
May 2024

Veterans Coalition Foundation Inc

www.vcfusa.org/Facebook



“Helping Veterans Thrive”

A RECENT SUCCESS

1. Healthcare Fair August 2024, Join us at our Healthcare Fair for Veterans, where we're committed to supporting those who served our nation. Discover essential services including insurance guidance, personalized diabetes counseling, and comprehensive health screenings. Let's ensure our veterans receive the care and support they deserve.
2. VET Centers we want to highlight this month. Every Veteran is welcome at a Vet Center. Vet Centers. Life isn't always easy after a deployment. That's where we can help. We offer confidential support for Veterans, service members,

Mission Statement: More Than a Foundation, a Movement

At Veterans Coalition Inc, we are not just a foundation; we are a movement dedicated to ensuring veterans and their communities thrive. Our mission is to provide support, resources, and opportunities that empower veterans to lead fulfilling lives beyond their service to our nation.

By answering the Veterans Coalition" Call to Duty", you become an integral part of a community-driven initiative to make a positive impact on the lives of those who have served our nation. Together, we can create a supportive and thriving environment for veterans in the Great State of Georgia

Partners Veterans Coalition Sponsors

Veterans Coalition Foundation Presenting donation to support Golf Tournament members from Triple Nickle and VFW post 6449 receiving check for their golf Tournament on April 12 2024 , at Crystal Lake Golf course Hampton Georgia. We were proud to support this event.





Triple Nickle and VFW post 6449



**VETERANS COALITION
FOUNDATION
(Senior Sponsor)**



Learn more about
VETERANS COALITION FOUNDATION
by speaking with their representatives



Shawn Fellows generously contributes a \$10,000 scholarship designated for students enrolled in AFJROTC at local high schools.



The Veterans Coalition Foundation offers aid and attendance resources and seminars for senior veterans and their surviving spouses who require assistance to safely reside at home. Information about Aid and Attendance Benefit:

Military Screening:

- **Persian Gulf War: August 2, 1990 -- until date to be determined**
- **At least 90 days on active duty? (Persian Gulf War veterans must have two years of active duty or the full period for which they were called for active duty.)**
- **With an honorable or general discharge?**
- **Or served in the country of Vietnam February 28, 1961 -- August 5, 1964**
- **World War II: December 7, 1941 -- December 31, 1946**
- **Korean Conflict: June 27, 1950 -- January 31, 1955**
- **Vietnam Era: August 5, 1964 -- May 7, 1975**

Medical Screening

- **Does the veteran or surviving spouse have a medical condition causing the need for assistance with activities of daily living? (i.e.— help with bathing, dressing, grooming, using the toilet, meal preparation, moving about safely.)**
- **Does the veteran or surviving spouse want to use their VA Pension with Aid and Attendance primarily for in-home**
- **care or adult day care? .**

MONETARY SCREENING

- **Combat duty or overseas service is not required. Surviving spouse must have**
- **been married to the veteran at least 1 year and at time of veteran's death. Married**
- **couples are only eligible if the veteran is disabled and meets the guidelines**
-

Partners of the Month:

In this section, we shine a spotlight on the incredible organizations and individuals who have joined us in our mission. Their collaboration and support play a crucial role in helping us make a lasting impact.



REDHAWK MEDICAL

We are delighted to spotlight our partnership with Redhawk Medical. We stand ready to provide quality products and custom offerings to assist the Department of Veterans Affairs in their promise to serve our Veterans. Redhawk Medical is fully owned and staffed by U.S. Army Veterans, with two members being Purple Heart recipients, and 100% owned by Service Disabled Veterans.

We are passionate about quality service to those that served our nation because we fully know what that service means.



About Redhawk Medical

- OUR VALUE

- Timely and cost-effective solutions for the customer: facility-fulfilment or direct-to-Veteran.
- Hands-on, total team concept guarantees the needs of the Veteran always come first.
- Quality service is our focus and customer satisfaction is our creed.
- Adaptive and flexible to the VA needs and processes; always willing to better serve the VA.
- We accept payments thru Purchase Cards, VA FSC, or SAM.gov

Cherokee Homeless Veteran program

About Cherokee Homeless Veteran Program: Our Programs

We party with veteran service organizations, corporations, generous individuals, and community organizations across Georgia to provide programs for veterans and their families where they can connect with other veterans and feel supported by their communities.



