

# WELCOME HOME

## VETERANS' RESOURCES DIRECTORY

A City of Austin Veterans Program Initiative



**May 2014,**

To our National Guard Members, Reservists, Veterans and their Families,

This resource directory is a “road map” provided by the City of Austin Veterans Office; it serves as a token of appreciation for the selfless service of all of the men and women who have served in our nation’s armed forces. As a City and as a community, we want to continue to do our very best to support our service members; past and present. We are and will remain grateful to all the men and women for their honorable service to our nation, and want to help make their re-entry into our community as effortless as possible.

We also hope this directory will assist employers, counselors, nonprofits and faith-based organizations serving our valuable veterans. This is just one aspect of our commitment shared by our national, state and local partners to serve our Veterans, returning Service Members and their Families.

We thank you, and all and all our partners, for your efforts.

Most respectfully yours,

*Allen Bergeron*

Allen Bergeron

City of Austin

Veterans Program Manager



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The City of Austin Veteran’s Program has not evaluated the suitability of information provided in this directory, and inclusion of the information does not constitute endorsement of any organization or its services. The information provided is maintained by the respective organizations, which are solely responsible for their content. The information presented throughout this directory is provided without warranty of any kind, expressed or implied. While the information provided is believed to be accurate, it may contain inaccuracies.

# **VETERAN'S RESOURCE CENTERS**

## **LOCAL VETERANS SERVICE CENTERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

### **City of Austin Veterans Program Department**

Veterans Program Manager: Allen Bergeron – 512-974-3459

Veterans Program Coordinator: Tina Lee- 512-974-3306

Email: [Veterans.Program@austintexas.gov](mailto:Veterans.Program@austintexas.gov)

Website: <http://www.austintexas.gov/veterans>

The City of Austin's Veterans Services Office provides support for City employees who are in the National Guard and Reserve or are veterans, as well as their families. Support is provided before deployment, during deployment and during reintegration into the workplace.

On November 9, 2007, the City of Austin was declared a five-star employer by the Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve for its outstanding support of military employees.

The City of Austin Veteran's Program serves as the community liaison to the Mayor and Council and the City of Austin citizens. In 2012, in partnership with Texas Association of Viet Nam Veterans (TAVV), the City started the Furniture for no longer homeless Veterans program. Throughout the City of Austin and in partnership with the VA and City of Austin Code Department; we will pick up furniture in good condition to deliver to Veterans who are enrolled in the HUD-VASH program at Veteran Affairs. At this time, we are only able to serve those who are under case management through the VA but if you have any furniture in good condition to donate, please contact Tina Lee at the Veteran's Program.

### **Austin Vet Center**

2015 S. I.H. 35, Southcliff Bldg., Suite 101, Austin, TX 78741

Phone: 512-416-1314 or 877-927-8387

Website: <http://www.vetcenter.va.gov/>

**For assistance after hours, weekends, and holidays call: 1-877-WAR-VETS (1-877-927-8387)**

Hours of Operation:

- Monday: 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
- Tuesday: 8:00 am - 7:00 pm
- Wednesday: 8:00 am - 7:00 pm
- Thursday: 8:00 am - 7:00 pm
- Friday: 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
- Saturday: 8:00 am - 1:00 pm (4th Saturday of each month)
- Sunday: Closed

In an effort to better serve the veteran and family members, upon request Vet Centers will provide services after normal work hours and/or on weekends.

Vet Centers across the country provide a broad range of counseling, outreach, and referral services to combat Veterans and their families. Vet Centers guide Veterans and their families through many of the major adjustments in lifestyle that often occur after a Veteran returns from combat. Services for a Veteran may include individual and group counseling in areas such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), alcohol and drug assessment, and suicide prevention referrals. All services are free of cost and are strictly confidential.

### **City of Austin Commission on Veteran Affairs**

Website: <https://www.austintexas.gov/content/commission-veterans-affairs-1>

Serve as an advisory body to the council concerning the wellbeing of military veterans in the Austin area. The commission shall evaluate and recommend programs, policies, and practices designed to alleviate veteran's difficulties in meeting basic needs, obtaining housing, employment, and comprehensive mental health assistance; and act as a central clearinghouse for information relating to the status of veterans in the Austin community. See [Section 2-1-126 of the City Code](#) for additional duties.

Anyone is welcome to attend and please check the [Link](#) / Website for agendas, meeting times and updates

## **COMMUNITY BASED OUTPATIENT CLINICS**

### **Austin Outpatient Clinic:**

7901 Metropolis Drive, Austin, TX 78744

Phone: 512-823-4000 or 1-800-423-2111

Website: <http://www.centraltexas.va.gov/locations/Austin.asp>

### **LaGrange OutReach Clinic:**

890 E Travis St, LaGrange, TX

78945 Phone: 979-968-5878

### **Cedar Park Community Based Outpatient Clinic**

701 Whitestone Boulevard, Cedar Park, TX 78613

Phone: 512-260-1368 or 512-260-1368

Website: <http://www.centraltexas.va.gov/locations/CedarPark.asp>

### **New Braunfels Community Based Outpatient Clinic**

189 E Austin, Suite 106, New Braunfels, TX 78130

Phone: 830-629-3614

### **Seguin Community Based Outpatient Clinic**

526 E. Court Street, Seguin, TX 78155

Phone: 830-629-3614

**Temple VA Clinic Annex:**

4501 South General Bruce Drive, Suite 75, Temple TX 76502

Website: <http://www.centraltexas.va.gov/locations/TemplePACT.asp>

**Central Texas Veterans Health Care System, Olin E. Teague Veterans Medical Center:**

1901 Veterans Memorial Drive, Temple TX 76504

Phone: 254-778-4811 or 254-778-4811

Website: <http://www.centraltexas.va.gov/>

**COUNTY RESOURCES** - Services: Compensation, Pension, Education, Insurance,  
Medical, Death/ Burial Benefits

**Travis County Veterans Service Office**

VSO: Olie Pope Jr

100 N. IH-35, Suite 2400

Austin, TX 78701

Phone: (512) 854-9340

Fax: (512) 854-4453

Website: <https://www.traviscountytexas.gov/veterans-services>

Hours: Monday - Thursday 8 a.m.-noon and 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Fridays are Appointments only (no walk-ins).

**Caldwell County Veterans Services**

VSO: David Francis

405 East Market, Lockhart, TX 78644

Phone: 512-398-6492; Fax: 512-398-1837

Website: [http://www.co.caldwell.tx.us/default.aspx?Caldwell County/Veterans](http://www.co.caldwell.tx.us/default.aspx?Caldwell%20County/Veterans)

Hours: Mon. - Fri. 8:30 - 12:00, 1:00 - 5:00;

Wed. 1-5 PM @ Luling Field Office - Luling City Hall, Council Room 509 E. Crockett St. Luling, TX 78648

**Williamson County Veterans Services**

VSO: Donna Harrell

Veterans Services - Main Office - 3151 S.E. Inner Loop Georgetown, Texas 78626

Phone: (512) 943-1900

Fax: (512) 943-1905

Website: <http://www.wilco.org/CountyDepartments/VeteransServices>

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Closed: 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

### **Hays County Veterans Services**

VSO: Jude Prather

[jude.prather@co.hays.tx.us](mailto:jude.prather@co.hays.tx.us)

111 E. San Antonio Street (County Courthouse), Suite 200, San Marcos, TX 78666

Phone: 512-392-8387 FAX: 512-393-7718

Website: <http://www.co.hays.tx.us/veteran-services-1.aspx>

Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday

### **Bastrop County Veterans Services**

VSO: Richard Hutchins

[Richard.hutchins@co.bastrop.tx.us](mailto:Richard.hutchins@co.bastrop.tx.us)

801 Pine Street (Old Jail) Bastrop, TX 78602

Phone 512-581-4006

Metro 512-581-4007

Website: [http://www.co.bastrop.tx.us/default.aspx?name=co.veteran\\_services](http://www.co.bastrop.tx.us/default.aspx?name=co.veteran_services)

## **TEXAS STATE RESOURCES**

### **Texas Veterans Commission**

Stephen F. Austin Bldg. 1700 North Congress Suite 800, Austin, Texas 78701

512/ 463-6564; (Fax) 512-475-2395;

Local Benefits Info Line: 512/ 463-5538 Veterans Hotline: 1-800-252-VETS

Email: [info@tvc.texas.gov](mailto:info@tvc.texas.gov)

Website: <http://www.tvc.state.tx.us/>

Services: Offers services in claims representation, employment services, and veteran education program. Website serves as an informative referral site to other helpful veteran links.

### **Texas Veterans Portal**

Website: <http://veterans.portal.texas.gov/en/Pages/default.aspx>

The Texas Veterans Portal is a resource for veterans, their families, and their survivors. We have compiled helpful information from many government agencies here so you can find the assistance, services, and benefits you need. For immediate assistance, call 2-1-1 or 1-800-252-VETS (8387)

### **Legislative Assistance**

To find your elected representative, please visit <http://www.fyi.legis.state.tx.us/Home.aspx>

Members of the Texas Legislature and Congress provide constituent caseworker's to assist veterans with questions, concerns or issues concerning state and federal agencies.

## FEDERAL RESOURCES

### **U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**

VA Regional Office - Waco

1 Veterans Plaza, 701 Clay Av.

Waco, TX 76799

Website: [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)

Hours: 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM

The Waco Regional Office supports a full range of VA benefit programs, including compensation, pension, and vocational rehabilitation and counseling.

### **National Veterans Foundation**

VA BENEFITS GUIDE <http://nvf.org/veterans-benefits>

“We help Veterans and their families by serving their crisis management, information and referral needs through the Lifeline for Vets, outreach and public awareness.

When they call our Lifeline for Vets™ - 888-777-4443 - they reach another veteran of America’s armed forces.

### **National Resource Directory**

Website: <https://www.nrd.gov/>

Connecting Wounded Warriors, Service Members, Veterans, Their Families and Caregivers with Those Who Support Them.

Find Information by Subject including: Benefits & Compensation, Education & Training, Employment, Family & Caregiver Support, Health, Homeless Assistance, Housing, Transportation & Travel, Volunteer Opportunities

### **National Personnel Records Center**

Military Personnel Records 9700 Page Avenue

St. Louis, MO 63132-5100 314-801-0800

Hours: Monday through Friday, 7:30 AM to 3:45 PM. (Closed weekends and Federal holidays)

Website: <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/>

### **eBenefits**

Website: <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits-portal/ebenefits.portal>

“A Gateway to benefit information” eBenefits is a portal; a central location for Veterans, Service Members, and their families to research, find, access, and, in time, manage their benefits and personal information

## **My HealtheVet**

Website: [www.myhealth.va.gov](http://www.myhealth.va.gov)

My HealtheVet is the VA's Personal Health Record. It was designed for Veterans, active duty Service members, their dependents and caregivers. My HealtheVet helps you partner with your health care team. It provides you opportunities and tools to make informed decisions to VA appointments, refilling prescriptions, secure messaging, and healthy assessment.

## **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (Mental Health / Substance Abuse)**

### **VETERANS CRISIS LINE**

1-800-273-8255 Press 1

Confidential chat at [VeteransCrisisLine.net](http://VeteransCrisisLine.net) or text to 838255

### **Austin Vet Center**

2015 S. I.H. 35, Southcliff Bldg., Suite 101, Austin, TX 78741

Phone: 512-416-1314 Or 877-927-8387

Website: <http://www.vetcenter.va.gov/>

Toll Free: 1-877-WAR-VETS

## **COMMUNITY BASED OUTPATIENT CLINICS**

### **Austin Outpatient Clinic**

7901 Metropolis Drive, Austin, TX 78744

Phone: 512-823-4000

### **LaGrange Outreach Clinic**

890 E Travis St, LaGrange, TX 78945

Phone: 979-968-5878

### **Cedar Park CBOC**

701 Whitestone Boulevard, Cedar Park, TX 78613

Phone: 512-260-1368 Or 512-260-1368

### **New Braunfels CBOC**

189 E Austin, Suite 106, New Braunfels, TX 78130

Phone: 830-629-3614

### **Seguin CBOC**

526 E. Court Street, Seguin, TX 78155

Phone: 830-629-3614

### **Killeen Heights Vet Center**

302 Millers Crossing, Suite #4, Harker Heights, TX 76548  
Phone: 254-953-7100 or 877-927-8387

### **Temple VA Clinic Annex**

4501 South General Bruce Drive, Suite 75, Temple, TX 76502

### **Central Texas Veterans Health Care System, Olin E. Teague Veterans Medical Center**

1901 Veterans Memorial Drive, Temple, TX 76504-7451  
Phone: 254-778-4811 Or 254-778-4811

### **North Central Federal OPC**

17440 Henderson Pass, San Antonio, TX 79232  
Phone: 210-483-2900

## **AUSTIN RESOURCES**

### **Grace After Fire**

Email: [info@graceafterfire.org](mailto:info@graceafterfire.org)

Website: <http://www.graceafterfire.org/>

Grace After Fire is ready to expand our program through teaching, developing, and listening to the woman Veteran and her needs upon returning home. We commit to assisting in her transition back into family life, achievements in the work place, and her pursuit of happiness. To our volunteers; we want to continue to show our great appreciation for the hard work that is essential to the process of healing our women Veterans. We would also like to encourage you to recruit friends and family as volunteers to build onto the foundation you have laid. As for our donors and sponsors; it is because of your contributions that war and trauma do not have to continue to negatively impact our women Veteran's lives. With your donations funding our programs, we make significant changes in women Veteran's paths to personal discovery. We do this not by putting a Band-Aid on the wounds of post-traumatic stress, military sexual trauma, depression, or substance abuse, but by giving time and space for women Veterans to listen, connect and heal with one another.

### **Texas Center Point**

2101 S. Interstate 35, Suite 219, Austin Texas 78741

Phone: 512-297-2990 / 24 Hour Line: 855-352-6585

Email: [Texasvets@cpinc.org](mailto:Texasvets@cpinc.org)

Website: [http://www.cpinc.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=28&Itemid=142](http://www.cpinc.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=28&Itemid=142)

Provides individualized counseling, educational, vocational, and case management services to combat problems such as financial instability, unemployment, homelessness and emotional trauma. Center point offers critical services that interrupt the cycle of social and economic dislocation by providing training and support so that individuals and families can claim self- worth and dignity.

## **Military Veteran Peer Network**

Website: <http://www.milvetpeer.net/>

The Military Veteran Peer Network is an affiliation of Service Members, Veterans and Family Members dedicated to establish camaraderie and trust with each other, identifying and vetting community resources and, collectively, contributing to the communities where they live.

## **Samaritan Center for Counseling and Pastoral Care**

8956 Research Blvd Bldg 2

Austin, Texas 78758

Phone: 512-451-7337

Website: [www.samaritan-center.org](http://www.samaritan-center.org)

Call to schedule an appointment Office Hours: 9am - 5:30 pm

The Samaritan Center's mission is to improve the mental, physical and spiritual health of individuals and families in Central Texas. The Samaritan Center's primary goal is to provide mental health care and integrative medicine that is accessible and affordable, particularly to low income families and individuals who have little to no health insurance.

-- Many counselors are available for appointments before and after the main office hours

## **Austin Recovery**

Website: <http://www.austinrecovery.org/>

Phone: 512-697-8600 / 1800-373-2081

Our mission is to extend the hand of recovery to all those seeking alcohol and drug abuse treatment. Through the support of the community and generous gifts from our sustainers, we are committed to offering the highest quality inpatient rehab and other services at our recovery center, for some of the best prices in the country, and we accept many forms of insurance. Additionally, we provide residential addiction treatment for those without resources through funding from the State of Texas, local cities and counties and generous community groups and gifts. To find out about our costs and payment options, whether you are interested in residential addiction treatment or outpatient addiction treatment, call one of our Admissions Specialists

## **Disabled American Veterans**

Website: [www.dav.org](http://www.dav.org)

Eligibility: Veteran or dependent - Explanation of Benefits: Disability Rights Groups for Veterans – assists all veterans including active duty personnel and their families or dependents in securing governmental benefits, service pension, and hospital and outpatient medical/psychological care.

## **Sgt James Allen Chapter 219 (South)**

Mailing Address: PO Box 17504, Austin, TX 78760

Phone: 512-442-0425

Meetings are Held on the 2ND Wednesday of each month.

Time: 6:30 PM

Address: 1901 William Cannon Dr. STE 159, Austin, TX 78744

Phone: 512-442-0425

### **Lone Star Chapter 4 (North)**

Mailing Address: PO Box 9334, Austin, TX 76766

Phone: 512-955-4964

200 W Anderson Ln, Austin, TX 78752

Phone: 512-955-4964

Meetings are Held on the 1ST Wednesday of each month.

