

# WDVA Programs Overview

Paul Cruz  
Veteran Services





# Introduction

- Paul Cruz – Vet Services Operations Manager for Financial Transition & Reintegration Services
- US Army Retired
- With WDVA since September 2015

# Homeless Veterans Reintegration Project (HVRP)



Program and Description	Benefits	Eligibility	Other Requirements
<p><a href="#"><u>Homeless Veterans Reintegration Project (HVRP)</u></a> Federal Funded grant through US Department of Labor (general fund federal). Resources used to set the path for homeless and at-risk-of-homeless Veterans to reintegrate into the labor force and obtain a sustainable independent living. Services include case management, housing placement, and employment assistance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Immediate needs – food, clothing, transportation, and access to shelter;</li> <li>• Outreach to homeless Veterans providers;</li> <li>• Employability needs and skills assessment;</li> <li>• Job readiness services, including transitional housing assistance, basic skills training, therapeutic work, résumé development and employment opportunity referrals; and</li> <li>• 90, 180, and 270-day job retention follow-up.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Veteran who served in the active US military, naval, or air service and was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable.</li> <li>• Homeless or imminent risk of homelessness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be employable, actively seeking full-time work or already working full-time</li> </ul>

# Incarcerated Veterans Re-Entry Services (IVRS)



Program and Description	Benefits	Eligibility	Other Requirements
<p><a href="#"><u>Incarcerated Veterans Re-Entry Services (IVRS)</u></a></p> <p>A joint project with King, Thurston and Clark Counties to address the needs of Veterans' incarcerated in County Correctional Facilities, offering alternatives to jail and referral to housing, employment services, and treatment. Many of the Veterans have come to the jail due to un-treated drug and alcohol issues, poverty, homelessness, or Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Veterans who are referred to this program get reduced sentences in exchange for drug and alcohol treatment and mental health services, housing and employment. Services include case management, financial and employment assistance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Transitional housing for Veterans upon release from the jail</li><li>• Assessment and referral to the Puget Sound VA Health Care System for treatment including drug, alcohol and mental health counseling</li><li>• Job referral and placement services</li><li>• Assistance with court appearances and early release requirements</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A Veteran who served in the active US military, naval, or air service and was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable</li></ul>	



# Veterans Innovation Program (VIP)



Program and Description	Benefits	Eligibility	Other Requirements
<p><a href="#"><u>Veterans Innovation Program (VIP)</u></a></p> <p>The Veterans Innovations Program was created to provide assistance to Veterans and their families facing financial hardships due to deployments in support of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Our goal is to make sure the Veteran and their family has access to all Veteran’s benefits and the tools they need to provide for themselves and their families</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Received an honorable discharge</li><li>• Deployed in support of Operating Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom or Noble Eagle receiving GWOT Expeditionary Medal</li><li>• Is experiencing financial hardship where income is not sufficient to meet basic needs</li><li>• Presents a discernable positive outcome</li><li>• Request is within the grant funding capabilities</li><li>• Submit complete application packet with required supporting documentation</li></ul>	

# Transitioning Warrior Program (TWP)



Program and Description	Benefits	Eligibility	Other Requirements
<p><a href="#"><u>Transitioning Warrior Program (TWP)</u></a> A program that assists wounded warriors with their transition to civilian life.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Preparation of VA Claims-expedited VA claims adjudication through ready to rate claims maximizing use of the Benefits, Delivery at Discharge program and other programs</li><li>• Information and coordination of points of contact for Service members relocating to the other 49 states, commonwealths and territories</li><li>• Activities for Warriors in Transition and Family members through: Veterans Conservation Corps; Self-employment; Development opportunities through the Veterans Business Enterprise Development Alliance; Gap funding (child care, training, special equipment, licenses, and permits); Service member and Family readjustment counseling through the WDVA PTSD program</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Active duty military personnel who are in the process of transitioning to Veteran status</li><li>• Veterans, their family members, surviving spouses</li></ul>	

