



# West Virginia Guidebook for Incarcerated Veterans



*Serving those who served*

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## Introduction

This Guidebook is intended to provide current information to assist incarcerated veterans in West Virginia to access benefits through the Department of Veterans Affairs. Information on housing, treatment for substance abuse, mental health, medical, employment, and more can be found in this booklet. Preparing for re-entry is a process, so it is recommended that the veteran begin immediately to gather documentation and information to assist in planning for a successful transition from prison to the community. To help the veteran develop a re-entry plan, important information such as points of contact, phone numbers, addresses, and web sites is included.

We would like to recognize and thank:

- 1) The National Coalition for Homeless Veterans, which provided basic concepts and core information for this Guide through its "Planning for Your Release" Guide funded by the U. S. Department of Labor;
- 2) The Veterans Incarcerated Workgroup of Walla Walla, Washington, for the concept of state-specific information in its "Guidebook for Incarcerated Veterans" and for allowing the use of its Guide as a template for this publication;
- 3) Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc., for developing the first incarcerated veterans guidebook, which has inspired and informed subsequent efforts; and,
- 4) Public domain and agency resources included in this Guidebook.

Agency staff names and addresses, phone numbers and website addresses change. If you attempt to contact one of the resources in this Guidebook and the contact information is incorrect, do your best to obtain the correct contact information through a phone call or a Google web search. If you discover any incorrect information in this Guidebook, please send the correct information to:

Otis R. Nash  
VISN 4 Health Care for Re-Entry Veterans Coordinator  
Department of Veterans Affairs (680)  
1700 South Lincoln Avenue  
Lebanon, PA 17042  
Otis.Nash@va.gov

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## **Section 1: How to Use the Guide**

This Guide is for you to use to plan for your release and to keep as a reference after your release. It includes addresses, phone numbers and web sites that you can use to find out about programs and other help available after your release. Because you may not have phone or internet access, you will need to get assistance from your assigned counselor or ask a friend or family member to help you find the information you need. Keep in mind that this Guide does not include all of the services available. What is available in one area may be different from what is available in another, so be sure to check with local resources to learn about services in your area.

While incarcerated, find out which unit in your facility can help you plan for your release (often the education or transfer unit). Take advantage of the any classes that are offered to work your on skills development and prepare yourself for life after release. You don't want to be at risk of homelessness at release, so take advantage of the opportunities available to you.

Begin thinking about what specifically you will need upon release. Ask yourself these kinds of questions: Will I need housing? Will I need medical, substance abuse, or mental health services? Do I need to learn a job skill? Do I have any other legal issues, such as child support? How do I restart my VA checks or Supplemental Security Income (SSI)?

Make a list of your needs. Remember that this is just a tool to help you get organized. A sample list might look like this:

- I need a place to live
- I need a job
- I need access to benefits
- I need work clothes and tools
- I need medical care
- I want mental health and or substance use treatment
- I owe child support or have other legal problems

Think about your list as you read this Guide. Who do you think can help you with each of your needs? Is there one organization that may be able to work with you, on many different things, or do you need to contact several agencies? Keep track of the steps you take, including the dates and names of people you contact for information or assistance. Although this Guide provides national and state addresses for many organizations, we recommend you check your phone book for local, county, and state agencies that know what help is available in your area.

When contacting an agency for help by mail, email or phone, be persistent and polite in order to get results. Ask questions if information is not clear to you. Remember that many organizations are staffed by volunteers who are eager to help, but may not have the answers you are looking for. If someone cannot help you, ask if they know who can.

The internet can also be helpful to find information about VA benefits and community resources in your area. This Guide includes web addresses, when available. If computer access is not available at your facility, you can visit the public library after release.

Success depends upon you working with the system. That means cooperating with the Department of Corrections (DOC) counseling staff, your parole agent or probation officer, and other agency staff to whom you might be referred. This resource book will not help you unless you make an effort to work in a positive manner with the staff of various agencies and community-based organizations to which you are referred.

## **Section 2: Eligibility and Services**

### **VA ELIGIBILITY**

To determine eligibility for VA health care, contact the Health Benefits Service Center at 1-877-222-8387. For VA benefits eligibility, contact a VA benefits office at 1-800-827-1000 from any location in the United States.

Eligibility for most VA benefits is based upon discharge from active military service under other than dishonorable conditions. Active service means full-time service as a member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard.

Honorable and general discharges qualify a veteran for most VA benefits. Dishonorable and bad conduct discharges issued by general courts-martial may bar VA benefits. Veterans in prison and parolees may be eligible for certain VA benefits. VA regional offices can clarify the eligibility of prisoners, parolees and individuals with multiple discharges issued under differing conditions. VA benefits will not be provided to any veteran or dependent wanted for an outstanding felony warrant.

Those seeking a VA benefit for the first time must submit a copy of their service discharge form (DD-214, DD-215, or for WWII veterans, a WD form), which documents service dates and type of discharge, or give their full name, military service number, branch and dates of service.

To apply for services veterans must complete a VA Form 10-10EZ, Application for Health Benefits. The form may be obtained from any VA health care facility or regional benefits office, or by calling the VA Health Benefits Service Center toll-

free at 1-877-222-VETS (8387). It is also available on the internet at <http://www.va.gov/1010ez.htm>. Veterans may complete the form in person at a VA health care facility, or at home and mail it to a local VA health care facility for processing. Once enrolled, a veteran is eligible to receive services at VA facilities anywhere in the country. Additional information can be found on the VA web site <http://www.va.gov/elig/>.

## **SEEKING FEDERAL BENEFITS**

The Department of Veterans Affairs publishes a booklet called "Federal Benefits for Veterans and Their Dependents" that describes the types of benefits available and lists the addresses and phone numbers for VA facilities nationwide. Write the VA Regional Office (VARO) to request a copy. This handbook contains important information, phone numbers and explanations regarding benefits. The VA Federal Benefits booklet and other VA information are available at <http://www.va.gov/>.

VA Regional Office and Insurance Center  
640 Fourth Avenue  
Huntington, WV 25701  
1-800-827-1000

VA Regional Office and Insurance Center  
1000 Liberty Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
1-800-827-1000  
(counties served: Brooke, Hancock, Marshall, Ohio)

## **Eligibility for VA Benefits During Incarceration**

Veterans incarcerated and incarcerated dependents may apply for the same compensation, dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC) – service connected death benefits – and pension benefits as veterans who are not incarcerated. However, Congress restricts the amount of benefits that may be paid to a veteran or dependent while he or she is incarcerated. These benefits are institutionalized as part of law: 38 U.S.C Sec 5313 (a), 38 C.F.R., Sec. 3.665 (a), (d), which reads as follows:

***If a veteran is incarcerated as the result of a “felony” conviction as defined by law: “Any offense punishable by death or imprisonment for a term exceeding one year, unless specifically categorized as a misdemeanor under the law of the prosecuting jurisdiction.”***

***Then, the amount paid to a veteran incarcerated for a service-connected disability is generally limited by law to the 10 percent disability rate, or half the amount of the ten percent rate if the veteran’s disability rating is 10 percent. (If the veteran is rated before incarceration as 20 percent disabled or higher, he will receive only the amount payable to a 10 percent disabled veteran.)***

***Incarcerated DIC recipients will receive one-half the amount paid to a veteran receiving compensation payments for a 10 percent-rated disability.***

***A veteran may not receive non-service connected VA pension benefits, or any portion of these benefits, while incarcerated for a felony or misdemeanor. However, his family may receive an apportionment of such benefits under the procedure described above. (See 38 C.F.R. Sec.3.666)***

One important requirement for eligibility for VA benefits is that the veteran has to have been issued either an honorable or general discharge, or would have received one if not for re-enlisting. If a veteran had two periods of service, one honorable and the other less than honorable, he may still be eligible for VA benefits based on the honorable period of service.