Time: 7:00 PM

### **Hope4ptsdvets.org (501c3)**

Mailing Address: PO Box 2427, Wimberley, TX 78676

Phone: 832.231.6690

Email: [info@hope4ptsdvets.org](mailto:info@hope4ptsdvets.org)

Website: <http://hope4ptsdvets.org/>

Based in Wimberley Texas and serves Active Duty Military and Veterans in the Temple/Ft. Hood, Austin, San Marcos, New Braunfels, and San Antonio areas. Veteran Support Squad Meetings: We are in the process of putting together a Squad in the San Marcos area. If you have an interest in learning more about the San Marcos Squad please contact [kevin.taylor@hope4ptsdvets.org](mailto:kevin.taylor@hope4ptsdvets.org).

Eligibility: Veterans and their families

Services: Veteran centered support squads, holistic treatment strategies, and to provide resources and assistance to veterans with PTSD/combat trauma while decreasing substance abuse, incarceration, homelessness, and suicide rates.

### **Lone Survivor Foundation**

2626 S. Loop W., Ste. 415 Houston, TX 77054

Office (832) 581-3592

Website: <http://lonesurvivorfoundation.org/>

Eligibility: Wounded veterans and their families. Retreats vary based on specific injury profiles. Some retreats are veterans only and others are veterans and their families. Call for details.

Explanation of Benefits: Holistic retreats focused on wellness and therapeutic support for service members and their families with similar service related injury profiles. Tailored protocols are implemented to address specific needs including counseling for groups, couples, or individuals and may include equine assisted therapies. In addition, participants are provided opportunities for ongoing peer networking, as well as an introduction to extended educational opportunities and community resources.

## **COUNTY RESOURCES**

### **Austin Travis County Integral Health**

Psychiatric and Counseling Services Building

Office Hours: 8 AM – 5 PM

1631 E. 2nd Street, Austin, Texas 78702

Take Capital Metro Transit Bus Route 17

Phone: 512-472-HELP (4357)

Email: BHSInfo@atcic.org

Website: <http://www.integralcare.org/content/counseling-and-psychiatric-care>

24/7 Crisis Hotline (472-HELP)

### **Austin Area Mental Health Consumers, Inc. (AAMHC)**

At the Self Help Advocacy Center (SHAC)

3205 South 1st Street, Austin, TX. 78704

Phone: (512) 442-3366

Fax: (512) 448-3366

Email: [theshac@yahoo.com](mailto:theshac@yahoo.com)

Website: <http://www.austinmhc.org/index.php>

Open Mon-Tue, Noon – 4:30 PM Wed-Fri, 9 AM - 4 PM

### **R.O.C.K, Ride On Center for Kids**

2050 Rockride Lane (formerly CR 110)

Georgetown, TX 78626

Phone: (512) 930-7625

Fax: (512) 863-9231

R.O.C.K., Ride On Center for Kids provides equine-assisted therapies and activities to children, adults and veterans with physical, cognitive and emotional disabilities. R.O.C.K. clients range from 2 – 88 years old and see improvement in most aspects of their life; from muscle tone, strength, flexibility, and balance to cognitive, behavioral and emotional improvements.

## **TEXAS STATE RESOURCES**

Statewide toll-free hotline: (877) 9-NO DRUG (877-966-3784).

Searchable database of all state-licensed and/or state-funded substance abuse service providers by county.

Website: <http://www.tcada.state.tx.us/treatment/index.shtml>

### **Texas Veterans Commission**

Claims Representation and Counseling (CR&C)

One Veterans Plaza

701 Clay Avenue, Waco, Texas 76799-0001

Phone: 254/ 299-9950; (FAX) 254/ 299-9910

## **FEDERAL RESOURCES**

### **National Veterans Foundation**

Website: <http://nvf.org/>

Hours: Mon – Fri 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Eligibility: Combat veterans of Vietnam era, World War II, Korea, Lebanon, Grenada, Panama, Persian,

and Gulf, Somalia; as well as veterans who were sexually harassed while serving in the military Services: Provides reintegration counseling, medical referrals, and assistance in applying for VA benefits, alcohol and drug assessments, and outreach and community education.

### **Military One Source**

Toll-Free: 800-342-9647

En español llame al: 877-888-0727

TTY/TDD: 866-607-6794

Website: <http://www.militaryonesource.mil/>

Military OneSource is a confidential Department of Defense-funded program providing comprehensive information on every aspect of military life at no cost to active duty, Guard and Reserve Component members, and their families. Information includes, but is not limited to, deployment, reunion, relationship, grief, spouse employment and education, parenting and childhood, and much more.

### **Military Family Life Consultants (MFLC)**

2200 W 35<sup>th</sup> Street, Building 34, Austin Texas 78703

Website: [https://www.mhngs.com/app/programsandservices/mflc\\_program.content](https://www.mhngs.com/app/programsandservices/mflc_program.content)

Nearly ten years ago, the Department of Defense (DoD) was seeking support services that could complement existing military behavioral health programs to support Service Members and their families who were struggling under the effects of extended and repeated deployments due to the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts. MHN Government Services, Inc. (MHNGS) pilot solution to DoD's challenge became what is perhaps the most important support program offered to Service Members and their families today: the Military & Family Life Counseling (MFLC) Program

## **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**

### **City of Austin Small and Minority Business Department**

4201 Ed Bluestein Blvd, Austin, Texas 78721

Phone: 512-974-7600

Website: <http://www.austintexas.gov/department/small-and-minority-business>

- Promote and encourage minority, women, and disadvantaged business owners to participate in business opportunities with the City of Austin;
- Afford Minority-Owned Business Enterprises (MBE), Women-Owned Business Enterprises (WBEs) and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs) an equal opportunity to compete for work on City contracts; and
- Encourage bidders to promote subcontracting opportunities to certified MBEs, WBEs and DBEs by soliciting firms for subcontracting opportunities.

### **TVC – Texas Veterans Entrepreneur Program**

Website: <http://www.tvc.state.tx.us/Entrepreneur-Program.aspx>

The purpose of the Veteran Entrepreneur Program (VEP) is to foster and promote Veteran Entrepreneurship throughout the state of Texas. For more information, please send an email to: [vep@tvc.texas.gov](mailto:vep@tvc.texas.gov)

### **Veteranscorp**

Website: <http://www.veteranscorp.org/>

The Veteranscorp.org mission is to help structure and facilitate collaborations between nonprofit and profit small business entities and veteran/service disabled veteran owned small businesses.

### **Entrepreneurship Boot Camp for Veterans with Disabilities (EBV)**

Whitman School of Management, 721 University Ave, Suite 116, Syracuse, NY 13244

Phone: 315-443-6007/8736

Email: [ebvinfo@syr.edu](mailto:ebvinfo@syr.edu)

Website: <http://whitman.syr.edu/ebv>

Program at Mays Business School: Texas A&M University 4221 TAMU College Station, TX, 77843

Phone: (979) 862-7091

The 'Entrepreneurship Boot camp for Veterans with Disabilities' (EBV) offers cutting edge, experiential training in entrepreneurship and small business management to soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines disabled as a result of their service supporting operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. EBV applications will be accepted from veterans with a 'service-connected disability' as designated by the Veterans Administration, and who have served on active duty after September 2001. This program is entirely free to the veteran.

### **Small Business Administration (SBA) Veterans Representative**

Website: [www.sba.gov/VETS](http://www.sba.gov/VETS)

Veterans Business Development

The U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) mission is to foster enhanced entrepreneurship among eligible veterans by providing increased opportunities; to vigorously promote the legitimate interests of small business concerns owned and controlled by eligible veterans and to ensure that those concerns receive fair consideration in purchases made by the Federal government. Contact one of the SBA Veterans Business Development Center offices below for information regarding programs and loans for veterans in Texas. We have also provided the web address for The Office of Veterans Business Development

### **Texas State University SBDC**

7719 Wood Hollow Dr. Suite 211 Austin, TX 78731

Phone: 512-610-0996

Website: <http://sbdc.mccoy.txstate.edu/>

The Texas State University Small Business Development Center (SBDC) works with existing and startup small businesses to help them grow and compete in today's global economy. SBDCs are available to

provide assistance during every phase of the business life cycle. The improvements that result from our direct support of our client's activities lead to job creation, investments, and economic growth for communities throughout central Texas.

The SBDC's professional staff of business advisors, trainers, and researchers provides comprehensive, confidential business counseling services at no cost to the client. The SBDC is funded in part by the U. S. Small Business Administration and Texas State University, and is supported by an extensive network of banks, chambers of commerce, and other economic development organizations. The Texas State University SBDC serves 12 counties within the 79-county service area of the [South-West Texas Border SBDC Network regional office](#). This regional office, located in San Antonio, directs the activities of 10 satellite SBDCs, located as far west as El Paso and as far east as Victoria

### **Austin SCORE**

5524 Bee Caves Road Westland Park Building M, #100, Austin, TX 78746

Phone: 512-928-2425

Website: <http://austin.score.org/>

SCORE is a nonprofit association dedicated to educating entrepreneurs and helping small businesses start, grow, and maintain their businesses. Austin SCORE certified Mentors are experienced entrepreneurs, corporate managers, and executives with a diverse set of industries and specialties who volunteer their experience and knowledge to help small business owners and entrepreneurs achieve success. Austin SCORE offers free Small Business Counseling and Resources, low-cost Business Workshops, and special customized services. The SCORE Association "Counselors to America's Small Business" is a nonprofit association comprised of 11,500 volunteer business counselors throughout the U.S. and its territories. SCORE members are trained to serve as counselors advisors and mentors to aspiring entrepreneurs and business owners. These services are offered at no fee, as a community service.

### **Big Austin**

5407 North IH 35, Suite 200, Austin Texas 78723

Phone: 512-928-8010

Website: <http://bigaustin.org/>

BiGAUSTIN is Central Texas' single-source solution for entrepreneurial education, tailored business counseling and flexible loans. BiGAUSTIN remains the leading non-profit micro-enterprise development organization for a number of very specific reasons.

### **SBA Patriot Express**

Website: <http://www.sba.gov/content/express-programs>

The U.S. Small Business Administration has announced the SBA's Patriot Express Pilot Loan Initiative for veterans and members of the military community wanting to establish or expand small businesses. Eligible military community members include: Veterans, Service-disabled veterans; Active-duty service members eligible for the military's Transition Assistance Program; Reservists and National Guard members; Current spouses of any of the above; and widowed spouse of a service member or veteran who died during service or of a service-connected disability.

## **Veterans Business Resource Center (VBRC)**

Phone: 314-531-VETS (8387)

Email: [info@vetbiz.com](mailto:info@vetbiz.com)

Website: <http://www.vetbiz.com/>

If you are an honorably discharged Veteran or a member of the Guard or Reserve, the Veterans Business Resource Center can assist you. Our staff of experts can help guide you toward your entrepreneurial goals. Their mission is to assist veterans and former service members that want to launch, grow, or sell their businesses. We provide counseling, mentoring, resources, and education for those seeking the next level of achievement.

## **VetFran**

Website: <http://www.vetfran.com/>

Offers franchise opportunities portal owned and operated by the International Franchise Association on behalf of its members. This site is for honorably discharged Veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces who are interested in going into business for themselves, but not by themselves. Each of the franchise systems offers specific discounts to U.S. Veterans for their respective franchise opportunities.

## **Veterans Business Outreach Program (VBOC)**

Lower Rio Grande Valley District (Texas, New Mexico, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma)

The University of Texas-Pan American

2412 S. Closner Blvd., Ste 160, Edinburg, TX 78539

Phone: 956/ 665-7547; Fax: 956/ 665-7561

Email: [vboc@panam.edu](mailto:vboc@panam.edu) Web: [www.utpa.edu/vboc](http://www.utpa.edu/vboc)

# **EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

## **Austin Community College**

Website: <http://www.austincc.edu/>

(ACC) is a state-operated community college with campuses around the Austin metropolitan area. It opened in 1973, and as of 2009 enrolled over 40,000 students across eight campuses with over 2,000 faculty and staff and 180 areas of academic and professional study. Tuition is scaled with the lowest rates to residents of the community college district; residents of Texas outside the Austin district pay more and out-of-state and foreign nationals pay the most tuition. Military and Veterans – (<http://www.austincc.edu/support-and-services/services-for-students/military-and-veterans>)

## **St. Edward's University**

Website: <http://www.stedwards.edu/>

Located on a hillside overlooking the city of Austin and the surrounding Texas hill country, St. Edward's University was founded in 1885. The Reverend Edward Sorin started Saint Edward's after having founded Notre Dame University in South Bend, Indiana. St. Edward's is a Catholic University with 3500 undergraduates and 850 graduate students (as of 2013). NCAA Division II athletic teams include men's and women's baseball/softball, basketball, golf, soccer and tennis. US News & World Report's 2011

publication ranks St. Edwards as 21st of regional schools in the Western United States for academics, noting the school maintains a 66% acceptance rate for new applying freshmen.  
Office of Veteran Affairs – (<http://think.stedwards.edu/veteranaffairs/>)

### **Concordia University of Texas**

Website: <http://www.concordia.edu/>

Concordia University of Texas was ranked 18th in the West for Regional Schools by US News & World Report's 2011 publication, which noted that 51% of applying freshmen are accepted. The student body consists of over 2500 students (as of 2013) with more than half of the students being women in four colleges: business, liberal arts, education and science. The mission statement of Concordia is "to develop Christian leaders." The university notes that student of all faiths are welcomed into Concordia where students "receive much more individual instruction and mentoring from faculty than is normal for higher education."

### **University of Texas**

Website: <http://www.utexas.edu/>

The University of Texas at Austin, known as "UT" is a research university and the flagship of the all the University of Texas campuses. Founded in 1883, the campus has over 50,000 undergraduate and graduate students (as of 2013), consistently in the top ten of student campus populations. The University employs 16,500 faculty and staff. It is ranked 13th and 45th as best state school and best national schools by US News & World Report's 2011 publication. The Texas Longhorns compete in a variety of college athletic programs; the annual competition with their chief rival, the Texas A&M Aggies, is one of the biggest football games in Texas.

Student Veteran Services – One stop shop for all veteran education needs at UT.

([www.utstudentveteranservices.org](http://www.utstudentveteranservices.org)) Student Services Building, 4.472

100 West Dean Keaton Street AS800

Austin, Texas 78712-1100

### **Huston-Tillotson University**

Website: <http://www.htu.edu/>

Huston-Tillotson is traditionally considered an African-American university but has a multicultural, multiethnic and multi-faith student body of nearly 1,000 students (as of fall, 2011). The university is affiliated with the United Methodist Church and the United Negro College fund, and is located on a 24-acre campus near downtown Austin. Huston-Tillotson University offers undergraduate degrees in business, education, the humanities, natural sciences, social sciences, science and technology.

According to US News & World Report's 2011 publication, the freshman retention rate -- a barometer of student happiness -- is 52%.

### **Smaller Specialty Schools**

Austin is also home to many smaller or specialized centers for higher learning. Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary educates individuals to be ordained in the Christian ministry, offering master's and doctoral degrees in divinity and theology. The Austin Culinary Arts and Design School offers degree programs in media arts, design, fashion and culinary arts. For-profit Strayer University

maintains a campus in Austin for working adults continuing their education and offers several degrees to its 52,000 students across the country.

## STATE RESOURCES

### **College for Texans**

Website: <http://www.collegeforalltexans.com/index.cfm?objectid=6D14A588-F337-DE9F-C34472E57102FA06>

Services: Provides information and applications for returning veterans on Hazelwood Act benefits and other tuition/education benefits. CollegeForTexans.com is web site that can provide assistance in finding the right college for you. Texas Institutions of Higher Education

### **Texas Veterans Commission - Regional Office**

P.O. Box 12277, Austin, Texas 78711-2277

512/ 463-6564 (FAX) 512/ 475-2395

Website: [www.tvc.state.tx.us/](http://www.tvc.state.tx.us/)

It is the purpose of the Texas Veterans Commission to serve Texas veterans, their dependents and survivors, in all matters pertaining to veterans' benefits and rights. It is the designated agency of the State of Texas to represent the State and its veterans before the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

**Wartime veterans of the Spanish-American War through the Persian Gulf War**, who were legal residents of Texas at the time they entered military service may be entitled to a waiver of tuition and some fees at State-supported/public (taxpayer supported) colleges and universities. This benefit is also available to children of Texas servicemen and women who died or were killed in military service, and to children of Texas military personnel who are shown to be missing in action or prisoners of war. Also eligible are children of members of the Texas National Guard or the Texas Air National Guard killed since January 1, 1946, while on active duty either in service of Texas or the United States.

