

Impact on Veterans

Our Veterans Homes are **Medicare and Medicaid certified** facilities and offer specialized **Medicare Rehabilitative Services**.

To be eligible for admission, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Served at any time in the U.S. Armed Forces;
- Served in the National Guard and was activated for 180 days or fulfilled the initial service obligation; and
- Received an honorable discharge; and
- Reside in WA State; or
- Be the spouse of a veteran who is a resident or widow of an eligible veteran; or
- Be a Gold Star Parent.

Supportive Services:

- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Recreational Activities
- Volunteer Programs
- Hospice
- Community Involvement
- Religious Programs
- Transportation

Impact on State

State Veterans Homes are eligible to receive **Per Diem** payments from the Federal VA, reducing the State's Medicaid obligation and saving those dollars for individuals in non-State Veterans Homes.

www.dva.wa.gov
1-800-562-2308

WDVA Director
Lourdes E. Alvarado Ramos
WDVA Deputy Director
Gary Condra

WDVA Fast Facts

State Veterans Homes

WASHINGTON SOLDIERS HOME

The Washington Soldiers Home is located on 181 acres in Orting's beautiful Puyallup Valley and serves residents needing skilled nursing care.



Established in 1891, this was the first of four homes established to serve Washington state veterans.

The Soldiers Home serves 100 residents needing long term nursing care or Medicare Rehabilitative Services following a qualifying hospital stay. Each summer residents and family members enjoy the annual family picnic and a fishing derby at the pond.

For a tour or more information call (360) 893-4515.

WASHINGTON VETERANS HOME



Established in 1910, the Washington Veterans Home is located in Port Orchard on a 31-acre bluff overlooking Puget Sound.

In 2005, a new nursing care building was opened, providing a "Resident Centered Care" concept that focuses resources around the individual resident. All primary services for a resident are available within a forty-bed "neighborhood".

The Veterans Home serves 240 residents needing long term nursing care or Medicare Rehabilitative Services following a qualifying hospital stay.

For a tour or more information call (360) 895-4700.

SPOKANE VETERANS HOME

Opened in 2002, the Spokane Veterans Home serves 100 residents needing skilled nursing care.

The Spokane Veterans Home is located in the heart of Spokane's medical centers and offers skilled Medicare Rehabilitative Services following a qualifying hospital stay.



We also coordinate frequent outings to keep veterans connected with annual activities such as the Spokane Lilac Festival!

For a tour or more information call (509) 344-5770.

WALLA WALLA VETERANS HOME



The Walla Walla Veterans Home is co-located on the campus of the Jonathan M. Wainwright Memorial VA Medical Center.

This 80 bed nursing care facility was designed using a small house model and will provide care in 8 individual homes. All residents will enjoy a private room with a private bathroom and be cared for by a dedicated team of providers.

Each house has an open kitchen, dining and living area much like any traditional home does, providing opportunities for residents to be involved in activities such as meal preparation. In addition, the Homes are equipped with shared services such as laundry and a state of the art bathing room.

For a tour or more information call (509) 394-6806.

Demographics

593,350 Veterans
44,397 Active Duty
18,872 National Guard and Reserve
2,000,000+ Family members

The WDVA Coalition of Veterans Service Officers filed **12,127** claims for compensation and pension benefits in fiscal year 2015-2016.

Impact on Veterans

\$137 million NEW federal dollars received by Washington veterans and their eligible family members from 2015-2016, bringing the total received FY 15-16 to \$2.6 billion. Veterans who receive service-connected disability compensation are also entitled to additional benefits such as medical care and/or prescriptions for their service-related conditions.

Impact on State

More income for veterans and their families means more money flowing into local economies. Veterans receiving VA healthcare are also not as dependent upon state health care resources.

www.dva.wa.gov
1-800-562-2308
benefits@dva.wa.gov

WDVA Director
Lourdes E. Alvarado Ramos
WDVA Deputy Director
Gary Condra

Mary Forbes, Assistant Director
360-725-2210
maryf@dva.wa.gov

Steve Gill, Administrator
360-725-2235
steveg@dva.wa.gov

WDVA Fast Facts

Veterans Services Division

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING FOR HOMELESS VETERANS

Building 9 for Veterans provides stable housing for male and female veterans committed to returning to employment and/or independent living. The clean and sober program offers individual and group counseling, employment services and life skills. Building 9 helps veterans reach personal goals and break the cycle of homelessness. The Building 9 **Service Center** offers claims assistance and connection to veterans benefits for residents, as well as veterans and their families in the surrounding community.

