



BLUE STAR
CAREGIVERS

A Guide To Veterans And Military Service Organizations



Introduction

Sometimes it can seem like there is nowhere to turn when you need help. But if you are a veteran or family member of a veteran facing challenges in your everyday life, you are not alone. In addition to government- and senior-based resources, there are hundreds of veterans and military service organizations ready to help your veteran family. Some are local; others are national. Some have very specific veteran interests; others involve the entire family.

Not only do veterans and military service organizations provide assistance with benefits and VA claims, advocacy, career counseling, temporary financial assistance, and advice on medical issues, but they also offer mentorship, opportunities to share stories of strength and recovery, and family support networks.


This book supplies information concerning organizations providing services to the veteran community. For the complete 2017 directory of veterans and military service organizations and state directors of veterans affairs published by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), visit va.gov/vso .



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CHAPTER 1

Recognized Congressionally Chartered Veterans Service Organizations

This is a listing of congressionally chartered veterans service organizations that are also recognized by the VA Office of General Counsel for the purpose of preparation, presentation and prosecution of claims under laws administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs.



African American Post-traumatic Stress Disorder Association

This nonprofit organization helps service members from all branches of the armed forces cope with post-traumatic stress disorder.

PRIMARY CONTACT:


Sidney A. Lee, president
9129 Veterans Drive SW,
Lakewood, WA 98498

(253) 589-0766 | aaptsdassn.org 

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American Ex-prisoners of War

Founded in 1942, this nonprofit organization provides support and relief for prisoners of war and their families. It consists of family members affected by soldiers who are prisoners of war.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Clydie Morgan, executive director and treasurer 3201 East Pioneer Parkway, #40, Arlington, TX 76010 (817) 649-2979 | axpow.org 


American GI Forum of the United States

The American GI Forum has been in the forefront in civil rights struggles, such as advocating for Hispanic veterans benefits, desegregation of schools, voter registration, fair judicial proceedings, and combating media stereotyping and distortions. It is the largest federally chartered Hispanic veterans organization in the U.S.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Luis Vasquez-Contes, national commander 2807 N. Speer Blvd., Denver, CO 80211 (303) 458-1700 | agifstcmdrluis@aol.com  | agifco.org 

The American Legion

Serving veterans since 1919, the American Legion raises millions of dollars for worthy efforts and helps lobby for veterans in Washington, D.C.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Peter S. Gaytan, executive director 1608 K St. NW, Washington, DC 20006 (202) 263-5741 | legion.org 

American Red Cross

The American Red Cross provides medical services all over the world via blood drives and mobile clinics, but it also provides help to veterans.



The Red Cross has local offices in contact with the local

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CHAPTER 1: RECOGNIZED CONGRESSIONALLY CHARTERED VSOs

community to connect veterans with necessary services. The Red Cross also responds to emergency services and provides clothes, food and counseling services.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Deanna Swanier, senior director
430 17th St. NW, Suite NE-2029, Washington, DC 20006
(202) 303-0221 | swanierd@usa.redcross.org  | redcross.org 


AMVETS

Founded in 1944 and granted a congressional charter in 1947, this organization provides help for dependents of veterans as well as scholarships for veterans pursuing higher education.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Joseph Chenelly, national executive director
4647 Forbes Blvd., Lanham, MD 20706
(301) 459-9600 | amvets.org 

Army and Navy Union, USA Inc.

Founded in 1886, the group has Medal of Honor and Navy Cross holders as well as famous officers and political figures such as Presidents Harry S. Truman, Dwight D. Eisenhower and Theodore Roosevelt within its ranks. The association is open to all veterans with an honorable discharge.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Norman T. Henninger Jr., national adjutant
107 Fulton St., Niles, OH 44446
(330) 307-7049 | armyandnavyunion.org 

Association of the Vietnam Veterans of America

Founded in 1999, the group offers services for those who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, who have been exposed to Agent Orange or who need medical testing. It provides a community to veterans who

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CHAPTER 1: RECOGNIZED CONGRESSIONALLY CHARTERED VSOs

have had difficulties adjusting to everyday society and need someone with whom to talk.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Sharon Hobbs, national president
3619 Johnsims Road, Chattanooga, TN 37413
(423) 364-6385 | shobbs@avva.org | avva.org

Blinded Veterans Association

Determined to help blinded veterans strive toward their rightful place in society, the association connects veterans with blindness organizations and other veterans groups.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Al Avina, executive director
477 H St. NW, Washington, DC 20001 (202) 371-8880 | bva.org

Catholic War Veterans

Catholic War Veterans is open to all Catholic war veterans from every faction of the armed forces. It received a blessing from Pope Pius XI in 1935. The group spends its time by supporting parish and veteran activities, volunteering in VA hospitals, and attending mass together.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Dave Crum, executive director
441 N. Lee St., Alexandria, VA 22314
(347) 262-4705 | pgkdave@gmail.com | cww.org

Disabled American Veterans

Disabled American Veterans provides support and advocacy for disabled veterans. The organization also provides assistance and represents the interests of disabled veterans' families.

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CHAPTER 1: RECOGNIZED CONGRESSIONALLY CHARTERED VSOs

PRIMARY CONTACT: Garry Augustine, executive director 807
Maine Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20024 (202) 554-3501 |
dav.org

Fleet Reserve Association

With more than 220 branches, the group works to protect the pay and benefits of the enlisted members of the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Christopher J. Slawinski, national veterans service officer 125 N.
West St., Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 683-1400 | fra.org

Gold Star Wives of America Inc.