**Hazlewood Act** - Anyone who wants to apply for the Hazlewood Act does so directly at the State supported/public (taxpayer supported) school they wish to attend. All students who wish to use the Hazlewood Act are required to complete a Hazlewood Application; you can also acquire an application directly from the school. Any person claiming this benefit must have exhausted Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Education benefits. These benefits are Montgomery GI Bill Active Duty (Chapter 30); Veterans Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 32); Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserve (Chapter 1606); and Reserve Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 1607).

<http://www.tvc.texas.gov/Hazlewood-Act.aspx>

### **TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION - Skills for Veterans**

For assistance, contact TWC Workforce Business Services staff at 877-463-1777 or e-mail

[SkillsforVeterans@twc.state.tx.us](mailto:SkillsforVeterans@twc.state.tx.us). <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/svcs/funds/skills-veterans-initiative.html>

Private Texas employers can apply to the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) for the Returning Veterans Skills Training Grant by partnering with established training providers such as community

colleges, apprenticeship training programs, or community-based training programs with demonstrated experience. Employers must be based in Texas and good standing and in compliance with the Texas Unemployment Compensation Act and other applicable state and federal labor laws.

Veterans eligible for skills training scholarships must: be discharged or released from active duty within the previous 36 months under conditions other than dishonorable; have served during war, campaign, or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized; employed by a participating employer or have an offer of employment from a participating employer; and provide a DD-214 to document service status.

Scholarship funds can be used to pay tuition, books, and fees for eligible veterans. Scholarships may be granted for amounts up to \$1000 per scholarship. Scholarships may exceed \$1,000 with sufficient justification. The veteran's GI Bill is not affected.

## **TEXAS INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

Higher education is defined as study beyond high school. The Texas institutions of higher education in Harris County listed below were obtained from the College for Texans website. Additionally, it was verified that these institutions work with veterans and their benefits, either partially or fully. Check the specific institution for details. College for Texans institutions of higher education are divided into two categories, public and private institutions.

- Public institutions have been established by a governmental entity and are fully or partially funded by the taxpayers of Texas.
- Private institutions may be established by individuals, companies, religious institutions, etc.

## **FEDERAL RESOURCES**

**Military.com** has a good guide to state educational benefits for veterans and their dependents.

**For Military Student Aid**, - <http://www.finaid.org/military/>

**For Educational Financial Aid for Veterans and their Dependents:**

Website: <http://www.finaid.org/military/veterans.phtml>

## **U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Education Benefits**

The Department of Veterans Affairs provides information on educational benefits for veterans and their dependents.

## **Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program (DEA)**

It provides up to 45 months of education and training opportunities to eligible dependents of certain veterans. To be eligible, you must be the son, daughter, or spouse of a veteran who died or is permanently and totally disabled as the result of a service-connected disability, or who died while such a disability was in effect, or is MIA or captured in the line of duty by a hostile force, or is forcibly

detained or interned in the line of duty by a foreign government or power. Sons and daughters must be between the ages of 18 and 26. Spousal benefits end 10 years from the date the VA finds the spouse as eligible or from the date of death of the veteran. To apply, complete VA Form 22-5490, Application for Survivors and Dependents' Educational Assistance. For more information, call 1-888-GIBILL-1 (1-888-442-4551).

### **Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents**

Updated annually by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), the publication *Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents* contains information about education and training benefits available to veterans and eligible dependents. [VA Pamphlet 80- 02-1, 114 pages, Stock Number 051-000-00225-3.] The booklet may be obtained free of charge from VA hospitals or regional offices. To request a copy, visit your nearest VA facility, call 1-800-827-1000 or write to Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Public Affairs (80D), 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420. It is also available for download free in PDF format from the VA's web site. The publication can also be purchased for \$5.00 (\$6.25, international customers) from the US Government Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents, PO Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954. It is also available online in HTML format from the Consumer Information Center (CIC).

### **Veterans On-Line Application (VONAPP)**

VONAPP allows veterans to apply online for various veterans' benefits, including veteran's education benefits.

### **Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)**

MOAA offers several educational assistance programs, including interest-free loans, grants and the American Patriot Scholarship. For more information, send email to [edassist@moaa.org](mailto:edassist@moaa.org).

Other organizations that offer educational assistance to military personnel, veterans and their dependents include:

- Army Emergency Relief. Offers Dependent Children Education Program and Spouse Education Program.
- Air Force Aid Society. Offers General Henry H. Arnold Education Grant Program and General George S. Brown Spouse Tuition Assistance Program (STAP).
- Navy Marine Corps Relief Society. Offers VADM E.P. Travers Scholarship and Loan Program, USS Tennessee Scholarship Fund, Dependents of Deceased Service Members Scholarship Program, Admiral Mike Boorda Scholarship Program, Bridge Loans for Tuition Assistance Program and GI Bill and Spouse Tuition Aid Program (STAP).
- Coast Guard Mutual Aid. Offers the CGMA Supplemental Education Grant (SEG) Program, Stafford/PLUS Loan Origination Fee Refund Program and CGMA Supplemental Student Loans. See also the USCG Foundation Education Grant Program.
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### **The Department of Veterans Affairs' Veterans Benefits Administration's Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E)**

service is vested with delivering timely, effective vocational rehabilitation services to veterans with service-connected disabilities. Enabling our injured soldiers, sailors, airmen, and other veterans with disabilities for a seamless transition from military

service to a successful rehabilitation and on to suitable employment after service to our nation. <http://www.vba.va.gov/bin/vre/index.htm>. The purpose of this web site is to present information about the services that the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) program provides to veterans with service-connected disabilities. The web site provides information about vocational counseling available to active duty service members and veterans who have recently separated from active duty. You will also find information about vocational counseling and special rehabilitation services available to dependents of veterans who meet certain program eligibility requirements. <http://vetsuccess.gov>

### **VA Regional Office - Waco**

One Veterans Plaza 701 Clay Avenue, Waco, Texas , 76799

Benefits Information Number: 1-800-827-1000

Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) Number: 1-800-829-4833

Loan Guaranty Information Number: 1-888-232-2571

Website: <http://www.benefits.va.gov/waco/>

<http://www.vba.va.gov/ro/houston/index.htm>

Hours: 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Monday through Friday (excluding Federal Holidays).

**G.I. BILL.** The Education Service administers a number of VA Education Benefit programs. If you need assistance, please call their toll-free number 1-888-GI-BILL-1 (1-888-442-4551) to speak with a Veterans Benefits Counselor. The MGIB program provides up to 36 months of education benefits. This benefit may be used for degree and certificate programs, flight training, apprenticeship/on-the-job training and correspondence courses. Remedial, deficiency, and refresher courses may be approved under certain circumstances. *Generally, benefits are payable for 10 years following your release from active duty.* This program is also commonly known as Chapter 30. <http://www.gibill.va.gov/>

Current beneficiaries of vocational-educational counseling assistance participating in the following G.I. Bill programs:

Chapter 18 - *Benefits for Children of Vietnam Veterans, Spina Bifida Program*

Chapter 30 - *All-Volunteer Force Educational Assistance Program*

Chapter 32 - *Post-Vietnam Era Veterans' Educational Assistance*

Chapter 35 - *Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance*

Chapter 1606 - *Educational Assistance for Members of the Selective Reserve*

Chapter 1607 - *Reserve Educational Assistance Program*

Veterans and qualified dependents that is eligible for educational assistance under any of the above programs (Chapters). VR&E can provide a wide range of vocational and educational counseling services to service members still on active duty, as well as veterans and dependents who are eligible for one of VA's educational benefit programs. These services are designed to help an individual choose a vocational direction and determine the course needed to achieve the chosen goal. Assistance may include interest and aptitude testing; occupational exploration; setting occupational goals; locating the right type of training program and exploring educational or training facilities which might be utilized to achieve an occupational goal. Free counseling services are provided to eligible applicants.

<http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/vre/vec.htm>

**Military HOMEFRONT** is the official Department of Defense web site for reliable Quality of Life information designed to help troops and their families, leaders and service providers.

<http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil>

**Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Service** provides vocational-educational counseling to veterans and certain dependents. Individuals who are eligible for vocational-educational counseling include the following:

Transitioning service members who are within six months prior to discharge from active duty, or within one year following discharge from active duty

**Compensated Work Therapy/Veterans Industries (VI/CWT)** is a Department of Veterans Affairs vocational rehabilitation program that endeavors to match and support work ready veterans in competitive jobs, and to consult with business and industry regarding their specific employment needs. Using a business model, VI/CWT program staff specializes in working with facility management, human resource, and/or production personnel to address labor force deficits. Over the years VI/CWT veterans have been successfully employed in various competitive positions including health care, information technology, manufacturing, warehousing, construction trades, clerical and office support, retail and the services delivery.

### **Heroes Legacy Scholarship**

The "Heroes' Legacy Scholarships" program honors not only those who have fallen in battle, but all who have died or have become disabled through their active military service since September 11, 2001. The program is open to their dependent unmarried children under age 23. A disability is defined as one that results in the service member being eligible for, and receiving, Traumatic Service members' Group Life Insurance (TSGLI) or a permanent and total disability compensation rating of 100%.

<http://www.militaryscholar.org/legacy/>

## **EMPLOYMENT**

### **AUSTIN RESOURCES**

#### **Goodwill Central Texas**

Operation: GoodJobs

Email: [ogj@goodwillcentraltexas.org](mailto:ogj@goodwillcentraltexas.org)

Website: [www.goodwillcentraltexas.org](http://www.goodwillcentraltexas.org)

Intake phone number: 512-637-7580

Hours of operation: Monday-Friday 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Goodwill Central Texas has programs designed to assist individuals with barriers to employment.

Operation: GoodJobs specifically works with Veterans and family members of Veterans that are

needing additional assistance with finding and obtaining permanent employment. Goodwill provides \_\_\_\_\_



occupational specialties who have agreed to contribute their civilian job hunting and hiring experiences to fellow veterans of all ranks.

We provide resume coaching through our website and list up-to-date job postings from world-wide employers.

The Military Veterans Employment Network does not find or place veterans in jobs; however, through our network we assist veterans toward their future.

Website: <http://www.mven.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/MVENetwork>

### **American GI Forum**

#### **National Veterans Outreach Program**

2211 South IH 35, Suite #103

Austin, Texas 78741

(512)381-1901 Fax (512)381-1904

Website: [www.agif-nvop.org](http://www.agif-nvop.org)

Eligibility: Veterans recently released from active duty (within 48 months), Homeless Veterans, and Veterans facing a Substance Abuse issue; residing in the Greater Houston area. *\*Must provide a copy of the following:* DD-214 (Any discharge other than Dishonorable), Birth Certificate, State issued I.D.

Description: Established in 1972, the American GI Forum National Veterans Outreach Program, (NVOP), Inc. is a duly chartered non-profit, tax-exempt corporation headquartered in San Antonio, TX. NVOP is nationally recognized as an experienced and successful employment and training program. The NVOP has successfully completed over fifty local, state, and national grants. Congress passed the Veterans Workforce Investment Program (VWIP) in 1982. This is one of our government's most significant programs for helping the unemployed in this country.

### **Texas Center Point**

2101 S. Interstate 35, Suite 219, Austin Texas 78741

Phone: 512-297-2990 / 24 Hour Line: 855-352-6585

Email: [Texasvets@cpinc.org](mailto:Texasvets@cpinc.org)

Website: [http://www.cpinc.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=28&Itemid=142](http://www.cpinc.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=28&Itemid=142)

## **REGIONAL RESOURCES**

### **Workforce Solutions**

Website: <http://www.wrksolutions.com/>

Toll free telephone number: 1-888-469-JOBS (5627)

Services: Workforce Solutions operates 35 community-based career offices to help residents get a job, keep a job or get a better job – offering placement, career counseling and financial aid services. Each location provides free computer, fax and telephone usage to customers for job searches. Please call for location and information.

## **STATE RESOURCES**

### **Texas Workforce Commission**

Website: <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/jobs/job.html>

Services: The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) is the state government agency charged with overseeing and providing workforce development services to employers and job seekers of Texas.

### **Texas Veterans Leadership Program**

Phone: 888-VET-TEX1 (838-8391)

Email: [tvlp@twc.state.tx.us](mailto:tvlp@twc.state.tx.us)

Website: <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/jobseekers/texas-veterans-leadership-program>

The Texas Veterans Leadership Program is a Texas Workforce Commission resource and referral network connecting returning veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan with the resources and tools they need to lead productive lives and enjoy the full benefits of the society they have willingly served.

### **Texas Veterans Commission**

512-463-6826 State Headquarters Office

Email: [VetJobs@tvc.state.tx.us](mailto:VetJobs@tvc.state.tx.us)

Website: <http://www.tvc.state.tx.us/>

Eligibility: Veterans and eligible persons, i.e. spouse of deceased disabled veteran/MIA.

Description: Veterans Employment Services staff located in Workforce Solutions offices provide job matching and development services to eligible veterans and eligible person, including intake and assessment, counseling/case management, testing, job-search assistance, job development, referrals and job placement. For services call or visit the Veterans Employment Service staff at the Workforce Solutions office. To find Workforce Solutions career office nearest you, visit our website at [www.wrksolutions.com](http://www.wrksolutions.com) or see the list of offices below.

Services: Offers services in claims representation, employment services, and veteran's education program. The website serves as an informative referral site to other helpful veteran links.

Regional Veterans Employment: 713-383-2756, Email: [Houston\\_TVC@vba.va.gov](mailto:Houston_TVC@vba.va.gov)

Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

## **FEDERAL RESOURCES**

### **Veterans' Employment and Training Service (U.S. Department of Labor)**

TWC Building, Room 516-T

1117 Trinity Street, Austin, Texas 78701

Phone: (512) 463-2814

Website: <http://www.dol.gov/vets/>

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Description: Assistance to veterans having claims under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA). USERRA provides reemployment protection and other benefits for veterans. In addition, USERRA helps veterans understand employee eligibility and job entitlements, employer obligations, and benefits available to veterans through the act. Rights to

Re-employment. Veterans are entitled to re-employment rights with their last employer when they are released from the Armed Forces of the United States, providing their absence is no longer than four years. The right of re-employment is available regardless of whether the veteran was, prior to service, employed by the state, county or city government, or by private industry.

### **VA - Compensated Work Therapy**

Central Texas Veterans Health Care System:

Address: 2901 Montopolis Drive, Mental Health (116A), Austin, TX 78741

Phone: 512-389-6627

Compensated Work Therapy (CWT) is a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) vocational rehabilitation program that endeavors to match and support work ready veterans in competitive jobs, and to consult with business and industry regarding their specific employment needs. In some locations CWT is also known as Veterans Industries; these designations are synonymous. <http://www.va.gov/health/cwt/> Our professional CWT staff provides:

- State of the art vocational rehabilitation services
- Job matching and employment supports
- Vocational Case Management
- Work site and job analysis
- Consultation regarding assistive technology
- Reasonable accommodation
- Guidance in addressing ADA regulations compliance

### **VETERANS JOB BANK**

<https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits-portal/ebenefits.portal? nfpb=true& nfxr=false& pageLabel=Jobs>

Veterans Job Bank has moved to the eBenefits portal. This online resource has search function for private sector jobs, and federal jobs. It has career tools such as military skills translator, resume builder, and career assessment. There are also employment resources and services VetSuccess, Vocational Rehabilitation and Your Service Records.

## **ONLINE RESOURCES**

**WorkInTexas.com** ([www.WorkInTexas.com](http://www.WorkInTexas.com)) is a comprehensive online job search resource and matching system developed and maintained by the Texas Workforce Commission and the state workforce network.

**The Worksource** (<http://wrksolutions.com/jobs/veteranservices.html>) Probably the best site for a job search in Texas. The WorkSource website has the most up-to-date calendar of job related events in the area and links to other online resources.

**Military.com** ([www.military.com](http://www.military.com)) This site has a wealth of information about the job search process, building a resume, networking, and career fairs.

**Hero2Hired** (<https://h2h.jobs/>) everything you need to find a job.

We know that searching for a new job is a big undertaking. That's why Hero2Hired (H2H) was created: to make it easy for Reserve Component service members to connect to and find jobs with military-friendly companies. H2H also offers career exploration tools, military-to-civilian skills translations, education and training resources, as well as a mobile app. Support for H2H is provided through the Department of Defense's Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program.

