



The Guardian

The monthly newsletter of the New Mexico Dept. of Veterans' Services
JULY 2025

•Website: www.nmdvs.org

•Facebook: [NMDVSHealthcare2015](https://www.facebook.com/NMDVSHealthcare2015)

•Instagram: [newmexicoveterans](https://www.instagram.com/newmexicoveterans)

NMDVS Takes Delivery of New Mobile Unit

The New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) has received our new a new Mobile Unit to deliver vital services directly to Veterans and their eligible family members in rural and tribal communities. Recognizing the challenges many Veterans face in traveling long distances to reach NMDVS field offices, the department designed this self-contained and fully powered unit to bridge that gap by bringing benefit assistance straight to the communities who need it most.

Staffed by trained Veteran Service Officers, James Brandon and David Swisher, the mobile unit will enable NMDVS to help clients initiate and file VA compensation and pension claims, apply for healthcare and education benefits, and access state Veterans' programs and benefits within their local community.

The Mobile Outreach Unit will travel across New Mexico, making regular visits to underserved areas, including tribal lands, remote villages, and rural towns. No appointments will be necessary, allowing Veterans and families to walk in and receive one-on-one assistance on-site. The initiative reflects NMDVS and the State of New Mexico's commitment to ensuring that all Veterans, regardless of where they live, have equal access to the benefits they have earned through their service.

NMDVS has just taken delivery of the new unit and is currently training staff and preparing it for operation. A schedule of mobile unit service locations will be posted online and shared through community partners to ensure all Veterans have maximum awareness.

Don't wait to access the benefits and services you have earned serving your state and country. Contact one of our field offices at NMDVS.org or call 1-866-433-8387.



New Mexico State Park Lifetime Veteran Pass Now Available

The New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) is now accepting applications for the New Mexico State Park Lifetime Veteran Pass, which provides free, unlimited access to all state parks. This benefit includes both day-use and overnight camping, allowing eligible Veterans to enjoy the beauty of New Mexico's outdoors year-round without paying standard entry or campsite fees. It does not include reservation processing charges, group shelters, special event sites, or cabin rentals.



The pass is part of a collaborative effort between the NMDVS and the State Parks Division, under the Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD). “This new benefit shows how much we appreciate our veterans,” said NMDVS Sec. Jamison Herrera. “Letting them enjoy our state parks gives them a chance to relax, have fun, and heal in New Mexico’s beautiful outdoors.”

To qualify, applicants must be New Mexico residents and have served in the U.S. Armed Forces, including National Guard and Reserve components, with a discharge other than dishonorable. The pass also extends eligibility to Veterans who served in the U.S. Public Health Service or NOAA Corps under qualifying conditions.

Veterans interested in applying must submit the required documentation and application to NMDVS to obtain the pass.

Required Documentation to apply for the pass:

1. A completed application form; AND
2. A copy of DD 214 (Report of Separation) for military veterans; NOAA Form 56-16 for Commissioned Officers discharged from NOAA; and PHS Form 1867 for Uniformed Officers discharged from PHS, or equivalent Department of Defense document (NOTE: any Department of Defense Document, submitted in lieu of a DD 214, which does not verify dates and character of service will not be accepted); AND
3. Proof of New Mexico residency
 - Copy of Current New Mexico Driver’s License/ NM State-issued picture ID.
 - Copy of Current NM Voter’s Registration
 - Latest copy of a New Mexico State Income Tax Return

You can download an application from the NMDVS website [here](#). Applications can be forwarded to NMDVS via email at Vet.Benefits@dvs.nm.gov. Upon approval, Veterans will receive a vehicle hang-tag pass, which must be displayed while using the parks. The park pass is non-transferable.



For Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ’s) on rules and how to obtain and use the pass, click on this [link](#). Visit the NMDVS website at <https://www.nmdvs.org/> for the links and more information.

Property Tax Exemption & NM Lifetime Veteran Park Pass Events

The New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) is still accepting applications from Veterans for the new property tax exemptions signed into law on March 20, 2025. The standard Veteran property tax exemption is now \$10,000 and will be applied to the Veteran/unmarried surviving spouse's 2025 notice of value. In 2026 and subsequent tax years, the amount shall be adjusted for inflation.

For the tax year 2026, the Disabled Veterans Exemption allows for the Veteran/unmarried surviving spouse to apply for an adjusted exemption in an amount equal to the percentage of the Veteran's disability as determined by federal law. Veterans who choose to add the new Disabled Veteran tax exemption must submit an application to NMDVS and file it with their County Assessor. These exemptions are designed to provide financial relief to all Veterans for their service and sacrifice to our state and nation.

NMDVS has scheduled Veteran property tax exemption events throughout the state to explain the changes. State Benefits personnel will be ready to assist eligible Veterans and unmarried widows/widowers applying for property tax waivers, exemptions, and the New Mexico State Park Lifetime Veteran Pass. Our Certified Veterans Service Officers will be on-site to assist with VA benefits claims and help with questions regarding VA healthcare eligibility and enrollment, disability compensation, and state benefits assistance.

Grants	7/17	Grants Public Library, 1101 N. 1st Street, Grants, NM 87020	9am-3pm
Silver City	7/17	Grant County Convention Center, 3031 US-180, Silver City, NM 88061	3pm-6pm
Gallup	7/18	Gallup Sports Complex, 925 Park Ave., Gallup, NM 87301	9am-3pm
Socorro	7/22	Forget Me Not Veterans Center, 705 N California St. Socorro, NM 87801	9am-3pm
Aztec	7/30	San Juan County Assessor's Office, 100 S. Oliver St., Aztec, NM 87410	9am-3pm

Documents needed to verify eligibility:

- A copy of DD-214, NA 13038, NOAA Form 56-16, or PHS Form 1867
- VA Award Letter showing percentage of disability
- NM Driver's License, ID, Voter registration card, or most recent NM Personal Income Tax Return
- Widow/Widower copy of marriage and death certificates

If you have questions on the new Veteran's property tax law, please call NMDVS at 505-827-6300 or 505-383-2400. Visit nmdvs.org for a property tax exemption form and get your certificate now.