# Supportive Services for Veterans and Families (SSVF)



Program and Description	Benefits	Eligibility	Other Requirements
<p><a href="#"><u>Supportive Services for Veterans and Families (SSVF)</u></a></p> <p>Eligible Veterans who are at-risk of homelessness will receive community-based housing stability support. Whenever possible, the SSVF program will connect the Veteran and their families to community-based benefits and supports which will supplement their VA benefits.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rental and housing assistance</li><li>• Counseling</li><li>• Creation of housing and services plans</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Serving Veterans associated with military installations and hospitals in Pierce, Thurston, Kitsap and King County</li><li>• Special outreach emphasis on reaching Veterans who are returning from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as National Guard and reservists who are not part of traditional military communities</li></ul>	

# WDVA Call Centers



Program and Description	Benefits	Eligibility	Other Requirements
<p><a href="#"><u>WDVA Call Centers</u></a></p> <p>WDVA is a full-service state agency that assists Veterans, their family members and survivors. The department is an advocate for Veterans and their families, and aggressively pursues all federal and state benefits and entitlements on their behalf.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• WDVA operates call centers in Olympia and in King County where we can evaluate the needs of the Veteran and refer them to the appropriate expert in our Field Services Network</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Veterans, their family members, surviving spouses</li><li>• General public</li></ul>	

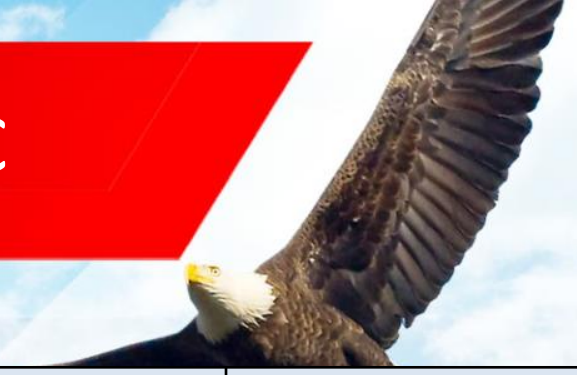


# Enhanced Benefits Program



Program and Description	Benefits	Eligibility	Other Requirements
<p><a href="#"><u>Enhanced Benefits Program</u></a></p> <p>A partnership between WDVA and DSHS which identifies Veterans and their dependents who are receiving state social and health services to access the maximum federal benefits for which they are eligible.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Veterans and their eligible family members will be able to access the maximum federal benefits for which they are entitled</li><li>• Veterans are able to access medical benefits through the Veterans Administration at 100 percent federal cost, as opposed to the shared financial responsibility under Medicaid</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Veterans and their dependents who are receiving state social and health services aid</li></ul>	

# Military Transition Council (WSMTC)



Program and Description	Benefits	Eligibility	Other Requirements
<p><a href="#"><u>Military Transition Council (WSMTC)</u></a> The WSMTC creates enduring partnerships between public and private organizations that enables every service member to successfully transition into civilian employment and career opportunities</p>	<p>The Military Transition Council is organized in four Track Workgroups focused on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Employment;</li><li>2) Education;</li><li>3) Career/Technical Training; and</li><li>4) Veteran owned small business and entrepreneurship</li></ol>		

# Building 9 for Veterans



Program and Description	Benefits	Eligibility	Other Requirements
<p><a href="#"><u>Building 9 for Veterans</u></a></p> <p>Transitional housing model designed to provide safe and stable housing for both men and woman homeless Veterans who are committed to returning to employment and/or independent living.</p> <p>Service Center onsite providing VA claims assistance to the public.</p>	<p>Building 9 for Veterans focuses on three goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increased residential stability of participants</li><li>• Greater self-determination of participants</li><li>• Increased skill level and income potential of participants</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Served in any branch of the US Armed Forces</li><li>• Received an Honorable or General Under Honorable Discharge</li><li>• Homeless for one or more nights</li><li>• Clean and sober for at least the last 30 days</li><li>• Desire to lead a clean and sober lifestyle</li><li>• Desire to make meaningful life changes leading to independent living</li><li>• Willing to undergo criminal background check</li></ul>	