**Monster** ([www.monster.com](http://www.monster.com)) Has lots of information about conducting a job search and many job opportunities.

**USAJOBS** (<https://www.usajobs.gov/>) USAJOBS.gov is a free web-based job board enabling federal job seekers access to thousands of job opportunities across hundreds of federal agencies and organizations, allowing agencies to meet their legal obligation (5 USC 3327 and 5 USC 3330) of providing public notice for federal employment opportunities.

**FedsHireVets** (<http://www.fedshirevets.gov/>) Feds Hire Vets is your single site for Federal employment information for Veterans, transitioning military service members, their families, and Federal hiring officials.

**HireVeterans** (<http://www.hireveterans.com/>) Recognized by industry experts as a leader, we offer Employers access to resumes and job postings so that they can reach our unique visitors. For U.S. Veteran Job Seekers, we offer the very best and relevant jobs offered by world class companies in the USA and abroad.

## **NETWORKING**

Use networking to establish useful contacts with people involved in or familiar with your chosen profession. Specifically, networking enables you:

- To find information about different companies and industries.
- To increase contacts and obtain referrals by getting as many people as possible involved in your job search.
- To gain exposure through one-on-one meetings whenever possible.
- To allow you to practice your communication skills.
- To get someone to remember you when a position does become available.

Develop your network, beginning with a list of relatives, former classmates, teachers, religious organizations, friends, previous business associates, civic organizations and neighbors. Let them know you're out of the military and looking for a job.

Volunteer or join social groups such as Team Red White and Blue (<http://www.teamrwb.org/>), Team Rubicon (<http://teamrubiconusa.org/>), and The Mission Continues (<https://www.missioncontinues.org/>).

## **WOMEN VETERANS**

### **Austin Vet Center**

2015 S. I.H. 35, Southcliff Bldg., Suite 101, Austin, TX 78741

Phone: 512-416-1314 or 877-927-8387

Website: <http://www.vetcenter.va.gov/>

**For assistance after hours, weekends, and holidays call: 1-877-WAR-VETS (1-877-927-8387)**

Vet Centers across the country provide a broad range of counseling, outreach, and referral services to combat Veterans and their families. Vet Centers guide Veterans and their families through many of the major adjustments in lifestyle that often occur after a Veteran returns from combat. Services for a Veteran may include individual and group counseling in areas such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), alcohol and drug assessment, and suicide prevention referrals. All services are free of cost and are strictly confidential.

### **Texas Center Point**

2101 S. Interstate 35, Suite 219, Austin Texas 78741

Phone: 512-297-2990 / 24 Hour Line: 855-352-6585

Email: [Texasvets@cpinc.org](mailto:Texasvets@cpinc.org)

Website: [http://www.cpinc.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=28&Itemid=142](http://www.cpinc.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=28&Itemid=142)

Provides individualized counseling, educational, vocational, and case management services to combat problems such as financial instability, unemployment, homelessness and emotional trauma. Center point offers critical services that interrupt the cycle of social and economic dislocation by providing training and support so that individuals and families can claim self-worth and dignity.

### **Grace After Fire**

Email: [info@graceafterfire.org](mailto:info@graceafterfire.org)

Website: <http://www.graceafterfire.org/>

Grace After Fire is ready to expand our program through teaching, developing, and listening to the woman Veteran and her needs upon returning home. We commit to assisting in her transition back into family life, achievements in the work place, and her pursuit of happiness. To our volunteers; we want to continue to show our great appreciation for the hard work that is essential to the process of healing our women Veterans. We would also like to encourage you to recruit friends and family as volunteers to build onto the foundation you have laid. As for our donors and sponsors; it is because of your contributions that war and trauma do not have to continue to negatively impact our women Veteran's lives. With your donations funding our programs, we make significant changes in women Veteran's paths to personal discovery. We do this not by putting a Band-Aid on the wounds of post-traumatic stress, military sexual trauma, depression, or substance abuse, but by giving time and space for women Veterans to listen, connect and heal with one another.

### **F7 Group**

Address: 2002 Guadalupe Street, Suite 327, Austin, TX 78705

Office: 512-222-6727 Fax: 817-977-4277

F7 stands for the seven tools the organization provides: friends, family, freedom, foundation, function, focus, flexibility and fundamentals.

The Fe-Ma-Le Foundation, working in tandem with the Texas Veterans Commission has assistance and

support programs available for female veterans. If you are a female veteran and are in need of financial, education, or employment support, please complete the form below and submit to the Fe-Ma-Le Foundation today. We will work to connect you with the resources you need and provide available financial assistance. Follow up and additional questions can be submitted to: [IAmAVet@F7Group.com](mailto:IAmAVet@F7Group.com)

### **Texas Veterans Commission**

Website: <http://www.tvc.state.tx.us/Women-Veterans.aspx>

Team: <http://www.tvc.state.tx.us/Women-Coordinator-Bio-s.aspx>

Edith Disler : Women Veterans Coordinator:

Pam Maercklein: Women Veterans Coordinator: [pam.maercklein@tvc.texas.gov](mailto:pam.maercklein@tvc.texas.gov).

Julie Puzan: Women Veterans Employment Coordinator: [julie.puzan@tvc.texas.gov](mailto:julie.puzan@tvc.texas.gov).

Carrie Sconza: Women Veterans Outreach Coordinator: [carrie.sconza@tvc.texas.gov](mailto:carrie.sconza@tvc.texas.gov).

TVC serves Women Veterans by helping them to obtain their benefits and services. We strive to raise awareness of Women Veteran contributions and services to our country and state, as well as inform and educate Women Veterans and Women Veteran resource providers about the benefits and services available to Women Veterans.

### **Easter Seals:**

Website: <http://www.easterseals.com/shared-components/document-library/study-on-female-veteran.pdf>

### **Veteran Affairs:**

Outreach Coordinator- Minnie Garcia: [Minerva.Garcia@va.gov](mailto:Minerva.Garcia@va.gov)

## **FAMILY AND CAREGIVER SUPPORT**

### **NONPROFIT RESOURCES**

#### **The Samaritan Center**

8956 Research Blvd. Bldg 2

Austin, Texas 78758

Phone: (512) 451-7337

Toll free (877) 426-HOPE (4673)

Website: <http://www.samaritan-center.org>

The Samaritan Center's mission is to improve the mental, physical and spiritual health of individuals and families in Central Texas. The Samaritan Center's primary goal is to provide mental health care and integrative medicine that is accessible and affordable, particularly to low income families and individuals who have little to no health insurance.

## **Hope For Heroes**

**Website:** <http://hopeforheroestexas.org/>

Hope for Heroes programs are open to Central Texas service members and their families of any military branch. We serve:

- » Active Duty Military
- » Reservists
- » Veterans
- » Family Members

## **Texas Center Point**

2101 S. Interstate 35, Suite 219, Austin Texas 78741

Phone: 512-297-2990 / 24 Hour Line: 855-352-6585

Email: [Texasvets@cpinc.org](mailto:Texasvets@cpinc.org)

**Website:** [http://www.cpinc.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=28&Itemid=142](http://www.cpinc.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=28&Itemid=142)

## **The Military Veteran Peer Network**

Austin/Travis County: 512.762.1990

San Marcos/Hill Country: 817.715.6672

Central Texas - 512.550.6653

The Military Veteran Peer Network (MVPN) is a group of veterans and veteran family members committed to supporting active and former Texas service members by offering mentorship and guidance, as well as help accessing the services and resources available to veterans. For more information please visit: [www.milvetpeer.net](http://www.milvetpeer.net). If you are a service member or veteran, get started by contacting the MVPN Coordinator in your region.

## **COUNTY RESOURCES**

### **Travis County Veterans Service Office**

100 N. IH-35, Suite 2400, Austin, TX 78701

Phone: (512) 854-9340 Fax: (512) 854-4453

Website: [http://www.co.travis.tx.us/veterans\\_services/](http://www.co.travis.tx.us/veterans_services/)

Hours: Monday - Thursday 8 a.m.-noon and 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Fridays are Appointments only (no walk-ins).

Services: Compensation, Pension, Education, Insurance, Medical, Death/ Burial Benefits. The mission of the Travis County Veterans Service Office is to ensure that Travis County Veterans and their families receive all the rights and entitlements provided for Veterans by Federal and State laws.

## STATE RESOURCES

### **Texas Veterans Commission**

AUSTIN STATE HEADQUARTERS STAFF

Send mail to: Texas Veterans Commission, P.O. Box 12277, Austin, TX 78711-2277

Veterans Hotline: 1-800-252-VETS

(Austin HQ) 512-463-5538

512-463-3932 (FAX)

Email: [info@tvc.texas.gov](mailto:info@tvc.texas.gov)

Office Location:

Texas Veterans Commission

Stephen F. Austin Bldg., Suite 800

Austin, Texas 78701

[Click here to locate a TVC Claims or Employment office near you.](#)

Eligibility: Compensation, Pension, Education, Insurance, Burial Benefits

### **Texas Army National Guard Survivor Outreach Services**

**Website:** <http://www.arng.army.mil/familyservices/Pages/SurvivorServices.aspx>

Harvey Mkulencak

Office: (512) 782-5681 Fax: (512) 782-5587

[harvey.l.mikulencak.ctr@us.army.mil](mailto:harvey.l.mikulencak.ctr@us.army.mil)

HQ TXARNG, Attn: G1 P.O. Box 5218, Camp Mabry Austin, TX 78763

### **Texas Veterans Land Board**

State Veterans Cemeteries

1700 N. Congress Avenue, Austin, TX 78701-

1496 Phone: 512-463-5977 FAX: 512-475-2294

<http://www.glo.texas.gov/vlb/veterans-benefits/veterans-cemeteries/index.html>

Hours: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Texas Veterans State Cemetery's web site: [www.glo.state.tx.us/vlb/cemetery/index.html](http://www.glo.state.tx.us/vlb/cemetery/index.html)

## FEDERAL RESOURCES

### **VA Caregiver Support**

<http://www.caregiver.va.gov/>

VA values your commitment as a partner in our pledge to care for those who have "borne the battle," and we have several support and service options designed with you in mind. The programs are available both in and out of your home to help you care for the Veteran you love and for yourself.

### **VA NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION**

Website: <http://www.cem.va.gov/>

### **VA Regional Office**

6900 Almeda Rd., Houston, Texas 77030

1-800-827-1000

Website: <http://benefits.va.gov/benefits/>

Hours: 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM

Eligibility: Compensation, pension, education, medical, Housing, burial benefits

### **Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center**

2002 Holcombe Blvd., Houston, Texas 77030

713-791-1414

Website: [www.myhealth.va.gov](http://www.myhealth.va.gov)

Hours: 7:00 AM to 4:30PM

Eligibility: Medical Care, Pharmacy RX.

Services: Emergency Room 24hrs.

### **VA Houston National Veterans Cemetery**

10410 Veterans Memorial Dr., Houston, Texas 77038

281-447-8686

Website: <http://www.cem.va.gov/>

Hours: 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Eligibility: Veterans must have DD214 and Honorable discharge. Burial for Veterans and Spouses of Veterans and dependent children unmarried under 21 years of age, or under 23 years of age pursuing a full-time course of instruction at an approved educational institution. Unmarried adult children who become physically or mentally disabled and incapable of self-support before reaching the age of 21.

**Funeral Arrangements:** Must be made and paid for by the family members. VA Only provides Chapel Services and the Plot free on charge.

### **National Personnel Records Center**

Military Personnel Records

9700 Page Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

Info: <http://www.military.com/MilitaryReport/0,12914,92137,00.html>

4 step request via Website: [vetrecs.archives.gov](http://vetrecs.archives.gov)

314-801-0800 Call to obtain Form DD-214 for deceased

veterans Monday through Friday, 7:30 AM to 3:45 PM

(Closed weekends and Federal holidays)

**Government Headstone or Markers** application contact number is 1-800-827-1000 or

[http://www.cem.va.gov/hmm/order\\_instructions.asp](http://www.cem.va.gov/hmm/order_instructions.asp)

### **Military Funeral Honors**

Department of Defense, Directorate of Public Inquiry and Analysis Room 3A750

The Pentagon, Washington D.C. 20301

Phone: 1800-827-1000

Website: <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/mfh/>

The Department of Defense (DOD) provides Military Funeral Honors at the burials of Veterans. When requested, funeral. Honors can be given at any cemetery-private or Government – operated. Most funeral directors make those arrangements with (DOD) on behalf of family members.

### **Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery**

Address: 2000 Mountain Creek Parkway, Dallas, TX 75211

Phone: (214) 467-3374 FAX: (214) 467-3316

Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Schedule a burial: Fax all discharge documentation to the National Cemetery Scheduling Office at 1-866-900-6417 and follow-up with a phone call to 1-800-535-1117

### **Fort Bliss National Cemetery**

Address: 5200 Fred Wilson Avenue, P.O. Box 6342, El Paso, TX 79906

Phone: (915) 564-0201 FAX: (915) 564-3746

Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Schedule a burial: Fax all discharge documentation to the National Cemetery Scheduling Office at 1-866-900-6417 and follow-up with a phone call to 1-800-535-1117

### **Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery**

Address: 1520 Harry Wurzbach Road, San Antonio,

TX 78209 Phone: (210) 820-3891 FAX: (210)

820-3445

Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Schedule a burial: Fax all discharge documentation to the National Cemetery Scheduling Office at 1-866-900-6417 and follow-up with a phone call to 1-800-535-1117

### **Houston National Cemetery**

Address: 10410 Veterans Memorial Drive,

Houston, TX 77038 Phone: (281) 447-8686 FAX:

(281) 447-0580

Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Schedule a burial: Fax all discharge documentation to the National Cemetery Scheduling Office at 1-866-900-6417 and follow-up with a phone call to 1-800-535-1117

### **Survivor Outreach Services**

Website: <http://www.va.gov/survivors/>

Email: [officeofSurvivors@va.gov](mailto:officeofSurvivors@va.gov)

The Office of Survivors Assistance (OSA) is a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) program designed to provide dedicated and comprehensive support to Survivors and dependents of deceased Veterans and members of the Armed Services.

## **FAMILY SERVICES**

### **Austin Vet Center**

Couples counseling

2015 S. I.H. 35, Southcliff Bldg., Suite 101, Austin, TX 78741

Phone: 512-416-1314 Or 877-927-8387

Normal working hours are 8am to 430pm Monday and Friday, *8am to 7pm Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.* Website: <http://www.vetcenter.va.gov/>

Toll Free: 1-877-WAR-VETS

### **Comfort Crew**

9020 N Capital of Texas Hwy. Bldg 1 #200

Austin, Texas 78759

512-337-2739

Website: <http://www.comfortcrew.org/>

The Comfort Crew Programs combine customized in-person live experiences, animated DVD's, guided journals, and an online web-portal to help kids through the unique situations they experience as a military kid in an extremely efficient and effective manner. Each Comfort Crew piece uses a unique blend of humor and personal stories to open kids up to talking about the "tough stuff." These unique edutainment experiences allow us to talk about serious subjects in a way that is accessible to children. Our experiences of impacting over 100,000 children in the past 2 years alone, and receiving hundreds of letters from kids, counselors, and parents ([Click Here To See Them For Yourself](#)) show that what we're doing is working and we're excited that with the help of people like you, together we can make these resources available to every military kid in need.

### **Armed Forces Foundation**

Website: <http://www.armedforcesfoundation.org/>

16 North Carolina Ave, SE, Washington, DC, 20003

Phone: (202) 547-4713

Fax: (202) 547-4712

e-mail: [info@armedforcesfoundation.org](mailto:info@armedforcesfoundation.org)

Provides direct financial assistance to Service members and their families facing financial hardship through injury and other service related situations.

### **Operation First Response**

Website: <http://www.operationfirstresponse.org/>

Operation First Response, Inc., supports our nation's Wounded Heroes and their families with personal and financial needs. Services are provided from the onset of injury, throughout their recovery period and along their journey from military life into the civilian world. Financial aid varies as each case is based on individual needs ranging from rent, utilities, vehicle payments, groceries, clothing, and travel expenses.

## **Operation Homefront**

8930 Fourwinds Dr. Ste 340, San Antonio, TX 78239

Phone: (210) 659-7756

Toll Free: (800) 722-6098

Fax: (210) 566-7544

Email: [Info@OperationHomefront.net](mailto:Info@OperationHomefront.net)

Website: <http://www.operationhomefront.net/>

Operation Homefront provides EMERGENCY financial and other ASSISTANCE to the FAMILIES of our service members and WOUNDED warriors.