The group consists of widows of all armed forces personnel. It lobbies for compensation, education benefits and medical care for widows of military personnel.

PRIMARY CONTACT:
Harriet Boyden, national president and Washington representative
200 N. Glebe Road, Suite 425, Arlington, VA 22203
(703) 351-6246 | goldstarwives.org

Italian American War Veterans of the United States

Federally chartered in 1981, this association works to help veterans and their families and appeals to public and private agencies to promote the group.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Michael Kruttsick Jr., national commander 328
New York Ave., Newark, NJ 07105
(973) 954-1572 | mkrutskickjr@itamvets.org | itamvets.org

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Jewish War Veterans of the USA

In addition to promoting the Jewish faith, the group supports veterans as well as their families. The association also has programs that support patriotism and Jewish identity.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Greg Byrne

1811 R St. NW, Washington, DC 20009

(202) 265-6280 | gbyrne@jvw.org | jvw.org

Legion of Valor of the USA Inc.

The objectives of this organization include to cherish the memories of the valiant deeds for which the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross and the Air Force Cross are the insignia; promote true fellowship; advance the best interest of members of the armed forces and to enhance their prestige and understanding by example and personal activity; extend all possible relief to needy members, their widows and children; stimulate patriotism in the minds of youth; and engender a national pride and interest in the armed forces.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Donald Marx

3927 Rust Hill Place, Fairfax, VA 22030

(202) 320-3295 | legionofvalor.com

Marine Corps League

Incorporated in 1937, this coalition provides scholarship programs for veterans and the Wounded Marines program that helps marines in hospitals nationwide.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Thomas W. Hazlett, national executive director 3619

Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 115, Stafford, VA 22554


(703) 207-9588 | mclexecutivedirector@gmail.com

mclnational.org

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Military Officers Association of America

Open to all active duty and retired military officers, this organization helps represent military interests in Washington, D.C., as well as supports officers and their families.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Lt. Gen. Dana Atkins, USAF (Ret) president and CEO 201 N. Washington St., Alexandria, VA 22314 (703) 549-2311 | moaa.org 


Military Order of the Purple Heart of the U.S.A. Inc.

Formed in 1932, the organization protects the interests of veterans who have earned the Purple Heart. The association also protects the families of veterans.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Jack Leonard, national adjutant
5413 B&C Backlick Road, Springfield, VA 22151
(703) 642-5360, ext. 119 | jackleonard@purpleheart.org 
purpleheart.org 

National Association for Black Veterans Inc.

This nationally certified organization provides community service for its local communities as well as outreach programs for veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder or exposure to Agent Orange.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Richard Rogers, senior division director
P.O. Box 11432, Milwaukee, WI 53211
(414) 562-6250 | nabvets.org 

National Association of County Veterans Service Officers Inc.

The mission of the association is to promote the rights of veterans and

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their families by education, communication and technology.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Kim Shaloo, Washington liaison
660 N. Capital St. NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20001
(937) 206-2806 | kshaloo@nacvso.org ✉ | nacvso.org ↗

National Veterans Legal Services Program

Since 1980, this nonprofit organization has worked to make sure that veterans receive their benefits.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Ronald S. Flagg
P.O. Box 65762, Washington, DC
20035 (202) 265-8305 | nvlsp.org

National Veterans Organization of America

The organization works toward lobbying for better treatment and efficiency in VA hospitals as well as receiving due benefits.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Andrew Price
P.O. Box 2510, Victoria, TX 79902
(361) 356-1215
www2.uniteus.com/groups/national-veterans-organization-of-america

Paralyzed Veterans of America

The group works to bring quality health care to paralyzed veterans as well as a better quality of life within the workplace.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Sherman Gillums Jr., executive director
801 18th St. NW, Washington, DC 20006
(202) 872-1300 | pva.org ↗

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Polish Legion of American Veterans, USA

Open to any veterans who want to join, this group provides a social outlet for veterans and was formed just after World War I.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Patricia A. Bubonics, executive director P.O.
Box 42217, Washington, DC 20015
plav.org

Swords to Plowshares: Veterans Rights Organization

With more than 40 years of experience, this nonprofit organization helps veterans in the San Francisco area adapt to everyday life after military duty.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Michael Blecker, executive director
1060 Howard St., San Francisco, CA 94103
(415) 252-4788 | stp-sf.org

TREA: The Enlisted Association

Representing the needs of the retired enlisted men of the armed forces, the association endeavors to give members their benefits via legislation.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Deirdre Parke Holleman, executive director
1001 N. Fairfax St., Suite 102, Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 684-1981 | dholleman@treadc.org | trea.org

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States


The group was founded in 1899 just after the Spanish-American war. The group helped with the passage of the GI Bill as well as improving VA hospitals nationwide.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Robert E. Wallace, executive director 200
Maryland Ave. NE, Washington, DC 20002
(202) 543-2239 | vfw.org

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Veterans of the Vietnam War Inc. & The Veterans Coalition

Founded in 1978, the group provides links to other organizations and has 90 posts worldwide designed to help maintain a quality of life for Vietnam veterans.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Peter J. Forbes, national commander 805
S. Township Blvd., Pittston, PA 18640 (570) 603-9740 |
vvnw.org 


Vietnam Veterans of America

With more than 75,000 members, Vietnam Veterans of America provides a community of fellowship with people who share experiences, needs and hopes for the future.

