We are still experiencing very challenging times and remaining flexible, but can assure you that the Commission is still supportive and advocating for Veterans and service members across the state. We also continue efforts to have a great relationship with our military and community partners.

Please pass on congratulations to Valerie Harwood who was recently appointed as the Vice Chairwoman for the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs. Also take a moment to notice that some of our commissioners have changed. Utilize them for any concerns that need to come our way.

With the recent signing of HB 214, (Exemption of school and property tax), there is some confusion as to the process when filing as a 100% disabled veteran. Each county is working on getting more information out to the Veterans so that the process is streamlined as much as possible. The application is provided on our website at https://finance.delaware.gov/disabled-veterans/

Lastly, the DCVA cannot accomplish what we need to do without the staff of the Office of Veterans Services. I also want to acknowledge the hard work of our Bear and Millsboro cemetery staff. Thank you!

Sincerely wishing everyone a Prosperous New Year!

Anna

MADAM CHAIR'S CORNER

Hello fellow veterans, families, and community partners. Happy New Year! I am Anna Lopez, Retired US Army Sergeant Major, and your newest Madam Chair for the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs. The Commission is hoping that everyone is doing well following the Holidays. My primary hope is that the coming new year brings a more positive outcome for any military family that may be affected by a crisis.

We are still experiencing very challenging times and remaining flexible, but can assure you that the Commission is still supportive and advocating for Veterans and service members across the state. We also continue efforts to have a great relationship with our military and community partners.

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Sincerely wishing everyone a Prosperous New Year!

Anna
While Covid-19 continues to rear its head and slow progress throughout the nation, it has not stopped Delaware from stepping up in dire times. Wreaths Across America informed OVS of a massive wreath donation shortage due to Covid-19. With the window closing and time not on our side we decided to make one last big push. And it paid off!

With a little over a week before the donation window closed our very own Communications Officer, Jennifer Jensen took to the airwaves and news outlets to spread the word fast and far for donations to this wonderful cause. Donations almost doubled for the Bear Veterans Memorial Cemetery as the final day closed!

The outpour of support for both Veterans Memorial Cemeteries this year was nothing short of breathtaking. Cemetery staff worked hand-in-hand with veterans’ groups, JROTC’s, Dover AFB AFSA, High Schools, Girl Scouts, and Boy Scouts to ensure a safe and respectful environment for those that wished to brave the cold and pay homage to the heroes that came before us.

A fleeting thought of low participation was in the back of many minds leading up to the event. The fear was quickly put to rest as the numbers continued to grow in both cemeteries the morning of December 18, 2021. Numbers grew to an estimated 3,000 in Bear and 1,200 in Millsboro. It was both magical and humbling. Individuals from all walks of life, all ages coming together for a single cause. To remember our fallen veterans, to honor those who serve, and to teach our next generation to be the greatest generation by understanding the value of freedom.

Governor Carney Highlights Veteran Small Businesses

On November 2, 2021 Governor Carney paid a visit to four veteran-owned small businesses in Milford. During the visits Governor Carney spoke with the veteran business owners and discussed how their military background has helped their business and how Delaware can assist with current struggles. Most of the veterans informed the Governor that discipline, leadership, teamwork, and accountability from the military helped steer their entrepreneurial drive. The business owners also emphasized how important it is for Delaware residents to shop small businesses. A Proclamation was presented to show Delaware’s support of National Veterans Small Business Week, which occurs November 1-5th. If you are interested in seeing more veteran owned small businesses near you, scan the QR code.

Photo: (Left) Director Josh Matticks, Mr. Ray Firmani, Gen. (Ret.) Frank Vavala

Photo: (L) Lifecycle Owner Ben Jones, (R) OVS Director Josh Matticks
TAX EXEMPTION
APPLICATIONS DUE BY
APRIL 30, 2022

Yes, you must apply! If you are a 100% disabled veteran, scan this for more info

House Bill 214.
On August 10th, 2021, Governor Carney signed into law House Bill 214 with House Amendment 1 allowing school districts to grant a Disabled Veterans School Property Tax Credit. Beginning in 2022, qualified persons may be eligible for a tax credit against 100% of non-vocational school district property tax. This credit may only be used against property taxes assessed on a primary residence. Applications for the upcoming tax year are due April 30th.

Program Details
Qualified Persons must:
• Receive 100% disability compensation due to service-connected, permanent and total disability based on individual unemployability or a 100% disability rating from the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs (USVDA) and
• Have held legal domicile in Delaware for the past 3 years.

Individuals may not claim both the Disabled Veterans School Tax Credit and the Senior School Property Tax Credit.

Please Note
• Application Deadline: April 30th.
  ○ Taxpayers must pay their property tax bill in full by the end of each tax year in order to qualify for this credit in a subsequent property tax year.
• To qualify, applicants must provide:
  ○ A valid driver’s license or official state ID
  ○ Documentation of USDVA disability
  ○ A Copy of their Social Security card

All applications must be PHYSICALLY turned into the proper county office where you reside.

