



VETERAN WELLNESS RESOURCES

HOTLINES

- **Veteran Crisis Line:** Confidential, 24/7 hotline for military veterans to reach caring, qualified responders with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, many of them veterans themselves. Dial 9-8-8 and then press 1, or text 838255.
- **Vet Center Peer Support Line:** A 24/7 call center where **combat Veterans** and their families can call to talk about their military experience or any other issue they are facing in their readjustment to civilian life. The staff is comprised of combat Veterans from several eras as well as family members of combat Veterans. Dial 1-877-927-8387
- **DoD Safe Helpline** - This is the only secure, confidential, and anonymous crisis support service specially designed for members of the Department of Defense community **affected by sexual assault**. Call 1-877-995-5247, visit <https://safehelpline.org/online>, or download the Safe Helpline app to chat one-on-one with a trained staff member through an anonymous, secure instant-messaging format 24/7.
- **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:** provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, and prevention and crisis resources for anyone. Contact them at **988** or 1.800.273.TALK (8255) or visit www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org.
- **Homeless Veterans Support:** Call 1-877-424-3838 (24/7) or **Veterans Homeless Outreach:** 215-823-5800 ext.4077.
- **Women Veterans Call Center:** Call or text 1-855-VA-WOMEN (1-855-829-6636) or use the online chat feature. Women Veterans Call Center representatives are available Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. ET, and Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. ET, excluding federal holidays. The Women Veterans Call Center will help you navigate VA, point you in the right direction, and connect you with the Women Veterans Program Manager at your local VA medical center. ** This is not a crisis hotline**



GENERAL INFORMATION

Bucks County Veteran Affairs

<https://www.buckscounty.gov/516/Veterans-Affairs>

Director of Bucks County Veteran Affairs – Matt Allen

mtallen@buckscounty.org

215-345-3881

- **Doylestown Office** - Bucks County Administration Building, 55 East Court Street, 1st Fl, Doylestown, PA 18901 Phone: 215-345-3307
By Appointment Only: Monday through Friday from 8am to 4pm
- **Government Services Center – Levittown** - 7321 New Falls Road, Levittown, PA 19055 Phone: 215-345-3887 or 267-580-3560
By Appointment Only: Monday through Friday 8am to 4pm

Bucks County Veteran's Treatment Program

- ❖ The Bucks County Veterans Treatment Court was established to more effectively address the needs of veterans cycling through the criminal justice system. This Court represents a collaboration between the Court of Common Pleas, the District Attorney's Office, the Public Defender's Office, the Adult Probation Office, the County Department of Veterans Affairs and Veteran Mentors, and the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).
- ❖ The mission of the Veterans Treatment Court is to enhance public safety and reduce recidivism of criminal defendants who are veterans by connecting them with VA benefits, treatment services and supports, and finding appropriate dispositions for their criminal charges by considering the veteran's treatment needs and the seriousness of the offense.
- ❖ An eligible veteran is defined as a Bucks County resident who is a veteran of the United States Armed Forces who meets specific eligibility criteria. The veteran must submit, along with their application, a certified copy of their DD Form 214, as well as proof of their diagnosis.
- ❖ The participant must be medically diagnosed as suffering from one or more of the following requiring treatment:
 - Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)
 - Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
 - Military Sexual Trauma (MST)
 - Psychological and/or substance abuse problems

Phone: 215-348-6344

<https://www.buckscounty.gov/751/Veterans-Treatment-Program>

U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs

- The Department of Veterans Affairs website is a secure portal for veterans and their families to access, apply for, and manage government benefits. It is a good starting point if you are not sure what you qualify for or where to get help. <https://www.va.gov/>

What You Can Find on [VA.gov](https://www.va.gov/);