PRIMARY CONTACT: John Rowan, national president
8719 Colesville Road, Suite 100, Silver Spring, MD 20910
(301) 585-4000 | vva.org

Wounded Warrior Project

The association works to serve wounded service members, to encourage their well-being and to improve their quality of life.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Michael Linnington, CEO
4899 Belfort Road, Suite 300, Jacksonville, FL 32256
(904) 296-7350 | woundedwarriorproject.org 

CHAPTER 2



Non-recognized Congressionally Chartered Veterans Service Organizations

This is a listing of other congressionally chartered veterans service organizations not recognized by the Department of Veterans Affairs for the purpose of preparation, presentation and prosecution of veteran's claims only. They represent the interest of American veterans.

Air Force Sergeants Association

Founded in 1961, the association lobbies for a better quality of life for all Air Force veterans and pushes for fair legislation in Washington, D.C.

PRIMARY CONTACT:

Mark Stevenson, CEO
5211 Auth Road, Suitland, MD 20746
(301) 899-3500
milgov1@hqafsa.org 
www.hqafsa.org 



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American Gold Star Mothers Inc.

An organization of mothers who have lost a son or daughter in the service of the country, American Gold Star Mothers continue to honor sons and daughters through service to veterans and patriotic events.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Sue Pollard, first vice president
2128 LeRoy Place NW, Washington, DC 20009
(717) 917-9057 | gsmom46@gmail.com ✉ | goldstarmoms.com 🌐

American War Mothers

American War Moms is a place to discuss and remember the contributions of those who have sacrificed their son or daughter or sacrificed time spent to better serve the country.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Edith Lattimore, national corresponding secretary 5415 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite L-30, Washington, DC 20015
(202) 362-0090 | americanwarmoms.org 🌐

Blue Star Mothers of America Inc.


Blue Star Mothers of America is a nonpartisan, nonpolitical, nonsectarian organization. The organization is made up of mothers, stepmothers, grandmothers, foster mothers and female legal guardians who have children serving in the military, Guard or reserves or children who are veterans.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Cyndi Bretz Ventura, national president
5533 Terra Granada, #1A, Walnut Creek, CA 94595
(925) 708-3691 | president@bluestarmothers.org
✉ bluestarmothers.org 🌐

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Congressional Medal of Honor Society of the United States of America

The objectives and purposes of the society are to form a bond of friendship and comradeship among all holders of the Congressional Medal of Honor; to protect, uphold and preserve the dignity and honor of the medal at all times and on all occasions; to protect the name of the medal and individual recipients of the medal from exploitation; to provide appropriate aid to all persons to whom the medal has been awarded, their widows or their children; to serve the country in peace as in war; to inspire and stimulate youth to become worthy citizens; and to foster and perpetuate Americanism.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Victoria Kueck, director of operations 40 Patriots Point Road, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464 (843) 884-8862 | cmohs.org 



Korean War Veterans Association Inc.

The association's website provides a list of Korean War memorials, missing-in-action family outreach programs, VA benefits and other websites of interest.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Thomas Stevens, national president 5310 W. 122nd Terrace, Overland Park, KS 66209 (913) 696-0447 | stevenst@swbell.net  | kwva.org 

Military Chaplains Association of the United States of America

Founded in 1925 and chartered by Congress in 1950, the association represents chaplains, chaplain assistants and faith leaders. The group also has forums to discuss chaplains in the military.


PRIMARY CONTACT: Chaplain Lyman Smith, deputy executive director P.O. Box 7056, Arlington, VA 22207 (703) 533-5890 | chaplains@mca-usa.org  | mca-usa.org 

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Military Order of the World Wars

John J. Pershing originally established the association in 1919, and now, the organization operates by hosting youth programs and by funding and supporting ROTC programs.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Arthur Morrill, national service director 435 N. Lee St., Alexandria, VA 22314 (703) 683-4911 | moww.org 


Navy Club of the United States of America

Chartered by Congress in 1940, the organization lets veterans voice their opinions about national defense and the Navy within the group.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Tom Minchin
304 Sarheim Road, Harrisburg, PA 17112
(717) 884-1900 | tomminchin52@gmail.com  | navyclubusa.org 



United States Submarine Veterans Inc.

The group comprises all submarine veterans who enjoy the camaraderie of their fellow submariner veterans.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Frederick Borgmann, national office manager P.O. Box 3870, Silverdale, WA 98353
(360) 337-2978 | ussvi.org 

Women's Army Corps Veterans Association

The focus of this organization is to preserve the memory of the Women's Army Corps and to offer a social outlet for its members.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Vickie Hajduk, past national president
P.O. Box 663, Weaver, AL 36277
(256) 820-6824 | info@armywomen.org  | armywomen.org 

CHAPTER 3


Recognized Veterans Organizations

This is a listing of other veterans service organizations not congressionally chartered but recognized by the Department of Veterans Affairs for the purpose of preparation, presentation and prosecution of veteran's claims only. However, they do represent the interest of American veterans.



Armed Forces Service Corp.

