical preventative measures against the breakup of military families. Statistics show that when a military member or Veteran's marriage breaks up, there are higher incidents of destructive behaviors, abuse, dependencies, homelessness, and suicide – all of which increase with multiple deployments. In this survey, 246 individuals reported a total of 605 deployments. 30% of completed military suicides had a failed intimate relationship in the prior month. We consider this program to be suicide prevention.

[End of Report]

MARRIAGE MANAGEMENT, A 501(C)3 VETERAN FOUNDED AND STAFFED SERVICE ORGANIZATION

<u>WWW.MARRIAGEMANAGEMENT.ORG</u>

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