*VA Medical Care can not be provided to veterans in prison, but VA health facilities may provide care to you after your release. Contact 1-877-222-8387 to find the medical center nearest you.*

### **Benefits Payments While Incarcerated**

There is a 60-day "grace period" following a conviction when you may still receive full benefits. To avoid an overpayment, it is important that you notify the VARO immediately when you go to prison if you are receiving payments. If you do not notify the VA and receive overpayment, you and your family will lose all financial payments until the debt is paid.

*For example, Joe is a veteran who receives a VA pension. He commits a crime, is convicted, and is incarcerated, but doesn't tell the VA right away and keeps getting paid for 6 months. After serving his sentence of 18 months, he is released and applies to the VA to have his pension restarted. He will have an overpayment which must be recovered from the restarted benefits. Until the overpayment is recovered, Joe will have to go without that income.*

Your award for compensation or pension benefits should resume from the date you are released, as long as the VA receives notice of release within one year. Form 21-4193, Notice to Department of Veterans Affairs of Veteran or Beneficiary Incarcerated in Penal Institution, available through your counselors should be completed before release, signed by a prison official and submitted to VA Benefits Administration.

### **Apportionment**

Although legally, the veteran can only receive a portion of the full amount payable for his or her disability rating, the remaining balance may be "apportioned to the individual's dependent family". To apply for apportionment, the veteran must send a letter that identifies the veteran and the apportionment claimant and makes it clear they are requesting an apportionment of his VA benefits to the VA Regional Office (VARO) that has jurisdiction over the veteran's case. VA regulations clearly specify this apportionment amount will only go to family members if they can show financial need for such amount. This applies to the spouse, children, or dependent parents who are involved in the application.

In deciding whether any apportionment is appropriate, the amount of the apportionment, and to whom it will go, the following factors are considered:

- The family member's income and living expenses;
- The amount of compensation available to be apportioned;
- The needs and living expenses of other family members; and
- Special needs of any of the family members.

*For example: a veteran incarcerated rated as 80 percent disability can only receive the amount he or she would get if he or she were 10 percent disabled. However, his or her family may be apportioned up to 70 percent, the difference of the 80 percent rating. (DIC may also be apportioned with similar restrictions.)*

There is a 60-day "grace period" following conviction where the veteran, or Dependency or Indemnity Compensation (DIC) recipient, may still receive full benefits. If the veteran continues to receive benefits after the 60-day period, it will result in an "overpayment". The VA considers it to be the recipient's responsibility and fault if this occurs because the recipient failed to notify the VA of his or her incarceration. Attempts to obtain a waiver in these situations of overpayment are often unsuccessful. As a rule, the veteran loses most, if not all, financial benefits until the VA recovers the entire overpayment. It has also been a standard procedure that the family will not be entitled to receive an apportionment until the debt is completely recovered.

For more information concerning VA debt collection rules that may affect the veteran incarcerated, telephone: 1-800-827-1000 and request a Veterans Service Organization representative or, write to a Veterans Service Organization.

One other relevant restriction on veteran's incarcerated eligibility for service connected disability compensation is that: "No total disability rating based on un-employability, may be assigned to an incarcerated veteran".

It is important to remember that most VA decisions, including those on apportionment, can be appealed to the Board of Veterans Appeals and, if need be, to the Court of Appeal for Veterans Affairs.

### **Re-starting Benefits at Release**

It is important that each disabled veteran receiving compensation or DIC payments promptly notify the VARO. Regular full benefit payments should begin upon release, providing the VA is notified of the veteran's release, including placement within a community treatment center or halfway house in the community, within one year of release. VARO needs formal notification from the prison of your release in order to re-start benefits: The sooner that document is provided to VARO, the sooner VARO can begin to process your request.

### **Seeking Help After Release**

If you would like to get benefits or think you have a pending claim before the VA, it is best to get professional help to assist you.

Many Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs) have trained staff who can help you with your VA claim, and can legally represent your claim before the VA. Some also help homeless and at-risk veterans find the support services they need. You can contact any VSO listed in the Guidebook to learn an office near you.

### **Seeking Benefits On Your Own**

Although we encourage you to seek the aid of a service representative, you may choose to apply for VA benefits on your own. Write your local VA Regional Office or find the forms online at: [www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms1.htm](http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms1.htm). You can also apply for certain benefits online at: <http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp>.

### ***Debt Reduction***

To avoid an overpayment of VA benefits and creation of a debt, beneficiaries must report immediately to VA any change in their status, such as the amount of their income or net worth, the number of dependents, divorce, or withdrawal from school.

All debts must be repaid to VA. VA may assess interest and administrative fees, which will be added to the original amount of the debt until the debt is cleared.

Failure to repay a debt will affect one's credit. Collection of the debt may be turned over to a collection agency, or the debt may be offset by withholding federal income tax refunds or other federal payments, including federal pay and pension.

### **HELP SEEKING BENEFITS**

If you would like to get benefits or think you have a pending claim before the VA, it is best to get professional help to assist you.

Many veterans **Service Organizations** have trained staff who can help with your VA claim, and can legally represent your claim before the VA. Some also help homeless and at-risk veterans find support services they may need.

**The American Legion – Dept of WV  
304/343/7591**

**Veterans of Foreign Wars – Dept of WV  
304/768/7514**

**Disabled American Veterans – Dept of WV  
304/472/6611**

**Paralyzed Veterans of America  
304/925/9352**

**336 Campbells Creek Road Charleston, WV. 25306-6806**

**West Virginia Division of Veteran Affairs  
Stephen Goff, Veterans Affairs Officer  
304/627/2198**

**WV Veterans Coalition  
304/255/1003**

Although we encourage you to seek the aid of a service representative, you may choose to apply for VA benefits on your own. Write the VARO or find the forms at <http://www.va.gov/vaforms>. You can also apply for certain benefits at <http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp>.

Below are brief descriptions of forms needed to file for certain VA benefits. Be sure you use a return address where mail will get to you as quickly as possible. Make photocopies of all forms for your records before sending your packet to the VARO nearest you.

- VA Form 21-526 - Application for Compensation or Pension- must be filed to apply for compensation or pension. Mail your DD-214 and the following forms to the VARO nearest your release destination 30 to 45 days before your release.
- VA Form 21-4138 - Statement in Support of Claim - lets you explain why you deserve the benefits you are asking for because of your disability or disorder. It is best to have an experienced service representative help you complete the form.
- VA Form 21-4142 - Authorization for Release of Information - If you have received medical or mental health care, that may be relevant to your claim, from anyone other than a VA Medical Facility, you need to fill out a VAF 21-4142 giving permission for release of medical records to the VA.
- VA Form 10-10EZ - Enrollment for Medical Benefits - is used by the VA to determine if you can receive medical benefits. Complete the form and bring it with you to the VA medical facility where you will seek evaluation for treatment.
- VA Form 28-1900 - Vocational Rehabilitation for Disabled Veterans - is needed to apply for the vocational rehabilitation program to help veterans who were disabled during their service reach maximum independence in daily living, to learn the skills needed to get a job, and to find and keep a job. Send Form 28-1900 to the VARO in your area 10 to 15 days before your release.
- VA Form 70-3288 - Request for and Consent to Release of Information from Claimant's Records - is used to get records relevant to your claim from VA facilities (regional offices, medical centers, outpatient clinics, and vet centers). Request a fee waiver under section 38 C.F.R. Sec.1.526 (h), which requires the VARO to provide a veteran with one set of his or her records free of charge.