Our VSOs also help connect veterans to vital community resources, such as, transitional housing and medical and behavioral health care. Information and assistance on federal and state benefits, local Veterans' programs and referral services are available at any of our field office locations.

The NMDVS Healthcare Division works with mental health providers throughout the state to help veterans in crisis. If you need help, call or text 988 and press 1 for the Veterans crisis line. For more information on programs, resources, and services provided by NMDVS and our partners, please call 1-866-433-8387 or visit nmdvs.org.



NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT

OF VETERANS' SERVICES

CIBOLA COUNTY ASSESSOR'S VETERANS PROPERTY TAX EVENT

GRANTS PUBLIC LIBRARY

1101 N 1st Street, Grants, NM 87020

Thursday July 17th, 2025 | 9:00 AM — 3:00 PM



NM Dept of Veterans' Services & Cibola County Assessor's office representatives will be on site to assist eligible veterans and unmarried widows applying for:

- * *\$10,000 Standard Veterans Property Tax Exemption.*
- * *Percentage Based Disabled Veterans Property Tax Exemption.*
- * *Disabled Veterans Permanent & Total property Tax Waiver.*

The following documents will be required to verify Property Tax certificate eligibility:

1. A copy of your DD-214, NA 13038, NOAA form 56-16, or PHS form 1867
 - * DD214 must be full form, unredacted and include character of service
 - * Visit www.archives.gov to request discharge paperwork if needed.
2. If applicable, VA Federal Award letter verifying service-connected disability rating
 - * If you do not have a copy of your current VA Award letter, a free copy can be obtained by establishing an account at www.va.gov or by calling 1-800-827-1000.
3. Proof of New Mexico Residency – Includes one of the following documents:
Valid NM Driver's license / Current voters registration card / Most recent NM income tax return



2025 Operation Veterans Wellness



Friday, July 18, 2025

9am - 4pm

Gallup Sports Complex

**925 Park Ave
Gallup, NM 87301**

**FREE
Event**



**CITY OF
GALLUP**



9:00am Posting of Colors

9:15am Welcome Address

9:30am - Presentations & Activities

12:00pm-4:00pm Gourd Dance

(Please bring your own chairs)

MC: Michael Salabiye, DBMHS

Arena Director: Harrison Brown

Head Gourd Dancer: Sam Gibson, Black Creek Society

Head Singer: Adrian Yazzie

9:00am - 4:00pm Resource Fair

(Non-Profit Organizations only)

**R
E
D**
Remember
Everyone
Deployed

**FOOD VENDOR
ON SITE**

For more information regarding Gourd Dance call TJ Anderson @ (928) 551-1053

For other information call Cheryl Toledo @ (505) 722-9470

**** THIS IS A DRUG AND ALCOHOL FREE EVENT ****

**** NO SOLICITING ****

**** Sponsors not responsible for theft, accidents, injuries, etc ****



SOCORRO COUNTY ASSESSOR'S VETERANS PROPERTY TAX EVENT

FORGET ME NOT VETERANS CENTER

705 N California Street, Socorro, NM 87801

Tuesday July 22nd 2025 | 9:00 AM — 3:00 PM



NM Dept of Veterans' Services & Socorro County Assessor's

office representatives will be on site to assist eligible veterans and unmarried widows applying for:

- * *\$10,000 Standard Veterans Property Tax Exemption.*
- * *Percentage Based Disabled Veterans Property Tax Exemption.*
- * *Disabled Veterans Permanent & Total property Tax Waiver.*

The following documents will be required to verify Property Tax certificate eligibility:

1. A copy of your DD-214, NA 13038, NOAA form 56-16, or PHS form 1867
 - * DD214 must be full form, unredacted and include character of service
 - * Visit www.archives.gov to request discharge paperwork if needed.
2. If applicable, VA Federal Award letter verifying service-connected disability rating
 - * If you do not have a copy of your current VA Award letter, a free copy can be obtained by establishing an account at www.va.gov or by calling 1-800-827-1000.
3. Proof of New Mexico Residency – Includes one of the following documents:
Valid NM Driver's license / Current voters registration card / Most recent NM income tax return



NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT

OF VETERANS' SERVICES

SAN JUAN COUNTY ASSESSOR'S VETERANS PROPERTY TAX EVENT

OFFICE OF THE SAN JUAN COUNTY ASSESSOR

100 S Oliver Drive Suite 400, Aztec, NM 87410

Wednesday July 30th 2025 | 9:00 AM — 3:00 PM



NM Dept of Veterans' Services & San Juan County Assessor's office representatives will be on site to assist eligible veterans and unmarried widows applying for:

- * *\$10,000 Standard Veterans Property Tax Exemption.*
- * *Percentage Based Disabled Veterans Property Tax Exemption.*
- * *Disabled Veterans Permanent & Total property Tax Waiver.*

The following documents will be required to verify Property Tax certificate eligibility:

1. A copy of your DD-214, NA 13038, NOAA form 56-16, or PHS form 1867
 - * DD214 must be full form, unredacted and include character of service
 - * Visit www.archives.gov to request discharge paperwork if needed.
2. If applicable, VA Federal Award letter verifying service-connected disability rating
 - * If you do not have a copy of your current VA Award letter, a free copy can be obtained by establishing an account at www.va.gov or by calling 1-800-827-1000.
3. Proof of New Mexico Residency – Includes one of the following documents:

Valid NM Driver's license / Current voters registration card / Most recent NM income tax return

Upcoming DVS Veterans' Benefits Outreach Visits

NMDVS is scheduled to make the following outreach visits at the locations listed below.