Photo: Delaware veteran organizations gathered at American Legion, Post 14, in Smyrna, to witness Governor Carney sign HB 214 into law.
Hidden Heroes Not hiding in DE

What is a Hidden Hero? Hidden heroes are ordinary people who are placed in extraordinary circumstances. They can be family members, friends, neighbors, or anyone who steps up when a veteran is in need of care. The majority of veterans, whether inured in combat or succumb to long term health conditions, will need a HH to assist them at some point in their lives. These caring, compassionate, strong, and amazing individuals deserve better care and recognition for sacrificing themselves to care for our veterans.

“When my husband Bob Dole was admitted to Walter Reed Army Medical Center for an extended period of time in 2011, my eyes were opened to the tremendous challenges facing the loved ones caring for our wounded, ill and injured warriors. Following Bob’s hospitalization, I established the Elizabeth Dole Foundation to help raise awareness and seek solutions for our military caregivers.

Areas of assistance in HH Program

- Community Support
- Education
- Financial/Legal Support
- Respite Care & Recreation
- Legislative change

Photo: Founder Senator Elizabeth Dole

Learn More
VALOR Homes: Operation Raise the Roof honors Vietnam era Veteran

The Office of Veteran Services placed an initiative to reach out to veteran 501 ©(3)s and national organizations to bring a broader variety of resources to the veterans of the first state. In doing so, VALOR Homes was discovered as they were expanding services into Delaware. VALOR Homes provides home maintenance services and, if nominated, and selected, new roofs.

A nomination was submitted for a Vietnam Era veteran who served his 20 active duty years in the White House during three presidencies. Mr. Ed Holloway is a humble, kind, and generous veteran who is always giving back to those less fortunate than himself. He is proud of his service, family and faith.

He was selected to receive a new roof, a financial burden he was dreading. “I am just so thankful and feel so blessed that something like this could ever happen to me,” says Holloway. The VALOR team did not disappoint during the presentation. The event day hosted Mission BBQ, legislators, media, the local fire department, and 50+ supporters. Sponsor, DeWalt, also donated home improvement tools to assist Mr. Holloway in home upkeep.

If you know of a veteran in need of home maintenance or would like to nominate someone for a new roof please reach out to VALOR Homes @ valorhome.com

A Dog Day Evening

Kent County Chapter 850, Vietnam Veterans of America, hosted their annual Christmas party at Federica Senior Center on December 16. In addition to the meal, a new service dog was presented along with a reunion of previously awarded dogs and their owners.

The latest service dog, Duke, was presented to former U.S. Marine James Fizer, who served two tours in Afghanistan.

The chapter works with Riedel K-9 to train and place dogs for current generation veterans. “To date we've placed four and it's a wonderful feeling to see the face of a disabled veteran taking a dog home to keep,” said Mr. Startt.

It costs anywhere from $8,000 to $10,000 over a year to train a dog and to match it with the man or women it will partner with. Contact Joe Startt at 302-242-8708 or joanstartt@comcast.net, to donate to the program or to provide a dog.
The Friends of Delaware Veterans hosted their 7th Trust Fund Dinner to benefit Delaware veterans in need. This could not have happened at a better time. The amount of emergency requests for funding has been steadily increasing in the wake of a pandemic, housing crisis and military members leaving service. Veterans are requesting assistance with every situation imaginable, ranging from basic food items to temporary housing.

The who’s who of Delaware were present, along with International recording artist Terry Barber who serenated the audience with his Broadway bests. Ms. Rosely Robinson executed an inspirational keynote speech and the Modern Maturity Center provided a delicious dinner and beautiful space to host the 200+ guests.

Donations from ticket sales and live auction items totaled $30,000 for the evening which will certainly provide some needed assistance to our veterans in dire financial situations.

If you would like to donate to the Friends of Delaware Veterans Trust Fund please scan the QR code.

Donate Here
DAV needs volunteer drivers

Volunteer drivers are needed for the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) transportation Network. Volunteer drivers help veterans to and from authorized medical appointments in Kent and Sussex County areas. Most driving will occur along Route 1, US 13 and US 113 from the VA clinics and designated pick-up points. Driving services will be Monday through Thursday, from 6 AM to 2 PM. Your service will enable veterans to obtain medical treatment they may be prohibited from due to lack of transportation. DAV will provide a vehicle for volunteer drivers.

Please call 302-697-9061 or e-mail: p.lardizzone@verizon.net for application information.

Marine Corps Major (ret) Bill Farley accepted a bin of toys from DAV (Disabled American Veterans) headquarters in Camden. Mr. Farley is a member of the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs who has been involved in multiple local and statewide veteran service programs, including housing homeless veterans, and efforts to prevent veteran suicide. "We are blessed to donate to Toys for Tots, especially the holiday season, said William Muffley, DAV Chapter 1 Post Commander who participated in the program.

“Toys for Tots” began in 1947 as the brainchild of Marine Corps Reserve Major Bill Hendricks, whose civilian job was Director of Public Relations at Warner Brothers Studios. He was friends with many celebrities who helped support the newly created program. As a personal friend and as a favor, Walt Disney designed the first Toys for Tots poster that included a miniature three-car train that was adopted as the Toys for Tots logo.

The Marine Toys for Tots Program distributes an average of 18 million toys to 7 million less fortunate children annually.