## **ELIGIBILITY FOR VETERANS HEALTH REGISTRIES**

Certain veterans can participate in a VA health registry and receive free medical examinations, including laboratory and other diagnostic tests deemed necessary by an examining clinician. VA maintains health registries to provide special health examinations and health-related information. To participate, contact the nearest VA health care facility or visit <http://www.va.gov/environagents/>.

**Gulf War Registry:** For veterans who served in the Gulf War and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF).

**Depleted Uranium Registries:** VA maintains two registries for veterans possibly exposed to depleted uranium. The first is for veterans who served in the Gulf War, including Operation Iraqi Freedom. The second is for veterans who served elsewhere, including Bosnia and Afghanistan.

**Agent Orange Registry:** For veterans possibly exposed to dioxin or other toxic substances in herbicides used during the Vietnam War, while serving in Korea in 1968 or 1969, or as a result of testing, transporting, or spraying herbicides for military purposes.

**Ionizing Radiation Registry:** For veterans possibly exposed to atomic radiation during the following activities: Atmospheric detonation of a nuclear device; occupation of Hiroshima or Nagasaki from August 6, 1945 through July 1, 1946; internment as a prisoner of war in Japan during World War II; serving in official or in Longshot, Milrow or Cannikin underground nuclear tests at Amchitka Island, Alaska, before January 1, 1974; or treatment with nasopharyngeal (NP) radium military duties at the gaseous diffusions plants at Paducah, KY; Portsmouth, OH; or the K-25 area at Oak Ridge, TN for at least 250 days before February 1, 1992, during military service.

## **Global War on Terrorism/ Operation Enduring Freedom /Operation Iraqi Freedom Initiative**

### **HEALTH CARE SERVICES FOR RETURNING COMBAT VETERANS**

The **U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs** (VA) provides needed health care, benefits, and support for returning service members.

**VA Healthcare – VISN 4** is part of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. We provide health care and social services to veterans in Pennsylvania, Delaware, and several counties in West Virginia, Ohio, New Jersey and New York. There are 10 hospitals and nearly 50 community-based outpatient clinics in our network.

**This Program is for:** Veterans, including activated Reservist members of the National Guard, are eligible if they served on active duty or in a theater of combat operations during a period of War after the Gulf War and have been discharged under other than dishonorable conditions. (Service after 9/11/2001)

#### **Services Offered**

- Case Management
- Compensation and Pension
- Counseling Services
- Dental Services
- Domiciliary Programs
- Education
- Enrollment services
- Mental Health
- Primary Care
- Pharmacy
- Physical Therapy
- Prosthetics
- Social Work Services
- Women's Health
- Substance Abuse
- Sexual Trauma Services
- Stress Management
- Urgent Care

#### **Dental Care**

If a veteran did not receive a pre-separation dental exam from the military, then the veteran is eligible to receive a dental examination from VA within 180 days.

## **Establishing Combat Veteran Eligibility**

VA has promoted new eligibility rules that provide Active Component and Reserve Component personnel who served in designated combat zones (since 11/11/98). Note that free care refers to all service related to the veteran's combat experience, even if there is insufficient medical evidence to conclude that such a condition is attributable to such service. Co-payments may be charged for treatment of non-combat related conditions. The President has signed the National Defense Authorization Act into Law (1/29/08). Combat veteran eligibility has been expanded from two years post discharge to five years post discharge. Contact your local VA for additional information.

## **Combat Stress Can Remain Even After You Return Home**

Even after returning from a theater of combat, stress can significantly interfere with a veteran's ability to relate to family, friends, and work. It can also affect other areas of daily functioning. The lingering effects of stress can be expressed as hostility, anger, trouble sleeping, and emotional numbing. Often times, work suffers due to absenteeism, fatigue, or impaired concentration. If you feel you may be experiencing any symptoms related to combat stress or military sexual trauma, please contact your nearest VA health care facility.

## **VA Centers in our Network**

There are twelve VA Vet Centers in our service area which may also be of assistance to returning service members. Vet Centers provide such services as neighborhood counseling for individuals and groups, and housing assistance. To find the closest VA Center, please contact the nearest VA medical center or check online at: [www.visn4.va.gov](http://www.visn4.va.gov).

## **GULF WAR VETERANS**

**Gulf War Period:** Beginning August 2, 1990, and ending on a date to be established by Presidential proclamation or by law. Active-duty personnel and reservists called to active duty during this period are eligible for the full range of wartime benefits after 90 days of active duty service.

**Compensation:** Gulf War veterans with an undiagnosed illness of at least six-month duration that manifests itself by Dec. 31, 2006, may be eligible for compensation. VA will compensate Gulf veterans who served anytime from August 1, 1990, through July 31, 1991, in the Southwest Asian theatre of operations of the

Gulf War and develop amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (Lou Gehrig's disease).

**Pension Eligibility:** Provides that service in the Gulf satisfies the service requirements for VA pension program, a needs-based benefit for wartime veterans who are not able to work, and for the needy survivors of wartime veterans.

**Veterans Health Benefits:** Three environment referral centers at VA medical centers have been established to treat Gulf War veterans with unusual symptoms possibly related to environmental contaminants.

Readjustment counseling is offered to Operation Desert Storm/Shield veterans.

Gulf War veterans are eligible for one-time treatment of dental conditions after discharge from service if they have 90 days of active duty.

**Veterans Housing Loans:** Provides VA guaranteed home loan eligibility after 90 days for active-duty members and members of the Reserves and National Guard activated in connection with the Gulf War.

**Pension Benefit:** Pension is payable to wartime veterans with limited income and assets who are permanently and totally disabled from non service-connected causes. Veterans age 65 or over need not meet the disability requirement.

**Pension Programs:** Public Law 73-2, Old Law  
Public Law 86-211, Protected Pension, effective June 1, 1960  
Public Law 95-588, Improved Pension, effective Jan. 1, 1979  
Any application for pension after Jan. 1, 1979, comes under the Improved Pension law

## **TRANSITION ASSISTANCE**

VA has stationed personnel at major military hospitals to help seriously injured service members returning from OEF and OIF as they transition from military to civilian life, including VA Seamless Transition, Transition Assistance Program,

Veterans' Workforce Investment, State Employment Services, Veteran Preference for Federal Jobs, and the Center for Veterans Enterprise. OEF/OIF service members who have questions about VA benefits or need assistance in filing a VA claim or accessing services can contact the nearest VA office or call 1-800-827-1000.

## **WOMEN VETERANS**

Most VA Medical Centers and Vet Centers have a designated Women Veterans Coordinator to assist women veterans in accessing VA benefit programs and healthcare services. To find the medical center near you, call 1-877-222-8387 or go to <http://www.starsandstripes.med.va.gov/>.

## **FINANCIAL HELP**

The American Legion provides **Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA)** from its national headquarters to help maintain a stable environment for children of veterans. To obtain an application, look in the phone book to contact a local post, or contact the National Headquarters to find the post nearest you.

