



FARMER VETERAN

COALITION

www.farmvetco.org

FVC Mission



The mission of the Farmer Veteran Coalition is to *Mobilize Veterans to Feed America.*

FVC Director- Michael O'Gorman



- I've spent over 40 years in large-scale organic production agriculture.
- I started FVC to help rebuild the US farm population by training veterans to be the next generation of American farmers.

Why Vets and Farming?



- We believe that veterans possess the unique skills and character needed to strengthen rural communities.
- We believe that food production offers purpose, opportunity, and physical and psychological benefits.



● *Rural America makes up 1/6 of the population of the United States; those who serve us in uniform, 45%...*”

- *Secretary Vilsack*
- *February 18, 2010*

FVC Principles



© We guide the passion of veterans so that they may earn meaningful, financially sustainable place in the agricultural community.



© We believe in the meritocracy of American Agriculture, where one's actions and initiative can create personal success. We believe in the fundamental dignity of physical work.



A photograph of a family of four in a greenhouse. A man in a light blue shirt and khaki pants stands on the left. A woman in a green sweater and dark pants stands on the right, holding a baby in a white outfit and a brown hat. A young child in a white shirt and blue jeans sits in the center, holding a poinsettia plant. The background is filled with rows of poinsettias hanging from the ceiling and growing in beds.

● We acknowledge the plurality of agricultural crops, practices, scale, and markets available to our veterans. We honor, guide, and support the practical farming path chosen by each veteran.

A man with a goatee, wearing a tan baseball cap with a logo, sunglasses, and a tan t-shirt with "AMERICA" and stars printed on it, stands with his hands on his hips next to a red tractor. The background shows a grassy field with trees under a clear sky. The image is framed with a dark border on the right and bottom sides.

© We are committed to leveraging our work through a network of partnerships. This allows us to more effectively help a larger number of veterans, particularly those in the onset of their civilian careers.

A man with a beard and sunglasses, wearing a black hoodie and a tan cap with an American flag patch, stands in a field. He is leaning on a wooden post of a fence. In the background, there are several brown cows grazing in a field under a clear blue sky.

© We support all valid national, regional, or crop-specific efforts to connect veterans with agriculture and encourage collaboration with other groups providing services to our nation's veterans.



© We sponsor and encourage both employment and self-employment in agriculture, and equally value the contributions made by all members of the agricultural industry who feed America.

CUYAMA
ORCHARDS
CUYAMA, CA. 93252

A woman wearing a brown and blue checkered knit hat, glasses, and a grey zip-up jacket is kneeling in a field. She is surrounded by several goats of various colors, including black, brown, and white. The background shows a grassy field with a fence. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

© We are conscious of the high number of veterans returning with visible and invisible wounds. We respect the privacy of our veterans, and provide support to help them be stronger farmers.

FVC Programs



The Fellowship Fund



- The Farmer Veteran Fellowship Fund has awarded \$350,000 in small grants for capital purchases or agricultural training.

FEED

- Farm Equipment Exchange & Donations (FEED) matches veterans with tax-deductible donations of new and used farm equipment.



Career Development

- Career Development assists veterans seeking employment throughout the agriculture industry and helps those who need to juggle both on-farm and off-farm income.



Women Veterans

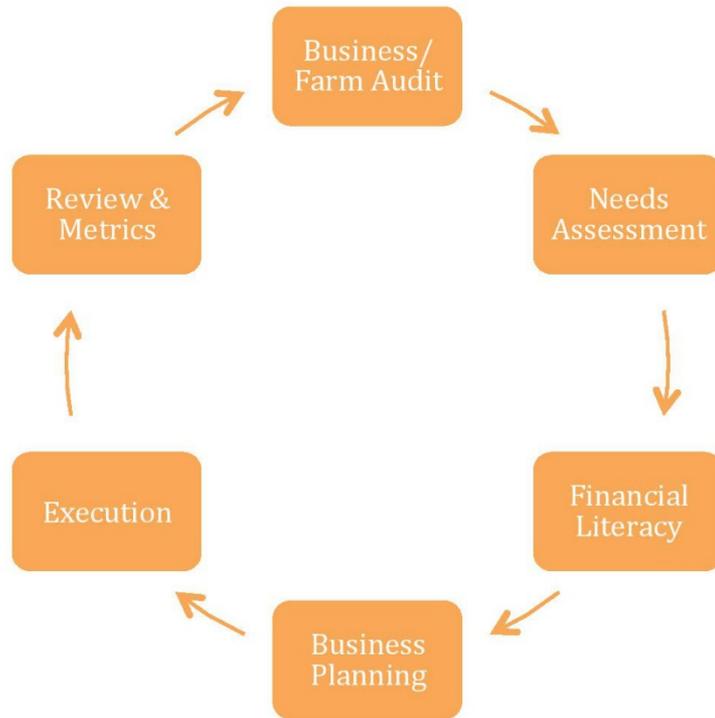
- Our annual Empowering Women Veterans: Agriculture, Business and Well-being Conference connects women who have built careers in both agriculture and the military.



Homegrown by Heroes



Farm Building



THE 'FARM BUILDING' PROGRAM CYCLE
(FIGURE 1): Upon acceptance into the program, the farmer-veteran begins a cycle of assessment, training and execution with support of FVC staff.

- Farm Building assists veterans with financial planning, legal assistance and other free services to grow their food and farm business.



Contact Us

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