## **Rebuild Hope**

<http://rebuildhope.org/>

Helping families of disabled veterans of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq rebuild their civilian lives.

## **National Military Family Association (NMFA)**

<http://www.militaryfamily.org/>

The National Military Family Association is the leading non-profit organization focusing on issues important to military families. We believe that all military families deserve comprehensive child care, accessible health care, spouse employment options, great schools, caring communities, a secure retirement, and support for widows and widowers.

Services: Scholarship funds, Operation Purple® summer camp, organizing retreats to help military families reconnect after dealing with a war-related injury or after long separation.

## **Military Spouse Scholarships**

<http://www.militaryfamily.org/our-programs/military-spouse-scholarships/>

The National Military Family Association recognizes the unique challenges today's military spouses face in pursuing additional training or education. Frequent moves make it difficult to complete programs and establish a career. We are here to help ease the financial obstacles that accompany pursuing a higher education. A valid Military ID is the only requirement to apply for the program. The scholarship funds may be used for tuition, fees, and school room and board for:

- GED or ESL
- Vocational training
- Professional certification
- Post-secondary
- Graduate school
- In-class or on-line
- Full-time or part-time

## **Operation Purple Camps (OPC)**

<http://www.operationpurple.org>

The National Military Family Association's Operation Purple camps are a time for having fun, making friends, and reminding military kids that they are the Nation's youngest heroes. The Operation Purple program also includes leadership camps for teens, family retreats at the national parks, and camps geared to address the needs of children and families of our nations wounded service members. Please direct questions regarding the Operation Purple program to OPC@militaryfamily.org.

## **Children of Fallen Soldiers**

<http://www.childrenoffallensoldiers.org/>

Our efforts include collecting Expressions of Appreciation, as well as implementing our America's Dream Mentorship Program, which provides a ten-year commitment to help each child achieve his or her dreams and goals. (773) 234-KIDS (5437)

## **Wounded Warriors + Families**

<http://www.militaryfamily.org/our-programs/operation-purple/wounded-warriors-families/>

Operation Purple Healing Adventures is an all-expense paid family camp experience for active duty or medically retired service members who were wounded or experienced emotional trauma or illness related to their service in Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF).

Members of the National Guard and

Reserve may be in either activated or drilling status, provided their injury was sustained while on active duty status.

## **Family Retreats**

<http://www.militaryfamily.org/our-programs/operation-purple/family-retreats/>

The National Military Family Association will offer four-day retreats two set in a National Park using nature's classroom, where families will have opportunities to strengthen and renew relationships, explore the natural surroundings, and participate in fun family-focused activities. These retreats are open to service members and their families who have experienced deployment within the last 15 months. To be eligible to be considered for these retreats, service members must have returned from deployment no less than 3 months or no more than 15 months prior to the start date of each retreat. Families who attend will receive a \$200 stipend per family upon arrival to the retreat site to cover cost of travel. The retreats are free thanks to support from the Sierra Club and the Sierra Club Foundation.

## **Military Family Award Program**

<http://www.militaryfamily.org/our-programs/awards/military-family-award-program/>

The Association's Military Family of the Year Award recognizes strong military families who embrace their service to the Nation, are role models in their community, and understand that together they are stronger. Nominate your family or a special family you know. One family from each of the seven Uniformed Services will be chosen, from the nominations submitted, to represent their Service branch. As you know that while one member joins, the whole family serves.

## **Teen Leadership Camps**

<http://www.militaryfamily.org/our-programs/operation-purple/teen-leadership-camps/>

The Operation Purple Leadership Experience (OPLE) is for military teens that have shown an ability and willingness to lead and mentor in their military communities. The summer camps are Phase I of II of the leadership experience. Camps are united in a mutual mission: to develop strong leadership skills by giving teens the tools needed to develop self-confidence and the opportunity to test their strengths and abilities. As a condition of this free program, each teen and his or her parent(s) must sign an agreement to complete a community service project and document progress with the National Military Family Association. All participants will be required to obtain a community mentor as part of the application process.

## **Traditional Camps**

<http://www.militaryfamily.org/our-programs/operation-purple/traditional-camps/>

Operation Purple camps offer a free week of summer fun for military kids with parents who have been, are currently, or will be deployed. The goal of the Operation Purple camp program is to give military children tools to help deal with the stresses that result from a parent's deployment, through a memorable camp experience in a "purple" environment. Operation Purple camps are open to military children of all ranks and Services: active and reserve components—and give priority to children whose parents are currently within a 15 month deployment "window").

## **U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) Paralympic Military Program**

<http://www.usparalympics.org/> (select Military)

The U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) Paralympic Military Program provides post-rehabilitation support and mentoring to American servicemen and women who've sustained physical injuries such as traumatic brain injury, spinal cord injury, amputation, visual impairment/blindness and stroke. Veterans are introduced to adaptive sport techniques and opportunities through clinics and camps and are also connected with ongoing Paralympic sports programs in their hometowns.

## **Military Sports Camps**

<http://www.usparalympics.org/pages/5139>

Paralympic Military Sports Camps are multi-day events for veterans and military personnel with physical injuries that aim to introduce individuals to a variety of summer and winter sport opportunities. During each camp, participants attend sports clinics conducted by Paralympic athletes and coaches. All service members attend the camp at no cost. Expenses related to travel, lodging and meals are covered by the USOC.

## **A Backpack Journalist – Military Youth Program**

A Backpack Journalist™ ([www.abackpackjournalist.com](http://www.abackpackjournalist.com)) program provides educational and emotional support for youth, 12-18. We have experience with at risk and military youth, through the deployment cycle, including reintegration and have provided training on various media to allow youth to express themselves and help connect with their parents/family/other youth.

## **Military personnel discounts**

<http://www.wdwinfo.com/discounts/discounts-military.htm> <http://www.military.com/DC/DealIndex.jsp>  
[http://www.militaryspot.com/resources/item/military\\_discounts](http://www.militaryspot.com/resources/item/military_discounts) <http://www.gggaz.com/discounts.php>  
<http://www.militaryfares.com/>  
<http://www.celebrate-freedom.com/>  
<http://www.forcesonline.com/>  
<http://www.army.com/resources/military-discounts.php>  
<http://www.airlinelowpricetickets.com/Military-Discount-Airline-Tickets.php>  
<http://www.militarycruisedeals.com/>  
<http://www.carsdirect.com/car-insurance/car-insurance-discounts-for-military-personnel>  
<http://www.usmilitary.com/1068/vacation-discounts-for-military-personnel/>  
[http://www.discountairfaresportals.com/military\\_discount\\_airfare.html](http://www.discountairfaresportals.com/military_discount_airfare.html)

## **Air Force and Navy Lodging Discounts**

<http://www.dodlodging.net/#>

## **Lowe's Discounts**

<http://www.lowes.com>

Lowe's Companies, Inc. will expand its support of the military by offering an all day, every day 10 percent discount to all military personnel who are active, reserve, retired or disabled veterans and their family members, with a valid, government-issued military ID card. All other military veterans will receive the discount on the Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Veterans Day weekends. The discount is available on in-stock and Special Order purchases up to \$5,000. Excluded from the discount are sales via Lowes.com, previous sales, and purchases of services or gift cards. In addition to offering military discounts at specific times during the year, Lowe's has extended benefits for its employees serving in the military and offers employment opportunities to military personnel after their military service has ended.

## **Military Travel Guide**

<http://militaryliving.com/>

## **Vacations for Military Families**

<http://www.afvclub.com>

## **Lukes Wings**

<http://www.lukeswings.org/>

Luke's Wings provides families with the means to visit during the service member's hospitalization and rehabilitation. By purchasing travel agency services and travel tickets for loved ones, Luke's Wings provides an immediate and invaluable service to the families of our men and women at arms while also

helping to encourage and motivate the service member's recovery.

FOR EMERGENCY FLIGHT REQUESTS, PLEASE CALL TOLL FREE 1-866-834-1682 IMMEDIATELY

For general inquiries, please email or mail us at:

[information@lukeswings.org](mailto:information@lukeswings.org)

### **Veteran Tickets Foundation**

**Website:** <http://www.vettix.org/>

Veteran Tickets Foundation (Vet Tix) provides FREE event tickets to family members of troops Killed In Action (K.I.A.), our Military and Veterans to sporting events, concerts, performing arts and family activities.

### **Air Compassion for Veterans**

**Website:** <http://aircompassionforveterans.org/>

Air Compassion for Veterans® serves to ensure that no financially-stressed wounded warrior, veteran, or adversely-affected family member is denied access to:

- Distant, specialized medical evaluation
- Diagnosis
- Treatment
- Counseling
- Rehabilitation
- Healing and restorative programs
- Programs assisting with reintegration into a productive life

We are here to help. There are three ways that you can request assistance from Air

Compassion for Veterans®: Use the online form to request assistance

Call our Operations Team: 888-662-6794

Email our Operations Team: [ops@aircompassionforveterans.org](mailto:ops@aircompassionforveterans.org)

If you're looking for more information about Air Compassion for Veterans:

Call our Program Team: 757-271-2289

Email our Program Team: [info@aircompassionforveterans.org](mailto:info@aircompassionforveterans.org)

## **NATIONAL REHABILITATION EVENTS**

### **National Disabled Veterans Summer and Winter Sports Clinics**

[www.summersportsclinic.va.gov](http://www.summersportsclinic.va.gov) Website: [www.wintersportsclinic.va.gov](http://www.wintersportsclinic.va.gov)

The clinics are an annual rehabilitation program open to U.S. military veterans with traumatic brain injuries, spinal cord injuries, orthopedic amputations, visual impairments, certain neurological problems and other disabilities, who receive care at a VA medical facility or military treatment center. It is the largest adaptive event of its kind in the world.

Contact information for Summer Sports: (858) 642-6426

### **National Veterans Golden Age Games**

This is the only national multi-event sports and recreational seniors' competition program designed to improve the quality of life for all older Veterans, including those with a wide range of abilities and disabilities. It is one of the most progressive and adaptive rehabilitative senior sports programs in the world, offering 14 different sports and recreational activities. Contact information:

(202) 745-8615

### **National Veterans Wheelchair Games**

<http://www1.va.gov/vetevent/nvwg/2009/registration.cfm>

The largest annual wheelchair sports competition in the world, this event offers 17 different sports to veterans who use wheelchairs due to spinal cord injuries, amputations and neurological diseases. The Games provide opportunities for newly disabled veterans to gain sports skills and be exposed to other wheelchair athletes.

### **National Veterans TEE Tournament**

<http://www1.va.gov/vetevent/tee/2009/ToCome.cfm>

Previously a local program, this new national event provides legally blind and eligible disabled veterans an opportunity to develop new skills and strengthen their self-esteem through adaptive golf and bowling events. Each year, the TEE Tournament uses a therapeutic format to promote rehabilitation, fellowship and camaraderie among participants.

### **National Veterans Creative Arts Festival**

<http://www1.va.gov/vetevent/caf/2009/ToCome.cfm>

This annual program is the culmination of talent competitions in art, creative writing, dance, drama and music for veterans treated in the VA's national health care system. All veterans invited to participate are selected winners of year-long, national fine arts talent competitions in which thousands of veterans enter, from VA medical facilities across the nation. Contact information for Winter Sports Santo Trombetta, Event Director (970) 242-0731 [Santo.Trombetta@va.gov](mailto:Santo.Trombetta@va.gov)

## **HEALTH CARE**

### **Local Veterans Service Centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs**

#### **Austin Outpatient Clinic**

7901 Metropolis Drive, Austin, TX 78744

Phone: 512-823-4000 or 512-823-4000

#### **LaGrange OutReach Clinic**

890 E Travis St, LaGrange, TX

78945 Phone: 979-968-5878

### **Cedar Park CBOC**

701 Whitestone Boulevard, Cedar Park, TX  
78613 Phone: 512-260-1368 Or 512-260-1368

### **Olin E. Teague Veterans' Medical Center**

1901 Veterans Memorial Drive  
Temple, TX 76504  
254-778-4811 | 800-423-2111

### **United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Veterans Health Administration**

Website: <http://www1.va.gov/health/index.asp>

Eligibility for most veterans' health care benefits is based solely on active military service in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, or Coast Guard (or Merchant Marines during WW II), and discharged under other than dishonorable conditions. Reservists and National Guard members who were called to active duty by a Federal Executive Order may qualify for VA health care benefits. Returning service members, including Reservists and National Guard members who served on active duty in a theater of combat operations have special eligibility for hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care for five years following discharge from active duty. Health Care eligibility is not just for those who served in combat. Other groups may be eligible for some health benefits. Veteran's health care is not just for service-connected injuries or medical conditions. Veteran's health care facilities are not just for men only. VA offers full-service health care to women veterans. Services: VA provides a Medical Benefits Package, a standard enhanced health benefits plan available to all enrolled veterans. This plan emphasizes preventive and primary care, and offers a full range of outpatient and inpatient services within VA health care system. VA maintains an annual enrollment system to manage the provision of quality hospital and outpatient medical care and treatment to all enrolled veterans. A priority system ensures that veterans with service- connected disabilities and those below the low-income threshold are able to be enrolled in VA's health care system.

## **COUNTY RESOURCES**

### **Travis County Central Health**

Website: <http://www.traviscountyhd.org/>

Central Health works to develop and maintain a network of health care services by identifying and prioritizing the community's needs and meeting those needs in the most effective and efficient ways possible. Rather than directly providing health care services, Central Health has developed a unique approach of contracting with a variety of providers to meet the health care needs of eligible residents. Central Health owns University Medical Center Brackenridge (UMCB), a nationally recognized Level 1 Trauma Center serving all Central Texas residents.

### **University Medical Center Brackenridge**

601 East 15th Street, Austin, TX 78701

Phone: 512-324-7000

Website: <http://www.seton.net/locations/brackenridge/>

Seton Healthcare Family is committed to caring for all people regardless of their ability to pay, with

special attention to those who are poor and vulnerable. Seton offers financial counseling and assistance to help address any financial concerns patients or families may have regarding their care. Our financial assistance application (English & Spanish) reflects Seton's dedication to working together with our patients in a compassionate and caring manner to identify options for resolving their financial obligations. Help and/or additional information regarding Seton's financial assistance policy is available by contacting Patient Financial Services (PFS) Customer Service at (512) 324-1125 or (800) 749-7624), or in person in Patient Access at any of our facilities

### **St David's HealthCare**

919 E. 32nd Street

Austin, TX 78705

Telephone: (512) 476-7111

Website: <http://www.stdavids.com/>

St. David's HealthCare provides the region with leading hospitals, conveniently located throughout Central Texas. Each St. David's HealthCare hospital features a certified Chest Pain Emergency Center, the latest technology and a team of talented physicians, nurses and staff providing the most specialized and advanced healthcare services.

### **Travis County Health and Human Service – Veterans Services**

Physical Address: 100 N. IH-35, Suite 2400, Austin, TX 78701

Phone: (512) 854-9340

Fax: (512) 854-4453

The Travis County Veterans Service Office provides eligible veterans, their dependents, and survivor's direct and general support and assistance in obtaining all benefits to which they are entitled from the Veterans Benefits Administration. The Travis County Veterans Services office is open Monday - Thursday 8 a.m.-noon and 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Fridays are Appointments only (no walk-ins).

## **STATE RESOURCES**

### **Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)**

<http://www.dars.state.tx.us/drs/index.shtml>

Services: The DARS Division for Rehabilitation Services is designated as the state's principal authority on the vocational rehabilitation of Texans with disabilities, except persons with visual impairments and the legally blind. The Division's main purpose is to assist people with disabilities to participate in their communities by achieving employment of choice, living as independently as possible and accessing high quality services. We provide a broad array of services through the following programs: vocational rehabilitation, transitional planning, supported employment, independent living services and centers, comprehensive rehabilitation programs, and DRS rehabilitation technology resource center.

DARS.Inquiries@dars.state.tx.us

## **State Veterans Home**

Phone: 512.463.5383 / 1.800.252.VETS (8387)

The VLB Texas State Veterans Homes provide affordable, long-term nursing care for Texas veterans, their spouses and Gold Star parents. Conveniently located across Texas, each first-class facility is designed to enhance quality of life with a clean, caring and dignified setting appropriate to those men and women who have served our country with honor.

## **FEDERAL RESOURCES**

### **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline**

1-800-273-TALK (8255)

<http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>

### **Veterans Crisis Line**

1-800-273-8255

<http://www.veteranscrisisline.net/>

### **U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**

VA Regional Office - Waco

1 Veterans Plaza, 701 Clay Av. Waco, TX 76799

Website: [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)

Hours: 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM

The Waco Regional Office supports a full range of VA benefit programs, including compensation, pension, and vocational rehabilitation and counseling.