If you are unemployed with little or no income, you may be able to get **food stamps**. A person may normally qualify for \$85 to \$100 worth of food stamps per month. Call the toll-free information number at 1-800-2215689, or find a list of food stamp hotlines for each state at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/>. You can also contact the local Department of Human Services, many drop-in shelters, or legal aid services to ask for an application.

**Supplemental Security Income (SSI)** benefits can be applied for before your release, even though you won't receive the benefits until after you are released. Food Stamps can be applied for together with SSI. Normally, it takes about three months to review an application, so apply well before your release date. It is best to get help filling out the application. For detailed information or assistance, call 1-800-772-1213, call or your local Social Security Administration office listed in the phone book blue pages, or go to: <http://www.ssa.gov/notices/supplemental-security-income/>.

**Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)** has a program called Emergency Food and Shelter Program to help prevent homelessness. Contact the local Office of the Mayor or United Way to ask who awards this money in your area and what the rules are.

## LEGAL HELP

*Veteran status issues:*

You should talk to a **Veterans Advocate Service Officer** for help with discharge upgrades, seeking benefits, and filing a VA claim.

*Other legal issues:*

Most law is state-specific. Most common legal problems are governed by the law in the state where you live or where the problem occurred. When looking for legal help, make sure that information you find applies to your state, or that the lawyer or other service provider is qualified to work in your state.

The **American Bar Association** has a web site with Guidelines about free legal services and links to directories of legal aid offices and pro-bono programs. Go to: [www.abanet.org](http://www.abanet.org).

**Legal Services or Legal Aid offices** have staff lawyers to provide free legal help to poor clients. The lawyers are usually experts in the types of problems that poor clients often have. Look in the yellow pages for a local Legal Aid office or check online for the program nearest you.

**Pine Tree Legal Assistance** has an online list of organizations across the nation that provides free legal help to clients who qualify. Go to [www.ptla.org/links/services.htm](http://www.ptla.org/links/services.htm).

Lawyers in private practice sometimes volunteer in "pro-bono" programs to take cases for poor clients free of charge. Check the yellow pages to contact your **Local Bar Association** to learn if there is a pro-bono program in your community, or go to [www.abanet.org/barserv/stlobar.html](http://www.abanet.org/barserv/stlobar.html).

## VA LIFE INSURANCE

For complete details on Service Members' Group Insurance, Traumatic Injury Protection Under Service members' Group Life Insurance, Family Service Members' Group Life Insurance, Veterans' Group Life Insurance, Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance, and Veterans' Mortgage Life Insurance visit the VA internet site at <http://www.insurance.va.gov/> or call toll-free 1-800-669-8477. Specialists are available between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Eastern Time, to discuss premium payments, insurance dividends, address changes, policy loans, naming beneficiaries and reporting the death of the insured.

If the insurance policy number is not known, send whatever information is available, such as the veteran's VA file number, date of birth, Social Security number, military serial number or military service branch and dates of service to:

**VA Regional Office and Insurance Center  
640 Fourth Avenue  
Huntington, WV 25701  
1-800-827-1000**

**VA Regional Office and Insurance Center  
1000 Liberty Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
1-800-827-1000  
(counties served: Brooke, Hancock, Marshall, Ohio)**

## **HOME LOAN GUARANTY**

VA home loan guaranties are issued to help eligible service members, veterans, reservists and unmarried surviving spouses obtain homes, condominiums, residential cooperative housing units, and manufactured homes, and to refinance loans. For additional information on VA loan uses, eligibility, guaranty amounts, VA appraisals required before loans are guaranteed by the VA, financing, loan assumption requirements and liability, loans for Native American veterans, and safeguards established to protect veterans, visit <http://www.homeloans.va.gov/>.

## **EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE**

Finding a job may be hard and can seem overwhelming, but it is possible and very important! While incarcerated, you should ask for vocational counseling and training so you are prepared to go to work when released. Don't wait until you get out to begin thinking about what you will do, start planning now!

## **EMPLOYMENT SERVICES**

The Department of Labor's (DOL) One-Stop Career Centers offer one-stop shopping for your employment and training needs. One-Stop Career Centers offer a variety of job finding resources in one place. Services include:

- Internet access to thousands of job listings in WV and nationwide
- Computerized job matching and direct referral to job opportunities
- Career counseling and job search workshops
- Assistance writing and publicizing your resume
- Assistance accessing training and retraining resources

The One-Stop Career Center is a new approach to the delivery of employment

and training services. State, county and local government agencies, community colleges, local non-profits, businesses and labor have joined forces to make it easier to find work, get training or change careers. There are One-Stop Centers and affiliates located throughout West Virginia. A listing of WV centers is available on the web at [www.servicelocator.org](http://www.servicelocator.org).

The VA Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment services help veterans with service-connected disabilities by providing job training and counseling to those who have an employment handicap. Services include help finding a job, on-the-job training, job development, and vocational training. If you are not eligible for these services, a VA counselor may help you find other options, goals, or programs. Contact your VA Regional Office (VARO) at 1800-827-1000, or go to <http://www1.va.gov/directory/Guide/division.asp?dnum=3>.

The VA Veterans Industries and Compensated Work Therapy programs offer structured work opportunities and supervised therapeutic housing for at-risk and homeless veterans with physical, mental health and addiction problems. VA contracts with private industry and the public sector to furnish work opportunities for these veterans, who learn job skills, re-learn successful work habits, and regain a sense of self-esteem. Veterans are paid for their work and given assistance with employment in the community. For further information, go to [www.vetsinfo.com](http://www.vetsinfo.com).

## **HOUSING**

It is important to know that you have a place to go when released. The first step in returning to the community is finding a place to stay. This section includes ways to locate VA residential and transitional programs. Transitional or temporary housing can serve as a step toward full independence. However, there are often waiting lists for housing assistance programs, so you should ask about applying as soon as possible. In West Virginia and Pittsburgh, VA Medical Centers have residential rehabilitation and transitional housing programs that can assist with your adjustment to the community. Each program is unique and you will want to contact the homeless coordinator to learn more about admission criteria to either our Homeless Domiciliary Programs or our Grant & Per Diem Programs and other VA Residential Rehabilitation Services. Contact information for the individual homeless coordinators can be found at: <http://www.starsandstripes.med.va.gov/>.

## Section 3: How to Contact the VA

### VA Regional Offices that serve West Virginia residents:

VA Regional Office and Insurance Center  
640 Fourth Avenue  
Huntington, WV 25701  
1-800-827-1000

VA Regional Office and Insurance Center  
1000 Liberty Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
1-800-827-1000  
(WV counties served: Brooke, Hancock, Marshall, Ohio)

### HEALTH

#### *If eligible for veterans' benefits:*

- We encourage you to enroll in the VA Health Benefits System as soon as you are released. Every VA Medical Center has a Health Care for Homeless Veterans Coordinator who helps veterans and their families find resources inside and outside the VA Health Care system. Call 1-877-222-8387 or go to <http://www.starsandstripes.med.va.gov> to find the medical center nearest you.