In Delaware, DNREC Natural Resources Police units from Delaware State Parks, the Division of Fish & Wildlife, and the Environmental Crimes Unit within DNREC’s Division of Community Affairs teamed up with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program to provide toys for children in local communities for the holidays. The program concluded on December 12.
Gold Star Mothers and Families were honored to see a COVID-19 delayed project through to fruition. The Staff Sergeant Luke C. Yetter Memorial Bridge was dedicated in Leipsic, Delaware. We were honored to have Luke’s mother, father, step-brother and friends in attendance for this memorable occasion along with Sen. Bruce Ennis, Rep. William Carson, DelDot Director of Community Relations, C.R. McLeod, Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 83 President and Vice President. Due to safety, we were on a bridge, invitations were limited to secure everyone’s safety. VVA Chapter 83 would like to extend a sincere thank you to Senator Bruce Ennis, his Legislative Assistant Jaci Hugg, DelDot and DSP for their support in this moving bridge dedication.

A ceremony took place supporting the Military of the World Wars (MOWW) at Mount America where the MOWW Silver Patrick Henry Award, was presented to George and Michelle Turak for their countless service and dedication to our Veterans, Active Duty and National Guard/Reserve Service Members. The following Silver Patrick Henry Recipients were in attendance, MG Frank Vavala (Ret), BG Terry Wiley (Ret), Col. Earl Seppala (Ret), LTC Carl Witte (Ret) and Judy C. Campbell.

December 18, Gold Star Representative and Hershel ”Woody” Williams Honorary Ambassador, Judy C. Campbell carried the POW/MIA wreath at the Wreaths Across America service at the Wilmington Senior Center. Tribute was paid to POW/MIA Lt. Col. Kenneth Stonebraker who went missing in action from a recon mission over North Vietnam at the age of 29 on October 28, 1968. Lt. Col. Stonebraker’s daughter, Cindy is the assistant director of Programs at the Hershel “Woody” Williams Foundation and she dedicates her life to serve others and “keep her Daddy’s memory alive”.

Photo: Rep. Wm. Carson, Sen. Bruce Ennis (L), Matthew Anders, Rebecca Yetter and Fred Yetter

L-R Capt. Edward Gantt (Ret.), Michelle Turak and George Turak

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Photo: Rep. Wm. Carson, Sen. Bruce Ennis (L), Matthew Anders, Rebecca Yetter and Fred Yetter
Food Bank Distro

On December 14th, several veteran organizations joined efforts to provide the first state veterans and their families with needed food and resources. The event was hosted in the Office of Veteran Services parking lot where the Food Bank of Delaware, Wilmington VA Vet Center, and DCVA were present. This drive thru event had cars wrapped around the building assisting veterans with anything from disability claim information, food distribution, or resource guidance.

TBI Fund

Do you have a TBI and need services, treatment, or equipment related to your post traumatic brain injury that are not covered by your health insurance?

- Driver Evaluation Assessment/Training
- Medical Equipment
- Services, Treatment or Therapy (short-term)
- Specialized Equipment
- Case Management (short-term)
- Brain Training Neurotherapy (short-term)
- Assistive Technology
- Alternative Therapy (short-term)
- Medically Approved Summer Camps
- Eye-exam and glasses related to TBI

Contact:
302-739-3621
410 Federal St
Suite 3
Dover, DE 19901
The Office of Veteran Services would like to thank all organizations and volunteers that showed up in force for the 2021 Wreaths Across America Day.

Concerns arose in November when the Bear cemetery tallied 2,500 wreaths for its 17,000 deceased veterans. However, after some media outreach the community rallied together and donated another 2,500 wreaths, ensuring their support for our beloved veterans.

Along with the increase in donations, roughly 3,000 individuals/groups were present in Bear and 1,200 in Millsboro. The Millsboro Veterans Cemetery placed 3,500 for its 6,500 veterans. As always the ultimate goal for any veteran cemetery is to provide enough wreaths to honor every veteran.

Wreath Pick-up in Bear will take place January 15, 2022 at 9 a.m. This year the pick up day will host another special event involving the First State Military Women Warriors and the Chesapeake Bay Girl Scouts, who will work together not only to assist with wreaths, but to learn about the importance of the military and how women are paving the way for the future.

Wreath Pick-up in Millsboro will be January 18, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. Volunteers are always welcome and appreciated at both of our veteran cemeteries.
Wreath Kick-off

On Monday, December 13, the Delaware General Assembly hosted its annual Wreaths Across America ceremony outside Legislative Hall in Dover. “The General Assembly is pleased to be working together with the Delaware National Guard, Dover Air Force Base and our veteran community on this kickoff to Wreaths Across America,” said Mark Cutrona, director of the Legislative Council’s Division of Research and event coordinator.

The event was well attended by members of the General Assembly, the Commission of Veterans Affairs and Veterans Services, Dover AFB Color Guard, leadership of Dover AFB and the National Guard, veterans organizations and local school children from Holy Cross Elementary School, Dover. The children assisted in placing of wreaths on memorials at Legislative Hall.