### **National Veterans Foundation**

Website: [www.nvf.org](http://www.nvf.org)

“We help Veterans and their families by serving their crisis management, information and referral needs through the Lifeline for Vets, outreach and public awareness.

When they call our Lifeline for Vets™ - 888-777-4443 - they reach another veteran of America’s armed forces.

### **National Resource Directory**

Website: <https://www.nrd.gov/>

Connecting Wounded Warriors, Service Members, Veterans, Their Families and Caregivers with Those Who Support Them. Find Information by Subject including: Benefits & Compensation, Education & Training, Employment, Family & Caregiver Support, Health, Homeless Assistance, Housing, Transportation & Travel, and Volunteer Opportunities

### **TRICARE**

Website: <http://www.military.com/benefits/tricare>

TRICARE is a health benefit program for all seven uniformed services: the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, Public Health Service, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. To use TRICARE, you must be listed in DEERS as being eligible for military health care benefits.

## **Project Mend**

Website: <http://www.projectmend.org/veteran-programs.html>

Who we help: Low-income persons with disabilities of all ages; unemployed; underemployed; uninsured; and under-insured individuals and families in San Antonio and the surrounding South Texas counties.

Children (ages 0-18); Adults; Seniors; Veterans; Active Military Personnel & their families

Toll Free Phone: 1-888-903-6363

## **HOUSING/ HOMELESS VETERANS**

### **AUSTIN RESOURCES**

#### **Housing Authority of the City of Austin**

The Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA) owns and operates nearly 1,900 units of conventional public housing in 18 developments throughout Austin. Development sites range from high-rise apartments on Lady Bird Lake to small duplexes in residential neighborhoods. HACA also manages the Housing Choice Voucher/Section 8 Program that provides rental vouchers for more than 5,000 units of housing in Austin's private rental market.

The Housing Authority of the City of Austin website, [www.hacanet.org](http://www.hacanet.org), is the only website with information on how to apply for housing. Any other website that claims to accept applications or monies on behalf of the Housing Authority of the City of Austin is a fraudulent website. There is never a charge to apply for any program operated by the Housing Authority of the City of Austin.

•How to apply for Public Housing <http://www.hacanet.org/apply/public-housing.php>

\*\*\* The One Bedroom Public Housing waiting list is currently closed. \*\*\*

Please see the public notice for more information.

•Housing Choice Voucher Applications are not being taken at this time. The waiting list is currently closed. However, HACA plans to re-open the waiting list in late fall 2014.

#### **Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO)**

Address: 100 N. IH35, Suite 1003, Austin, TX 78701

Email: [info@austinecho.org](mailto:info@austinecho.org)

Website: <http://austinecho.org/>

The Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO) is a collaborative funding and planning nonprofit that is fiercely committed to ending homelessness in Austin, TX. As the lead agency for the Austin/Travis County continuum of care, our organization is charged with bringing together other nonprofit resources and making them accessible to the homeless population. We support agencies that bring together opinion leaders, volunteers, other nonprofits and service agencies to make meaningful, lasting changes in our community.

## NONPROFIT AND FAITH-BASED RESOURCES

There are a number of non-profit and faith-based housing providers in the Austin area. These providers have various eligibility policies. Most can be reached through calling 2-1-1 (<https://www.211texas.org/cms/search-veterans-assistance-in-texas>) and discussing your specific situation with the telephone counselor. Some specific programs include:

### **Caritas of Austin**

<http://www.caritasofaustin.org/programs-and-services/veterans-assistance>

Caritas of Austin's Supportive Services for Veteran Families program (SSVF) is designed to increase the housing stability of veteran families that are at-risk of or experiencing homelessness.

To learn more about the Veterans Program at Caritas of Austin, you may contact our Screening & Assessment line at 512- 472-4135 or attend a Veterans Orientation meeting. SSVF orientation meetings are held at Caritas of Austin every Monday at 2:00pm except January 20, February 17, May 26, September 1, and October 13.

### **Helping A Hero**

P.O. Box 890786, Houston, TX 77289

888-786-9531

[www.helpingahero.org](http://www.helpingahero.org)

Services: The Wounded Hero Home Program and Helping A Hero have merged as a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to meeting unmet needs of wounded veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan.

Criteria to apply: •Minimum 70% permanently Disabled •Injured IN THEATER during Operation Enduring Freedom/IraqiFreedom

### **Homes For Our Troops**

866-787-6677

[www.homesforourtroops.org](http://www.homesforourtroops.org)

Eligibility: Injured Iraq and Afghanistan veterans.

Services: Builds new homes or adapts existing homes for handicapped accessibility at no cost.

### **Austin Resource Center for the Homeless (ARCH)**

500 East Seventh Street, Austin, TX 78701

Phone: 512-978-9920 Fax: 512-901-9762

Patient Comment Line: 512-978-9918

Services at the ARCH are reserved for patients experiencing homelessness. Please note that the clinic is located within the ARCH Shelter.

### **Foundation Communities**

Website: <http://www.foundcom.org/>

Main Office: 3036 S. 1st Street, Austin, TX 78704

Phone: (512) 447-2026 Fax: 512 447-0288

Foundation Communities provides first class, affordable homes and free onsite support services for thousands of working families with kids, as well as veterans, seniors, and individuals with disabilities.

We offer an innovative, proven model that empowers our residents and neighbors to achieve educational success, financial stability, and healthier lifestyles. We own and operate 17 properties in Austin and North Texas.

### **Front Steps**

Physical Address: 500 East 7th Street, Austin, TX, 78701

Mailing Address: PO Box 684519, Austin, TX 78768-4519

Client Mailing Address: PO Box 2509, Austin, TX 78768

Phone: (512) 305-4100 Fax: (512) 482-0071

Website: <http://www.frontsteps.org/>

Front Steps is committed to providing a full range of services to support our clients in moving from homelessness to safe, affordable long-term housing. Front Steps operates supportive housing programs for chronically homeless individuals and closely coordinates with other homeless services providers in the community to access both transitional and permanent housing options.

Please contact us for more information or to get involved.

### **Green Doors**

Physical Address: 1503 S. I-35, Austin, TX 78741

Mailing Address: PO Box 685065, Austin, TX 78768

Telephone: 512.469.9130 Toll Free: 1-866-412-6591 Fax: 512.469.0724

Website: <http://www.greendoors.org/>

Transitional Veterans Re-Entry Housing

Green Doors also coordinates supportive services through a partnership with the Veterans Administration. Intensive case management services ensure veterans are pursuing a path towards self-sufficiency. Case management services include: outreach, creating and maintaining a service plan, referral to counseling, job and life skills training, and continuing education. Through the case management process, residents can access classes designed to improve independent living skills, including job readiness, life skills, money management, conflict resolution and decision-making.

### **Salvation Army**

<http://www.salvationarmytexas.org/austin/housing/>

**Austin Area Command:** 10711 Burnet Road Ste. #231, Austin, TX 7875

**Phone and Fax:** 512-782-8800 / 512-719-4495

**Hours:** 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Mon-Fri

**Downtown Shelter and Social Service Center:** 501 East Eighth Street, Austin, TX 78701

Phone: 512-476-1111

**Austin Shelter for Women and Children:** 4523 Tannehill Lane, Austin, TX 78721

Phone: 512-933-0600

Offers two emergency shelters in Austin and also houses Veterans through the SSVF Program. They have group homes, emergency shelters, and transitional living centers that provide housing, food, and overnight lodging for varying amounts of time to those in need. In addition, they provide educational, counseling and vocational services to homeless, destitute individuals and families, and youth where family care is undesirable or unavailable. For those families with temporal needs, family service

programs help families and needy individuals with emergency food, housing, and utility assistance. Salvation Army programs and services vary with local needs. For information on specific programs and locations, contact your local Salvation Army Corps Community Center by using the location search on this page.

### **Texas Homeless Network**

Address: 1713 Fortview Road, Austin, TX 78704

Phone: 512-482-8270

Fax: 512-478-9077

Website: [www.thn.org](http://www.thn.org)

Texas Homeless Network (THN) is a non-profit membership-based organization helping Texas communities prevent and end homelessness. We are a 501(c)3 organization that is partially funded through Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs and Texas Department of State Health Services.

THN provides training and technical assistance around the state of Texas helping service providers and communities better serve the homeless population with the end goal of preventing and ending homelessness.

### **Mobile Fishes and Loaves**

General email address: [info@mlf.org](mailto:info@mlf.org)

Mailing Address: 903 S. Capital of Texas Highway Austin, TX, 78746

Physical Address: 5524 Bee Cave Road, BLDG M, Austin, TX 78746

Telephone number: (512) 328-7299 Fax Number: (512) 328-7223

Website: <http://mlf.org/community-first/>

Community First! Village, a program of Mobile Loaves & Fishes, is a 27 acre master-planned community that will provide affordable, sustainable housing and a supportive community for the disabled, chronically homeless in Central Texas. The Community First! Village will radically transform and renew our community as the men and women living on the streets are lifted up into community and home.

### **A New Entry**

**Website:** <http://www.anewentry.org/index.html>

“A new start, a new life, a new entry.” We offer a sober, structured and supportive home that is equipped to encourage positive personal growth and development. Our family-style recovery supportive housing is for veterans; those in post-treatment and individuals navigating community reentry. We offer hope and a hand up to those who have served our country; and those who need to get back on their feet.

6633 E. Hwy 290, Suite 212, Austin, TX 78723

(888) 625-4440 toll free

(512) 464-1250 local

[services@anewentry.org](mailto:services@anewentry.org)

## COUNTY RESOURCES

### **Housing Authority of Travis County**

The Housing Authority of Travis County is an independent, government funded agency charged with the responsibility to provide access to safe, decent, low income housing to help meet the housing needs of the residents of Travis County, Texas. The Housing Authority of Travis County (HATC) exists to provide safe, decent and sanitary housing for low income families in Travis County, which includes the city of Austin and most of the area surrounding Austin, including: Cedar Park, Lago Vista, Lakeway, Del Valle, Manor, Elgin, Pflugerville, as well as parts of Leander and Manchaca. Currently waiting lists for our HUD assisted programs are full, therefore neither program is accepting applications at this time. When applications open again, there will be announcements in local papers and at local social service agencies. You may call to inquire about the waiting list status at 512-480-8245.

Both the conventional public housing and the housing voucher programs fill vacancies from separate waiting lists of applicants.

(512) 480-8245 Fax: (512) 480-8248

## STATE RESOURCES

### **Texas Veterans Land Board**

1-800-252-VETS (8387)

1-800-998-4456

<http://www.glo.texas.gov/>

Eligibility: Please call or go to website

Services: Provides Texas veterans with loans for land, housing, and home improvement. When requesting application materials, applicants must be sure to specify the program(s) in which they are interested. Interest rates can change, as they are determined by the rate the Texas Veterans Land Board pays on applicable bond proceeds.

These Texas veterans' loan programs are not associated with the federal VA; therefore, even if the vet has used their VA benefits, they may still be eligible for these state loan programs. Please contact office for further information.

## FEDERAL RESOURCES

### **Department of Veteran Affairs – Central Texas Veterans Health Care System**

Phone: 1-877-424-3838

Paula Wood – Temple: (254)-778-4811 (x 41253)

Andrew Miller – Austin: (512) 823-4446 (x 54446)

Website: <http://www.centraltexas.va.gov/services/homeless/>

The Central Texas Veterans Homeless Veterans Program provides outreach, case management and housing to Veterans who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless. The Homeless Veterans Program consists of the Health Care System's Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) Program, including Grant Per Diem (GPD) transitional housing, Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO), and Housing and Urban Development / Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD/VASH) Program.

## **Department of Veterans Administration (VA) Office**

6900 Almeda Road, Houston, TX 77030

Benefits Information: 1-800-827-1000

Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD): 1-800-829-4833 Loan

Guaranty Information: 1-888-232-2571

Website: <http://www.benefits.va.gov/houston/regional-loan-center.asp>

Hours: 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Monday through Friday (excluding Federal Holidays).

### **Home Loan**

Eligibility: Generally, the following persons are eligible:

- Veterans who were discharged since 9/16/40, under other than dishonorable conditions
- Military personnel on active duty who have served a minimum period
- Certain Reservists and National Guard members
- Surviving spouses of certain deceased veterans

Description: VA-guaranteed loan can be used to:

- Buy a home, a manufactured home, or a condominium
- Buy a lot for a manufactured home
- Build, repair, or improve a home (including energy efficient improvements)
- Refinance an existing loan

### **Specially Adapted Housing Grant**

Veterans who have specific service-connected disabilities may be entitled to a grant for the purpose of constructing an adapted home or modifying an existing home to meet their adaptive needs. The SAH grant is generally used to create a wheelchair accessible home. This grant is currently limited to \$50,000.

The SAH grant is available to veterans who have a service-connected disability due to military service, entitling them to compensation for permanent and total disability due to:

- The loss or loss of use of both lower extremities, such as to preclude locomotion without the aid of braces, crutches, canes, or a wheelchair, or
- Blindness in both eyes, having only light perception, plus loss or loss of use of one lower extremity, or
- The loss or loss of use of one lower extremity together with (1) residuals of organic disease or injury, or (2) the loss or loss of use of one upper extremity, which so affects the functions of balance or propulsion as to preclude locomotion without the aid of braces, crutches, canes, or a wheelchair or,
- Loss or loss of use of both upper extremities such as to preclude use of arms at or above elbow.

### **Special Home Adaptation Grant**

Veterans who have specific service-connected disabilities may be entitled to a grant for the purpose of modifying an existing home to meet their adaptive needs. The Special Home Adaptations (SHA) grant is generally used to assist veterans with mobility throughout their

homes. This grant is currently limited to \$10,000.

The SHA grant is available to veterans who have service-connected disability due to military service, entitling them

to compensation for permanent and total disability due to:

- Blindness in both eyes with 5/200 visual acuity or less or,
- The anatomical loss or loss of use of both hands and extremities below the elbow.

### **Home Improvements and Structural Alterations Grant**

Under the Home Improvements and Structural Alterations (HISA) program, veterans with service-connected disabilities or veterans with non-service-connected disabilities may receive assistance for any home improvement necessary for the continuation of treatment or for disability access to the home and essential lavatory and sanitary facilities. A HISA grant is available to veterans who have received a medical determination indicating that improvements and structural alterations are necessary or appropriate for the effective and economical treatment of his/her disability. A veteran may receive both a HISA grant and either a SHA or SAH grant.

The HISA program is available for both service-connected veterans and non-service-connected veterans.

- Home improvement benefits up to \$4,100 may be provided to service-connected veterans.
- Home improvement benefits up to \$1,200 may be provided to non-service-connected veterans.

### **Fisher House**

Services: A Fisher House™ is "*a home away from home*" for families of patients receiving medical care at major military and VA medical centers. These homes enable family members to be close to a loved one during the hospitalization for an unexpected illness, disease, or injury. (There is not a Fisher House in Austin) Eligibility and costs: Fisher Houses offer respite to the families of veterans who do not live within commuting distance of a U.S. military hospital or VA medical center. Criteria established locally by hospital. There are no room fees at Fisher Houses operated by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Description: The Houston fisher House contains 21 fully handicapped-accessible suites, each with two double beds and a private bathroom. The house also has a communal kitchen with private locked cupboards for each family, built-in range, refrigerator, freezer and pantry area, as well as a large common room, dining room, family room, and a laundry room with multiple washers and driers.

<http://www.fisherhouse.org/>

## **LEGAL SERVICES**

### **COUNTY RESOURCES**

#### **The Travis County Veterans Court Program**

The Travis County Veterans Court Program is a pre-trial diversion program for Veterans who are charged with non-violent misdemeanor offenses that may be related to Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) or other mental health problems resulting from their military service.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR PARTICIPATION

Veteran or current member of the United States Armed Forces, including a member of the Reserves, National Guard, State, Guard or Coast Guard.

Discharge from the military must be Honorable or General Under Honorable Conditions.

Also, the veteran must have or receive a clinical diagnosis of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), a traumatic brain injury (TBI), or mental disorder that resulted from military service in a combat zone or other similar hazardous duty area, and materially affected the veteran's criminal conduct for which they are being charged. Only non-violent misdemeanor charges pending in Travis County are currently eligible.