Armed Forces Services' legacy goes back to 1879 with the formation of a nonprofit organization established to care for surviving spouses from The Battle of Little Big Horn. Today, it provides management consulting and program delivery to many of the most vital government programs serving the military community.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Goeffrey J. Deutsch, president and CEO 2800 S. Shirlington Road, Suite 350, Arlington, VA 22206 (888) 237-2872 | afsc.com 

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CHAPTER 3: RECOGNIZED VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS

Navy Mutual Aid Association

This association has provided life insurance and annuity products to military families since 1879 and ensures that its members receive their benefits.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Stephen Pietropaoli, chief operating officer 29
Carpenter Road, Arlington, VA 22212
(703) 945-1440 | navymutual.org 

Vietnam Era Veterans Association

This association provides an intake program for veterans of all periods of service, concentrating on employment and training.

685 Cranston St., Providence, RI 02907
(401) 521-6710



CHAPTER 4

Veterans Organizations

This is a listing of veterans service organizations not congressionally chartered or recognized by the Department of Veterans Affairs for the purpose of preparation, presentation and prosecution of veteran's claims only. However, they do represent the interest of American veterans.

African American Veterans Families

PRIMARY CONTACT:

Bishop Imogene B. Stewart,
director 1110A 6th St. NE, Suite 4,
Washington, DC 20002
imageneshelter@aol.com

Air Force Association

This nonprofit association publishes its own magazine, *Air Force Magazine*, as well as lobbies for a stronger Air Force.

PRIMARY CONTACT:

Larry Spencer, president
1501 Lee Highway, Arlington, VA 22209
(703) 247-5800 | lspencer@afa.org | afa.org



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CHAPTER 4: VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS

All Faith Consortium

The group wants to promote community and uses unique approaches to help single mothers, low-income fathers, ex-convicts and youth in achieving self-reliance. It advocates a strength-based and family-centered approach for their members.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Marvin Muhammad, executive chair
2000 14th St. NW, Washington, DC 20009
(202) 671-1600 | admin@all-faith.org ✉ | all-faith.org 🌐

Americal Division Veterans Association

The Americal Division Veterans Association (ADVA) was founded in 1945 by veterans returning from World War II. Membership is open to all personnel assigned or attached to the Americal Division or the 23rd Infantry Division during three periods of activation: World War II, Cold War and the Vietnam War. The ADVA publishes full-color magazine called the *Americal Journal*.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Gary Noller
4709 N. Prairie View Road, Oakley, IL 62501
(816) 941-0096 | gnoller@aol.com ✉ | americal.org/cmsaml 🌐

American Logistics Association

Representing veterans and other members of the armed forces in the military marketplace, the American Logistics Association helps veterans find a voice within the marketplace fixtures such as commissaries and exchanges.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Maurice Branch, president
1133 15th St. NW, Suite 640, Washington, DC 20005
(202) 466-2520 | maurice@ala-national.org ✉ | ala-national.org 🌐

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American Merchant Marine Veteran

American Merchant Marine Veteran is all inclusive and is the only organization representing the individual U.S. merchant mariners' interests relating to veteran status and recognition for their patriotic contributions to America.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Christopher Edyvean, president
2722 Maynes Court, Santa Rosa, CA 95405
(707) 546-6349 | cjedyvean@hotmail.com ✉ | ammv.us 🌐

American Military Retirees Association

The American Military Retirees Association provides benefits such as additional insurance and discounts with hotels, car rentals and moving companies and is open to all ranks of the armed forces.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Margaret M. Bergeron, executive director
5436 Peru St., Suite 1, Plattsburg, NY 12901
(518) 563-9479 | info@amra1973.org ✉ | amra1973.org 🌐

American Retirees Association

The American Retirees Association is a nonprofit organization, chartered expressly to deal with the impact of the Uniformed Services Former Spouses Protection Act on uniformed service personnel.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Dennis Egge, president
P.O. Box 2333, Redlands, CA 92373
(909) 557-0107 | ara@aol.com ✉ | americanretirees.org 🌐

American Veterans for Equal Rights Inc.

American Veterans for Equal Rights (AVER) works for equal rights for all veterans throughout the armed forces in all aspects of life, especially for the LGBT section of the military. AVER helps ensure that [CONTINUED](#) »

LGBT soldiers and veterans can speak their minds within the military.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Denny Meyer, public affairs and veterans affairs P.O.
Box 94376, Atlanta, GA 94376
(718) 849-5665 | publicaffairs@aver.us ✉ | aver.us 🌐

Army Aviation Association of America

The Army Aviation Association of America (AAAA) was formed in early 1957 by a small group of senior aviation officers in the active Army and the Reserve forces of the Army and industry. The mission of the AAAA is to support the U.S. Army aviation soldier and family.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Bill Harris, executive director
755 Main St., Suite 4D, Monroe, CT 06468
(203) 268-2450, ext. 123 | bill@quad-a.org ✉ | quad-a.org 🌐

Association of Military Surgeons

Organized in 1891, Association of Military Surgeons (AMSUS) is a nonprofit membership-based organization. AMSUS was created for the purpose of advancing the knowledge of military surgery, medicine and sanitation in the medical departments of the Army, the Navy, the Marine Hospital Service of the United States and of the militia of the different states and to increase the efficiency of the different services by mutual association and the consideration of matters pertaining to the medico-military service of the United States in peace and in war.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Vice Admiral Mike Cowan, executive director
12154 Darbestown Road, #506, Gaithersburg, MD 20878 (301)
897-8800 | amsus@amsus.org ✉ | amsus.org 🌐

Blinded American Veterans Foundation

The Blinded American Veterans Foundation was launched

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in 1985 by three American veterans who lost their sight during service in Korea and Vietnam. The foundation was designed to become a nationwide focal point and clearinghouse for research, information dissemination and educational efforts.