Upcoming Events

**Office of Veteran Services**

- **January 15th @ 9 am** - Bear Cemetery Wreath Pick-up
- **January 18th @ 10:30 am** - Millsboro Wreath Pick-up
- **April 29th** - Joint Forces Golf Tournament
- **May 30th** - Memorial Day Ceremony
- **July 2nd** - Freedom 5k

**Veterans United Outreach of DE**

- **Feb. 12th** - Walk to Stop Soldiers Suicide
- **April 30th** - Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association, Poker Run Mispillion Brewery
- **May 7th** - Dover Days, Dover Delaware
- **May 28th-29th** - Buccaneer Bash, Bowers Beach

To submit future information and articles to the veterans newsletter please email all submissions to jennifer.jensen@delaware.gov
Kent County JROTC College Scholarship Fundraiser
Dover’s Roma Italian Ristorante [http://www.romadoover.com](http://www.romadoover.com)
Thursday, February 17th, 2022, from 4pm-9pm

The Dover Delaware Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) will hold its annual JROTC fundraiser at the Dover’s Roma Italian Ristorante on Thursday, February 17th, 2022, at 5pm-9pm.

The multiple $1,500 scholarships and single $2,500 scholarship will be awarded to outstanding 2022 JROTC graduates, from Kent County High Schools.

These scholarship awards are based on the student’s academic performance, community service involvement, and JROTC training accomplishments.

The Kent County high schools are:
- Caesar Rodney USAF JROTC
- Dover USAF JROTC
- First State Military Academy USMC JROTC
- Smyrna USAF JROTC.

The JROTC Senior Instructors have the scholarship applications.

Please mention Dover MOAA to your Roma’s server.

Website: [https://dovermoaa.org/](https://dovermoaa.org/)
VETERANS! WE ARE HIRING!

If you love being around other veterans and honoring our fallen brothers and sisters. Send us your resume!!

We are searching for...

- Cemetery Grounds Crew (Millsboro & Bear)
- Cemetery General Mechanic (Bear)
Ending Veteran Homelessness, Increasing Access to Affordable Housing

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted a need for Veteran housing in America. According to the Department of Housing and Urban Development’s 2020 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR), the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and Housing and Urban Development (HUD) are committed in its partnership in a mission of ending Veteran homelessness by:

+ Make ending Veteran homelessness a top priority
+ Lead with an evidence-based housing first approach
+ Reach underserved Veterans
+ Ensure the delivery of quality supportive services
+ Increase the supply of and access to affordable housing

Increase the Supply of and Access to Affordable Housing

There is a low inventory of available housing for at-risk Veterans in our area, and landlords are not accepting HUD-VASH (VA Supportive Housing) Program vouchers at previous rates. This is leading to a housing and health crisis for vulnerable Veterans.

“Housing is an essential part of health care. Reliable housing leads to an increase in access to health care services,” said Vince Kane, Director, Wilmington VA Medical Center. “When Veterans have stable housing, we can more easily connect with them and ensure they are receiving the health care services they need. Our goal is to work with private landlords to educate and encourage them to accept HUD-VASH vouchers to house our nation’s Veterans. Together, we can end Veteran homelessness.”

As part of this education effort, Wilmington VA Medical Center will be holding a virtual landlord resource fair in the coming months.

If you would like more information on the HUD-VASH Program, visit the websites below or contact:

+ Celia Gonzalez, VA Homeless Programs Supervisor
  Phone: 302-824-9322
+ Karen Zogheib, VA Housing Development Specialist
  Phone: 302-944-2511, ext. 4470

Resources/VA Websites:

HUD-VASH
VA Programs for Homeless Veterans
HUD-VASH Program Eligibility
HUD-VASH Program Office

National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at:
1-877-4AID-VET

Wilmington VA Medical Center provides health care services to approximately 33,000 Veterans through its main medical center and five Community Based Outpatient Clinics in Delaware and southern New Jersey. For more information, please visit www.wilmington.va.gov.
# Toll Free Numbers for Contacting Federal VA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefits (VA):</th>
<th>1-800-827-1000</th>
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<tr>
<td>Burial</td>
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<tr>
<td>Death Pension</td>
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<td>Dependency Indemnity Compensation</td>
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<td>Direct Deposit</td>
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<td>Directions to VA Benefits Regional Offices</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disability Compensation</td>
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<td>Disability Pension</td>
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<td>Education</td>
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<td>Home Loan Guaranty</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical Care</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment</td>
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<tr>
<th>CHAMPVA Meds by Mail</th>
<th>1-888-385-0235 (or) 1-866-229-7389</th>
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<tr>
<td>Combat Call Center</td>
<td>1-877-WAR-VETS (1-877-927-8387)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debt Management Center (Collection of Non-Medical Debts)</td>
<td>1-800-827-0648</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children of Women Vietnam Veterans (CWVV)</td>
<td>1-877-345-8179 (or)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Medical Program (FMP)</td>
<td>1-888-820-1756</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spina Bifida Health Care Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Dept. of VA (CHAMPVA)</td>
<td>1-800-733-8387</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHAMPVA In-House Treatment Initiative (CITI)</td>
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<tr>
<td>eBenefits Technical Support</td>
<td>1-800-983-0937</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education (GI Bill)</td>
<td>1-888-442-4551</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health Care Benefits</td>
<td>1-877-222-8387</td>
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<tr>
<td>Life Insurance:</td>
<td>1-800-419-1473</td>
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<tr>
<td>Service members and/or Veterans Group Life Insurance Program</td>
<td>1-800-669-8477</td>
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<tr>
<td>All other VA Life Insurance Programs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mammography Helpline</td>
<td>1-888-492-7844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smoking Cessation Counselors</td>
<td>1-855-QUIT-VET (1-855-784-8838)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Issues - Gulf War/Agent Orange/Project Shad/Mustard Agents and Lewisite/Ionizing Radiation</td>
<td>1-800-749-8387</td>
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<tr>
<td>Status of Headstones and Markers</td>
<td>1-800-697-6947</td>
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<tr>
<td>Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD)</td>
<td>Dial 711</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Veterans Crisis Line</strong></td>
<td><strong>1-800-273-TALK (1-800-273-8255)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Vets.gov Help Desk</td>
<td>1-855-574-7286</td>
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<tr>
<td>White House VA Hotline</td>
<td>1-855-948-2311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women Veterans Hotline</td>
<td>1-855-VA-WOMEN (1-855-829-6636)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## Wilmington - Regional Benefit Office