## PROCESS

Applications for admission must be submitted to the Veterans Court Manager by the defense attorney representing the veteran. Once a referral is received, the Veteran's Court Manager will screen the applicant for eligibility, schedule the veteran for assessment and staff the case with the County Attorney's Office. If the veteran meets the program criteria and is accepted into the program, their case will be transferred to the Veterans Court docket. If the attorney is Court-appointed, the case will be turned over to the Veterans Court contract attorney. If the attorney is retained, then the attorney will have the option of remaining on the case for the duration of the program.

## PROGRAM LENGTH

The Veterans Court Program is a 9 to 24 month program. The exact length of time in the program is determined by each participant's needs, progress toward successful implementation of the SAP and the nature of the offense.

Phone: 512-854-6629, 512-854-3829

Travis County Criminal Courts

509 W 11th St Suite 2.700

Austin, TX 78701

## **The Lawyer Referral Service of Central Texas**

The Lawyer Referral Service of Central Texas (LRS) offers a discount on legal fees to Veterans. LRS makes referrals to lawyers and other community resources in all areas of the law, including criminal, family, consumer, real estate, etc. <http://www.austinlrs.com/home>

Call the LRS at: 512- 472-8303 or 866-303-8303

Send mail to the LRS at: Lawyer Referral Service

P.O. Box 218, Austin TX 78767

## **LegalLine**

Sponsored by LRS, LegalLine, a free telephone legal hotline on the first Tuesday of each month from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. Free

Legal Advice

On every first Tuesday of the month, obtaining good, simple legal advice is easy--just call 512-472-8303 for LegalLine, the free legal advice hotline. Phones are answered between 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Sponsored by the Lawyer Referral Service of Central Texas, LegalLine is staffed by attorney

volunteers who answer legal questions and give brief legal advice. Questions concerning many areas of the law— family law; criminal; matters; traffic problems; consumer issues; landlord/tenant issues; employment law, and more...

## STATE RESOURCES

### **Texas Veterans Legal Assistance Hotline**

1-800-622-2520

<http://www.tlsc.org/>

The Texas Veterans Legal Assistance Project (VLAP) is a Texas Legal Services Center statewide project to expand the availability of legal assistance to low-income Texas Veterans and their families, with a focus on outreach to the disabled Veterans who live in rural areas of the state. There is no charge for our service, which is provided by telephone to eligible Veterans, at 1-800-622-2520, Option 2.

VLAP welcomes all civil legal questions, including those that relate to military benefits, federal and state public benefits and disability benefits. Common legal issues we address:

- Family law
- Employment
- Housing
- Consumer protection
- Bankruptcy
- Probate
- Department of Veterans Affairs benefits
- Expunction
- Military discharge upgrades

Eligibility Guidelines:

To receive services, you must be a Texas resident, a Veteran (or the spouse, dependent, or surviving spouse of a Texas

Veteran), and have household income at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines.

## FEDERAL RESOURCES

### **The Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program**

701 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Ste 131, Washington, D.C. 20004

202-628-8164; Toll Free: 888-838-7727; Fax: 202-628-8169

Email: [mail@vetsprobono.org](mailto:mail@vetsprobono.org)

[www.vetsprobono.org](http://www.vetsprobono.org)

Eligibility: Must meet all of the following criteria:

- You are a veteran (or qualifying family member of a veteran)
  - You have received an adverse decision from the Board of Veterans' Appeals (BVA)
  - You have appealed that BVA decision to the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims (the court)
  - You do not have an attorney to help you
  - You ask us for our assistance and you meet our program's financial eligibility guidelines
- Description:  
The Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program provides: free attorneys to veterans and their qualifying

family members who have an appeal pending at the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims (Court). If an appellant has filed an appeal with the Court, he or she can request assistance from The Veterans Consortium. Each appellant who requests Pro Bono Program assistance receives a thorough review of his or her Veterans Affairs claim file. Approximately 40% of the cases evaluated by the Program are accepted for referral to a volunteer attorney. An appellant whose case is not accepted into the Program receives substantive legal advice about his or her case and an explanation as to why the Consortium cannot place the appeal with a volunteer attorney.

## **MENTORING AND ACCESS TO SERVICES**

### **American Ex-Prisoners of War**

Capitol City Chapter

PO Box 57 Bastrop, TX 78602 512-237-2744

<http://www.axpow.org/>

Eligibility: Former POW (military or civilian)

Services: Help those affected by their capture deal with the trauma through friendship of those who shared a common experience.

### **American Legion**

<http://www.legion.org/>

PO BOX 140527

AUSTIN, TX 78714

Phone: 512-472-4138

Fax: 512-472-0603

The American Legion understands the difficulty some veterans have in returning home. To help guide a successful transition, we have compiled resources focused on jobs, benefits, education, health care, family and finances.

### **AMVETS**

AMVETS Post 115 is located in Kyle, Texas at 401 Rebel Drive. We have an active group here and work hard to promote our Community and Veteran Outreach Programs here in Central Texas. We have a few events coming up that you may have some interest in:

We charter Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, and Frontier Girls. Our Honor Guard provides funeral services for deceased veterans. This can be a firing detail, flag folding and presentation, playing of TAPS, or a combination of the three. We adopt families during the holidays and send care packages to deployed troops overseas. 512/753-9364

### **Armed Forces Services Corporation**

<http://www.afsc-usa.com/>

Eligibility: Must be a member to receive services! Services are given regardless of location so long as one can verify membership. Serves all branches of the military

Services: Provide insurance counseling, benefit claims assistance, financial awareness services, and

personal assistance to the veteran's family.  
2800 Shirlington Road, Suite 350  
Arlington, VA 22206-3601  
Tel: 888-237-2872; 703-379-9311 Fax: 703-379-4848

### **Blinded Veterans Association**

<http://www.bva.org/>

Eligibility: Serve veterans who have lost their sight through military service and their dependents.

Services: Link blinded veterans with services, rehabilitation training and other benefits when they are ready to go back into the work force.

Region 5

Area covered: Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Texas.

Michael E. DeBakey Medical Center

2002 Holcombe Boulevard Room 1C0-362A, Houston, TX 77030

Phone: 713-791-1414, Ext. 25666, or 800-669-7079 (Voicemail 6005)

### **Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc.**

TX15 Wilco BSM

Mailing Address 1001 Terrace Dr. Leander, TX 78641

Phone (512) 250-9064

Web Site: <http://www.bluestarmothers.org/>

Area Served: Williamson, Travis, Bastrop. Burnet counties

Meetings Held 3rd Saturday of every month @ 9:30

Location: Heroes Night Out, 1150 S. Bell Blvd., Cedar Park, TX

<http://www.bluestarmothers.org/>

Eligibility: Mothers whom now have, or have had, children honorably serving in the military

Services: Non-profit (501(c)13) service organization supporting each other and our children while promoting patriotism and services for service men and women.

### **Disabled Americans Veterans (DAV)**

**Website:** <http://www.dav.org/>

Eligibility: Veterans

We are dedicated to a single purpose: empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity. We accomplish this by ensuring that veterans and their families can access the full range of benefits available to them; fighting for the interests of America's injured heroes on Capitol Hill; and educating the public about the great sacrifices and needs of veterans transitioning back to civilian life.

Services: Benefits Claims for Veterans and Family Members

There are two local chapters in Austin:

Chapter 4 (North Austin) - 936-240-3430

Chapter 219 (South Austin) - 512-442-0425

## **Marine Corp League**

Members of the Marine Corps League join together in camaraderie and fellowship for the purpose of preserving the traditions and promoting the interests of the United States Marine Corps, banding together those who are now serving in the United States Marine Corps and those who have been honorably discharged from that service that they may effectively promote the ideals of American freedom and democracy, voluntarily aiding and rendering assistance to all Marines, FMF Corpsmen and former Marines and FMF Corpsmen and to their widows and orphans; and to perpetuate the history of the United States Marine Corps and by fitting acts to observe the anniversaries of historical occasions of particular interest to Marines.

### **VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER PROGRAM**

The National Headquarters retains a full-time staff member who assists veterans in adjudicating claims against the government as a result of active duty service. Claims are processed through the Department of Veterans Affairs or other appropriate agencies of the federal government.

<http://www.mcleague.com/mdp/index.php>

Phone: 512-797-5682

Meeting Date and Time: Third Tuesday of each month at 1900 hrs. Meeting

Address: Hill's Café, 4700 South Congress Ave Austin, TX 78745

## **Military Order of the Purple Heart 1919 (Austin)**

Website: [www.purpleheartaustin.org](http://www.purpleheartaustin.org)

Meeting Time: 10:00 AM 3rd Saturday

Mailing address: 5114 Balcones Woods Dr., Suite 307 #175, Austin, Texas 78759-5212

Contact Info: 512-343-7940 [adjutant@purpleheartaustin.org](mailto:adjutant@purpleheartaustin.org)

Meeting Place: Meeting Place and Time Varies, call ADJ. prior to meeting or check website

Chartered by Congress in 1958, The Military Order of the Purple Heart is composed of military men and women who received the Purple Heart Medal for wounds suffered in combat. Although our membership is restricted to the combat wounded, we support all veterans and their families with a myriad of nation-wide programs by Chapters and National Service Officers

## **Veterans of Foreign Wars**

[www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org)

### **Post 8925 Pilot Knob Post**

Services: Bar/Canteen Hall Rental Funeral Honors Patriots Pen Voice of Democracy 8706 Fm Rd 812, Austin, TX 78719

Phone: (512) 243-8011

Meeting Time: 7:00 PM 2nd Tuesday

### **Post 4443 Highland Hills-Oak Hill Post**

Services: Hall Rental Patriots Pen Voice of Democracy

PO Box 92022, Austin, TX 78709-2022

Phone: (512) 288-4443

Meeting Location & Time:  
7614 Thomas Springs Road, Austin, TX  
78736 7:00 PM 1st Tuesday

Post 8787 Capital City Post

Services: Bar/Canteen Hall Rental Patriots Pen Voice of  
Democracy 500 V F W Rd, Austin, TX 78753-1904  
Phone: (512) 836-8767  
Meeting Time: 7:00 PM 2nd Monday

Post 856 Edwin G. Hutchings Post

Bar/Canteen Patriots Pen Voice of  
Democracy 406 E Alpine Rd, Austin,  
TX 78767  
Phone: (512) 442-1374  
Meeting Time: 7:00 PM 1st Monday

**F7 Group**

Address: 2002 Guadalupe Street, Suite 327, Austin, TX 78705  
Office: 512-222-6727 Fax: 817-977-4277  
Website: <http://www.f7group.com/>

F7 stands for the seven tools the organization provides: friends, family, freedom, foundation, function, focus, flexibility and fundamentals.

The Fe-Ma-Le Foundation, working in tandem with the Texas Veterans Commission has assistance and support programs available for female veterans. If you are a female veteran and are in need of financial, education, or employment support, please complete the form below and submit to the Fe-Ma-Le Foundation today. We will work to connect you with the resources you need and provide available financial assistance. Follow up and additional questions can be submitted to: [IAmAVet@F7Group.com](mailto:IAmAVet@F7Group.com)

**American GI Forum**

2211 South IH 35, Suite #103, Austin, Texas 78741  
(512)381-1901 Fax (512)381-1904  
Website: [www.agif-nvop.org](http://www.agif-nvop.org)

Eligibility: Veterans recently released from active duty (within 48 months), Homeless Veterans, and Veterans facing a Substance Abuse issue; residing in the Greater Houston area. \*Must provide a copy of the following:

DD-214 (Any discharge other than Dishonorable), Birth Certificate, State issued I.D.

Description: Established in 1972, the American GI Forum National Veterans Outreach Program, (NVOP), Inc. is a duly chartered non-profit, tax-exempt corporation headquartered in San Antonio, TX. NVOP is nationally recognized as an experienced and successful employment and training program. The NVOP has successfully completed over fifty local, state, and national grants. Congress passed the Veterans Workforce Investment Program (VWIP) in 1982. This is one of our government's most significant programs for helping the unemployed in this country.

# **TRANSPORTATION**

## **COUNTY RESOURCES**

### **Capital Area Rural Transportation System (CARTS)**

Phone Number: (512) 478-7433

Website: <http://www.ridecarts.com/>

Toll Free: (800) 456-7433

Serving the Texas counties of Bastrop, Blanco, Burnet, Caldwell, Fayette, Hays, Lee, and non-urbanized areas of Travis and Williamson. CARTS delivers transportation tailored specifically for each of the one hundred and sixty-nine communities it serves. The service frequency in or to the various locales range from many times a day to once a month.

### **United for the People**

Website: <http://unitedforthepeople.org/>

Veterans can schedule transportation by calling the call center at 512-298-2532.

Members: 2 trips per calendar month and a rate of \$10 for each additional trip regardless of distance. Non Members:

- A. cost of \$10 from 1-20 miles from the VA clinic.
- B. cost of \$20 from 21-40 miles from the VA clinic.
- C. cost of \$30 from 41-60 miles from the VA clinic.

All mileage is calculated one way only. The return trip is always free.

The purpose of this program is to provide safe and timely transportation to and from the Veterans medical appointments. A driver will pick up the veteran from their home address and transport them to the nearest V.A. Clinic for their medical appointments. Once completed, the veteran will be transported back to their home address.

What cities are within the service area? Austin, Cedar Park, Georgetown, Hutto, Leander, Pflugerville and Round Rock. Who's eligible? All Veterans are eligible to receive transportation from their home address, to the VA clinic and back to their home address.

### **Vetrides**

VETRIDES will assist veterans and their families with transportation to and from VA hospitals, clinics, veteran's services offices, pharmacies, grocery, and retail stores. Eligibility for VETRIDES will be limited to veterans residing in Burnet, Llano and Lampasas counties.

Honorably discharged veterans, their spouses, and caregivers are eligible for VETRIDES. Burnet County defines a veteran as anyone who honorably served in the armed forces and veteran's family as spouses, and any caregivers (whether related or not).

No fees will be charged for any services to qualified individuals.

To request a RIDE call 830/613-9982 or toll free 877/851~8VET(838)

### **VA Outpatient Clinic Shuttle**

A Daily shuttle is available that travels from the Outpatient Clinic to the Temple Medical Facility at 7:30 AM, and returns when the last patient is finished.

An appointment must be made by calling 512-823-4010

# NATIONAL SERVICE ORGANIZATION RESOURCES

## **American Legion**

WASHINGTON OFFICE  
National VA & Rehabilitation Commission  
The American Legion  
1608 K Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20006  
202/ 861-2700

## HOUSTON REGIONAL OFFICE

The American Legion  
6900 Alameda Rd  
Houston, TX 77030-4200  
713/ 383-2755; (FAX) 713/ 383-2759

## DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

The American Legion  
P.O. Box 140527  
Austin, TX 78714-0527  
512/ 472-4138; (FAX) 512/ 472-0603  
Web: [www.txlegion.org](http://www.txlegion.org)  
Email: [txlegion@txlegion.org](mailto:txlegion@txlegion.org)  
Mike Simon - Director of Internal Affairs

## WACO REGIONAL OFFICE

The American Legion  
701 Clay Avenue  
Waco, TX 76799  
254/ 299-9960; (FAX) 254/ 299-9965  
Eligibility: Veteran or dependent

Explanation of Benefits: Veterans Rights Group – assists all veterans including active duty personnel and their families or dependents in securing governmental benefits, service pension, and hospital and outpatient medical /psychological care.