Veterans and/or their eligible dependents are encouraged to stop by to file for or ask information about—VA disability ratings, VA medical or mental health care, retiree pensions, military burials, and many other VA benefits.

Staff can also help with applying for state Veterans' benefits such as discounted fishing and hunting licenses, Veterans' license plates, property tax exemptions, state park passes, and many more state Veterans' benefits.

Please bring a copy of your DD 214, NA 13038, NOAA 56-16, PHS 1867, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, which are necessary for filing all Veterans' benefits claims. VA award letter showing percentage of disability, NM Driver's License, ID, voter Registration card, and Widow/Widower copy of marriage and death certificates if applicable. NMDVS can help Veterans file for lost or misplaced DD 214s.

Artesia	7/22, 8/26, 9/23	United Veterans Hall, 402 W Hermosa Dr.	10am-3pm
Carlsbad	7/15, 7/29, 8/5	VFW Post 8703, 1919 San Jose Blvd.	10am-3pm
Cannon AFB	8/5, 8/19, 10/21	Military & Family Readiness Center	2:30pm-5:30pm
Capitan	8/6,10/1,12/3	Capitan Library, 101 E 2nd St.	10am-2pm
Deming	7/9, 8/13, 9/10	Old VFW Bldg., 4045 Overhill Dr. NW	10am-1pm
Deming	7/23, 8/27, 9/24	Luna County Senior Center, 800 Granite St.	10am-3pm
Española	8/6, 9/3, 10/1, 11/5	Workforce Connection Ctr. 56 Co Rd. 126B	10am-2pm
Eunice	8/14, 10/16, 12/11	Eunice Library, 1003 Avenue N	9am-11:30am
Holloman AFB	7/14, 7/28, 8/11	Military Family Readiness Center	8am-10am
Jal	8/14, 10/16, 12/11	Woolworth Library, 100 E Utah Ave	1pm-3:30pm
Lovington	8/21, 10/23, 12/18	Lovington Library, 115 Main St.	9am-11:30am
Ruidoso	7/9, 9/10, 11/5	Ruidoso Community Ctr/501 Sudderth Dr.	10am-3pm
Silver City	7/17	Grant County Convention Center, 3031 US-180	3pm-6pm
Socorro/Belen	7/8, 8/12, 9/9, 10/14	Forget Me Not Veteran Ctr/705 N. California	9am-3pm
Tatum	8/21, 10/23, 12/18	Tatum Library, 323 E Broadway St.	

The following are weekly outreach visits:

Santa Fe	Mondays	Santa Fe Vet Center/2209 Brothers Rd.	9am-4pm
Santa Fe	Fridays	Santa Fe Vet Center/2209 Brothers Rd.	9am-2pm

Veterans and their eligible dependents can always contact any of the NMDVS field offices statewide listed on the last two pages of this newsletter. Each office is staffed by nationally certified Veterans Service Officers (VSO), who can also offer assistance by phone or email.

If you know of or are hosting a veterans' or community event that would benefit from having a Veterans' Service Officer on site to help answer questions on benefits available please contact DVS Field Services Director Robin Wilson at Robin.Wilson@dvs.nm.gov



Office of the Governor

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

CABINET IN YOUR COMMUNITY:

July 17, 2025

SILVER CITY



 **GRANT COUNTY CONFERENCE CENTER**
3031 US-180, SILVER CITY, NM 88061

 **STATE EXPO: 3-6:30 P.M.**
TOWN HALL: 5:30-7:30 P.M.



State Expo

Access health care, food assistance, and unemployment benefits all in one convenient location.

and much more!



Meet Your Agencies

Meet your cabinet officials and learn about services that could better address your community's needs.



Town Hall

Share your ideas, hear updates, and connect with local leaders on issues that matter to you.

More Information

 Call Us
505-476-2200

 Visit Our Website
governor.state.nm.us

 Grant County Conference Center
3031 US-180
Silver City, NM 88061

Silver City Cabinet in Your Community July 17th

Office of the Governor
MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

Cabinet In Your Community

ACCESS RESOURCES ENROLL IN STATE PROGRAMS SPEAK WITH AGENCIES

Silver City, NM

Thursday, July 17, 2025
State Services Expo: 3 - 6:30 PM
Community Town Hall: 5:30 - 7:30 PM

Grant County Veterans Memorial Business & Conference Center
3031 US-180
Silver City, NM 88061

The Silver City community has demonstrated incredible resilience in the face of the recent Trout and Buck fires. Now, let's come together to support one another.

Connect with the administration of Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham and state agency leaders to learn how the state government can better support you and your community as we recover and move forward together.

Join us for the State Services Expo from 3 to 6:30 p.m., designed with your family's needs and your community's recovery in mind.

Here's some of what you'll find at the Expo:

- Emergency assistance and recovery resources for fire-affected residents
- Assistance for Veterans applying for state and VA benefits
- Information on free childcare programs
- Access to employment resources and state job openings
- Pathways to free college and adult education opportunities
- On-site Motor Vehicle Division services and tax help
- Options to purchase hunting and fishing licenses
- Support for seniors and caregivers
- Assistance with enrolling in Medicaid, food benefits, and energy support
- WIC services, vaccines, and foster care resources

And then join us for the Town Hall from 5:30-7:30 p.m., hear updates and connect with local leaders on the issues that matter to you.

NMDVS State Benefits personnel will be on-site during the State Services Expo to assist eligible Veterans and unmarried widows/widowers applying for property tax waivers, exemptions, and state park passes. Our Certified Veterans Service Officers will be on-site to assist with VA benefits claims and help with questions regarding VA healthcare eligibility and enrollment, disability compensation, and state benefits assistance.