Homeless Services

- VA Claims Support
- Emergency housing
- Food/Clothing/toiletries
- Jobs and resume building
- Furniture – on demand limited area
- Transportation Services – CATS
- Community Medical Services through partnership
- Rent/Utilities Support
- Food Pantry
- Vehicle donation program for disabled/formerly homeless Veterans
- Veteran Home Repair program for low income/elderly/disabled Veterans
- Cellphone for Soldiers - cellphone
- Various other programs throughout the year.
 - Veteran Fly-Fishing program
 - Holiday Adopt a Vet program
 - Annual winter coat drive

Program restrictions

- Must be honorably discharged Veteran
- Funds are limited to availability
- Some services are limited by location



Cherokee County Homeless Veterans Program

678.983.7590

cherokeehomelessveterans.com

- Interactive Activities for Veterans

Collaborative Initiatives:

- Veteran Appreciation Day Events
- Recreational Activities for Veterans

Our heartfelt gratitude to Redhawk Medical and Cherokee Homeless Program for being the Partners of the Month. Your unwavering commitment and contributions are making a significant impact on the lives of those who have served our nation.

HONORABLE MENTIONS FOR VCF,

JON OSSOFF
GEORGIA

303 HART SENATE OFFICE B
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-3521

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1011

April 1, 2024

Dear Mr. Willis,

Thank you for contacting me regarding your support for our nation's military veterans. I am grateful for your perspective.

As I have traveled around Georgia, I've prioritized meeting with our service members and veterans to learn about how I can best respond to their needs.

Delivering for Georgia veterans is among my highest priorities, and I am delivering results.

I championed the PACT Act, which is now law — the most significant strengthening of veterans' health care in a generation, focused on veterans who were exposed to burn pits and toxic chemicals.

I introduced and passed the bipartisan Access for Veterans to Records Act, to eliminate the backlog of veterans' service records at the National Personnel Records Center. That backlog has delayed Georgia veterans' access to their benefits.

I led the successful bipartisan initiative to strengthen funding for outreach and care for rural veterans, including transportation and telemedicine.

I know many veterans continue to experience service delays and difficulties with Community Care referrals. I am pushing forcefully for Georgia's VA facilities to drive down wait times and improve their administration.

It is a privilege to represent Georgia's military veterans as your Senator. If you need help in getting your veteran and military benefits, please visit ossoff.senate.gov/services so I can assist you.

Thank you again for contacting me. I always welcome your input and feedback.

Wherever and however I can be of service, please contact my office at 202-224-3521. All of our resources are also available at ossoff.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Jon Ossoff
United States Senator



“Women Veterans Corner”

“Empowering Women Veterans: Providing Tips, Resources, and Event Updates”

[Mental health outreach efforts need more focus on women vets: report](#)

Advocates say more research and emphasis is needed on the particular mental health challenges facing women veterans.

By [Leo Shane III](#)

Women veterans who receive earned disability compensation benefits from VA get an average of \$26,809 per year and have an average 68% combined disability rating, according to the release. That compares to an average 61% combined disability rating for men, VA Under Secretary for Benefits Joshua Jacobs told reporters Wednesday.

The average grant rate for women veterans is 89.2%, the release said, meaning that roughly nine out of 10 women veterans who applied for disability benefits with VA received benefits for at least one condition.

“We want every woman veteran to come to us for the benefits that they have earned and deserve,” Jacobs said, noting that VA is hosting targeted women veteran outreach events across the country throughout the year.

Meanwhile, this week [the White House announced](#) that VA and the Department of Defense are launching a new Women’s Health Research collaborative to explore opportunities to promote the advancement of women’s health research and improve care for veterans and service members.

It wasn’t until just over 100 years ago that women veterans were [granted access to government health care](#). Today, VA provides a wide range of health care assistance for women vets, from [breast cancer screenings and mammograms](#) for those with potential toxic exposures to access to [reproductive health services](#) and [maternity care coordination](#).