### Health Care

AIDS Drug Assistance Program  
HIC Care Consortium  
P.O. Box 6360  
Wheeling, WV 26003  
304/242/9443

Berkeley County Health Dept.  
800 South Queen Street  
Martinsburg, WV 25401  
304/263/5131

Community Free Clinic  
Washington County Residents ONLY  
18 West Franklin Street  
Hagerstown, MD 21740  
301/733/9234

Jefferson County Health Dept.  
304/728/8415

Morgan County Health Dept.  
404 South Green Street  
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411  
304/258/1513

Winchester Free Clinic  
12 East Cork Street  
Winchester, WV 22601  
540/662/2130

## **VA Medical Centers in West Virginia**

Beckley VA Medical Center  
200 Veterans Avenue  
Beckley, WV 25801  
304/255/2121

Huntington VA Medical Center  
1540 Spring Valley Drive  
Huntington, WV 25704  
304/429/6741

Clarksburg VA Medical Center  
1 Medical Center Drive  
Clarksburg, WV 26301  
304-623-3461  
1/800/733/0512

Martinsburg VA Medical Center  
Route 9  
Martinsburg, WV 25401  
304-263-0811  
1/800/817/3807

## **SUBSTANCE ABUSE & MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT**

### ***If eligible for veterans' benefits:***

- Contact the Homeless Veteran Services Coordinator in the local VA Medical or the Vet Center. Call 1-877-222-8387 or go to <http://www.starsandstripes.med.va.gov/> to find the medical center nearest you.

### ***If not eligible for veteran's benefits, the following sources may be able to tell you where you can go to get help:***

- National Alliance for the Mentally Ill lists community mental health services providers at [www.nami.org](http://www.nami.org) or call 1-800-950-6264.
- National Mental Health Association offers support groups, rehabilitation, socialization, and housing services through 340 community organizations located across the country. Call 1-800-969-NMHA or find a local office online at [www.nmha.org](http://www.nmha.org).

## **VA Community Based Outpatient Clinics**

Charleston  
104 Alex Lane  
Charleston, WV 25304  
304/926/6001

Gassaway  
617 River Street  
Gassaway, WV 26624  
304/264/5654

Franklin  
Pendleton Community Care  
314 Pine Street  
PO Box 100  
Franklin, WV 26807  
304/358/2355

Mogantown  
40 Commerce Drive  
Suite101  
Westover, WV 26501  
304/292/753  
1/800/733/7535 Extension 4700

Parkersburg  
912 Market Street  
Parkersburg, WV 26101  
304/422/5114

Parsons  
206 Spruce Street  
Parsons, WV 26287  
304/478/2219

Petersburg  
Grant Memorial Hospital  
Route 55 West  
Petersburg, WV 26847  
304-257-1026 Ext 120

Logan  
513 Digness Street  
Logan, WV 25601  
304/752/8355

Williamson  
75 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Williamson, WV 25661  
304-235-2187

### **Vet Centers**

Vet Centers serve veterans and their families by providing a continuum of quality care, including professional readjustment counseling, community education, outreach to special populations, and the brokering of services with community agencies. They provide a key access link between the veteran and other services in the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs.

Beckley  
1000 Johnstown Road  
Beckley, WV 25801  
304-252-8220/8227  
1-877-859-8111

Charlestown  
521 Central Avenue  
Charlestown, WV 25302  
304-343/3825  
1/877/859/3111

Huntingdon  
3135 16<sup>th</sup> Street Road  
Suite 11  
Huntingdon, WV 25701  
304-523-8387  
1-877-859-7111

Logan Outstation  
21 Main Street West  
Henlawson, WV 25624  
304/752/4453 or 7269/7094

Martinsburg  
900 Winchester Avenue  
Martinsburg, WV 25401  
304/263/6776  
1/800/406/7871

Morgantown  
1083 Greenbag Road  
Morgantown, WV 26508  
304-291-4303  
1-800-470-6848

Parkersburg  
2311 Ohio Avenue, Suite A  
Parkersburg, WV 26101  
304/422/5114

Parkersburg Outstation  
2311 Ohio Avenue, Suite D  
Parkersburg, WV 26101  
304/485/1599/1916

Princeton  
905 Mercer Street  
Princeton, WV 24740  
304/425/5653  
1/877/860/9111

Wheeling  
1206 Chapline Street  
Wheeling, WV 26003  
304-232-0587/0589  
1/800/535/7950

### **National Cemeteries**

Grafton National Cemetery  
431 Walnut Street  
Grafton, WV 26354  
304-265-2044

West Virginia National Cemetery  
Route 2, Box 127  
Grafton, WV 26354  
304-265-2044

## **Section 4: State of West Virginia Division of Veterans Affairs**

The state of West Virginia offers benefits to veterans. Some of the benefits are listed below. For more information, contact the agency at 304-558-3661, toll free within WV 1-888-838-2332 or on the internet <http://www.wvs.state.wv.us/>.

**HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN ELIGIBLE VETERANS:** Specific information is available through the local County Assessor's Office.

**AGENT ORANGE PROGRAM:** The program administered by the West Virginia Division of Health expired July 1, 1989. However, assistance is provided to Korean and Vietnam veterans exposed to certain chemicals, defoliants or herbicides or other causative agents, including Agent Orange from the US Department of Veterans Affairs, Medicine and Surgery.

**STATE WAR ORPHANS EDUCATION:** Provides for a waiver of tuition and registration fees in a state supported college or university for children between the ages of sixteen and twenty-three whose veteran parent served in World War I, World War II, Korean Conflict, Vietnam Era or any time of conflict as declared by Congress. Parent must have died in such wartime period, or, if subsequent to discharge, death must have been the result of disability incurred in such wartime service.

**FREE HUNTING AND FISHING PRIVILEGES** for 100% service-connected veterans and those veterans in receipt of a VA auto grant.

**FREE LICENSE – AUTOMOBILE:** Provides special vehicle license plates, DV Tags without fee to any veteran in receipt of an auto grant or who is permanently and totally disabled due to service-connected causes, and former POW Tag as certified by the US Department of Veterans Affairs. Also recent legislation provides for Purple Heart Tags for those wounded in action and Pearl Harbor Survivors Tags for West Virginia veterans who were at Pearl Harbor during the attack on December 7, 1941. Veteran Plate for honorably discharged veterans can be purchased for a one-time fee of \$10.00 over and above the regular license fee required by Motor Vehicles.

**STATE VETERANS HOME (DOMICILIARY):** Domiciliary care in Veterans Home is for ambulatory veterans who are able to go to the dining room without help; can dress themselves; can make their own beds, and can participate in an assigned therapeutic activity. A veteran may be charged for care if he is able to pay.

**VETERANS PREFERENCE:** Under the West Virginia Civil Service System all veterans who have served under honorable conditions in the armed forces of the United States during World War II, Korea Conflict, Vietnam Era or during hostile conflict shall have five (5) points added to a final passing score. An additional five (5) points are added to a veteran's score if in receipt of the Purple Heart or has a compensable service-connected disability.

**VETERANS BONUS:** The West Virginia State Legislature approved four separate bonus programs for payment to veterans of World War I and World War II, Korean Conflict, the Vietnam Era and veterans of conflicts in Lebanon, Panama, Granada, and Desert Storm. The deadline for making application for these bonus programs has expired as indicated: World War I and World War II – December 31, 1955; Korean Conflict – June 30, 1959; Vietnam Era – December 31, 1976; Lebanon, Panama, Granada and Desert Storm – June 30, 1994.

**VETERANS RE-EDUCATION ACT FUND:** The West Virginia Legislature provides tuition assistance to those veterans who need a new vocation due to dislocation or unemployment. Veteran must have exhausted the G. I. Bill and be in need of tuition assistance.

## **WEST VIRGINIA VETERANS HOME**

The West Virginia Veterans' Home is located in the village of Barboursville, fifteen miles from downtown Huntington. Basic eligibility requirements are:

- Veterans must have been discharged from the service with an honorable discharge or with a general discharge under honorable conditions.