Documents needed to verify eligibility:

- A copy of DD-214, NA 13038, NOAA Form 56-16, or PHS Form 1867
- VA Award Letter showing the percentage of disability.
- NM Driver's License, ID, voter registration card, or the most recent NM Personal Income Tax Return.
- Widow/Widower copy of marriage and death certificates.

This will be a great opportunity to connect directly with those who can help deliver the support and benefits you have earned. If you cannot attend in person, you can watch the town hall portion live on Facebook or YouTube at @GovMLG.

NMDVS Women Veterans Conference 2025

On Saturday, June 14, 2025, the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) proudly hosted its annual Women Veterans Conference, themed "Honoring Our Past, Shaping Our Future." Held at the Greater Albuquerque Association of Realtors and offered virtually for the first time, this year's event brought together women Veterans, community leaders, service providers, and advocates from across the state.

The conference was designed to address the unique experiences and challenges faced by women who have served in the military. The event featured presentations and discussions on a wide range of topics, including an overview of all DVS departments and services; VA healthcare with a focus on women's care; the New Mexico State Veterans Home; PTSD and Military Sexual Trauma (MST); self-care strategies and practical examples; a creative writing workshop during a working lunch; suicide prevention and crisis intervention; Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW); and mental health resources, including therapy options, support groups, and service animal information. NMDVS representatives and certified Veteran Service Officers were on hand to provide one-on-one assistance with filing VA claims, answering benefit questions, and helping Veterans connect to state programs and benefits.

Cabinet Secretary Jamison Herrera opened the event with a call to action, emphasizing the importance of community connection and peer support. The conference also provided safe spaces for women veterans to share their stories, build networks, and find camaraderie with others who understand the journey of military service.

Women Veteran Program Manager Amberly Viner said, "From boots to breakthroughs, the Women Veterans Conference 2025 was a celebration of women warriors redefining leadership, purpose, and power. Women Veterans throughout the state of New Mexico came together to learn, connect by sharing experiences, and empower each other through healing for successful futures. This conference was a huge success and is only the start to the direction I am wanting for the Women Veteran Program. The mission continues."

With approximately 17,000 women veterans living in New Mexico, the event plays a vital role in raising awareness, providing services, and ensuring that those who served are recognized and supported. The Women Veterans Program serves as the primary resource for addressing issues that affect women veterans. Our mission is to deliver exceptional service and strong advocacy for women veterans and their families. Through ongoing outreach, we aim to ensure that women veterans are well-informed about federal and state benefits they have earned. For more information on the NMDVS Women Veteran Program, contact Amberly Viner at 505-372-9106 or by email at Amberly.viner@dvs.nm.gov.

Stay connected through the NMDVS [website](#), Facebook Page, and Instagram for updates on future events and programs.



Photo: NMDVS Women Veterans Program Manager Amberly Viner delivers the Governor's Proclamation.



Photo: NMDVS Cabinet Secretary NMDVS Jamison Herrera kicks off the conference with opening remarks.

NMDVS Women Veterans Conference 2025



Photo: (middle left) NM State Rep. Debra M. Sariñana provides legislative update (middle) Attendees from Women Veterans of New Mexico in the photo zone.



Photo: (left) Conference attendees creating friendships and connection (lower right) NMDVS Staff celebrating Women Veteran Day at the conference.

Honoring the Heroes on Korean War Armistice Day



Troops advancing through snow at the Battle of Chosin Reservoir.

Sunday, July 27th, marks National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day—a day of remembrance and deep gratitude for the brave American service members who served during the Korean War. This year marks the 72nd anniversary of the armistice signing that ended open hostilities on the Korean Peninsula.

On July 27, 1953, representatives from the United States (acting on behalf of the United Nations), South Korea, North Korea, and China gathered to sign an armistice agreement. This historic accord brought a ceasefire to a brutal and bloody conflict that had raged for over three years. However, the agreement was not a peace treaty. To this day, no formal peace treaty has been signed. The heavily armed Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) along the 38th parallel still separates the two nations, serving as one of the most fortified borders in the world. Tensions today remain high between the two Koreas and between North Korea and the United States. America and its allies stay on alert and constantly monitor North Korea's words and actions.

Often called the “Forgotten War”, the Korean War began on June 25, 1950, when North Korea, backed by Communist China and the Soviet Union, invaded democratic South Korea. The United States quickly joined a United Nations coalition to defend South Korea, launching what would become one of the most intense military engagements of the Cold War era.

Over 6 million Americans served in uniform during the Korean War era, with approximately 1.7 million serving directly in-theater. The toll was staggering: 33,700 American service members were killed in action, including 200 from New Mexico. Over 103,000 were wounded, and more than 7,000 remain unaccounted for—including 44 New Mexicans still listed as Missing in Action (MIA).

The Korean War profoundly impacted not only those who served but also their families and communities. Many Veterans returned home with lasting physical injuries and emotional trauma, often with little public recognition or support. Despite their sacrifices, Korean War Veterans too frequently remain overlooked in our national memory.

On this day, the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) urges all New Mexicans to pause and reflect on the courage, service, and sacrifice of those who fought in Korea. We honor the fallen, remember the missing, and recognize the thousands of Veterans who came home forever changed by war. Their dedication to freedom and democracy must never be forgotten.



United Nations forces withdraw from North Korean capital, Pyongyang, recrossing 38th parallel.

Border Patrol Recognizes NMDVS VSO Clarissa Sierra



The New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) would like to congratulate Southwest region Veteran Service Officer (VSO) Clarissa Sierra on her well-deserved recognition from the Border Patrol Station in Lordsburg for her outstanding dedication and service.