**Claims & Benefits**

1601 Kirkwood Highway  
Wilmington, DE 19805  
(800) 827-1000

## Wilmington - VA Medical Center

1601 Kirkwood Hwy  
Wilmington, DE 19805  
(800) 461-8262  
or (302) 994-2511

http://www.wilmington.va.gov/

## Community Based Outpatient Clinic

### Dover VA –CBOC

655 South Bay Road *(new location)*  
Dover, DE 19901  
(800) 461-8262 x 2400

### Georgetown VA –CBOC

21748 Roth Ave  
Georgetown, DE 19947  
(800) 461-8262 x 2300

**Patient Advocate:** (302) 633-5556  
*For all medical facilities*

## Contact Information

### Mark Taylor

Community Outreach Specialist  
Office of Director  
Office: (302) 994-2511 ext. 4598  
Work cell: (302) 932-7519  
Fax: (302) 633-5591  
Email: mark.taylor10@va.gov

### Valerie Harwood

Community Outreach Specialist  
Kent & Sussex Counties  
Office: (800) 462-8262  
Work cell: (302) 357-8715  
Fax: (302) 633-5591  
Email: Valerie.camarillo@va.gov

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![eClaims Logo](image1)  
**eClaims**  
ONLINE VA CLAIMS MADE SIMPLE.  

![eBenefits Logo](image2)  
**eBenefits**  
www.ebenefits.va.gov
ATTENTION!
Veterans & Family

Due to unforeseen COVID-19 circumstances, please contact your Veteran Service Officer to confirm appointments.

DO NOT ATTEND APPOINTMENT IF COVID SYMPTOMS ARE PRESENT.

We always place the health & safety of our veterans and VSOs first, so please help us help you.

Thank you and continue to stay safe!
Women Veterans!

Ladies, do you miss the comradery of active duty? Are you a Active Duty, Reservist or Guard looking for a group to connect with?

Benefits of Joining:
- Networking
- Volunteer Events
- Making a difference for female veterans in Delaware

If interested please contact:
Pat Cerchio
401-338-3798
Delaware Joining Forces (DJF) is a network of state agencies, nonprofits and external service providers who proactively work together to provide solutions for military members, veterans and families. The DJF network is called upon to provide solutions that improve the quality of life and welfare of the statewide military community.

HOW DO YOU HELP VETERANS? Complete a service provider profile at the DJF website to describe your organization, how you currently help our service members, veterans and families (SMVF). Provide contact information and explain how SMVF may access your services. Click REGISTER from the home page to obtain a login and password. Select Start an Application.

This community-level effort directly supports military service members, veterans and their families by addressing critical issues and needs including:

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<tr>
<th>BEHAVIORAL HEALTH</th>
<th>FINANCIAL</th>
<th>LEGAL</th>
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<tr>
<td>EDUCATION</td>
<td>HOMELESSNESS</td>
<td>MILITARY YOUTH</td>
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<tr>
<td>EMPLOYMENT</td>
<td>HOUSING</td>
<td>WELLNESS &amp; FAITH</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

COMMUNITY NETWORK * MONTHLY MEETINGS

3rd Thursday of every Month

All DJF Community Network meetings are 8:30am-10:00am

Due to COVID restrictions, all 2021 Meetings will be virtual via ZOOM. To receive the meeting link, email Christine Kubik.

JAN 21  APR 15  JUL 15  OCT 21
FEB 18  MAY 20  AUG 19  NOV 18
MAR 18  JUN 17  SEP 16  DEC 16

No single organization can meet all the needs of our Service Members, Veterans and their Families (SMVF), but a community of partners can provide an array of essential services. DJF is a collaborative effort led by state agencies ~ the Delaware National Guard and the DE Office of Veteran Services (OVS).