- Veterans discharged after September 7, 1980 must have served at least 24 consecutive months.
- The veteran must have been a resident of the State of West Virginia from one year immediately prior to applicant or entered military service from the state. Proof of residency will be required.
- Due to the health and welfare of residents of the Barboursville Veterans' Home, there are certain pre-admission medical tests which must be completed prior to being admitted to the hospital.
- All qualified veterans must be ambulatory and independent in all activities of daily living. The home is not a treatment facility and cannot accommodate veterans in need of daily care or skilled assistance. The home provides a nursing department and a contract physician. All medical treatment is provided by the VA Medical Center located in Huntington. Transportation is provided to the medical center three times daily.

Rooms available for occupancy accommodate two, three or four persons. Every effort is made to ensure compatibility between occupants. Female veterans are most welcome and special lodging accommodations are provided. A person's income is not a factor in gaining admission, although residents are required to contribute one-half of his or her monthly income as their maintenance contribution. The home is very liberal in its rules and regulations. Residents may leave on a pass for up to three days by simply signing a daily log sheet. Residents are authorized up to 30 days of furlough per year. Visitation to the home is encouraged and visitors may enjoy a meal with the residents at a nominal fee.

Emphasis is placed on maintaining a warm, attractive and comfortable "Home" for the West Virginia veteran who is in need of a place to live. Assistance with application for residency can be obtained through any of the West Virginia Division of Veterans Affairs Field Offices or call 304-736-1027.

## **WEST VIRGINIA VETERANS NURSING HOME**

The facility is the first veterans nursing home built in West Virginia and is located on 5.5 acres of land given to the State of West Virginia by the Department of Veterans Affairs. The nursing home is located on the Louis A. Johnson VAMC Clarksburg campus and has 120 beds, with 30 beds designated for Alzheimer patients.

West Virginia Veterans Nursing Home  
 One Freedom Way  
 Clarksburg, WV 26301  
 304/626/1600

## HUD-VASH

This joint Supported Housing Program with the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides permanent housing and ongoing case management treatment services for homeless veterans who would not be able to live independently without the support of case management. HUD's Section 8 Voucher Program has designated over 10,000 vouchers to Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) throughout the country for veterans who are homeless. This program allows veterans to live in veteran selected apartment units with a "Housing Choice" voucher. These vouchers are portable so that veterans can live in communities served by their VA medical facility where case management services can be provided. HUD- VASH services include outreach and case management to ensure integration of services and continuity of care.

### **Section 5: Community Resources and Services**

This section includes resources that can help you get back on your feet. Remember to check the phone book for local, county, and state agencies to find out what services are available in the area to assist you. Some organizations may have waiting lists, require an interview, or have specific rules about whom they serve. It is best to start asking about services and requirements now, in order to prepare for your release. You may even ask if your name can be put on a waiting list when you get closer to your release date.

To find a list of emergency shelters for men, women, and families in every state, check the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) at [www.hud.gov/homeless/hmlsagen.cfm](http://www.hud.gov/homeless/hmlsagen.cfm).

In order to assist homeless individuals, counties throughout West Virginia participate in **HUD's Continuum of Care**. Points of contact have been designated to furnish information about homeless resources in various counties, as indicated below:

Huntingdon, Cabell and Wayne Counties  
627 Fourth Avenue  
Huntingdon, WV 25701  
304/523/2764

## **Information & Referral**

Information and Referral                      Boone, Clay, Kanawha and Putman Counties  
1705 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Charleston, WV 25312  
1/800/540/8659

Information and Referral                      Cabell and Wayne Counties  
455 0th Street  
Huntington, WV 25701  
304/528/5660

Catholic Community Services              Lincoln County  
352 Mansion Street  
Hamlin, WV 25523  
304/824/3438

West Virginia 2-1-1                              Logan and Mingo Counties  
112 Adams Street, Room 205  
Fairmont, WV 26554  
304/366/4550

### **Coalition for Homeless Veterans**

Cabell-Huntington Coalition for the Homeless  
Donald DeBord  
627 Fourth Avenue  
Huntington, WV 25701  
304-523-2764

Greater Wheeling Coalition of the Homeless  
Lisa Badia  
PO Box 406  
Wheeling, WV 26603  
304-232-6105

Potomac Highlands Support Services  
Ken Dyke  
PO Box 869 – Airport Road  
Petersburg, WV 26847  
304-257-2448

**Listed below are homeless shelters, missions, meal sites, and other social services listed by county:**

### **Barbour County**

**Public Inebriated Shelter (also serves Randolph, Tucker, & Upshur Counties)**

102 Main Street  
Elkins, WV 26241  
304-636-8205 (site)  
304-636-3232 (main office)  
304-472-2022 (Buckhannon Office)  
Point of Contact: Linda Mealey

**Berkeley, Jefferson, and Morgan Counties**

**Community Networks, Inc. (Bethany House)**

P.O. Box 3064  
Martinsburg, WV 25402  
304-263-3510  
304-263-9734 (Fax)  
216 East John Street  
Martinsburg, WV 24501  
Point of Contact: Glenda Helman and/or Bunny Shaw

**BC Coalition for Homeless**

304/263/1345- For Information

**Children's Shelter**

304/263/5014

**Willow Brook Center for the Homeless**

304/728/8555

**Telemon Corporation (Martinsburg)**

304/263/0918

Housing Issues:

**C-Cap**

304/665/5685

**City Light**

304/722/1023

**Help with Housing**

304/955/1706

**Rural Economic Community Development**

304/667/2420

**Shenandoah Alliance for Shelter**  
304/459/4941

**Shenandoah Country Rental Assistance Program**  
304/459/3735

**Martinsburg Union Rescue Mission, Inc. (also serving Jefferson and Morgan)**

P.O. Box 843  
602 King Street  
Martinsburg, WV 25402  
304-263-6901  
Point of Contact: Danny Custer and/or Rev. Rowe

**Shenandoah Women's Center, Inc. (also serves Berkeley, Jefferson and Morgan)**

236 West Martin Street  
Martinsburg, WV 25401  
304-263-8522  
304-263-8559 (Fax)  
Point of Contact: Heather Moses

**Cabell and Wayne Counties**

**Harmony House**

627 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Huntington, WV 25701  
304/523/2764

**Huntington City Mission**

624 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Huntington, WV 25701  
304/523/0293

**Branches Domestic Violence Shelter**

P.O. Box 403  
Huntingdon, WV 25708  
304/529/2382  
1/888/538/9838

**Calhoun County**

**Resources and Safe Environments**

P.O. Box 57  
Elizabeth, WV 26143  
304-275-0941

## **Harrison County**

### **Almost Home (WVMHCA)**

507 East Pike Street  
Clarksburg, WV 26301  
Point of Contact: Lourence Shingleton  
304-624-8636

### **Clarksburg Mission (Shelter and Food Pantry)**

312 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Clarksburg, WV 26301  
304-622-2451  
304-622-6305 (fax)  
Point of Contact: Chris Mullett

### **H.I.S. Bridge Builders**

PO Box 4213  
Clarksburg, WV 26302  
608 Worthington drive  
Bridgeport, WV 26330  
304-669-1787  
Point of Contact: Gwen M. Cornman

### **Opportunity House (Half-way House)**

93 East Main Street  
Buckhannon, WV 26505  
304-472-2327  
304-473-8970  
Point of Contact: Art Turner

### **Susan Dew Hoff Memorial Clinic, Inc.**

PO Box 120  
925 Liberty Ave.  
West Milford, WV 26451  
304-745-3700  
Point of Contact: Sister M. Rebecca Fidler, Director