PRIMARY CONTACT: John Fales Jr., president
P.O. Box 65900, Washington, DC 20035
(202) 462-4430 | sgtshaft@bavf.org ✉ | bavf.org 🌐

Bowlers to Veterans Link

The mission of Bowlers to Veterans Link is simple: to provide recreational bowling for therapeutic purposes. Anyone can get involved.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Mary Harrar, executive director 11350
Random Hills Road, Suite 800, Fairfax, VA 22030
(703) 934-6039 | epmontanya@bowlforveterans.org ✉
bowlforveterans.org 🌐

Cold War Veterans Association


This association is open to Cold War veterans from any branch of the armed forces. The Cold War Veterans Association lobbies for a Cold War memorial in Washington and promotes legislation for Cold War veterans.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Albert J. Lepine, chair and president 225
Riverside Drive, Auburn, Maine 04210
(207) 754-6812 | coldwarveterans.com 🌐

Commissioned Officers Association of the US Health Service Inc.



Working on behalf of the Public Health Service Commissioned Corps Officers and seeking to improve public health within the United States, the Commissioned Officers Association is a legislative aide, [CONTINUED](#) »

a media consultant and a career consultant. This assistance is always available to all veterans.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Jim Currie, executive director
8201 Corporate Drive, Suite 200, Landover, MD 20785
(301) 731-9084 | coausphs.org 


Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust

The Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust is the authority on African American and minority health disparities on Capitol Hill. The Braintrust is tasked with creating legislative and policy solutions to reduce health disparities and promote good health outcomes in multicultural communities.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Ron Armstead, national executive director
P.O. Box 54158, Washington, DC 20032
(301) 325-3015 | ronearmstead@gmail.com
 cbcbraintrust-kelly.house.gov 

Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War

The Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War was organized May 30, 1885, by Olive Howard, Harriet Knapp, Eva Merwin, Frank Merwin and Bertha Martin.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Jan Rynerson, national president 503
South Walnut St., Springfield, IL 62704 (217) 544-0616 |
duvcw.org 

Destroyer Escort Sailors Association

The association is a way for ex-Destroyer Escort sailors to communicate. They do so via the *DESANews*, which provides wartime stories, member

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CHAPTER 4: VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS

contributions, ship reunion updates and information on veteran affairs.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Steve Hoback, president
P.O. Box 488, Henderson Harbor, NY 13651
(800) 603-3332 | desausa.org

Eighth Air Force Historical Society

Founded in 1975, the group's original purpose was to remember the legacy of the Mighty Eighth but has now expanded to keep that legacy alive.

PRIMARY CONTACT: David Mowack, president 68
Kimberly's Way, Jasper, GA 30143
(912) 748-8884 | 8thafhs.org

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the US

Organized in 1972, Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the US works to voice the opinions of the National Guard's enlisted men in Washington, D.C.

PRIMARY CONTACT: John Harris, president
1 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Suite 880, Washington, DC 20001
(800) 234-3264 | eangus@eangus.org | eangus.org

Help Heal Veterans


The group provides therapeutic arts and crafts kits to veterans to provide activity for veterans and active duty patients recovering from surgery or who have been wounded.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Joe McClain, CEO
36585 Penfield Lane, Winchester, CA 92596
(951) 926-4500 | [hvh@hvh.org](mailto:hv@hvh.org) | hvh.org

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Homeless & Disabled Veterans

A subsidiary of the Disabled American Veterans association, this group helps veterans who have no place to stay.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Brian Hampton, president and CEO 210 E. Broad St., #202, Falls Church, VA 22046 (703) 237-8980 | dav.org 



Iraq/Afghanistan Veterans of America

The association provides benefits and a community for veterans from all parts of the armed forces and works to improve veterans' mental health.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Paul Rieckhoff, CEO
119 W. 40th St., 19th Floor, New York, NY 10018
(212) 982-9699 | info@iava.org  | iava.org 

Japanese American Veterans Association

The association works to perpetuate the memories of deceased Japanese American veterans as well as provide help to surviving veterans and their families.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Col. Bruce Hollywood, USAF, executive director 2111 Robin Way Court, Vienna, VA 22182
(703) 697-2949 | brucehollywood@gmail.com  | javadc.org 

Korea Veterans of America

In addition to veteran support, the group also promotes remembrance for Korean War veterans and provides events, links to benefits and important lobby sources.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Tom Stevens, vice commander Massachusetts State House Room 545-2, Boston, MA 02133

(617) 523-1441 | kvamane@aol.com  | koreaveterans.org

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Marine Corps Reserve Association

The association works to represent and assist active duty and veterans of the Marine Corps Reserve. It has chapters in Nashville and Memphis, Tennessee; New York; and San Diego.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Ken Hopper, president
3619 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 115, Stafford, VA 22554
(703) 289-1204 | usmcra@usmcra.org | www.usmcra.org

The Mission Continues

The Mission Continues empowers veterans who are adjusting to life at home to find purpose through community impact.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Spencer Kympton, president
1141 S. 7th St., St. Louis, MO 63104
(314) 588-8805 | info@missioncontinues.org | missioncontinues.org

NAM-POWs Corp.

