



AMERICAN VETERANS HAWAII

[AMVETS HAWAII]

HTTPS://AMVETS-HAWAII.ORG

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AMVETS

Preserving Freedom

Supporting Veterans

Providing Community Service

Mr. Brent Elrod
National Program Leader
Division of Family and Consumer Sciences
4434 Waterfront Centre
Washington, DC 20024

9 January 2018

RE: Intent to Apply for “Enhancing Agricultural Opportunities for Military Veterans Competitive Grants Program”

This letter confirms that American Veterans Hawaii (AMVETS Hawaii) intends to submit a proposal to enhance the income of veterans by development of beekeeping “Hawaii Veterans Beekeeping Project (HAVE-BEE PROJECT)” for Fiscal Year 2017 (FY 2017). AMVETS Hawaii hereby represents that it meets all the requirements as specified as a Non-Profit Organization.

AMVETS Hawaii intends to submit a complete application on or before the due date February 8, 2018.

Applicant’s Profile and Point of Contact:

AMVETS Hawaii is a 501(c)(19), not for profit, all-volunteer Veterans’ Service Organization (VSO), located at 91-1443 Kaieleele Street, Ewa Beach, Hawaii, 96706.

The point of contact during the application process will be Donovan Andrew Lazarus Commander, Chief Operating Officer (US Army Retired).

Mailing Address:

American Veterans Hawaii
4725 Bougainville Dr. #323
Honolulu, Hawaii, 96818
E-mail: donovan@amvets-hawaii.org

Project Team:

Prof. Dr. Osman Kaftanoglu osman.kaftanoglu@asu.edu
Dr. Jason Graham jrgraham@hawaii.edu
Alicia Wills heartypees@gmail.com

Project Description:

Hawaii Veterans Beekeeping Project (HAVE-BEE PROJECT) aims to develop beekeeping in two islands in Hawaii by training and teaching veterans on honey bee biology, colony management, queen rearing and instrumental insemination of queen bees and increase the income of veterans in rural areas. Hawaii is one of the best places in the world for beekeeping and queen rearing. Queens can be reared and honey can be harvested from the colonies all year around. Maintenance of the colonies is easier, honey yields are higher

and beekeeping is more profitable in Hawaii than any other states. Therefore, Hawaii was chosen for this model project which can be replicated in other states with some modifications.

HAVE-BEES project will train the veterans by providing all the necessary materials (20 bee hives, 20 colonies, and all the beekeeping equipment such as veils, smokers, hive tools, foundations, honey extractors and all the medicines for the diseases and parasites) for each participant veteran. Ten veterans from each island will be chosen and trained on beekeeping in the first year, on queen rearing on the second year and on the instrumental insemination of the queen bees on the third year. All the veterans become master beekeepers and queen breeders during the project. They will have sustainable beekeeping business and produce honey, pollen, propolis, royal jelly, queen bees and produce package bees and/or nucleus colonies.

All the project participants will be visited every 2 months to evaluate the project and prepare a progress report by the project leaders (Dr. Osman Kaftanoglu and Dr. Jason Graham) and a technician.

The total budget of the project is \$805,034 for 3 years. The total gross revenue expected from products of the hives will be \$168,000 for the first year, \$465,000 for the second year, \$547,000 for the third year. The project will yield sum of \$1,180,000 in three years and \$2,552,000 in five years. Every participant will make an additional income of \$8,400 in the first year, \$23,250 in the second year, \$27,350 in the third year, \$33,050 in the fourth and \$35,550 in the fifth year.

This model project can be applied to enhance the income of minority, women, refugees, Native Americans, and socially disadvantaged people and farmers. This project is in accordance with the USDA Strategic Goals FY 2013-2018 (Goal 1: Assist Rural Communities To Create Prosperity So They Are Self-Sustaining, Repopulating, and Economically Thriving) and USDA FY17 Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Development Program (BFRDP).



Our Mission:

To serve veterans and the active military in procuring their earned entitlements; to assist and advocate for severely wounded, ill or injured Soldiers, Veterans, and their Families; to promote Americanism and preserve the freedoms secured by America's Armed Forces and to provide community services that enhance the quality of life for all Americans. As AMVETS moves further into the 21st century, it does so with the conviction that it must continue serving all veterans, past, present and future. AMVETS believes its Mission remains a clear blueprint for continued service to God and country.

<https://ewabattlefield.org/>

<https://amvets-hawaii.org/post-meetings/ewa-battlefield-wwii-revetment-district/>

<https://amvets-hawaii.org/uss-arizona-memorial/>

<https://amvets-hawaii.org/veterans-day/>

<https://amvets-hawaii.org/programs/media/>

Our members are Veterans and Active Duty Servicemembers serving in the U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Marines, U.S. Air Force, Coast Guard, Hawaii National Guard and Reserve.

We meet monthly at Historic Barbers Point Stables which has been in existence since at least 1960 and is located on the former Naval Air Station Barbers Point and within the World War II Revetment District of the former Marine Corps Air Station Ewa. Note. Membership Meetings are held every 3rd Saturday of the month: 1230 – 1430 hours.

Sincerely,



DONOVAN A. LAZARUS
Commander & COO
American Veterans Hawaii
[AMVETS Hawaii]