### **The Lord's Food Pantry**

6<sup>th</sup> and Pike Streets  
Clarksburg, WV 26301  
304-624-6536  
Point of Contact: Criss Cross

**Volunteers of America-WV**

Colonial Gateway

Rt. 2 Box 406

Suite 125

Clarksburg, WV 26301

304-626-3630

Point of Contact: Mary Conley and/or Bob Moore Program Manager

**Jackson County**

**New Beginnings (Formerly Rhea House)**

338 North Church Street

Ripley, WV 26271

304-457-9848

Point of Contact: Cindy Thompson

**Kanawha County**

**YWCA Sojourner's Shelter for Women, Children, and Families**

304-340-3562

**Resolve Family Abuse Program**

1114 Quarrier Street

Charleston, WV 25301

304/340/3554

1/800/681/8663

**Salvation Army**

Charleston, WV 25414

304/267/4612

**Salvation Army**

301 Tennessee Avenue

Charleston, WV 25302

**Salvation Army**

1223 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue

Huntington, WV 25712

**Salvation Army (Winchester)**

540-622-4777

**Liberty Center (for male Re-Entry program)**

1418 Washington Street E.

Charleston, WV 25301

**Crossroads Men's Shelter**

503 Leon Sullivan Way  
Charleston, WV 25301  
304/343/4352

**Giltinan Center (Men)**

505 Leon Sullivan Way  
Charleston, WV 25301  
304/340/3581

**Twin Cities Center (CMI) Men & Women**

100 MacCorkle Avenue  
St. Albans, WV 25177  
304/727/6179

**Jericho House (Women & family)**

401 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
St. Albans, WV 25117  
304/727/0179

**Roark-Sullivan Center**

304/340/3581

**Marion County**

**Fairmont – Marion County Food Pantry**

107 Jefferson Street  
Fairmont, WV 26554  
304-363-7150  
Point of Contact: Mitchell Weaver

**HOPE, Inc.** (Includes Harrison, Doddridge, Lewis and Gilmer)

P.O. Box 626  
Fairmont, WV 26554  
304-367-1100  
304-367-0362 (Fax)  
Point of Contact: Harriet Sutton

**Scott's Place Homeless Shelter/ NCWVCAA (serving all counties in West Virginia)**

215 Scotts place  
Fairmont, WV 26554  
304-366-6543  
304-366-6103 (fax)  
Point of Contact: Kirk Schmidt

**Union Missions of Fairmont, Inc. (Shelter/Food)**

107 Jefferson St.  
Fairmont, WV 26554  
304-363-0300  
363-2722  
Point of Contact: Rev. Frank Jarman

**Mason County**

Mason County Shelter  
306 South 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
Point Pleasant, WV 25550  
304-675-1124

**Monongalia County**

**Bartlett House, Inc. (All counties in West Virginia)**

1110 University Avenue  
Morgantown, WV 26505  
304-292-0101  
304-292-0031 (Fax)  
Point of Contact: April Fincham, Executive Manager

**Caritas House, Inc.**

PO Box 4066  
Morgantown, WV 26504-4066  
1000 Elmer Prince Drive  
Morgantown, WV 26505  
304-598-5111  
Point of Contact: Eric S. Simpson

**Morgantown Service League**

313 Chestnut Street  
Morgantown, WV 26505  
304-296-7825  
Point of Contact: Kay Bartrug

**Rape and Domestic Violence Information Center, Inc.**

(also serves Pendleton, Pocahontas, Preston, Putnam, and Raleigh)  
P.O. Box 4228  
Morgantown, WV 26504  
304-292-5100  
304-292-0204 (Fax)  
Point of Contact: Judy King-Smith

## **Randolph County**

### **Randolph County Homeless Shelter**

938 South Davis Avenue  
Elkins, WV 26241  
304-636-5193  
304-637-4718 (Fax)  
Point of Contact: Dave Watson

### **Women's Aid in Crisis**

P.O. Box 2062  
Elkins, WV 26241  
1-800-339-1185  
304-636-8433  
304-636-5564 (Fax)  
Point of Contact: Marsia White

## **Wood County**

### **Family Crisis Intervention-Emergency Shelter**

P.O. Box 695  
Parkersburg, WV 26102  
304-428-2333  
304-428-2398 (Fax)  
Point of Contact: Judy Ball

### **Parkersburg Area Coalition for the Homeless**

619 Market Street  
Parkersburg, WV 26101  
Point of Contact: Marie Modesitt

## **Salvation Army by County**

### **Harrison County (also serves Braxton, Doddridge, Gilmer, Lewis and Upshur)**

1010 Chestnut Street  
Clarksburg, WV 26301  
P.O. Box 366  
Clarksburg, WV 26302  
304-622-2360  
Point of Contact: Sharon Lauder

### **Monongalia County (also serves Marion and Preston)**

1264 University Avenue  
Morgantown, WV 26504  
304-296-3525/2792  
Point of Contact: Major Richard Hathorn

**Wood County (also serves Calhoun, Wirt, Jackson, Pleasant, and Ritchie)**

534 Fifth Street  
Parkersburg, WV 26101  
304-485-4529  
304-485-9605  
Point of Contact: Major Ryan Rickline

If your county is not listed, contact your local **Department of Health and Human Resources Office**.

**Low Income Housing**

**Charleston- Kanawha County Housing Authority**

911 Michael Avenue  
Charleston, WV 25312  
304/348/6451  
304/348/6888 (application)

**Mingo County Housing Authority**

5026 Helena Avenue  
Delbarton, WV 25670  
304/475/1450

**Cabell-Huntington Coalition for Homeless**

627 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Huntington, WV 25701  
304/523/2764

**Huntington WV Housing Authority**

360 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
P.O. Box 2183  
Huntington, WV 25273  
304/525/8977  
1/800/760/6171

**Martinsburg Housing Authority**

703 Porter Avenue  
Ambrose Towers Building  
Martinsburg, 25401  
304/263/8891

**Victory House**

226 Burke Street  
Martinsburg  
Apply through Amy Bayliss, GOALS  
Colleen Smith , Telemon 263/0916

**JC Chambers (Vets on the Rise)**  
304/267/2114 or 304/582/5560

**George Powell's Sober House**  
521 West Virginia Avenue  
Martinsburg, WV  
304/262/9507 or 304/283/1332

**Oslen House:** Call for bed availability and to arrange an interview. Must have had recent TB testing completed. VA pays for the first 2 months of stay.  
Frederick, MD  
Intake Coordinator: Kevin  
301/662/7003

**Wells House**  
Hagerstown, MD  
301/739/7748

**MOVV- Men of Valor and Vision**  
Rev. Larry C. Swanson, House Manager: 304/443/1271  
304/820/9972

**Welcome Home House**  
Per diem house in Hagerstown (through Way Station): Eligibility done by Amy Bayliss- GOALS, Interviews need to be set up through Bob Simpson.  
Requirements: 60-90 days of sobriety, VA pays per diem for veteran and veteran also pays rent, rent is 30% of veterans income up to \$250/month, stay up to 24 months, needs to be employable to meet long stay requirements, others with income can stay shorter period while making more permanent arrangements, SA aftercare, urinalysis, life skills, home groups and transportation to appointments at Martinsburg VA as needed.  
301/662/0099 Ext. 3516 or 240/285/4629