- ❖ **Explore Your Benefits** – Find out what VA benefits and services you may qualify for.
 - ❖ **Health Care & Mental Health** – Apply for VA health care and find medical, PTSD, mental-health, and substance-use services.
 - ❖ **Disability & Financial Support** – Apply for disability compensation, pensions, and other financial benefits.
 - ❖ **Education & Employment** – Learn about GI Bill education benefits, job training, career services, and employment resources.
 - ❖ **Housing & Home Loans** – Find information about VA home loans, housing assistance, and help for Veterans experiencing homelessness.
 - ❖ **Family & Caregiver Support** – Find benefits and services for spouses, children, caregivers, and survivors.
 - ❖ **Records & Important Documents** – Request military records and access VA documents and benefit information.
 - ❖ **Local & Personal Assistance** – Find VA facilities near you and connect with people who can help you understand and apply for benefits.
 - ❖ **Crisis Support** – Get free, confidential support 24/7 through the Veterans Crisis Line.
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- ❖ To find a VA accredited representative or VSO who can help you file a claim or request a decision review; search through <https://www.va.gov/get-help-from-accredited-representative/find-rep/>
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- ***National Resource Directory*** - A partnership among the U.S. Department of Defense, Department of Labor, and Department of Veterans Affairs, this website connects service members, veterans, family members, and caregivers to vetted resources that support their recovery, rehabilitation, and reintegration or transition.
<https://nrd.gov/>

VA Philadelphia Medical Center

- ❖ **Corporal Michael J. Crescenz Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center** - provides full-service medical and mental health care to military veterans. The center has an integrated **Behavioral Health Department** and is equipped to receive veterans for 201 or 302 commitments. Just call and someone will meet you at the emergency room door.

<https://www.va.gov/philadelphia-health-care/locations/corporal-michael-j-crescenz-department-of-veterans-affairs/>

- 3900 Woodland Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19104-4551
- Main phone: 215-823-5800, TTY: 711
- Mental health care: 215-823-4014

❖ **Mental Health Services Available**

- **Emergency Psychiatric Care:** The 24/7 Emergency Room handles immediate psychiatric crises and acute evaluations.
- **Outpatient & Specialty Therapy:** Individual and group treatment for PTSD, depression, anxiety, military sexual trauma, and substance use.
- **Support Services:** Targeted housing and transition assistance programs specifically for homeless or returning veterans.

- ❖ **Philadelphia VA Police Point of Contact** – Chief of Police Dennis Basmajian
267-626-0395

- ❖ **Philadelphia VA Police Dispatch** – Ask for OIC if transporting a VET after hours
215-823-5895

- ❖ **Philadelphia VA VJO VET Verification**
VJO Hong Zhang – 267-600-0590 & VJO Dena Daindridge – 267-815-1314

VET CENTERS

- **Bucks County Vet Center** - 2 Canals End Road, Suite 201B, Bristol, PA 19007 Maine phone: 215-823-4590

Direct Point of Contact – Steven Roll 267-881-3298

- **Norristown Vet Center** - 320 E Johnson Highway, Suite 201, Norristown, PA 19401 Main phone: 215-823-5245

- **Northeast Philadelphia Vet Center** – 101 East Olney Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19120 Main phone: 215-924-4670

- ❖ Vet Centers offer these types of services:
 - Individual and group counseling
 - Couples and family counseling
 - Military sexual trauma (MST) counseling
 - Readjustment counseling, like mental health services, and educational and employment counseling
 - Bereavement (grief) counseling
 - Substance use assessment and referral
 - Help applying for VA benefits