Robin Wilson, Field Services Director for NMDVS stated, "Clarissa took the initiative over a year ago to build strong relationships with agents in the area and has since gone above and beyond, especially in reaching previously unengaged veterans and delivering exceptional support to those across the Southwest region."

NMDVS has a team of highly trained, VA-accredited VSOs that specialize in navigating the VA claims process and are dedicated to helping Veterans and their families secure the benefits they have earned. Whether you are filing for the first time or reapplying after a past denial, a VSO will ensure your claim is complete, accurate, and backed by the necessary evidence.

To visit with a Certified VSO to help you with VA claims, state benefits, and other programs offered by NMDVS, contact us at 1-866-433-8387 or visit our website at NMDVS.org.



U.S. Coast Guard 235th Birthday

On August 4, 2025, the United States Coast Guard will celebrate its 235th birthday—a proud milestone in the history of one of the nation's oldest and most versatile military services. Originally established in 1790 by Alexander Hamilton as the Revenue Cutter Service, the Coast Guard has grown into a multi-mission force that serves under the Department of Homeland Security during peacetime and the U.S. Navy during wartime. From its earliest days patrolling American waters to its modern-day roles in search and rescue, maritime law enforcement, and environmental protection, the Coast Guard remains a steadfast guardian of our shores.



This anniversary is especially meaningful to Coast Guard veterans, whose service helped build and preserve the proud legacy we honor today. Whether stationed at sea or ashore, in peace or conflict, Coast Guard Veterans carried out their duties with determination and integrity. Their contributions laid the groundwork for today's missions and continue to inspire the next generation of Coast Guardsmen. The commitment to being Semper Paratus— "Always Ready"—is a tradition carried forward by all who serve.

We extend our deepest gratitude to our Coast Guard Veterans. Your dedication and sacrifices have safeguarded our shores and strengthened our communities. This birthday is a celebration of the service's founding and a tribute to every Veteran who has ever worn the uniform and stood the watch. Thank you for your service, and happy birthday to the U.S. Coast Guard!

Native American Training Institute Veterans' Symposium

The Native American Training Institute (NATI) Veteran's Symposium was held June 20th at the Isleta Resort & Casino Conference Center. The event was dedicated to strengthening services and support for Veterans, active-duty service members, and their families. "Empowering Native Women Warriors" was the theme centered on collaboration and communication. The event brought together tribal, federal, and state agencies, Veteran organizations, and community partners to bridge gaps in Veteran care and build lasting partnerships.

A key feature of the symposium was the opportunity for attendees to directly engage with officials from the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). These conversations enabled Veterans to voice their concerns and ask questions.

The Navajo Nation Women Veterans started the event with the posting of colors, and Paul Torres, former Governor of the Pueblo of Isleta, led the invocation. NMDVS Cabinet Secretary, Jamison Herrera, began the discussion by highlighting the benefits available to our tribal Veterans and the services provided by the state. Burial and cemetery benefits were discussed along with a flag folding demonstration by members of the New Mexico Army National Guard's Military Funeral Honors Program.

Participants benefited from expert-led sessions and resource booths that covered healthcare, (including updates on the PACT Act, PTSD, and suicide prevention), NMDVS state benefits, Tribal, VA programs, entrepreneurship, women's Veterans' programs, and rural outreach.

The conference concluded with a Tribal Veteran panel discussion, where Veterans and advocates left united, informed, and ready to continue serving their communities.





The New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) recognizes Rob Miller, Central Region II Manager and accredited Veteran Service Officer based in Belen. Rob has been with NMDVS for just over two years, following his tenure as a Pretrial Services Officer with the 2nd Judicial District Court.

Robin Wilson, Field Services Director, praised Rob, saying: “Rob brings a wealth of knowledge, leadership, and real-world experience to NMDVS. He’s known for his creative problem-solving, dedication to Veterans, and exceptional ability to build and lead strong teams. Rob’s commitment to service continues to make a lasting impact across his region.”

What brought you to NMDVS?

Following my military service, I committed my civilian career to serving the citizens of New Mexico. I initially embraced retirement, but I quickly realized I still had more to contribute. I explored a few different opportunities, but none fulfilled my deeper purpose until this position became available. I knew immediately that it offered the ideal path to continue serving, especially by supporting one of the most underserved populations in our state.

What is your connection to the Veteran community?

I proudly served in the United States Army from 1990 to 1999 as a member of the Military Police Corps, concluding my service at the rank of Sergeant. During my military career, I was stationed in Germany and at Fort Carson, Colorado.

Could you tell us a little about yourself, your hobbies, and what you enjoy doing in your free time?

I’m proud to share my life with my wife, who is also a Veteran, and our amazing son, who is autistic and lives with us. Family is at the heart of everything I do. Riding my motorcycle is my therapy, and hitting the open road, letting the wind glide over my bald head. I’m also what you’d call a backyard grill master and smoker. There’s nothing like good food shared with family and friends.

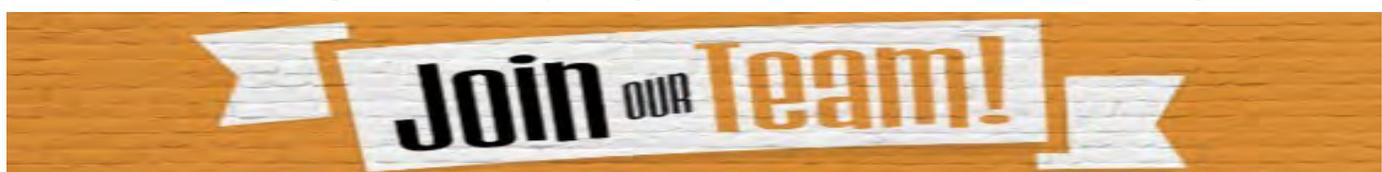
What do you enjoy most about your work with NMDVS?