NAM-POWs is a nonprofit veterans organization chartered by the state of Arizona in 1973. NAM-POWs came into existence through a need for the 801 returning prisoners of war repatriated from the Southeast Asia conflict to organize in such a way that they could continue to build upon their bonds of friendship and camaraderie developed over years of privation and inhumane treatment experienced while in the prison camps of North Vietnam, South Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and China.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Col. Joe Milligan, president 2050
Jamieson Ave., Unit 1115, San Diego, CA 92111
(858) 278-1524 | joseph_milligan@endec.us.com | nampows.org

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National Alliance on Mental Illness

Although National Alliance on Mental Illness is not a veterans association, it does provide help via numerous programs to veterans who struggle with mental illness because of past experiences.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Mary Giliberti, executive director 3802
N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 100, Arlington, VA 22203
(703) 524-7600 | info@nami.org | nami.org

National American Indian Veterans

National American Indian Veterans is a national nonprofit organization that helps and works for all Native American Indian Veterans.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Don Loudner, national commander
P.O. Box 2075, Downey, CA 90242
(562) 922-9711 | info@navavets.org
facebook.com/NAIV-National-American-Indian-Veterans-311444758503



National Association of American Veterans Inc.

This organization was founded in 2005 to assist wounded veterans, single-parent service members and disabled veterans in receiving their benefits.


PRIMARY CONTACT: Constance A. Burns, president and CEO
1725 I St. NW, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20006
(202) 465-3296 | info@naavets.org | naavets.org

National Association of Atomic Veterans

Founded in 1979, the organization promotes atomic veterans to lobby for health issues such as radiation poisoning and exposure to harmful elements as a result of nuclear testing, fallout and cleanup.



PRIMARY CONTACT: Fred Schafer

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130 Cleveland St., Lebanon, OR 97355
(541) 258-7453 | naav.com 


National Association of Black Military Women

This organization was founded in 1976 and works to preserve the memory of black women who have served as well as celebrate the history of black servicewomen.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Stephanie Dawson, president
5695 Pine Meadows Court, Morrow, GA 30261
(404) 675-0195 | nabmw@aol.com  | nabmw.com 


National Association of Fleet Tug Sailors Inc.

This nonprofit group consists of men and women who have served on tug and salvage ships in the Navy. It seeks to serve the community and memorialize those who served on tug ships.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Ted Hillman, president
221 Buland Drive, Castle Rock, WA 98611
(360) 274-6739 | president@nafts.com | nafts.com 

National Association of State Veterans Homes

The National Association State Veterans Homes' primary mission is to ensure that every eligible U.S. veteran receives the benefits, services, long-term health care and respect they have earned by their service and sacrifice.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Kim Justice, president
922 South Broadway, Truth or Consequences, NM 87901
(575) 894-4200 | www.nasvh.org 

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National Coalition for Homeless Veterans

This nonprofit coalition works with local, state and federal agencies to ensure that homeless veterans receive the care they deserve.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Kathryn Monet
1730 M St. NW, Suite 705, Washington, DC 20036
(202) 546-1969 | kmonet@nchv.org | nchv.org

National Disabled Veteran Business Council

The National Veteran Business Development Council is the only third-party veteran-owned business certification program in the United States and is organized as nonprofit foundation.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Michael Bolduc, executive director
8470 Egret Lakes Lane, West Palm Beach, FL 33412
(561) 289-7308 | mbolduc@ndvbc.org | nvbdc.org

National 4th Infantry Division Association

This nonprofit organization was founded in 1919 and serves veterans who served in the 4th infantry.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Bob Babcock, president and historian P.O.
Box 1914, St. Peters, MO 63376
(314) 606-1969 | 4thidaed@fwbell.net | 4thinfantry.org

National Guard Association of the United States

The association achieves its goals via lobbying in Congress and works to make sure that the National Guard receives its funding and benefits.

PRIMARY CONTACT: James Hoyer, chair
1 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20001
(202) 789-0031 | president@ngaus.org | ngaus.org



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National Gulf War Resource Center Inc.

Founded shortly after the Persian Gulf War in 1991, the organization works to protect veterans affected by the Gulf War.

PRIMARY CONTACT: James A. Bunker, executive director
2611 SW 17th St., Topeka, KS 66604
(785) 234-5626, ext. 313 | jim@ngwrc.org ✉ | ngwrc.org 🌐

National League of Families

This organization is committed to the families of prisoners of war and those missing in action, seeks the release of all prisoners, and seeks accounting and reparations for the remains of those missing.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Ann Mills Griffith, chair of the board 5673
Columbia Pike, Suite 100, Falls Church, VA 22041
(703) 465-7432 | powmiafam@aol.com ✉ | pow-miafamilies.org 🌐

National Military Family Association

The association works with military families to answer questions on deployment issues, caring for children and mental health issues.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Gail McGinn, chair
3601 Eisenhower Ave., Suite 425, Alexandria, VA 22304
(703) 931-6632 | infor@militaryfamily.org ✉ | militaryfamily.org 🌐

National Society Daughters of the American Revolution



Daughters of the American Revolution is a women's service organization dedicated to promoting historic preservation, education, patriotism and honoring the patriots of the Revolutionary War.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Ann Turner Dillon, president general