LOCAL RESOURCES

- **Guardian Recovery Services** – Specialize in first responder & veteran counseling, the office is in Willow Grove. John Becker is a former police officer, now a licensed therapist. Call 215-874-3873 <https://www.guardianrecovery.info/>
- **Forge Health VFR** - Offers specialized mental health and substance use treatment designed to address the unique culture, preferences, and values of first responders, emergency and health care professionals, veterans, active-duty military, and their families. They have offices in Doylestown (215-371-7600) & Langhorne (215-780-7600), but also telehealth/virtual services (1-888-224-7312). <https://forgehealth.com/locations/pennsylvania/>
- **NAMI Veteran's Support Group (Bucks County)** - The NAMI Veteran's Support Group is a free, peer-led support group connecting Veterans in the Greater Philadelphia area to other Veterans who've "been there." This is a safe and confidential space to gain insight from hearing the challenges and successes of others, and the groups are led by trained leaders who are also Veterans living in recovery themselves. The groups meet on a bi-weekly, weekly or monthly basis. <https://namibuckspa.org/education/support-groups/nami-veterans-support-group/>

This is a peer support group that focuses on allowing participants to share their experiences and learn from each other in a safe environment. It is:

- Free of cost to participants
 - Designed for adults (18+) with mental health conditions
 - Led by peers (people with mental health conditions)
 - 90 minutes long and meets weekly, every other week or monthly
 - No specific medical therapy or treatment is endorsed
 - Confidential
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- **Salute 2 Service** - provides services and resources to veterans and their families, and they offer financial assistance to qualified veterans. They have a daily pantry for vets, weekly grocery giveaways every Wednesday, and deliveries to housebound veterans. Salute 2 Service assists with accessing military documents and claims assistance and they also have clothing and comfort items available as well as health and wellness programs and different services come. 1290 Veterans Highway, Suite D-1, Bristol, PA 19007. Phone: (267) 554-7956. <https://www.salute2service.org/>
Direct Point of Contact – Rodney Wyatt 570-916-4695
 - **Bensalem Veterans Residences** - 3055 Mechanicsville Rd, Bensalem, PA, 19020. A brand new rental community for seniors and veterans 62 and older located in Bensalem, PA. The development features 40 high-quality, one-bedroom apartment homes. All applicants must be referred and approved by the Bucks County Housing Authority. The waitlist is currently open. Eligible applicants may apply online at <https://buckscountyhousingauthority.org/> or call 215-945-6110. <https://www.pennrose.com/apartments/pennsylvania/bensalem-veterans-residences/>

- **Veterans Multi-Service Center** ****HOMELESS OUTREACH**** - The Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program provides services to low-income Veterans who are currently experiencing homelessness or are at-risk of losing their leased homes. They provide eligible Veteran households with outreach, assessment, case management, advocacy and assistance in obtaining VA and other benefits, which may include housing counseling, legal support, credit repair, financial planning services, and time-limited, temporary financial assistance. There are no costs to access their programs and they may be able to help you obtain the documents you need to apply. Offices are open Monday – Friday, 8:30AM-4:30PM.
<https://www.vmcenter.org/services/veterans-housing-assistance-with-supportive-services/>
- Philadelphia Office Serving: Philadelphia County Contact Info: 215-923-2600, PASSVFinfo@VMCenter.org, Location: 213-217 N. 4th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106
 - Suburban Philadelphia Office Serving: Chester, Montgomery, Bucks, and Delaware Counties in Pennsylvania Contact Info: 610-384-8387, CMDInfo@VMCenter.org. Location: 797 E. Lancaster Avenue, Suite 12, Downingtown, PA 19335.
- **VictorSix** - The program is designed to introduce or enhance individual physical fitness practice while creating a community of support through comradery and collegiality amongst those who serve or have served. It is a nonprofit dedicated to improving veterans' **physical** and mental health, reducing the risk of suicide, and providing essential support. They offer a comprehensive program that includes an individualized training program with group work outs such as yoga, nutritional guidance, and a supportive environment. Their classes are held the Newtown Athletic Club located at 120 Pheasant Run, Newtown, PA 18940. E-mail: V64URHEALTHMAIL.com 215-598-2558
<https://victorsixveterans.org/>
- Direct Point of Contact – Dave Christian 267-884-5802**