### **Employment**

**Workforce WV (Job Service)** 2699 Park Avenue (Cabell County)  
Suite 240  
Huntington, WV 25704  
304/558/0342

1321 Plaza East (Kanawha County)  
Charleston, WV 25301  
304/558/0342

1101 Hospital Drive (Putman County)  
Suite 202  
Hurricane, WV 25226  
304/757/7270

225 6<sup>th</sup> Street (Mason County)  
Point Pleasant, WV 25550  
304/675/0857

214 Dingess Street (Logan County)  
Logan, WV 25601  
304/792/7010

120 W. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Williamson, WV 25661  
304/235/6012

**Volunteers of America (Homeless Veterans Reintegration Project)**

303 6<sup>th</sup> Street W.  
Ceredo, WV 25507  
304/453/2900  
1/866/900/8387

**Aerotec**

39 Aiken Center  
304/262/8300

**Manpower**

253 Aiken Center  
304/263/3900

**Quad/Graphics, Inc.** (Located in Martinsburg, WV. Serves as the largest privately held printer of books, catalogs, magazines and direct mail in the Western Hemisphere. For more information call:  
1/888-QUAD/CAN or 1/888-682-JOBS.

West Virginia Civil Service  
304/348/3950

West Virginia Division of Rehabilitation Services  
304/267/0005

West Virginia Job Service  
304/267/0030

**Augmentation**

289 Rock Cliff Drive  
Shopping Center II  
304/267/4994

**MedStaff, Inc.**

1012 B Winchester Ave.  
304/262/9200

**Axiom**

1299 Old School Courthouse Square  
304/267/8350

**Goodwill Industries**

10 A Eagle School Rd.  
304/267/3177

**Spherion**  
Berkley Plaza  
304/267/9688

**Ranstad**  
782 Foxcroft Avenue  
304/262/4115

**Job Squad, Inc.** (Private non profit agency and a community rehabilitation program whose mission is to secure employment for people with disabilities.  
304/264/8406

## **Section 6: Other Useful VA Numbers & Contact Information**

### **Helpful TOLL - FREE NUMBERS**

Crisis and other toll-free numbers are often listed in the front cover or first few pages of the phone book. You may also want to check under "Social Services" in the blue or yellow pages for hotlines and local numbers.

### **US Department of Veterans Affairs — [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)**

- Benefits: 1-800-827-1000
- Medical Centers: 1-877-222-8387  
<http://www.starsandstripes.med.va.gov/visn4/>
- Persian Gulf War Helpline: 1-800-749-8387

**Focus On Recovery Helpline** - A 24-hour national alcohol and drug abuse Addiction and treatment hotline: 1-800-888-9383

**National AIDS Hotline** -Talk to someone who knows about HIV/AIDS and can tell you about AIDS services in your city or state: 1-800-822-7422

**National Coalition for Homeless Veterans — [www.nchv.org](http://www.nchv.org)** 1-800-838-4357

**National Suicide Prevention Hotline** -1-800-273-TALK (8255)

### **Non VA Health Care**

**WV Health Right** (medical and dental)  
1520 Washington Street E.  
Charleston, WV 25311  
304/343/7000

**Cabell-Huntington Coalition for the Homeless** (medical and dental)  
627 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Huntington, WV 25701  
304/523/2764

**Ebenezer Medical Outreach, Inc.** (medical)  
1448 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Huntington, WV 25701  
304/529/0753

### **Non VA Mental Health/Substance Abuse**

**Pretera Center for Mental Health Services**  
3375 US Route 60  
Huntington, WV 25705  
304/525/7851

**Pretera Center**  
511 Morris Street  
Charleston, WV 25301  
304/341/0511

### **WHERE TO START**

Check the local phone book yellow pages under "Homeless" or "Social Service Organizations" for a list of many local organizations that offer different services, such as clothing, public transportation tokens, and emergency shelter. You may need to contact several agencies in order to find all the services you need. Services provided by government agencies are listed in the blue pages found near the front of the phone book. Check with your local Public Assistance Office to find out what programs are available and information on their guidelines. We have included some guidance below, but your local organizations are your best resources. Remember, it never hurts to ask!

- All VA Medical Centers have **Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) Coordinators** who are responsible for helping homeless veterans to access VA and community-based care. The HCHV program provides outreach, clinical assessments and referrals for medical and mental health care, long-term transitional residential assistance, case management and employment assistance with linkage to permanent housing. To locate your nearest HCHV Coordinator, call 1-877-222-8387 or go to [www.va.gov/homeless](http://www.va.gov/homeless).
- **Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA)** provides assistance with information on benefits and entitlements, claims processing and support, trauma (PTSD) counseling, Veterans Homes for those in need of nursing care, and employment assistance through reintegration projects funded by the Federal government. Call 1-800-562-2308 or go to [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov).

Reentry Specialist Contact Information listed by State

<b>State</b>	<b>Name of Specialist</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>
Alabama	Harell Jamison	803-776-4000
Alaska	Diana Rogers	503-220-8262
Arizona	Danica Bogicevic	602-277-5551
Arkansas	Kyle Liotta	318-473-0010
California	Craig Lea	562-826-8000
Colorado	Michael Apgar	303-399-8020
Connecticut	Kevin Casey	781-687-3487
Delaware	Otis Nash	717-272-6621
Florida	Taylor Alyea	352-379-4955
Georgia	Varanese Cousan	404-321-6111
Hawaii	George Kennedy	650-493-5000
Idaho	Diana Rogers	503-220-8262
Illinois	Therese Lynch	312-569-8145
Indiana	Stacy Knipscheer	260-426-5431
Iowa	Brian Brooks	515-577-8068
Kansas	Rolando Vazquez	314-652-4100
Kentucky	Kathy Vasquez	859-233-4511
Louisiana	Kyle Liotta	318-473-0010
Maine	James Hart	781-687-3352
Maryland	James Haskell	410-605-7000
Massachusetts	Kevin Casey	781-687-3487
Michigan	Elvin Barren	734-845-5030
Minnesota	Brian Brooks	515-577-8068
Mississippi	Kyle Liotta	318-473-0010
Missouri	Rolando Vazquez	314-652-4100
Montana	Amy Earle	801-582-1565

Nebraska	Brian Brooks	515-577-8068
Nevada	Virginia Hines	702-636-3000
New Hampshire	James Hart	781-687-3352
New Jersey	Susan Moore-Magee	973-676-1000
New Mexico	Danica Bogicevic	602-277-5551
New York	Jonathan Pollack	518-626-5161
North Carolina	Eddie Watts	410-642-2411
North Dakota	Brian Brooks	515-577-8068
Ohio	David Shawlson	440-526-3030
Oklahoma	David Sands	713-791-1414
Oregon	Diana Rogers	503-220-8262
Pennsylvania	Otis Nash	717-272-6621
Rhode Island	Kevin Casey	781-687-3487
South Carolina	Harell Jamison	803-776-4000
South Dakota	Brian Brooks	515-577-8068
Tennessee	Suzanne Jenkins	615-327-4751
Texas	Warren Pearson	254-297-3699
Utah	Amy Earle	801-582-1565
Vermont	James Hart	781-687-3352
Virginia	James Temple	804-675-5333
Washington	Diana Rogers	503-220-8262
Washington D.C.	Rodney Carter	202-745-8000
West Virginia	Otis Nash	717-272-6621
Wisconsin	David Kagabitang	414-588-7019
Wyoming	Michael Apgar	303-399-8020