# Veterans Homes



Program and Description	Benefits	Eligibility	Other Requirements
<p><a href="#"><u>Veterans Homes</u></a></p> <p>WDVA serves veterans in three Veterans Homes, where veterans are treated with the dignity and respect they deserve in settings that provide a sense of belonging unique to veterans.</p> <p>All Washington State Veterans Homes are Medicare and Medicaid certified facilities.</p> <p><b>Locations:</b>                      Orting                      Retsil                      Spokane                      Wala Wala</p>	<p>Our State Veterans Homes are Medicaid and Medicare Certified and provide 24-hour nursing care, medical care and pharmacy services. We provide a number of supportive programs and services such as: Physical Therapy; Occupational Therapy; Recreational Activities; Social Services; Volunteer Programs; Hospice; Nutritious Meals; Community Involvement; Religious Programs; Transportation; Laundry; Beauty &amp; Barber Shops; Fishing Pond (Orting); Patriotic Internment Services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Served at any time, in any branch of the United States Armed Forces including the National Guard</li> <li>• Received an honorable discharge</li> <li>• Resides in Washington State</li> <li>• The spouse or widow of an eligible veteran</li> <li>• Gold Star Parent</li> </ul>	



# Washington State Veterans Cemetery



Program and Description	Benefits	Eligibility	Other Requirements
<p><a href="#"><u>Washington State Veterans Cemetery</u></a></p> <p>The facility is located 3 miles west of Fairchild Air Force Base. From the flag assembly area looking southward, Fancher Butte and West Medical Lake are present. Looking northward from the Committal Shelter, military aircraft banking northward off the 90 foot flagpole with its 30 foot flag lowered to half-staff often form the backdrop to interment services.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provides a serene setting for the final resting place of our nation's heroes, our veterans and their families.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Eligibility for interment in the State Veterans Cemetery mirrors National Veterans Cemetery eligibility requirements</li><li>• In general, U.S. veterans discharged under conditions other than dis-honorable and their spouses and dependent children are eligible</li></ul>	

# King County Homeless Services



Program and Description	Benefits	Eligibility	Other Requirements
<p><a href="#"><u>King County Homeless Services</u></a> Addresses the needs of homeless Veterans in King County by identifying and targeting for services, eligible Veterans who are homeless or are at risk of homelessness. Services include case management, housing placement, financial assistant, referrals and employment assistance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Emergency financial assistance</li><li>• Housing assistance</li><li>• Employment guidance and assistance</li><li>• Case management</li><li>• Life stability</li><li>• Veterans' benefits counseling</li><li>• Mental health referrals</li><li>• Other supportive services</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Low-income, homeless, disabled, and at-risk Veterans and their families</li></ul>	

# Veterans Estate Management Program (VEMP)



Program and Description	Benefits	Eligibility	Other Requirements
<p><a href="#"><u>Veterans Estate Management Program (VEMP)</u></a> Homeless prevention program. WDVA acts as fiduciary/payee for approximately 400 clients who were declared incompetent to manage their personal finances by the VA and/or Social Security Administration</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provide timely payments to clients and vendors to ensure food, clothing and shelter needs are met using the client's limited income and resources</li><li>• Protect client income and assets from undue creditor claims, as well as protection from loss or diversion</li><li>• Ensure all clients are fully advised of all potential federal and state benefits to which they may be entitled</li><li>• Provide maximum investment and savings opportunities</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Veteran or eligible family member that has been rated incompetent to manage their finances by the US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)</li></ul>	

# Post Traumatic Stress/War Trauma Counseling



Program and Description	Benefits	Eligibility	Other Requirements
<p><a href="#"><u>Post Traumatic Stress/War Trauma Counseling</u></a>            Services provided throughout the program include individual, couples, family, and Veteran group counseling. 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 US Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers or Vet Centers within Washington State. Additional funds have been contracted with King County for services provided which include individual, couples, family, and group counseling for Veterans and their family members living in King County</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Program provides community-based avenues to counseling services that are less formal in nature, offering the highest level of confidentiality possible.</li> <li>• Services provided throughout the program include individual, couples, family, and Veteran group counseling.</li> <li>• 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 within Washington State.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Honorably discharged war era (any of the nation’s war or peacekeeping periods) Veterans and his/her family members</li> <li>• Washington State National Guard or Military Reserve members deployed in support of the nation’s war and peacekeeping missions, and their family members</li> <li>• Veteran does not need to be suffering from or diagnosed with PTSD, but should be able to demonstrate significant post war adjustment issues to warrant outpatient care</li> <li>• No VA service connected disability for any condition is required for this service within the WDVA PTSD Program</li> <li>• Services are free to qualified Veterans and their family members</li> <li>• Priority is given to those most vulnerable or having no other reasonable options for care</li> </ul>	