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## **AMVETS**

4647 Forbes Boulevard  
Lanham, Maryland 20706-4380  
Toll Free: (877) 726-8387  
301/ 459-6181  
(Fax) 301/ 459-5578  
Web: [www.amvets.org](http://www.amvets.org)  
Email: [amvets@amvets.org](mailto:amvets@amvets.org)

## DALLAS OFFICE

Location: 4900 S. Lancaster, Dallas  
Mailing: 4500 S Lancaster Mail Stop 29  
Dallas, TX 75214-7167  
214/742-8387, Ext. 27821 or 27893  
(FAX) 214/462-4996

## HOUSTON REGIONAL OFFICE

6900 Alameda Rd

Houston, TX 77030-4200  
713/ 383-2757; (FAX) 713/ 383-2758

## DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

928 S. Buckner Blvd.  
Dallas, TX 75217-4505  
214/ 309-1980; (FAX) 214/ 391-6176  
Email: [amvetsdept@sbcglobal.net](mailto:amvetsdept@sbcglobal.net)  
AMVETS Thrift Stores [www.amvetsnsf.org/stores.html](http://www.amvetsnsf.org/stores.html)

## SAN ANTONIO OFFICE

VA Service Center  
5788 Eckhert Rd, Room 2A102  
San Antonio, TX 78240  
210/ 699-5087; (FAX) 210/ 699-5088

## **Disabled American Veterans**

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
Disabled American Veterans  
National Headquarters  
3725 Alexandria Pike

Cold Spring, KY 41076  
859/ 441-7300  
Toll-Free: 1-877-426-2838  
Mailing Address  
P.O. Box 14301

Cincinnati, OH 45250-0301  
Phone: (859) 441-7300  
Web: [www.dav.org](http://www.dav.org)

DALLAS VA MEDICAL CENTER  
Disabled American Veterans  
VA Medical Center  
4500 S. Lancaster Rd., Ste 1C-420A  
Dallas, TX 75216  
214/ 857-1119  
(FAX) 214/ 302-1317

DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS  
Disabled American Veterans  
3003 N Medford Dr.  
Lufkin, TX 75904  
936/ 634-1792 or  
936/ 414-5469 (Cell)  
Web: [www.davmembersportal.org/tx](http://www.davmembersportal.org/tx)

HOUSTON VA REGIONAL OFFICE  
Disabled American Veterans  
6900 Alameda Rd, Room 1033  
Houston, TX 77030-4200  
713/ 383-2715; (FAX) 713/ 383-2719

HOUSTON VA MEDICAL CENTER

2002 Holcomb Blvd., Rm 2A-110  
Houston, TX 77030-4200  
713/ 794-7198

SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL OFFICE  
5788 Eckhert Rd., Room 2A112  
San Antonio, TX 78240-3900  
210/ 699-5064; (FAX) 210/ 699-5082

SAN ANTONIO VA MEDICAL CENTER  
Disabled American Veterans  
South TX Veterans Health Care System  
Audie L. Murphy Division  
7400 Merton Minter Blvd.  
1B Area, Rooms B105, B106  
San Antonio, TX 78229-3900  
210/ 699-5064

WACO VA REGIONAL OFFICE  
Disabled American Veterans  
One Veterans Plaza  
701 Clay Avenue  
Waco, TX 76799  
254/ 299-9932  
(FAX) 254/ 299-9925  
Website: [www.dav.org](http://www.dav.org)  
Hours: Mon Wed Fri 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM

Eligibility: Veteran or dependent

Explanation of Benefits: Disability Rights Groups for Veterans – assists all veterans including active duty personnel and their families or dependents in securing governmental benefits, service pension, and hospital and outpatient medical /psychological care.

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**Military Order of the Purple Heart**  
Military Order of the Purple Heart  
5413-B Backlick Rd  
Springfield, Virginia 22151-3960  
703/ 642-5360; Toll-Free: 888-668-1656  
(FAX) 703/ 642-1841  
Web: [www.purpleheart.org](http://www.purpleheart.org)

HOUSTON REGIONAL OFFICE  
Military Order of the Purple Heart  
6900 Alameda Rd, Room 1024  
Houston, TX 77030-4200  
713/ 383-2752; (FAX) 713/ 383-2753  
Email: [donald.hubbard@va.gov](mailto:donald.hubbard@va.gov)

EL PASO

VA Health Care Center  
5001 N Piedras  
El Paso, TX 79930-4211  
915/ 564-6166; (FAX) 915/ 564-6166  
Email: [enis.hart@va.gov](mailto:enis.hart@va.gov)

DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS  
Military Order of the Purple Heart  
P.O. Box 2872  
Harker Heights, TX 76548-0872  
254/ 628-1323  
Email: [rhernandez7@hotmail.com](mailto:rhernandez7@hotmail.com)

FORT SAM HOUSTON  
ATTN: MCCS-BHR-HR  
2284 Stanley Rd, Ste 18, Room 200A

Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234  
210/ 221-2587; (FAX) 210/ 221-2599  
Email: [mophg1@yahoo.com](mailto:mophg1@yahoo.com)

Gilbert M. Ochoa, National Service Officer  
Military Order of the Purple Heart  
902 FSS / FSFR Bldg. 693  
555 F Street West  
Randolph AFB, TX 78150  
210/ 652-5321, Ext. 235; (FAX) 210/ 652-3166  
Email: [mophrafbtx@yahoo.com](mailto:mophrafbtx@yahoo.com)

WACO REGIONAL OFFICE  
Military Order of the Purple Heart  
One Veterans Plaza  
701 Clay Avenue  
Waco, TX 76799

254/ 299-9985  
(FAX) 254/ 299-9539  
FORT WORTH  
VA Outpatient Clinic  
2201 SE Loop 820  
Room 2S-307  
Fort Worth, TX 76119  
817/ 730-0400  
(FAX) 817/ 730-0604

Website: [www.purpleheart.org](http://www.purpleheart.org)  
Eligibility: Veteran or dependent  
Explanation of Benefits: Veterans Rights Group – assists all veterans including active duty personnel and their families or dependents in securing governmental benefits, service pension, and hospital and outpatient medical /psychological care.

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### **Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA)**

WASHINGTON OFFICE  
Paralyzed Veterans of America  
801 Eighteenth Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20006-3517  
1-800-424-8200  
Email: [info@pva.org](mailto:info@pva.org)  
Web: [www.pva.org](http://www.pva.org)

DALLAS VAMC OFFICE  
Dallas Spinal Cord Injury Center  
4500 S. Lancaster Rd  
Room 1A102, SCI Unit  
Dallas, TX 75216  
214/ 857-0105  
(FAX) 214/ 371-5552

SAN ANTONIO VAMC OFFICE  
Paralyzed Veterans of America, Inc.  
Audie L. Murphy Division  
7400 Merton Minter Blvd., Room C-014  
San Antonio, TX 78284  
210/ 617-5300, Ext. 6819

HOUSTON REGIONAL OFFICE  
National Service Officer  
Paralyzed Veterans of America, Inc.  
6900 Almeda Rd  
Houston, TX 77030-4200

713/ 383-2727; (FAX) 713/ 799-1335

HOUSTON VAMC OFFICE  
Paralyzed Veterans of America, Inc.  
Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center  
2002 Holcomb Blvd.  
Houston, TX 77030-4200  
713/ 794-7993

WACO REGIONAL OFFICE  
Paralyzed Veterans of America, Inc.  
One Veterans Plaza  
701 Clay Avenue  
Waco, TX 76799  
254/ 299-9944; (FAX) 254/ 299-9943

TEXAS PARALYZED  
VETERANS ASSN.  
Chapter Office  
2807 Spanish Trail, Ste. A  
Houston, TX 77054-2207  
713/ 520-8782; (FAX) 713/ 520-8217  
Email: [info@texaspva.org](mailto:info@texaspva.org)  
Web: [www.texaspva.org](http://www.texaspva.org)

AUSTIN THRIFT STORE PICK UP: (512)  
443-3336

Eligibility: Veteran or dependent

Explanation of Benefits: Assisting our spinal Cord injury's Veterans with their hospitalization Rehab. We specialize in filing claims before the Department of Veterans Affairs for Organic Brain Syndrome, MS, for Veterans and their Dependents.

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**Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)**

WASHINGTON OFFICE  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
200 Maryland Avenue, N. E.  
Washington, D.C. 20002  
202/ 543-2239

DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
P.O. Box 14468  
Austin, TX 78761  
512/ 834-8535; (FAX) 512/ 834-9232  
Web: [www.texasvfw.org](http://www.texasvfw.org)

**HOUSTON REGIONAL OFFICE**

Veterans of Foreign Wars  
6900 Almeda Rd  
Houston, TX 77030-4200  
713/ 383-2750; (FAX) 713/ 383-2760  
Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 pm, Monday-Friday  
Email: [Houston@tvc.texas.gov](mailto:Houston@tvc.texas.gov)

**WACO REGIONAL OFFICE**

Veterans of Foreign Wars  
701 Clay Avenue  
Waco, TX 76799  
254/ 299-9959; (FAX) 254/ 299-9970  
Hours: 7:45 am – 4:30 pm, Monday-Friday  
Email: [waco.vfw@tvc.texas.gov](mailto:waco.vfw@tvc.texas.gov)[www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org)

Eligibility: Veteran or dependent

Explanation of Benefits: Veterans Rights Group – assists all veterans including active duty personnel and their families or dependents in securing governmental benefits, service pension, hospital, and outpatient medical /psychological care.

For additional information about veterans organizations in Texas go to:

[https://www.nrd.gov/other\\_services\\_and\\_resources/veterans\\_service\\_organizations](https://www.nrd.gov/other_services_and_resources/veterans_service_organizations)

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**NONPROFIT RESOURCES**

AIR FORCE SERGEANTS ASSN.  
Division 610 (Serves TX, AR, LA, & MS)  
4800 Angelina Ave  
Wichita Falls, TX 76308  
940/ 337-2723  
Web: <http://www.afsa610.org>

AMERICAN MERCHANT MARINE VETERANS  
605 Laguna Dr.  
Richardson, TX 75080-6929  
972/ 231-5464  
Email: [ammv.info@gmail.com](mailto:ammv.info@gmail.com)

AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR  
1101 E. Arbrook Apt 209  
Arlington, TX 76014-3360  
292 Van Zandt CR 3727  
Wills Point, TX 75169-6907  
903/ 560-1734

AMERICAN MILITARY RETIREES ASSN.  
2212 Daisy Dr.  
Killeen, TX 76542  
254/ 526-4006 (Home); 254/ 449-0686 (Cell)

AMERICAN G.I. FORUM OF THE U.S.  
American GI Forum of Texas, Inc.  
1000 Brazos Suite 200  
Austin, TX 78701  
512/ 225-5888  
Web: [www.agiftx.org](http://www.agiftx.org)

AMERICAN RED CROSS OF CENTRAL TX  
Service to Armed Forces Program  
2218 Pershing Drive  
Austin, TX 78723-5842  
512/ 928-4271  
(FAX) 877/ 813-6811  
Web: [www.redcross.org/tx/austin](http://www.redcross.org/tx/austin)

THE ARMY & NAVY UNION  
13256 Harbor Drive

Temple, TX 76502  
254/ 986-2369

BLINDED VETERANS ASSOCIATION  
4500 S. Lancaster Rd., Rm. 1E327  
Dallas, TX 75216  
214/ 857-1119; (FAX) 214/ 371-2337  
Web: [www.bva.org](http://www.bva.org)

BLINDED VETERANS ASSOCIATION  
2002 Holcombe Blvd., Visor-Bldg., 120  
Houston, TX 77030  
713/791-1414, Ext 4958

CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS  
3625 Hamilton Ave.  
El Paso, TX 79930-5411  
915/ 565-4656  
Web: [www.freewebs.com/cwvdepttx](http://www.freewebs.com/cwvdepttx)

DESERT SHIELD/DESERT STORM ASSN.  
2316 W. 49th St.  
Odessa, TX 79764-3929  
432/ 770-6754

FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION  
Capitol Area Branch 201  
P.O. Box 723  
Austin, TX 78767-0723  
361/ 865-2832

GOLD STAR WIVES OF AMERICA  
South Central Region Gold Star Wives of America  
Web: [www.goldstarwives.org](http://www.goldstarwives.org)

IRAQ & AFGHANISTAN VETERANS OF AMERICA  
2311 Bernice Circle  
Copperas Cove, TX 76522-4820  
978/ 276-9253  
(Cell) 254/ 630-4098  
Web: [www.iava.org](http://www.iava.org)

JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
Department of TX, AR, LA and OK (TALO)  
6616 River Bend Rd.  
Fort Worth, TX 76132-1120  
817/ 294-7626  
Web: [www.dtalojwv.net/main/home.php](http://www.dtalojwv.net/main/home.php)  
KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSN.  
6544 Grand Ridge Dr.

El Paso, TX 79912-7472

915-581-4725; (FAX) 915-581-4727  
Web: <http://www.kwva.org>

LONE STAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION  
832/ 408-0411  
Email: [tony@lonestarveterans.org](mailto:tony@lonestarveterans.org)

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE  
Department of Texas  
515 Hall Street  
Graham, TX 76450-1412  
Web: [www.mcltexas.org/](http://www.mcltexas.org/)

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSN OF AMERICA  
Texas Council of Chapters  
9022 Antietam Dr.  
San Antonio, TX 78239- 3557  
972/ 225-4646 or Cell: 214/ 869-8381  
Web: [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org)

NATIONAL AMPUTATION FOUNDATION  
40 Church Street  
Malverne, NY 11565  
Phone: (516) 887-3600  
Fax: (516) 887-3667  
Web: <http://www.nationalamputation.org>

NATIONAL ASSN FOR UNIFORMED SERVICES  
National Board Member & President, Chapter 10  
5007 Parell Path  
Austin, TX 78744-3809  
512/ 443-8072

NATIONAL GULF WAR RESOURCE CENTER, INC.  
8605 Cameron St, Suite 400  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
1-800-882-1316, Ext. 162  
Web: <http://www.ngwrc.org>

NATIONAL GUARD ASSN OF TX  
3706 Crawford Avenue  
Austin, TX 78731-6308  
512/ 454-7300  
Web: [www.ngat.org](http://www.ngat.org)

NON COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ASSN.  
12th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps  
NCOA International Headquarters  
9330 Corporate Dr Ste 701

Selma, TX 78154-1257  
210/ 653-6161; (FAX) 210/ 637-3338  
Web: [www.ncoausa.org](http://www.ncoausa.org)

PEARL HARBOR SURVIVORS ASSN.  
4946 Yarwell Drive  
Houston, TX 77096  
713/ 723-0728

RESERVE OFFICERS ASSN. OF THE U.S.  
Department of Texas  
10019 Glen Canyon Dr.  
Dallas, TX 72543-4609

TEXAS ASSN. OF VIETNAM VETERANS  
P.O. Box 40036  
Austin, TX 78704  
Web: [www.tavvaustin.org](http://www.tavvaustin.org)

TX COALITION OF VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS  
1100 Sycamore Creek Dr  
Dripping Springs, TX 78620-3321  
Web: [www.texascoalitionofvetsorganizations.org](http://www.texascoalitionofvetsorganizations.org)

THE RETIRED ENLISTED ASSN.  
1004 Harris Drive  
Euless, TX 76039-3330  
Web: [www.trea.org](http://www.trea.org)

UNIFIED VETERANS OF AMERICA, INC.  
1730 Jefferson St Ste 240  
Houston, TX 77003-5028  
713/ 650-8282, Ext. 20 or Ext 21  
Email: [vethelp@uvainc.org](mailto:vethelp@uvainc.org)

UNITED STATES VETERANS INITIATIVE  
4640 Main Street, Suite 213  
Houston, TX 77002-9714  
832/ 203-1626; (FAX) 832/203-1630  
Web: [www.usvetsinc.org/houston/](http://www.usvetsinc.org/houston/)

US NAVY ARMED GUARD WWII VETERANS  
4128 N Summerscrest Loop

Round Rock, TX 78681  
512/ 671-3464  
Web: [www.armed-guard.com](http://www.armed-guard.com)

VETERANS COUNTY SERVICE OFFICERS ASSN OF TEXAS  
Web: [www.vcsoat.org](http://www.vcsoat.org)  
1505 E. McKinney, Suite 183  
Denton, TX 76209-4525  
940/ 349-2950; (FAX) 940/ 349-2951  
Monday-Thursday, 8:00-12:00; 1:00-5:00;  
Friday by appointment only, 1:00-5:00  
Web: <http://dentoncounty.com/veteran>  
Hidalgo County Veterans Service Officer  
2816 S. Bus. 281  
Edinburg, TX 78539  
956/ 318-2436; (FAX) 956/ 318-2439  
Email: [hcveterans@co.hidalgo.tx.us](mailto:hcveterans@co.hidalgo.tx.us) Monday-  
Friday, 8:00-5:00

VIETNAM VETERANS FOUNDATION OF TX, INC.  
P.O. Box 742315  
Dallas, TX 75374  
972/ 881-3062  
Email: [info@VietnamVeteransFoundationTexas.com](mailto:info@VietnamVeteransFoundationTexas.com)  
Web: [www.vietnamveteransfoundationtexas.com](http://www.vietnamveteransfoundationtexas.com)

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA  
Texas State Council, Vietnam Veterans of America  
P.O. Box 1860  
Fritch, Texas 79036  
806/ 857-0409

WOUNDED WARRIOR PROJECT  
[www.woundedwarriorproject.org](http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org)  
Eligibility: Severely wounded and injured OEF/OIF  
veterans  
Services: To raise awareness and enlist the public's aid  
for the needs of severely injured service men and  
women, to help severely injured service members aid  
and assist each other, and to provide unique, direct  
programs and services to meet the needs of severely  
injured service members.

**Thank you for your service!**

