

NCHV eNewsletter

July 2013



New DOL Website Aids Women Veterans

Includes employment opportunities, education and health care options

Department of Labor (DOL) officials have launched a new website devoted to issues affecting women veterans. The new website highlights potential challenges that may affect the economic security of women veterans, and contains links with information on employment opportunities, education and health care options, and data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and other government agencies.

For more information, visit the DOL Women Veterans website at ,
www.dol.gov/vets/womenveterans/.

VA Announces the Availability of Funds for Transportation of Veterans in Highly Rural Areas

Applications due Sept. 9, 2013

On July 9, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced the availability of funds under the Grants for Transportation of Veterans in Highly Rural Areas. This program's purpose is to provide grants to eligible recipients to assist veterans in highly rural areas through innovative transportation services to travel to VA medical centers and other VA and non-VA medical facilities. The only entities eligible to apply for and receive grants are Veterans Service Organizations and State Veterans Service Agencies.

Applications are due by Sept. 9. To view the full announcement in the Federal Register, [click here](#).

File Fully Developed Claims for Fastest Decisions on VA Benefits

Homeless veterans' claims receive priority

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has introduced a new benefits claim process called the Fully Developed Claim (FDC) program. The FDC program is an optional new initiative that offers veterans, service members and survivors faster decisions from VA on compensation, pension and survivor benefit claims.

Veterans, service members and survivors simply submit all required records and documentation at the time they make their claim and certify that they have no further evidence. VA can then review and process the claim more quickly.

Homeless veterans receive priority over other subgroups when processing FDC claims.

For more information on the FDC program and process, visit www.benefits.va.gov/FDC/, or read VA's Vantage Point blog post on FDC by [clicking here](#).

New Website Highlights Resources for Kansas Veterans

One-stop shop for veteran-specific resources

The state of Kansas recently unveiled a new website that pulls together information on educational opportunities, jobs and health care for military members. The [KanVet site](#) is a one-stop shop for the state's 7,700 National Guard members and 227,000 military veterans.

This website will be useful to veterans who need to develop job skills, as well as those that have valuable job skills from their service time but are unsure how to translate them for the private sector.

Webinar: Improving Suicide Prevention for Military Veterans and Their Families

July 30, 2013, 2 p.m. ET

This webinar will provide an overview of the risk factors of suicide associated with service members, veterans and their families. Resources and strategies to help those in crisis will be discussed. The webinar will also include a review of a comprehensive suicide prevention plan and offer examples of what states, communities and organizations are doing to reduce suicide among military personnel. A question-and-answer session will follow the presentations.

Featured Presenters:

- Julie Ebin, Ed.M., Senior Prevention Specialist, SAMHSA's Suicide Prevention Resource Center
- Casey Olson, Prevention, Response, and Outreach Strategic Initiatives Program Manager, National Guard Bureau
- Luana J. Ritch, Ph.D., Nevada Policy Academy State Team Leader, Quality Assurance Specialist III, Veterans and Military Families, Nevada Mental Health Services

To register for this webinar, [click here](#). If you have any questions about your registration, please contact Lisa Guerin, Administrative Assistant, at 518-439-7415, ext. 5242.

VA's Veteran Canteen Service Helping Homeless Veterans

Offers free meal, vouchers to homeless veterans on first VA appointment

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is reaching out to homeless veterans through its Veterans Canteen Service (VCS). Free meals are offered at VCS cafeterias to homeless veterans attending their first VA medical appointment. New veterans participating in the HUD-VA Supportive Housing

(HUD-VASH) program who present signed leases will also receive a \$20 coupon to be used in VCS retail stores located at every VA medical center.

"A free meal and a few free items may not seem like much, but it can be a world of difference to a person getting back on their feet and seeking recovery and independence," said VCS Director Marilyn Iverson. "I know all of our staff members are committed and we can literally bring something to the table when it comes to meeting the Secretary's goal of ending veteran homelessness for good."

The VCS also facilitates vendor donations to various homeless programs, including local VA Stand Downs and community organizations. The VCS operates more than 170 retail stores and cafeterias at VA medical centers across the nation, providing competitively priced food and merchandise to VA patients, their families, caregivers, VA employees, volunteers and visitors.

For more information on the VCS, [click here](#).

Funding Opportunities

Bassett Mechanical's corporate giving program is dedicated to supporting local initiatives, especially those that create solutions and meet the basic needs of citizens in and around Kaukauna, Milwaukee and Madison, Wisconsin. Bassett Mechanical's charitable contributions are also dedicated to supporting the interests and causes of their staff, customers and local partners.

Local human service agencies, nonprofit organizations, schools and environmental groups receive priority consideration. For more information, [click here](#).

UMB Financial Corporation aims to support programs, events and activities that champion diversity and create self-sufficiency in ways that build and sustain healthy communities. UMB makes a particular effort to support activities that enhance impoverished communities and assist those living within them.

UMB provides funding for nonprofit organizations' operating expenses, capital campaigns, events, and programs in the cities where the Corporation operates (in Arizona, Colorado, Illinois, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and Oklahoma). For more information, [click here](#).

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For the latest news, resources and grant information, visit our website at www.nchv.org.

National Coalition for Homeless Veterans

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