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CHAPTER 4: VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS

1776 D St. NW, Washington, DC 20006
(202) 628-1776 | officeofthepg@dar.org  | dar.org 



National Veterans Foundation

The organization has been helping veterans and their families since 1985 with crisis, medical services and other information via a hotline.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Floyd “Shad” Meshad, founder, president and CEO
5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 350, Los Angeles, CA 90045
(888) 777-4443 | vetsupport@nvf.org  | nvf.org 



Naval Enlisted Reserve Association

Representing the enlisted reservists of the Navy, Coast Guard and Marine Corps, the association works to protect the benefits and services for enlisted reservists.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Michael P. Hughes, executive director
6703 Farragut Ave., Falls Church, VA 22042
(703) 534-1329 | neraexec@nera.org  | nera.org 

Navy League of the United States

Founded in 1902 with encouragement from President Teddy Roosevelt, the group provides a variety of services to the Navy and lobbies Congress for a stronger naval force.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Cari Thomas, executive director
2300 Wilson Blvd., Suite 200, Arlington, VA 22201
(703) 528-1775 | execdirector@navyleague.org  | navyleague.org 

Navy Nurse Corp. Association

Formed in 1987 for all Navy nurses, this association makes sure that the


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history of the Navy nurses is preserved as well as provides a social outlet.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Kim Lyons, executive director
P.O. Box 3829, Newport, RI 02840
(757) 490-5738 | kim@nnca.org  | nnca.org 



Navy Seabee Veterans of America

Navy Seabee Veterans of America is a nonprofit organization of veterans who have served in Naval Construction Force commands and who dedicate and pledge to preserve the fundamental ideals on which our nation was founded, believing in justice, freedom and equality for all.

PRIMARY CONTACT: John J. Hillyer III, commander
555 Fairview Ave., Creve Coeur, IL 61610
(800) SEA-BEE5 | navysvasecy@att.net  | nsva.org 



Reserve Officers Association of the United States

The association has been devoted to protecting the rights and benefits of reservist officers for more than 90 years.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Jeff Phillips, executive director 1
Constitution Ave. NE, Washington, DC 20002
(202) 646-7701 | roainfo@roa.org  | roa.org 

Society of Medical Consultants to the Armed Forces

This group has promoted good medical standards within the military since 1946 and seeks to preserve and promote medical knowledge.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Herbert Alexander, president
5 Southern Way, Fredericksburg, VA 22406
(540) 361-2587 | info@smcaf.org  | smcaf.org 

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Society of Military Widows

Founded in 1968, this nonprofit society helps women whose husbands died on active duty, because of disability or during military retirement.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Janet Snyder, president 5535
Hempstead Way, Springfield, VA 22151
(703) 750-1342, ext. 1008 |
groundhog71@gmail.com | militarywidows.org

Student Veterans of America

The primary focus of this group is to help younger veterans with support and resources to have successful careers in higher education.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Jared Lyon, president and CEO 1012
14th St. NW, Suite 1200, Washington, DC 20005
(202) 223-4710 | contact@studentveterans.org | studentveterans.org

Team Rubicon

Team Rubicon unites the skills and experiences of military veterans with first responders to rapidly deploy emergency response teams.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Jake Wood, co-founder and CEO 6171
Century Blvd., Suite 310, Los Angeles, CA 90045
(310) 640-8787 | teamrubiconusa.org

Team RWB

Team RWB's mission is to enrich the lives of America's veterans by connecting them to their community through physical and social activity.

PRIMARY CONTACT: JJ Pinter, chair of the board
1110 W. Platt St., Tampa, FL 33606
info@teamrwb.org | teamrwb.org

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The Forty & Eight

Originally part of the American Legion, the organization eventually became fully independent in 1960 but still voices its opinions within the legion.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Patrick Mobley, correspondent national 777

N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46204

(317) 634-1804 | pmobley@fortyandeight.org ✉ | fortyandeight.org ↗

The Red River Valley Fighter Pilot Association

The group consists of fighter pilots and works for national recognition of military service and for those missing in action in Vietnam.

PRIMARY CONTACT: James “Hoser” Paulsen, president

P.O. Box 1553, Front Royal, VA 22630

(540) 636-9798 | riverrats@aol.com ✉ | river-rats.org ↗

TLC Brotherhood Inc. Veterans of Thailand, Laos, Cambodia in Vietnam War

The group works for all service members who have fought yet focuses on those who served in Southeast Asia.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Gary Beatty, president

P.O. Box 343, Locust Grove, GA 30248

(609) 386-1318 | tlc-brotherhood.com/wp ↗

Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors Inc.

The group reaches out to families who have lost a loved one who was serving. Its services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

PRIMARY CONTACT: John B. Wood, chair


3033 Wilson Blvd., Suite 630, Arlington, VA 22201

(202) 588-8277 | bonnie@taps.org | taps.org

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Travis Manion Foundation

Travis Manion Foundation empowers veterans and families of fallen heroes to develop character in future generations.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Col. Tom Manion, USMC (RET), chair emeritus
164 E. State St., Doylestown, PA 18901
(215) 348-9080 | travismanion.org 


United States Army Warrant Officers Association

Founded in 1972, this nonprofit association lobbies for the recognition and benefits of warrant officers.