The most meaningful part of this work is building genuine bonds with the Veterans I serve. Whether it’s sharing a laugh, shedding a tear, offering encouragement, or simply being present, I strive to make every encounter feel more like family than just a job. My role is not only to advocate for them, but also to remind them that they are seen, heard, and never alone, regardless of the outcome.



Photos: (top) Rob Miller at work in his Belen office, (bottom) Rob with his service dog Chewybaca

NMDVS is hiring! View new job postings on the State of New Mexico careers page [here](#).



The New Mexico Veteran's Business Outreach Center (VBOC)

The Veterans' Business Outreach Center (VBOC) is funded through a grant from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) and administered by the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS). Its mission is to support Veterans, transitioning active-duty service members, National Guard and Reserve members, and military spouses who are interested in starting or expanding a small business.

VBOC provides a comprehensive range of services, including business planning, market analysis, access to capital, government contracting guidance, and other critical resources necessary to successfully launch and grow a business.

Notably, NMDVS was the first state agency in the nation to be awarded SBA funding to operate a VBOC when the program was established in 2010—positioning New Mexico as a national leader in veteran entrepreneurship support.

The VBOC is located at the NMDVS Albuquerque office, 4801 Indian School Road NE, Building 2. Walk-in business counseling is welcomed; however, scheduling an appointment is strongly encouraged to ensure personalized service and availability.



Your First Step Toward Entrepreneurship

Offered through the New Mexico Veterans Business Outreach Center (VBOC), Boots to Business is a free, two-day foundational entrepreneurship course designed for transitioning service members, veterans, National Guard and Reserve members, and military spouses interested in starting or growing a small business.

Participants will gain essential knowledge on the core principles of business ownership, including how to evaluate the feasibility of a business idea and how to develop a strategic business plan—an indispensable tool for any new or expanding venture. The curriculum also covers key topics such as securing start-up or growth capital, accessing technical assistance, and exploring federal contracting opportunities.

Join us for one of our dynamic, full-day sessions, typically held from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please note that on-base access is required for classes held at military installations.

Whether you're just beginning your entrepreneurial journey or looking to expand your business, we're here to help guide your next steps. For more information about the Boots to Business program or to register, please contact VBOC Advisor **Christina Stover** at christina.stover@dvs.nm.gov or call **(505) 469-8501**.

City	Dates	Location
*Clovis, NM	July 17 & 18	Cannon Air-Force Base
Albuquerque, NM	July 23 & 24	La Grande Maison Lumiere Event Center
*Alamogordo, NM	August 7 & 8	Holloman Air-Force Base
Albuquerque, NM	August 11 & 12	Kirtland Air-Force Base

* Participants will require base access

Funded in part through a Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration.

We Would Love To Help You Promote Your Business!

Register your veteran-owned business with VBOC today!

Scan the code below to fill out the form.



U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION



VETERANS BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS





News from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

New Mexico VA Health Care System Town Hall

The New Mexico VA Health Care System is pleased to invite Veterans, their families, and community members to the upcoming Albuquerque VA Town Hall scheduled for Tuesday, July 15, 2025.

This important event offers a valuable opportunity to connect directly with VA leadership, learn about current initiatives, and share your feedback to help improve services for Veterans.

Event Details:

- **Date:** Tuesday, July 15, 2025
- **Time:** 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- **Location:** New Mexico VA Auditorium, Building #39, 1501 San Pedro Dr. SE, Albuquerque 87108

Whether you're a Veteran seeking information about healthcare benefits, employment opportunities, or Veteran resources, or you're a supporter interested in understanding more about VA programs, this town hall provides a welcoming platform for dialogue and engagement.

Why Attend?

Receive updates on VA healthcare and benefits. Ask questions directly to VA leaders and staff. Offer feedback and suggestions to improve veteran services. Connect with other veterans and community supporters.

Your voice matters. Whether in the room or online, your participation helps shape the future of veteran care in New Mexico.

Join in Person or Virtually

Attendees are encouraged to participate in person at the Albuquerque VA auditorium. For those who are unable to attend physically, the event will also be streamed live on Facebook. To watch the town hall online, click the link below:

[Watch the live stream on Facebook](#)

For more information about the Albuquerque VA Town Hall or other upcoming events, please visit the official [VA website](#) or contact the local VA office.



PROTECTING YOUR BURIAL AND MEMORIAL BENEFITS

AVOIDING MEMORIALIZATION FRAUD

Memorialization scams are when a fraudulent company or individual provides a service that is not in the best interest of the individual. The scammer will often offer to provide services with high rates and fees. You should be aware of these schemes in case someone asks you to participate, or in case you see fraudulent activity. Indicators of potential fraud include the following:

- Upselling memorial services and funeral expenses that are not as advertised. Veterans interred in VA national cemeteries are entitled to a gravesite, opening and closing of the grave, perpetual care, a government headstone or marker, a burial flag, a Presidential Memorial Certificate, and a digital remembrance page on the Veterans Legacy Memorial at no cost to the family. These benefits were earned. They should not be purchased.
- Charging fees. VA does not charge a fee for talking to us, or for scheduling your burial in a national or grant-funded cemetery.
- Be aware of scammers who claim the deceased had unpaid debts. Ask for proof of any debt and research any entity who claims your loved one owed them money.
- False advertisements that benefits have changed when they really haven't. Double check with your VA representative if you are not expecting benefit changes.
- Offering unsolicited help. Scammers offering help advocating for your loved one's wrongful death.