VA CLAIMS AND BENEFITS & BENEFITS ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

WDVA contracts with seven Veterans Service Organizations, two independent contractors, and six County Veteran's Offices to provide claims services statewide. This network is responsible for over 80% of all claims submitted in Washington.

We collaborate with the **Health Care Authority and DSHS Economic Services Administration of Child Support** to identify veterans and spouses on Medicaid and other social services programs. We apply for all benefits for which they may be eligible allowing HCA and DSHS to serve other Washingtonians not eligible for veterans benefits.

VETERANS ESTATE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

WDVA manages the financial affairs of veterans when they have been declared incompetent to manage their own finances by the VA or Social Security Administration.

VETERAN OWNED BUSINESS CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

WDVA certifies Washington State Veteran Owned Businesses so that state agencies have access to a list of certified businesses. In addition, businesses may be eligible for the Linked Deposit Program which reduces interest rates on business loans.

FINANCIAL & HOMELESS EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

The **Veterans Innovations Program** provides emergency assistance to current operations veterans including Washington National Guard/Reserve veterans who are experiencing financial hardship. It funds innovative ideas to assist veterans beyond emergency assistance and pays for training (before VA benefits kick in), and licenses or certifications that result in employment.

Homeless Veterans Reintegration Project – Provides services to homeless veterans in King, Kitsap, Pierce, Snohomish, and Thurston Counties. Resources help create a path for veterans to reintegrate into the workforce and obtain sustainable independent living.

COUNTY PROGRAMS AND SERVICES & INCARCERATED VETERANS

King County: 1) **Homeless Services** – Address the needs of homeless veterans by serving eligible veterans who are homeless or are at risk of homelessness and not currently using available services. 2) **Financial and Housing Support Services** – Determine eligibility for housing, financial assistance, and supportive service needs of eligible veterans. Provide referrals to other crisis intervention services, e.g. alcohol/drug counseling, low-income housing, family counseling and job training. 3) **Call Center** – Provides a toll-free number for information and assistance on state or federal veterans benefits. 1-877-904-VETS (8387) 4) **Military Family Outreach** – Providing National Guard and Reservist families with information, assistance, and advocacy with the goal of achieving stability.

Spokane County Regional Veterans Service Center: Partnership with the County to provide emergency financial assistance as well as connection to state, federal and county veterans benefits, education and employment assistance. 509-477-3690

Several Counties operate **Veterans Courts** connecting veterans to treatment and case management and reducing the likelihood of the veteran re-offending.

WDVA Fast Facts

Behavioral Health Services Division

WDVA's Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and War Trauma Counseling Program

creates community-based avenues to counseling services that are less formal, offering the highest level of confidentiality. There is no cost and no visit limit. Services provided throughout the program include:

- Individual
- Couples
- Family
- Veteran group counseling
- Military Sexual Trauma

Some contractors offer group services to women veterans and spouses of veterans. Veterans may be referred to specialized inpatient or outpatient treatment offered by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers or Vet Centers in WA.

Licensed mental health professional contractors offer a wide range of specialized treatment services, as well as linkage to a variety of other services.

For more information and a list of PTSD providers:

http://www.dva.wa.gov/ptsd_counseling.html



www.dva.wa.gov
1-800-562-2308

WDVA Director
Lourdes E. Alvarado Ramos

WDVA Deputy Director
Gary Condra

Mary Forbes, Assistant Director
360-725-2210
maryf@dva.wa.gov

Dr. Peter Schmidt, Director of
Behavioral Health Services
360-725-2220

VETERANS CONSERVATION CORPS (VCC)

What began as a small program driven by volunteers has grown into a statewide effort connecting veterans to their environment and to each other. **The VCC** fosters job creation and has helped employ hundreds of veterans in environmental sectors.

The VCC focuses on Eco-therapy and successfully blends experiential and behavioral wellness opportunities with community engagement, employment, education, recreation and volunteerism through: **Internships with Natural Resource Partners, Agricultural Training, Internships with Agricultural partners, and the Veterans Farm at Orting.**

VET CORPS

Vet Corps members serve as peer mentors to those in transition at colleges and universities across the state. 50 individuals help veterans and their family members navigate Washington's higher education and training programs as veterans adjust from military to college life. VetCorps is funded by an AmeriCorps Grant.

VETERAN FRIENDLY CAMPUSES

A partnership between Higher Education entities and WDVA helps veterans succeed in school. Behavioral Health provides training on campuses to work with veterans, educators and administrators. After successfully completing the training, a college may provide information on how it serves veterans on campus and request its own Partners Certificate signed by the WDVA director and the college president/chancellor.

Participating schools provide easily accessible, on-site services to veterans, support systems, and connection to other veterans on campus. Veterans, who may be dealing with many issues, get answers and resolution and are more likely to stay in school to complete their education.