PRIMARY CONTACT: CW4 Gregory A. “Greg” Gouty, president 462
Herndon Parkway, Suite 207, Herndon, VA 20170
(703) 742-7727 | usawoahq@verizon.net  | usawoa.org 



United States Merchant Marine Veterans of World War II

The organization serves to provide a social outlet for its members.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Allen Thronson, national president
P.O. Box 629, San Pedro, CA 90733
(310) 519-9545 | usmm.org/usmmv.html 

United States Navy Cruiser Sailors Association

A tax-exempt organization that is both social and volunteer-oriented, it consists of members who served on or are interested in Navy cruisers.

PRIMARY CONTACT: James F. Chryst, secretary
P.O. Box 65, Big Fort, MT 59911
(812) 867-5523 | jchryst@embarqmail.com  | navycruisers.org 

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USCG Chief Petty Officers Association

Created by chief petty officers of the Coast Guard, the organization volunteers within the community and provides benefits for its members.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Randy Reid, executive director
5520-G Hempstead Way, Springfield, VA 22151
(703) 941-0395 | coastguardcpoa@gmail.com ✉ | uscgcpoa.org 🌐

Veterans and Military Families for Progress

This group proposes legislation for the well-being of veterans and their families as well as promotes the needs of veterans in the public.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Matthew Cary, executive director
P.O. Box 66353, Washington, DC 20035
(202) 841-1687 | info@vmfp.org ✉ | vmfp.org 🌐

Veterans for Common Sense

This nonprofit organization primarily deals with lobbying so that veterans can get their fair share from Congress.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Anthony Hardie, board chair and director P.O.
Box 77304, Washington, DC 20013
(202) 558-4553 | info@veteransforcommonsense.org
✉ veteransforcommonsense.org 🌐

Veterans of Modern Warfare Inc.

The organization supports veterans and their families by providing benefits, education and support.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Kathy Marschman, vice president 8719
Colesville Road, Suite 100, Silver Spring, MD 20910

(727) 871-3555 | jmorgan@vmwusa.org ✉ | vmwusa.org 🌐 **CONTINUED** »

Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge

Formed in 1981, this tax-exempt and nonprofit group helps with reunions and preserving the history of the Battle of the Bulge.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Gary Higgins, president
P.O. Box 27430, Philadelphia, PA 19118
(703) 528-4058 | tracey@battleofthebulge.org
✉ veteransofthebattleofthebulge.org [↗](#)

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund

This was organized in 1980 to provide funding for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

PRIMARY CONTACT: John C. Dibble, chair of the board
1235 S. Clark St., Suite 910, Arlington, VA 22202
(202) 393-0090 | vvmf@vvmf.org ✉ | vvmf.org [↗](#)

Vietnam Women's Memorial Foundation Inc.

This organization strives for the recognition of women who have served in Vietnam and hopes to preserve the Vietnam Women's Memorial.



PRIMARY CONTACT: Diane Carlson Evans, founder and president
1735 Connecticut Ave. NW, 3rd Floor, Washington DC 20009
(866) 822-8963 | vietnamwomensmemorial@easternnational.org
✉ vietnamwomensmemorial.org [↗](#)

Women in Military Service for America Memorial Foundation Inc.

The organization helps to preserve the Women in Military Service for America Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.


PRIMARY CONTACT: Dee Ann McWilliams, president

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200 N. Glebe Road, Suite 400, Arlington, VA 22203
(703) 533-1155 | president@womensmemorial.org 
womensmemorial.org 


Women Marines Association

Founded in 1960, this nonprofit and charitable organization helps to tell the history of women in the Marines.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Laura Brown, first vice president P.O.
Box 377, Oaks, PA 19456
(888) 525-1943 | womenmarines.org 

Women Overseas Service League

The association works to promote overseas service, foster the welfare of the armed services and to assist those who were wounded while serving.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Martha Kuhns, national president
P.O. Box 124, Cedar Knolls, NJ 07297
(210) 223-6528 | wosl.org 



CHAPTER 5

Intergovernmental Affairs



National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs

Founded in 1946, the organization works in 50 states to ensure that veterans receive the state and federal benefits they were promised.

PRIMARY CONTACT: W. Clyde Marsh
107 S. West St., Suite 550, Alexandria, VA 22314
(334) 242-5077 | nasdva.us

National Association of County Veterans Service Officers Inc.

The mission of the association is to promote the rights of veterans and their families by education, communication and technology.

PRIMARY CONTACT: Kim Shaloo, Washington liaison
660 N. Capital St. NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20001
(937) 206-2806 | kshaloo@nacvso.org  | nacvso.com 



About BlueStar Caregivers

BlueStar SeniorTech is a service-disabled veteran-owned small business dedicated to improving the quality of care and life of veterans and seniors everywhere. Offering medical, emergency and health alert systems and senior care products, BlueStar helps make independent living safe and enjoyable while delivering peace of mind to seniors and their loved ones.

BlueStar supports caregivers through our non-profit site (www.BlueStarCaregivers.org). We support deserving senior veterans and their spouses through our 501(c)(3) charitable foundation, the Blue Star Senior Veterans Foundation (www.BlueStarSeniorVeterans.org).

BlueStar was founded by, and is operated by, veterans and their families. Our CEO and COO are retired two-star Navy admirals. We have 14 admirals and generals on our advisory board. We are dedicated to helping American seniors be Safe, Healthy, and Connected as they age. For more information, visit www.BlueStarSeniorTech.com.