DO'S

As you navigate the end-of-life benefits process, take these steps to protect yourself from memorialization scams:

- **Find out in advance** if you can be buried in a VA national cemetery. This is called a pre-need determination of eligibility—and it can help make the burial planning process easier for your family members in their time of need. Apply at: <https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/pre-need-eligibility/>
- **Research your choice.** Whether performing a home funeral or hiring a funeral director, be familiar with your options. Most states keep a public database of disciplinary actions for licensed funeral homes and directors. Keywords such as "funeral home," "funeral director," "sanctions," and the name of the state can help find official .gov websites where any sanctions are listed.
- **Call VA** if you have questions or think benefits for a loved one are not correct.
- **Make sure your family is aware** of your end-of-life decisions and that you have documented those wishes. This guide may help with these discussions: <https://www.benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/docs/VASurvivorsKit.pdf>



DON'TS

Even in the most personal situations, scammers will attempt to take advantage of your benefits. Consider the following items to protect you and your family:

- **Do not sign a blank form** for someone else to complete later. Always review the completed form before signing and keep a copy of the completed form for recordkeeping purposes.
- **Do not sign a contract or agreement** to pay for burial or memorial services without reviewing charges and fees. VA provides burial and memorialization items at no cost to eligible Veterans and their families. Find out more at: <https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/>
- **Do not provide personal information**, such as your Social Security number, medical records, military service records, or other personally identifiable information, to anyone offering claims assistance with your VA benefits before confirming their credentials. Use VA's Office of General Counsel Accreditation tool at: <https://www.va.gov/get-help-from-accredited-representative/>

For suspected fraud or scams:

- Call the VSAFE Fraud Hotline: 1-833-38V-SAFE
- Visit VSAFE online: www.VSAFE.gov

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs



Caregiver Support Program Two Programs: What's the Difference?



The Caregiver Support Program is comprised of 2 separate programs: the Program of General Caregiver Support Services (PGCSS) and the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC).

What is the Program of General Caregiver Support Services? (PGCSS)

PGCSS is the core of VA's Caregiver Support Program (CSP). The program provides peer support mentoring, skills training, coaching, telephone support, online programs, and referrals to available resources to caregivers of Veterans. The Veteran must be enrolled in Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care and be receiving assistance from a caregiver in order for the caregiver to participate.

■ [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

To enroll, please reach out to the facility [Caregiver Support Team](#) or request a referral from the Veteran's provider.

What is the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers? (PCAFC)

PCAFC offers enhanced clinical support and services for caregivers of eligible Veterans who have a serious injury (or illness) and require in-person personal care services among other requirements.

■ [Eligibility Information](#)

■ [Apply for PCAFC](#)

Why is this important to you?

CSP provides services to caregivers of Veterans of all eras enrolled in VA health care. To learn more about PGCSS, PCAFC, and caregiver services visit us online: www.caregiver.va.gov

Type of Support	PGCSS	PCAFC
Caregiver Support Team	✓	✓
Resources for Enhancing All Caregivers Health (REACH) VA	✓	✓
Caregiver Support Line	✓	✓
Caregiver Health & Wellbeing Coaching	✓	✓
Building Better Caregivers	✓	✓
Supportive Services	✓	✓
Caregivers FIRST Skills Training	✓	✓
Peer Support Mentoring	✓	✓
Respite Care	✓	✓
Annie Caregiver Text	✓	✓
Self-care/Resilience courses	✓	✓
Connection to VA/Community Resources	✓	✓
Caregiver & Family Resource Fairs	✓	✓
VA S.A.V.E. Training	✓	✓
Mental Health Counseling (as applicable)	✓	✓
CHAMPVA (if uninsured)		✓
Monthly Stipend		✓
Beneficiary Travel (as applicable)		✓

VA Caregiver Support Line
☎ 1-855-260-3274 toll-free

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs



ANGEL FIRE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL

Discover a Place of Honor and Healing

Nestled in the serene Sangre de Cristo Mountains, the Angel Fire Vietnam Veterans Memorial stands as a powerful tribute to courage, sacrifice, and remembrance.

Whether you're a veteran, a family member, a history enthusiast, or a traveler seeking a moment of reflection, this sacred site offers a space for healing, learning, and remembrance. Explore the Peace and Brotherhood Chapel, view historical exhibits, the half-scale Vietnam Memorial Wall, and walk the peaceful grounds that honor the lives of those who served.



The half-scale replica of the Vietnam Memorial Wall

An Experience of Honor, Healing, and History

This striking granite tribute spans 250 feet in length and is etched with the names of more than 58,000 American heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice. Whether you're a veteran, a family member, or someone seeking to understand the cost of freedom, this wall invites reflection, remembrance, and unity.

The Memorial is managed by the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services in collaboration with the David Westphal Veterans Foundation.

It continues to serve as a place of reflection, education, and community.

Open daily, admission is free and open to all.

Located off US Hwy 64 at 34
Country Club Rd. Angel Fire, NM



For details, directions and more, visit
www.nmdvs.org or www.vietnamveteransmemorial.org

Veterans' Community Bulletin Board

The following pages feature events and informational flyers provided to the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) by Veterans and community service agencies. These flyers are published for the convenience of New Mexico's Veteran community. Inclusion in *The Guardian* does not constitute an endorsement by NMDVS of the organization, content, products, or services contained therein.

NMDVS invites government agencies and non-profit service organizations to send flyers for publication in *The Guardian* announcing an upcoming or ongoing veteran-related event. NMDVS will run these flyers as a public service courtesy to the Veteran community.

Please note:

- Flyers must have the name of a point-of-contact from the organization...along with the contact's phone number or email address. Flyers without this information will not be published.
- NMDVS is not responsible for the accuracy of the content, products, or services in these flyers.
- Views expressed in these flyers are the independent views of the authors/owners of the third-party entity that created the flyer and do not necessarily reflect the views of DVS.
- To the maximum extent permitted by law, NMDVS expressly denies liability for any losses suffered by any persons or organizations who, in their independent discretion and reliance, either directly or indirectly rely on content, products, services, or information offered by these independent third-party organizations.
- NMVS reserves the right to edit or decline to publish any flyer.

