**Opening Statement | 9 May 16**

**Good afternoon, thank you to the members of this committee for inviting me here to speak today. My Name is Ryon Hoffmann and I with the Veterans Transition Center of Monterey County a long term transitional housing service for homeless veterans and their families, otherwise known as VTC.**

**My position at VTC is threefold I am one of four Case Manager in our transitional housing service known as the Coming Home Program. I am the Life Skills Coordinator, as well as an Outreach Specialist. As a Case Manager and Life Skills Coordinator I work closely with homeless veterans in VTC’s Coming Home Program to support and counsel them throughout their rehabilitation process.**

**As an Outreach Specialist I am responsible for the outreach in and around the Bay Area. This includes VA Palo Alto and the Menlo Park division. Additionally I conduct outreach with veterans involved in the justice system in the Monterey County Jail, with veterans on supervision with Monterey County Adult Probation, and veterans inside California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. VTC works with the Veteran’s Justice Outreach to help provide services for homeless veterans coming out of Veterans Treatment Court in Monterey and Santa Cruz County.**

**VTC to date has provided services for seventeen incarcerated veterans with transitional housing, employment, rent assistance, and a variety of other services provided directly by the Veterans Transition Center. VTC has successfully assisted three of the seventeen veterans through the rehabilitation and reintegration process. We currently still have fourteen previously incarcerated veterans in our Coming Home Program; ten of which are supervised by me directly.**

**We have conducted outreach to over 100 incarcerated veterans with in CDCR, and continue this process in California Training Center Soledad, San Quentin State Prison, Salinas Valley State Prison, and Central California Women’s Prison Chowchilla.**

**Thank you.**