Delaware National Guard
Christine F. Kubik
Director, Joint Support & Outreach Svcs, DE NG
302-326-7582 OFFICE
christine.f.kubik.ng@mail.mil

DE Office of Veteran Services
Joshua Matticks
Executive Director, DE OVS
302-739-2293 OFFICE
joshua.matticks@delaware.gov

Find us on Facebook

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROVIDERS REGISTER
www.delaware.gov/djf
24/7 Housing Help for Veterans
877-424-3838

If you are a veteran who is homeless and need somewhere to sleep tonight...

Referral to Shelter

**Housing Alliance Delaware:**
(302) 654-0126 X122

**The Department of Veterans Affairs**
(302) 994-2511 X 2445

If you are a veteran who is homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless and you need help...

SSVF - Supportive Services for Veteran Families Programs

VMC - Veterans Multi-Service Center:
Statewide: (302) 668-7331

**Other Resources**
www.DelawareHousingSearch.org
877-428-8844

**Delaware 211**
www.delaware211.org

**Delaware Joining Forces**
http://Delaware.gov/djf/

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**Food Bank of Delaware**

Are you in need of emergency food assistance? The Food Bank of Delaware directly distribute to the public!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 222 Lake Blvd.
Newark, DE 19713 | Mon-Fri: 7:30am—3:30pm |
| 1040 Mattlind Way
Milford, DE 19963 | Mon-Friday: 8am—4pm |
| 3rd Thursday: 7:30am—7pm | 2nd Tuesday: 8am—7pm |
| 2nd Saturday: 9am-noon | 2nd Saturday: 9am-noon |
| Entrance in back of bldg., near loading ramp. | Enter through the front door with green awning. |

Stand By Me can help you reach financial well-being at every stage of your life.

Personal financial coaching is available free of charge to Delawareans from all walks of life.

For more information, please contact us at: 302-255-9621 or info@standbymede.org

Statewide Emergency Repair Program (SERP)
Housing Development Corporation
302-491-4010
Toll Free: 844-413-0038

VA’s Adapted Housing Grants for Disabled Veterans
1-800-827-1000
www.eBenefits.va.gov

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**Veteran’s Resilience Center**

“The Battle at Home”

The Brian Conley – Veterans Resiliency Center
Warriors Helping Warriors
104 S. Broad Street
Middletown, DE 19709
(302) 696-2320/ 2318 (fax)
https://www.whwonling.org

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Please visit our DE Joining Forces website to research more resources available to veterans:
http://Delaware.gov/djf/
Veteran Employment Services
Wilmington / Allen Jones: (302) 761-8141
Newark / Freddy Rodriguez: (302) 451-3456
Dover / Danny Mosby: (302) 857-5881
Georgetown/ Gail Gartner: (302) 858-5232
Division of Vocational Rehab.: (302) 761-8275

VA Disability & Social Security programs
For more information please visit:
https://www.ssa.gov/people/veterans/

Call or visit your local Social Security Office:
1-800-772-1213

Defense Finance and Accounting Services
Retired Military & Annuitants
1-800-321-1080
Retirement Pay Questions

Retired Activities Office:
Bldg. 520, Room 105, Dover AFB, DE 19902
MSgt (R) Bill Oldham: (302) 677-4610
William.Oldham.2@us.af.mil

Retired Navy Activities Affairs Office:
Naval & Marine Corps Reserve Ctr. - (866) 827-5672

Brain Injury Trust Fund
State Council for Persons with Disabilities (SCPD) currently has funding available for the Traumatic Brain Injury Fund & encourages people who may benefit to apply.
Applying for the Traumatic Brain Injury Fund
**Applications are available here: https://scpd.delaware.gov/brain-injury-funds.shtml
For additional info., please contact Director John McNeal. at (302)-739-3620 or John.McNeal@state.de.us

Delaware State University
Natasha Scott-Knight: (302) 857-6378
nscottknight@desu.edu

Delaware Technical Community College
Dover
(302) 857-1056
Georgetown
(302) 259-6073
Stanton:
(302) 454-3926
Wilmington:
(302) 571-5307

Southern Illinois University
Dover AFB: Karen M. Nagyiski
(302) 734-7829
nagyiski@siu.edu
DoverAFB@siu.edu

University of Delaware
Brooks Raup
302-831-0552
braup@udel.edu

Wesley College
Erin Elsberry
(302) 736-2434/ Erin.elsberry@wesley.edu

Widener University School of Law
Pattie Donoghue
(302) 477-2710/ pdonoghue@widener.edu

Wilmington University
Jim Webb / Jennifer Bacci
(302) 342-8669 / (302) 356-6962
james.s.webb@wilmu.edu
jennifer.l.bacci@wilmu.edu

Veterans Crisis Line
1-800-273-8255 PRESS 1

Please visit our DE Joining Forces website to research more resources available to veterans:
http://Delaware.gov/djf/
Community Legal Aid Society, Inc.
302-575-0660 (New Castle Co.)
302-674-8500 (Kent Co.)
302-856-0038 (Sussex Co.)
http://www.declasi.org/

Provides free legal services to: People with disabilities, older citizens (60+), housing discrimination (HUD), low-income, & victims of domestic violence.

Legal Services Corporation of Delaware, Inc.
302-478-8850 or 302-734-8820
Offering Legal Advice & Assistance to low-income Delawareans.