But aside from disability compensation and health care benefits, VA says it is working hard to provide other resources for women veterans.

Last fall, VA hosted its [first national women Veterans Experience Action Center](#), a virtual convening that aided more than 340 women veterans to apply for care and benefits.

“Everyone I spoke with was excellent and made me feel very taken care of,” one woman said at the time.

And while they make up 16.5% of the veteran population, women veterans received 27.5% of Post-9/11 GI Bill education benefits and 26.4% of Veteran Readiness and Employment benefits in 2023, Jacobs noted.

Separately, the department reached another milestone this month. It [announced earlier this week](#) it processed its one millionth veteran benefits claim in fiscal year 2024 on March 4 — the earliest that’s been achieved in VA history and nearly six weeks faster than the previous record from last fiscal year.



[Celebrating 75 Years of Women in Service: Inspiring Stories from the Gala](#)

In this podcast episode hosted by Jennifer Smith, the focus is on a gala event commemorating 75 years of women in service. The event exudes elegance and provides a platform for Jennifer to engage in interviews with five remarkable women who have diverse experiences and achievements in their respective periods of service.

[Learn More](#)







in for all your veteran resources and events with Veterans Corner with Veteran Jenn

"Tune In for Veterans Corner with Veteran Jenn: Your Hub for Resources and Events"




Attention Veterans and Supporters!

Are you ready to stay informed, inspired, and connected? Tune in to "Veterans Corner with Veteran Jenn," your go-to source for all things veteran-related. Hosted by the passionate and dedicated Veteran Jenn, this podcast is your hub for valuable resources, insightful discussions, and upcoming events in the veteran community.


What to Expect:

-  **Expert Interviews:** Engage with experts, professionals, and fellow veterans who share their insights, experiences, and valuable information.
-  **Event Highlights:** Stay updated on upcoming veteran events, community engagements, and initiatives that matter to you.
-  **Resource Spotlights:** Discover essential resources, programs, and opportunities available to veterans.
-  **Community Connection:** Connect with like-minded individuals, organizations, and support networks that make a difference in the lives of veterans.

How to Tune In:

-  **Podcast Platforms:** Available on Youtube, www.vcfusa.org Facebook and Instagram.
-  **Website:** Visit [[website link](#)] for additional content, show notes, and to connect with the Veterans Corner community.
-  **Social Media:** Follow us on [[social media platforms](#)] for real-time updates, discussions, and community engagement.

Join us on this Journey:

-  **Subscribe:** Don't miss an episode! Subscribe to "Veterans Corner with Veteran Jenn" on your favorite podcast platform.

Subscriptions, Donations, Job Postings

Support our cause by subscribing to our newsletter, making a donation, or exploring job opportunities within our network. Your contributions play a vital role in helping us continue our mission.

Message from the President - Joel Willis

A Message from President Joel Willis: Unveiling Our Mission and Legislative Vision

Dear Veterans Coalition Foundation Inc Community,

I am honored to address you today as we reflect on the mission of our foundation and cast our vision for future legislative measures that will shape the lives of our veterans and their families.

Our mission at Veterans Coalition Foundation Inc is simple yet profound: "Helping Veterans Thrive." This mission is not just a statement; it is a commitment that resonates with each member of our coalition, each partner, and every individual who believes in the importance of supporting those who have served our nation.

As we navigate the path ahead, our vision for legislative measures is clear. We recognize the need for a robust and ever-present legislative voice at the Capitol to

advocate for the concerns that profoundly impact the lives of veterans within the Great State of Georgia. It's time for our veterans to have a voice that echoes through the halls of power, ensuring that their needs are not only heard but acted upon.

Year after year, we have witnessed legislation meant to enhance the quality of veterans' lives wither away in committees, never seeing the light of an "Up or Down" vote on the House or Senate floor. Our institutions, such as "The Georgia State Veterans Service Centers," face threats of defunding and closure. This, we believe, is due to a lack of reporting on the outcomes of legislative activities surrounding veterans' legislation.