# King County Funded Training and Support Center



Program and Description	Benefits	Eligibility	Other Requirements
<p data-bbox="42 439 556 525"><a href="#"><u>King County Funded Training and Support Center</u></a></p> <p data-bbox="42 539 583 931">Educational training opportunities, prepared by educators, authors, treatment professionals, Veterans, and trainers with specialty skills in assessment and treatment of PTSD, TBI, and a range of military and Veteran related trauma and homecoming concerns.</p>	<ul data-bbox="656 439 1033 1288" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="656 439 1033 831">• Aim is to raise awareness and understanding on issues specific to veterans such as invisible wounds like Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Traumatic Brain Injury</li><li data-bbox="656 845 1033 1288">• Encourage agency and institution staff to establish promising best practices that will empower Veterans in their reintegration and pursuit of personal, academic, and meaningful career goals</li></ul>	<ul data-bbox="1076 439 1464 873" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="1076 439 1464 873">• Special emphasis is given to training social service agencies, private practice providers, first responders, police, colleges and universities, employers of Veterans, K-12 professionals, and others</li></ul>	

# Veterans Conservation Corps



Program and Description	Benefits	Eligibility	Other Requirements
<p><a href="#"><u>Veterans Conservation Corps</u></a></p> <p>The Veterans Conservation Corps seeks to connect Veterans to Washington states natural resources, as a mode of Eco-therapy or Eco-psychology. Veterans as part of the VCC are able to connect with the environment, their communities and themselves while serving in paid internships that put them outside.</p>	<p>Opportunities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stream restoration &amp; monitoring</li><li>• Re-vegetation of native plants</li><li>• Restoration of watersheds, forests, prairies or native grasslands</li><li>• Office or clerical duties</li><li>• Environmental or community education</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Veteran/ and or dependent of veteran</li><li>• Active duty/ reserves or guard</li></ul>	

# Vet Corps



Program and Description	Benefits	Eligibility	Other Requirements
<p><a href="#"><u>Vet Corps</u></a></p> <p>The Vet Corps program employs 50 Veterans in national service through AmeriCorps. Members serve as peer mentors to help Veterans transition to civilian life through training, education and outreach. Primarily on college campuses Vet Corps is able to serve a large portion of OIF, OEF, OND and other recently returned Veterans where they are.</p> <p>The Vet Corps helps Veterans and their family members navigate Washington's higher education and training programs as Veterans adjust from military to college life.</p>	<p>Vet Corps members help Veterans achieve their higher education goals by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Providing training and support to college faculty, staff and administration to increase awareness of student Veterans' needs</li><li>• Providing a peer connection for Veterans new to higher education</li><li>• Helping the college to meet the needs of student Veterans</li><li>• Providing Veterans with connections to federal, state or local Veteran's benefits</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Veteran and/or dependent of veteran</li><li>• Active duty, reserves or guard</li><li>• Back ground check (Washington state Patrol, National sex offender registry)</li><li>• US Citizen</li></ul>	

# Traumatic Brain Injury Program



Program and Description	Benefits	Eligibility	Other Requirements
<p><b><u>Traumatic Brain Injury Program</u></b> Interagency agreement with DSHS and the TBI Commission to provide outreach to Veterans who may have a traumatic brain injury so that they can be referred to the VA and training to community members and Veterans state wide, increasing the understanding of TBI and its symptoms.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The TBI Coordinator provides case management for Veterans living with traumatic brain injury</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>Veteran and/or dependent of veteran</u></li><li>• Active duty, reserves or guard with a TBI or care taker of a veteran, active duty, reserves or guard member with a TBI</li></ul>	



# Veteran Service Organization Contractors, VA Claims



Program and Description	Benefits	Eligibility	Other Requirements
<p><a href="#"><u>VSO Contractors, VA Claims</u></a> WDVA contracts with 7 Nationally Recognized Veteran Service Organizations to provide claims services to Veterans throughout the state. Rather than staff state offices with state employees, WDVA created partnerships with existing VSOs whose service officers are already trained and skilled at helping Veterans access their federal entitlements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• This network allows a Veteran or family member to access the expertise of a professional service officer without having to travel to Olympia or Seattle</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Veterans, their family members, surviving spouses</li></ul>	