TREATMENT PROGRAMS

- **Banyan Philadelphia Treatment Center** – provides comprehensive outpatient treatment for individuals struggling with substance use disorders and mental health conditions. The programs include day treatment (Partial Hospitalization Program – PHP) and Intensive Outpatient Programs (IOP). They take an integrated, military-informed approach when working with Vets. Location: 100 N Bucks Town Dr. Suite 100E, Langhorne, PA 19047 Phone: 1-888-219-0442 <https://www.banyantreatmentcenter.com/facilities/philadelphia/>
Direct Point of Contact – Olin Morris 215-868-7372
- **National Law Enforcement & First-Responder Wellness Center** - Substance use & mental health treatment specifically for First Responders and Veterans. They **do not** treat the general public. They offer inpatient or day treatment for substance use and mental health related issues. Call 443-502-8606, email is info@hoghelp.com , located in Havre de Grace, MD.
<https://harborofgracerecovery.com/>
- **Penn Medicine Princeton House Behavioral Health** - The first of its kind in New Jersey, this landmark program supports firefighters, law enforcement officers, veterans, and other first responders with care from clinicians and staffed by veteran military members and first responders who share their experiences. They also offer electroconvulsive therapy (ECT). Brochure - <https://www.pachiefs.org/assets/Broch.pdf> Call 1-888-437-1610, option 1. Website - www.princetonhouse.org/firstresponders
- **Hampton Behavioral Health Center** - has successfully provided TRICARE®-certified treatment and specialized military programming for service members and their families since 1986. They have a Military Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP) and a military services program that is offered Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The focus of this program is helping service members that have experienced military-related trauma with reducing symptoms associated with Service-Related Trauma, enhancing coping skills and maximizing resiliency. They also have an Inpatient Military Program. The center is staffed 24/7 with specially trained assessment coordinators to provide confidential level of care assessments. Phone: 1-800-603-6767 or 609-267-7000. Address: 650 Rancocas Rd, Westampton, NJ 08060. <https://hamptonhospital.com/treatment-and-services/military-programs/>
- **The Headstrong Project (Virtual)** - a non-profit mental health organization providing confidential, barrier-free, and stigma-free PTSD treatment to veterans, service members, and family connected to their care. After you submit your online request for care, you and a therapist engage in trauma-focused treatments such as CPT, EMDR, PE, etc. Headstrong's trauma treatment program provides **30 cost-free sessions**. <https://theheadstrongproject.org/get-help/>

SUPPORT / ADVOCACY GROUPS

- **Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc.** - Organization consisting of mothers, stepmothers, grandmothers, foster mothers, and female legal guardians who have children currently serving in the military, National Guard, or Reserves, or who have children who are veterans.
<https://www.bluestarmothers.org/>

Their members:

- Support one another through every stage of military life, from enlistment to deployment, homecoming, transition, and beyond.
- Send care packages and messages of encouragement to deployed service members.
- Volunteer in Veterans Affairs facilities, state veteran's homes, and community organizations.
- Honor and remember our Fallen Heroes and support Gold Star Families.
- Participate in patriotic events, ceremonies, and community outreach programs.
- Advocate for awareness of the unique challenges faced by military families.
- Serve veterans and active-duty military members through countless hours of volunteer service each year.

- **American Gold Star Mothers**
American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. is an organization of Mothers whose sons and daughters served and died while on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States of America, or died as a result of such service, or were missing in action. The Department of Defense makes distinctions in determining which of the Gold Star Pins are awarded based on the manner and place of death but American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. do not. They believe all served and all undertook the associated risks. <https://www.americangoldstarmothers.org/>

- **Disabled Veteran Empowerment Network**- DVEN's primary mission is to connect disabled veterans, their caregivers, and supporters with genuine benefits provided by the Veterans Administration and vetted veteran charities and support organizations. By curating trusted resources and eliminating barriers to access, DVEN empowers veterans and their families to navigate the complex landscape of available support—from cancer survivorship programs to mental health resources, community organizations, and government benefits they've earned through their service. <https://dven.org/>