Widener University Delaware Law School
Veterans Law Clinic
302-477-2090
Delaware.widener.edu
Pro Bono Representation for veterans benefits appeals.

Veterans Justice Outreach Program
Program is to avoid unnecessary criminalization of mental illness and extended incarceration.
For more information please call: 302-468-5670

Veterans Treatment Court Program
Assist justice-involved veterans with mental health & substance abuse issues to obtain necessary services & reduce recidivism.
302-255-0800 (New Castle Co.)
302-735-1900 (Kent Co.)
302-855-7055 (Sussex Co.)
*Please ask for the Veterans Treatment Court

Veterans United Outreach of Delaware
Mike Snyder: 302-678-1285 or 302-382-9394
Gary Kalms: gmkskier@gmail.com
http://www.veteransunitedoutreach.com/

We are a mobile educational unit, with a variety of information for all veterans and their family. We go out to the veteran community.

People’s Place: Veterans Outreach
Mike Rowe: (302) 236-5301
http://www.peoplesplace2.com/

Services range from career counselling; guidance to access state and federal VA benefits, such as medical care and treatment; psychotherapy referrals; mental health counseling; and door-to-door transportation to medical facilities in the region.

Delaware Veterans Awareness Center
12385 Sussex Hwy
Greenwood, DE 19950
Liz & Bill Jiron: (302) 349-4898
Veteransawarenesscenter.org
Veterans’ Stand Down
Military Women’s Tea
“Give a Vet a Smile” (Dental Program)

Please visit our DE Joining Forces website to research more resources available to veterans:
http://Delaware.gov/djf/
## Veteran Organizations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Phone Numbers</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Air Force Sergeants Association</td>
<td>(302) 677-4473</td>
<td>Jeremy Coney, TSgt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.</td>
<td>(202) 265-0991 (302) 656-7162</td>
<td>DC Headquarters Donna Lowell (DE Representative) <a href="mailto:ptangel3@comcast.net">ptangel3@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Legion</td>
<td>(302) 628-5221</td>
<td>Richard “Ric” Santos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMVETS</td>
<td>(302) 945-2170</td>
<td>Eugene Bradley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware Veterans (DELVETS)</td>
<td>(302) 475-9891 (302) 674-9956</td>
<td>Post 1 Post 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware Veterans Coalition</td>
<td>(302) 270-7145</td>
<td>Dave Skocik <a href="mailto:delawareveteranscoalition@gmail.com">delawareveteranscoalition@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disabled American Veterans</td>
<td>(302) 697-9061</td>
<td>Paul Lardizzone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First State Military Women Warriors</td>
<td>(302) 387-1309</td>
<td>Pat Cerhio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fleet Reserve Association</td>
<td>(302) 322-0681</td>
<td>Philip Pushel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 &amp; 8</td>
<td>(302) 678-8077</td>
<td>Eugene “Chip” Rosan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold Star Families</td>
<td>(302) 593-5991</td>
<td>Judy Campbell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Hero’s Welcome Delaware</td>
<td>(302) 530-4984</td>
<td>Rosely Robinson <a href="mailto:ahwdelaware@gmail.com">ahwdelaware@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korean War Veterans Association</td>
<td>(302) 933-0228</td>
<td>Edward Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Corps League</td>
<td>(302) 242-7926</td>
<td>William C. Farley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military Officers Association of America</td>
<td>(302) 335-1655 (302) 262-4617</td>
<td>Gene Thornton (Kent Co.) Larry Hess (Sussex Co.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Castle Co. veterans/resident can contact the 2 representatives for questions/concerns. Thank you!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military Order of the Purple Heart</td>
<td>(302) 422-6760</td>
<td>Gary “Mo” Morris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military Order of the World Wars</td>
<td>(302) 239-0641</td>
<td>Earl Seppala <a href="mailto:eseppala@aol.com">eseppala@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nat’l Association of Black Veterans DE Chapter 94</td>
<td>(302) 345-6911</td>
<td>Nolan S. Lewis <a href="mailto:nabvetsde.chpt94@gmail.com">nabvetsde.chpt94@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:nlewiss2939@yahoo.com">nlewiss2939@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paralyzed Veterans of America</td>
<td>(302) 284-4719</td>
<td>Elmer (Art) Titus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Reserve Officers Association</td>
<td>(302) 234-1418</td>
<td>LTC Richard Chappell (Ret) <a href="mailto:rwc49ps54ud@comcast.net">rwc49ps54ud@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans of Foreign Wars</td>
<td>(302) 526-0993</td>
<td>Mark Newman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam Veterans of America</td>
<td>(302) 697-8384</td>
<td>Paul Davis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Volunteer Transportation Network

This program is providing courtesy transportation to our Delaware veterans. Please remember this is NOT AN ENTITLEMENT. Reservations must be made 2 weeks prior to your appointment. Trips depend on availability of volunteer drivers. Veterans need to travel to designated stops. All vans leave the VAMC between noon and 1pm for return trips. Please schedule your appointments accordingly.