VETERAN TRAINING SUPPORT CENTER

Funded by the **King County Veterans and Human Services Levy** and the **Washington Department of Veterans Affairs PTSD & War Trauma Counseling Program**, the purpose of the Veterans Training Support Center is to provide continuing educational opportunities and professional development to those who provide direct service to veterans and their family members.

The Center's goals are to raise awareness and understanding on issues specific to veterans such as invisible wounds like Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Traumatic Brain Injury, and to encourage agency and institution staff to establish promising best practices that will empower this population in their reintegration and pursuit of personal, academic and career goals. <http://www.veterantrainingsupportcenter.org/>

TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY (TBI)

Tens of thousands of veterans in Washington State have a history of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and more occur each day. This program is funded by a grant from the Washington State Traumatic Brain Injury Council. The program offers help to veterans, their family members, employers and educators through one on one education, advocacy, case management, trainings, providing up to date research/resources, and producing a mobile application specifically created and designed to serve the Washington State Veteran with TBI.

The program offers services to ALL veterans in Washington State regardless of service connection to TBI. If you know of anyone that may be helped by these services please visit www.dva.wa.gov or call (360) 725-2223 to be connected with a local resource.

Impact on Veterans

The creation of the State Veterans Cemetery, Medical Lake fills a significant service gap for veterans & families in Eastern Washington & North Idaho via \$10.9 million in federal grants.

More than 4,000 veterans and family members have been interred in this national shrine since opening in 2010.

Impact on State

Proceeds from the sale of Armed Forces License Plates support ongoing maintenance of the State Veterans Cemetery. In FY16, these license plates generated \$477,400 to directly support operations.



Administrative Office
Open Monday thru Friday
8:00 am to 4:30 pm
Closed Weekends & Holidays

21702 W. Espanola Rd.
Medical Lake, WA 99022
Office Phone 509-299-6280
Office Fax 509-299-6286
Email: cemetery@dva.wa.gov

*Note: Pets & tobacco use are not allowed out of respect to families.

www.dva.wa.gov
1-800-562-2308

WDVA Director
Lourdes E. Alvarado Ramos
WDVA Deputy Director
Gary Condra

Rudy Lopez, Cemetery Director
509-299-6280
rudyl@dva.wa.gov

WDVA Fast Facts

State Veterans Cemetery

ELIGIBILITY



Interment eligibility mirrors National Veterans Cemetery eligibility requirements which follows 38 CFR 38.620. In general:

- All honorably discharged U.S. Veterans
- Spouses
- In limited cases Dependent Children

The Washington State Veterans Cemetery serves veterans and their families, fulfilling a nation's promise to care for its veterans. Washington State residency is not a pre-requisite for burial. Refer to the following link for specific eligibility criteria:

http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/burial_benefits/eligible.asp

BURIAL OPTIONS & SERVICES

The State Veterans Cemetery provides for traditional in-ground casketed burials. Traditional burials include ground plot, cement liner & an upright inscribed granite marker.

The following options are available for cremation inurnment:

- Columbarium niche includes inscribed granite niche cover
- In-ground cremation inurnment includes ground plot & upright inscribed granite marker
- Scattering Garden with inscribed granite marker



Traditional graveside services are not permitted. All services are held in the Committal Shelter offering a safe and respectful place for remembrance. Services may include Military Funeral Honors for Veterans and Military Retirees in accordance with Public Law 106.65. Families have the option of using a variety of volunteer-supported functions to personalize their loved one's committal service.

An information kiosk, located in the Administration Building foyer contains an electronic grave locator allowing family and friends to easily locate the gravesite of their loved one.

National Veterans Cemetery Gravesite Locator: <http://www.cem.va.gov/>

PRE-REGISTRATION & COSTS

Handling end-of-life affairs can be stressful on families. Pre-need applications allow you to determine interment eligibility to accommodate your families' pre-needs plans, and makes sure your wishes are known. For these reasons pre-need planning is encouraged.

Military discharge documentation, such as a DD-214 (veteran) and a marriage certificate (married couples), are required to pre-register. Upon verification you will receive a confirmation letter determining eligibility which should be kept with other important records.

Interment costs for eligible Veterans are paid by the Department of Veterans Affairs, \$300 is collected at the time of interment for eligible spouses and dependent children.

VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS

There are numerous opportunities for individuals to donate their time or resources at the Washington State Veterans Cemetery, including:

- *Honor Guard Rifle Teams
- *Cemetery Ambassadors
- *Buglers
- *Cortege Drivers
- *Photographers (community events)
- *Ministers
- *Financial Donations - Special Projects, Public Events or Flags for display on holidays