- **American Red Cross Military and Veteran Caregiver Network** - offers peer-based support and services to connect those providing care to service members and veterans living with wounds, illnesses, injuries and/or aging. <https://www.redcross.org/get-help/military-families/whole-health/military-veteran-caregiver-network.html>

- **The Guardians of the National Cemetery** - the official support committee of Washington Crossing National Cemetery, a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit and the sole support organization for WCNC as designated by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The Honor Guard is a team of veterans who are present for every veteran interment at Washington Crossing National Cemetery, performing military honors and, on select occasions, folding and presenting the American flag to veterans' next of kin. In partnership with the cemetery, they also plan and conduct ceremonies, including Veterans Day and Memorial Day observances, so the community can remember, honor, and learn from the sacrifices made of Veterans to protect our freedom.
<https://www.gwcnc.org/>

PA SPECIFIC INFORMATION / RESOURCES

- **PA VETConnect** - The objectives of PA VetConnect are to determine the needs of veterans and their beneficiaries, find resources that meet those needs, and connect veterans with those resources. Resource areas include benefits, employment, financial assistance, mental wellness and substance use, post-traumatic stress, and more.
<https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dmva#:~:text=Veterans%20Place%2C%20the%20homeless%20shelter%20where%20the%20veteran,the%20veteran%20to%20It%27s%20About%20the%20Warrior%20Foundation>.
- **Wounded Warrior Project** - provides free mental health services, career counseling, and VA benefits assistance for post-9/11 injured veterans and their families. Their main resource center number is 1-888-997-2586. Website : <https://www.woundedwarriorproject.org/>

Pennsylvania also has a separate local group, Pennsylvania Wounded Warriors, Inc., which offers direct emergency financial help and can be reached at 855-729-9435. Address: 1013 Mumma Road Suite 203, Wormleysburg, PA, United States, Pennsylvania.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pawounded/>

Website: <https://www.pawoundedwarriors.org/>

****To receive financial support from the Wounded Warriors PA division****

VETERANS MUST BE ABLE TO RESPOND YES TO EACH OF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

1. Have you been a Pennsylvania resident for 12 months previous to this request?
2. Are you veteran of the United States Armed Forces holding an Honorable or General Under Honorable Conditions Discharge? Note: General Honorable Discharges considered on case-by-case basis.
3. Did you serve at least 15 months?
4. You have NOT received assistance from PAWW in the previous 12 months (Honorable Discharge) or 24 months (General Under Honorable Conditions Discharge.)

IS EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE NEEDED FOR EXPENSES SUCH AS:

1. Housing security deposits, rent, or mortgage payments.
2. Minor home repair.
3. Basic Utilities (ex. gas, oil, electricity, water)
4. Car payment, insurance, or repair.

NOTE: Payments are made directly **ONLY** to the landlord or other creditor(s).

RESOURCE LIST – GAMBLING

- **Council on Compulsive Gambling of Pennsylvania**– Pennsylvania local chapter of the National Council on Problem Gambling. The Council on Compulsive Gambling of Pennsylvania, Inc., oversees a 24-hour helpline, aimed at assisting people whose lives are impacted by gambling related problems. Whether it be the individual themselves, or friends and family members, they strive to connect callers with additional resources located near them. The helpline provides assistance in the way of crisis management, referrals to treatment providers and counseling agencies in PA, and information about self-help mutual aid meetings and recovery groups that can be found online and throughout the Commonwealth. The helpline offers 24/7/365, live assistance to callers. Calls are free and entirely confidential. Call or text 1-800-GAMBLER. <https://pacouncil.com/>
- **Responsible Play – PA** - PA's self-exclusion website. The Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board offers self-exclusion programs to help individuals affected by problem gambling distance themselves from the temptation of gambling. Self-exclusion allows these individuals to voluntarily ban themselves from casinos, internet-based gambling, video gaming terminals and fantasy sports wagering. <https://responsibleplay.pa.gov/self-exclusion/>