1. Hospital Service Coordinator  
   Wilmington VAMC  
   Thea Kersey  
   302–633-5414  
   800-461-8262 X 5414  
   Mon-Thumb 8am—noon

2. DAV Seaford, DE  
   Dispatcher: Henry Tiftt  
   302-629-3759  
   302-858-7588 cell  
   Call Mon-Weds. 7am-9pm

3. People’s Place Veterans Outreach Service  
   Milford, DE  
   Director: Mike Rowe  
   302-422-8033 X 173  
   Thursday—van arrives at VAMC at 8:30am

4. American Legion Post 28  
   Oak Orchard, DE  
   Dispatcher: 302-945-1673  
   Monday-Thursday  
   Van Arrives at VAMC at 8:30am

5. DAV—Dover, DE  
   Dispatcher: 302-697-9061  
   Fax: 302-697-9041  
   Monday—Thursday  
   Van arrives at VAMC at 8:30am

6. VFW Post 7234—Oceanview, DE  
   Dispatcher: 302-539-9981  
   Monday—Thursday  
   Van arrives at VAMC at 8:30am

7. DAV Chapter 44—Cape May, NJ  
   Coordinator: Fred Trasatti Jr.  
   215-778-5599 (cell)  
   609-886-8383 (Chapter  
   Monday-Wednesday VAMC  
   Thursday—Philly VAMC

8. VTS Salisbury, MD  
   DAV—Ed Elder (410) 845-0933  
   Coordinator: Jim Boston  
   (443) 366-6316  
   Departs VFW Post 194 (Tues. & Thurs)

Coatsville HSC: Al Gerhart - (610) 384-7711 X 3368

Pick-Up Points:

- Camden: DAV, 183 South Street
- Dover: McDonald’s - Route 10
- Dover: Luther Towers, Kings Hwy
- Magnolia: Fire Department
- Dover: IHOP/Safeway Shopping Ctr.
- Smyrna: Rest Area
This community-level effort directly supports military service members, veterans and their families by addressing critical issues and needs including: Financial and legal assistance; job training and employment; homelessness and housing; behavioral health and wellness; and education. Veterans can use this website to search for resources listed above. Our website is growing weekly with service providers that are registering their services to our veteran community. To include attending our quarterly meetings. For more information, POC are below.

Joshua Matticks
OVS, Executive Director
302-739-2792
Joshua.matticks@delaware.gov

Christine F. Kubik
DNG/Community Relations
(302) 326-7582
christine.f.kubik.nfg@mail.mil

The Delaware Trust Fund, signed into law in September 2013, is administered by the DCVA. The Friends of DE Veterans, Inc. was established in 2014 to serve as the fund raising arm of the Trust Fund. For more information and how to donate please visit: delawareveteranstrustfund.com

To apply for “emergency” financial assistance through DVTF, please contact any of the following offices:

New Castle Co. - 302-365-8231
Kent Co. - 302-739-2792
Sussex Co. - 302-648-3068

*Please allow 5-7 business days for processing.

Delaware State Veterans Cemeteries

Veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States, their spouses, and dependent children may be interred at the DE Veterans Memorial Cemeteries. Eligibility requirements are prescribed by the National Cemetery Administration. Please contact the cemeteries or DCVA for an application or further questions/concerns.

2465 Chesapeake City Road
Bear, DE 19701
(302) 834-8046
Administrator: Frank Silva

26669 Patriots Way
Millsboro, DE 19966
(302) 934-5653
Administrator: Greg A. Bee
DELAWARE COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Certificate of Appreciation Application

Veterans Name: ________________________________________________________________

  First  Middle  Last

Address: ___________________________________________________________________

  Street  City  State  Zip

Phone: (Home) ___________________ (Work or Cell) ___________________________

Date Entered Service ___________ Date Separated ___________ Branch of Service ______

Date of Birth ___________ Type of Discharge ___________ Highest Rank Achieved ______

(Only required if requesting rank on certificate)

Is Veteran Deceased? Yes or No (please circle one)

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS: A current resident of the State of Delaware or resident when he or she entered the Armed Forces of the United States and honorably discharged.

Please submit this application with a copy of Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, (DD-214) to:

Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs
Robbins Building
802 Silver Lake Blvd, Suite 100
Dover, DE 19904
Phone: (302) 739-2792 or 1-800-344-9900 (in State only)

Signature of Veteran/spouse or next of kin ___________________________ Date ___________

Print Name and Relationship if not veteran _________________________________

Provide alternate address if different from above_____________________________

NOTE: Please anticipate 2 to 3 weeks in receiving your Certificate

TO BE COMPLETED BY DCVA: ______ Approved ______ Pending ______ Disapproved

Name/Title: _______________________________ Date ______________
Veterans who are unable to get COVID vaccination through VA healthcare,

Please visit:

vaccinerequest.delaware.gov

Don’t have computer access?
Call: 1-833-643-1715

For more information,
such as other age groups:
https://coronavirus.delaware.gov/vaccine/

The “DCVA Newsletter” is published for informational purposes only and does not reflect the views of the Commission of Veterans Affairs or the State of Delaware. Paid for with State Funds.

The "DVCA Newsletter" is now available electronically via our website: veis.delaware.gov/veterans-newsletter/
or scan the QR code below. To obtain a hard copy of the newsletter, visit one of our office locations.