At Veterans Coalition Foundation Inc, unburdened by the restrictions of a "Congressional Charter," we aspire to be the collective voice for all Georgia veterans. By bringing all Georgia Veterans Service Organizations into our coalition, we unite voices—both large and small—in a powerful chorus advocating for the well-being of our veterans. Our capital is the collective voting strength of our organization's membership, currently standing at 1.8 million members in the State of Georgia.

We envision a future where our elected officials are held accountable for their support, or lack thereof, for veterans' legislation. A future where reporting mechanisms shed light on how legislators have voted on critical veteran issues. This transparency empowers our members to make informed decisions and ensures that the sacrifices of our veterans are never overlooked.

Our accomplishments to date, from feeding the hungry and providing scholarships to distributing winter coats to the needy, showcase the tangible impact we can make when we stand together. We have engaged with communities across Fulton, Clayton, Henry, Cobb, Fayette, Cherokee, and Gwinnett counties, forging connections and addressing the unique concerns of each veterans' community.

Looking ahead, we are excited about our upcoming newsletter reaching over 1.2 million subscribers through Military Groups on various platforms. Our podcast, "Veterans Corner with Veteran Jenn," and partnerships with organizations like Humana and Piedmont Church underscore our commitment to expanding our reach and influence.

In conclusion, let us embark on this journey together. As President of Veterans Coalition Foundation Inc, I am inspired by the dedication of our community, partners, and every individual who believes in the power of collective action. Together, we will continue to advocate, support, and ensure that our veterans not only survive but thrive.

Thank you for being part of this noble mission.

Sincerely,

Joel Willis President, Veterans Coalition Foundation Inc

Resources:

Services

What is readjustment counseling?

Readjustment counseling is a wide range of psycho social services offered to eligible Veterans, service members, and their families in the effort to make a successful transition from military to civilian life. They include:

- . Individual and group counseling for Veterans, service members, and their families**
- . Family counseling for military related issues**
- . Bereavement counseling for families who experience an active duty death**
- . Military sexual trauma counseling and referral**

- **Outreach and education including PDHRA, community events, etc.**
- **Substance abuse assessment and referral**
- **Employment assessment & referral**
- **VBA benefits explanation and referral**
- **Screening & referral for medical issues including TBI, depression, etc.**

Does VA have readjustment counseling for family members?

Family members of combat Veterans and service members have been eligible for Vet Center readjustment counseling services for military related issues since 1979.

Am I eligible for Vet Center readjustment counseling?

If you, or a family member, served in any combat zone and received a military campaign ribbon (Vietnam, Southwest Asia, OEF, OIF, etc.) then both you and your family are eligible for Vet Center services.

Where is counseling offered?

VA's readjustment counseling is provided at community-based Vet Centers located in easily

accessible neighborhoods near Veterans, service members, and their families, yet separate from VA organizational sites to ensure confidential counseling and reduce barriers to care. All Vet Center services are prepaid through military service. Contact your nearest Vet Center through information provided in the Vet Center Directory or listings in your local blue pages. Vet Center team members are available toll free and around the clock at 877-927-8387.

Are Vet Centers open during non-traditional hours?

Yes, all Vet Centers maintain non-traditional appointment schedules, after normal business hours, to accommodate the schedules of Veterans, service members, and their family members.

this section, we provide important updates and information related to veteran affairs, policy changes, and resources that directly impact the veteran community.

RELATED

-

A Moment in Military History

Celebrate the rich history of our military with a captivating story or fact from the past. It's a moment to reflect on the sacrifices and achievements that have shaped our nation.

Library of Congress Veterans History Project

-

The Veterans History Project commemorates the life of Roger Donlon, the first Medal of Honor recipient from the Vietnam War, who passed away on January 25th at the age of 89. Col. Donlon served admirably in Vietnam as commanding officer of a U.S. Special Forces detachment, earning the Medal of Honor for his defense of Camp Nam Dong in July 1964. He went on to serve in various parts of the world before retiring from military service in 1988. We are grateful to have received Col. Donlon's incredible oral history which you can listen to, in full, here: <https://www.loc.gov/item/afc2001001.89670/?locl=fbvhp>



All reactions:
66








CONCLUSION: JOIN US ON THIS JOURNEY!

