

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Center for Women Veterans

Established by Congress in November 1994 by P. L. 103-446

Our Mission

- To monitor and coordinate VA's administration of health care, benefits, services, and programs for women Veterans.
- To serve as an advocate for cultural transformation (both within VA and in the general public) in recognizing the service and contributions of women Veterans and women in the military.
- To raise awareness of the responsibility to treat women Veterans with dignity and respect.

Our Activities

- The Director serves as primary advisor to the Secretary on Department policies, programs, and legislation that affect women Veterans.
- Monitors and coordinates with internal VA offices on their benefits and services delivery to women Veterans.
- Liaises with Federal agencies, state and local agencies and organizations, and non-government partners.
- Serves as a resource and referral center for women Veterans, their family, and their advocates.
- Educates VA staff on women Veterans' military contributions.
- Ensures that communications channels and assets portray and target women Veterans through images, messages, and branding.
- Promotes recognition of women Veterans' military service and contributions by sponsoring activities and special events.
- Manages and coordinates Advisory Committee on Women Veterans activities.

Where To Get Help

Women Veterans Call Center: Your guide to VA. Contact 1-855-VA-WOMEN, (1-855-829-6636) or chat here <u>https://www.womenshealth.va.gov/programoverview/wvcc.asp</u> for assistance. Hours of operation are Mon-Fri, 8:00am —10:00pm (ET), and Sat, 8:00am — 6:30pm (ET).

Benefits: Designated Women Veterans coordinators (WVC) can be contacted at your nearest VA regional office to assist with claims.

Contact 1-800-827-1000; visit their website at http://www.benefits.va.gov/benefits/ for more information.

Military Sexual Trauma: VA provides free treatment for any physical or mental health conditions related to Veterans' experiences of MST. <u>No documentation</u> of the MST experience or VA disability compensation rating is required. Some Veterans can receive this free MST-related care even if they are not eligible for other VA care. MST-related outpatient services are available at every VA medical center and many VA community-based outpatient clinics. MST-related outpatient counseling is also available through VA's community-based <u>Vet Centers</u>.

Homelessness: The <u>National Homeless Call Center for Homeless Veterans</u> can be reached at 1-877-424-3838. Homeless Veteran coordinators can be located at <u>https://www.va.gov/homeless/</u>.

Crisis Hotline: If you're in crisis, or to help a Veteran in crisis, call **Crisis Hotline at 1-800-273-8255, press option 1**. You will be connected to a skilled, trained counselor a center in your area anytime, 24/7. You can also confidentially chat by texting 838255 to get help now, or visit the website at https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/.

Locating the nearest VA Health Care Facility: VA Medical facilities can be found across the country, divided into 23 regional networks: Call 1-800-827-1000 or https://www.va.gov/find-locations/.

Women's Health: Full-time women Veterans program managers (WVPM) are located in VA health care facilities across the country. WVPM can assist women Veterans with accessing VA's health care services. Visit http://www.womenshealth.va.gov.

Minority: Minority Veterans Program Coordinators (MVPC's) are at every VA healthcare facility, regional office, and national cemetery.

For more information, please the Center for Minority Veterans at http://www.va.gov/centerforminorityVeterans/.

Access to Patient Medical Information: MyHealtheVet is VA's online health record system designed to help VA Patients manage their healthcare records from medical providers. Contact 1-877-327-0022 or visit their website at https://www.myhealth.va.gov.

VA for Vets: VA for Vets is designed to help you successfully transition from military service to civilian careers. Contact at 1-855-824-8387 or via the web at https://www.vaforvets.va.gov/.

Home Loan Assistance: VA helps Servicemembers, Veterans, and eligible surviving spouses become homeowners. As part of our mission to serve you. Contact 1-877-827-3702 or via the web at https://www.va.gov/housing-assistance/home-loans/loan-types/.

Education and Training: For information on GI Bill® contact 1-888-442-4551 or visit the website at www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/.

VA's Office of Small & Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU): in collaboration with Business USA, offers a collection of tools to help you start and grow your small business. The Veteran Entrepreneur Portal (VEP) quickly connects Veteran entrepreneurs to relevant best-practices and information at: www.va.gov/OSDBU/entrepreneur/index.asp Information for Veterans who would like to start their own business is also available from the Small Business Administration at: www.sba.gov.

Million Veterans Program: MVP is a national research program to learn how genes, lifestyle, and military exposures affect health and illness. Since launching in 2011, over 825,000 Veteran partners have joined one of the world's largest programs on genetics and health. To learn more or join, visit myp.va.gov.

LGBTQ+: Every facility has at least one LGBTQ+ and Related Identities Office Program Office of Patient Care Services. For more information on related policies, download a fact sheet on LGBTQ+ women Veterans health, or find an LGBTQ+ Program at a facility near you, visit www.patientcare.va.gov/LGBT/ or call 1-800-827-1000.

National Cemetery Administration: To learn more about eligibility, schedule a burial, or find a cemetery near you visit www.cem.va.gov.

Arlington Cemetery is not operated by the VA but through the Department of Defense with different eligibility rules. For more information visit www.arlingtoncemetery.mil



#BringWomenVeteransHome2VA