

Southeastern Wisconsin Veteran Suicide Prevention Task Force: Veterans, families invited to 'Frost Fest' Feb. 21

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MILWAUKEE — “Frost Fest,” an event for Veterans and their families to shake off the winter blues, have some fun and learn about valuable resources for veterans, will be Feb. 21.

The fourth annual event, noon to 3 p.m. at the War Memorial Center, 750 N. Lincoln Memorial Drive, will feature entertainment and games for children and families as well as dozens of information booths for veterans.

Presented by the Southeastern Wisconsin Veteran Suicide Prevention Task Force in partnership with the War Memorial Center, the event has drawn upward of 250 attendees in the past, according to Susan Smykal, co-chairwoman for the Frost Fest committee and a member of the task force.

“It’s been a long, cold winter. Frost Fest is the perfect way to break away from the winter doldrums,” Smykal said. “And while it’s a great event for family fun, it’s also a place where veterans can discover a variety of resources available to them.”

Approximately 35 vendors will be on hand providing arts and crafts, games and goodies. There will also be DJ music, a scavenger hunt, photo booth and door prizes. Attendees can also:

- Try out the Department of Natural Resources’ “Hoverball,” an archery skills activity.

- Make cards for Veterans.
- Receive acupuncture and learn about guided meditation at Veteran Sanctuary.
- Meet Axel the therapy dog.

Resource tables for veterans will cover a range of services, including health care, VA benefits, housing, mental health, counseling, recovery, service dogs, homelessness, veterans service organizations and recreational programs, among others.

The event is free and open to the public. Limited free parking is available for Veterans and active military at the War Memorial Center with valid military ID.

Though not required, registration is encouraged at Eventbrite.com (search for “Frost Fest”). More information is available at www.warmemorialcenter.org/events.