AS WE STAND UNITED IN OUR MISSION TO SUPPORT AND UPLIFT OUR VETERANS, I INVITE EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU TO BE AN ACTIVE PART OF THE VETERANS COALITION FOUNDATION INC COMMUNITY. OUR COMMITMENT TO "HELPING VETERANS THRIVE" GOES BEYOND WORDS—IT REQUIRES THE COLLECTIVE STRENGTH OF OUR COMMUNITY.

HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE:

1. **SUBSCRIBE: STAY INFORMED BY SUBSCRIBING TO OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER. BE THE FIRST TO RECEIVE UPDATES, STORIES, AND VALUABLE INSIGHTS DIRECTLY INTO YOUR INBOX.**
2. **SPREAD THE WORD: TELL A FRIEND, A COLLEAGUE, A FAMILY MEMBER—SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT VETERANS COALITION FOUNDATION INC. TOGETHER, WE AMPLIFY OUR IMPACT.**
3. **DONATE: YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS MAKE A DIFFERENCE. DONATE TO SUPPORT OUR INITIATIVES, PROGRAMS, AND THE VITAL WORK WE DO FOR OUR VETERANS.**
4. **GET INVOLVED: JOIN US IN COMMUNITY EVENTS, VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES, AND INITIATIVES THAT ALIGN WITH OUR MISSION. YOUR ACTIVE PARTICIPATION FUELS OUR COLLECTIVE EFFORTS.**

NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS:

-  **MONTHLY UPDATES: OUR NEWSLETTER WILL BE A MONTHLY SOURCE OF INFORMATION, KEEPING YOU IN THE LOOP ABOUT ALL THE HAPPENINGS, ACHIEVEMENTS, AND UPCOMING EVENTS.**
-  **EXCLUSIVE CONTENT: DIVE DEEPER INTO VETERAN STORIES, LEGISLATIVE UPDATES, AND BEHIND-THE-SCENES INSIGHTS THROUGH OUR EXCLUSIVE NEWSLETTER CONTENT.**
-  **BE INFORMED: STAY TUNED FOR ALL THE INFORMATION YOU NEED RIGHT HERE. THE NEWSLETTER IS YOUR GATEWAY TO STAYING CONNECTED WITH OUR VIBRANT COMMUNITY.**

HAVE AN EVENT? LET US KNOW: PLANNING AN EVENT THAT SUPPORTS OUR VETERANS OR ALIGNS WITH OUR MISSION? WE WANT TO HEAR ABOUT IT! NOTIFY US, AND WE'LL HELP SPREAD THE WORD THROUGH OUR CHANNELS, AMPLIFYING THE IMPACT OF YOUR INITIATIVES.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO OUR CAUSE. TOGETHER, WE WILL CREATE A FUTURE WHERE VETERANS NOT ONLY SURVIVE BUT THRIVE. SUBSCRIBE, TELL A FRIEND, DONATE, AND GET INVOLVED. YOUR SUPPORT MAKES OUR MISSION POSSIBLE.

HERE'S TO A FUTURE OF UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR OUR HEROES!



"Boots on the Ground: Marching Together for Veteran Support"

Contact Us

Veterans Coalition Foundation Inc

140 Powers Ferry Rd, Marietta, GA
30067, USA

(470) 496-4946

drewkeenan51@comcast.net

www.vcfusa.org

HAVE MORE TO SAY?

Sure, this is a newsletter, not a novel—and you want to keep it short and sweet to keep your reader's attention. But if you need a bit more space, we've got you covered...

To add another page, just click in the last sentence of the sample story above this one and then press Ctrl+Enter.

This story and the mailer will move to the next page—and the mailer will automatically be in the right spot. You can then click back in the text on this page and add more.

VETERANS COALITION FOUNDATION INC

140 Powers Ferry Rd, Marietta, GA 30067, USA

Recipient Name

Street Address

City, ST ZIP Code