Please send you submissions to DVS.PIO@dvs.nm.gov





I am curating a collection of personal stories by female Veterans to honor their service, preserve their experiences, and ensure their sacrifices are remembered by future generations

My Inspiration

I'm primarily interviewing **female Veterans who served before 1980**, as the one pictured, willing to intrust me with memories, stories, or just a few words—whatever they're comfortable offering—so I can have the honor of writing and sharing their legacy. The contributions of women, especially those who served, shouldn't be overlooked.

I chased a WWII Veteran through an airport to ask to stand with him for a photo. I babbled about my teen son who, at the time, was contemplating the service. My now Senior Airman, was excited I'd met such an individual.

After the Veteran drove away, I found myself wishing I'd had more time to talk—more time to hear his story. Since that moment, I've made it a mission to connect with those who have served.

Award-Winning Author

- Narrative accepted into the 2025 Anthology *Unbreaking the Circle of Stories of Service*
- Poem accepted by the Armed Services Arts Partnership for their 2025 anthology *Partnerships, The Untold Stories*
- NM Press Women communication award for the military anthology, *Holes in Our Hearts*
- Military Writers Society of America Bronze Medalist for *Holes in Our Hearts*
- Technical Communications degree, NM Inst Of Mining & Technology

PHOTOGRAPHY

- Professional for more than 15 years covering all genres, specializing in Seniors, Family, & Religious events
- Cover art for SouthWest Writers 3-book anthology (Bk 1 *Kaleidoscope*)
- Headshots of authors included in their publications
- Sunday Morning Show image accepted

Interested In Sharing or learning more about the project

Thank you for your service & for supporting a dream
Rosa Armijo

ImagesByRosa.Zenfolio.com

*505.250.2982 * ImagesByRosa@aol.com*

Focused on Military Writing and Publication

Goodwill Industries of New Mexico Training



TO REGISTER FOR CLASS, SCAN QR CODE ...OR GO ONLINE to www.goodwillnm.org/events... OR CALL 505.314.1875...OR EMAIL minimartinez@goodwillnm.org FOR ASSISTANCE.



JULY 2025

FREE CLASSES FOR THE COMMUNITY!

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
6	classes held at 5000 SAN MATEO BLVD NE	7 CAREER COMPASS NORTH: Explore A Career 1:00 pm - 2:15 pm Computer Basics 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	8 CAREER COMPASS EAST: Resume & Applying 1:00 pm - 2:15 pm	9 CAREER COMPASS SOUTH: Interviewing 1:00 pm - 2:15 pm Money Management 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	10 COMMUNITY CAREER FAIR 1-3 pm Meet company hiring managers - Job leads! 5000 SAN MATEO	11 CAREER COMPASS WEST: Your New Job 1:00 pm - 2:15 pm Thinking Critically 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	12 YOU DONATE ITEMS TO GOODWILL
13	classes held at 6001 LOMAS BLVD NE	14 Microsoft Word 9:30 am - 10:45 am Microsoft PowerPoint 11:00 am - 12:15 pm	15 Internet Basics 9:30 am - 10:30 am Excel-Basics 11:00 am - 12:30 pm	16 Stress Management 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm	17 Resiliency 9:30 am - 11:00 am	18 Microsoft Explorer 9:30 am - 10:30 am Public Speaking Intro 11:00 am - 12:30 pm	19 DONATIONS SOLD IN GOODWILL STORES
20	classes held at 5000 SAN MATEO BLVD NE	21 Microsoft Word 9:00 am - 10:15 am Microsoft PowerPoint 10:30 am - 11:45 am	22 Intro to Coding 9:00 am - 10:15 am Coding Workshop 10:30 am - 11:30 am	23	24 COMMUNITY CAREER FAIR 1-3 pm Meet company hiring managers - Job leads! 5000 SAN MATEO	25 Game Development 9:00 am - 10:30 am App Development 11:00 am - 12:30 pm	26 REVENUE FUNDS OUR FREE PROGRAMS & SERVICES
27	classes held at 6001 LOMAS BLVD NE	28 Cybersecurity 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm Discovering Data 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	29 Computer Basics 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm Money Management 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	30 Stress Management Workshop 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm	31 Resiliency Workshop 9:30 am - 11:00 am Microsoft Outlook 11:30 am - 12:15 pm		NEW MEXICANS FIND JOBS!

DigitalSkills

COMPUTER BASICS: Learn basic parts of computer: buttons, ports, hardware, software etc
INTERNET BASICS: Learn about the internet, search engines, browsers & online safety.
EXCEL- BASICS: Intro to spreadsheet features: sort, format, filter & formulas to get you started.
MICROSOFT WORD: Format, save, spellcheck documents. Insert images/shapes. Design layout.
MICROSOFT POWERPOINT: Learn to design, animate slides and play/save presentations.
MICROSOFT EXPLORER: How to download, save, organize & find files. Navigating Windows OS.
MICROSOFT OUTLOOK: Navigating the interface, composing/sorting email & calendar usage.
CYBERSECURITY: Learn to identify cyber threats, phishing & protect your digital assets.

INTRO TO CODING: Programming overview of JavaScript, Python and web development.
CODING WORKSHOP: Fun coding games to build coding skills in JavaScript & Python
APP DEVELOPMENT: Intro to app coding, a look at iOS & Android, interactive learning exercises.
GAME DEVELOPMENT: Intro to creating video games and using game engines.
DISCOVERING DATA: Learn ways to collect and interpret data to guide decision making.

VIRTUAL OPTION CLASSES-- You can now choose to attend some of our classes online from home...or come and attend in-person. See the classes listed in this font color.

LifeSkills/WellnessSkills

STRESS MANAGEMENT: Detailed look at causes of stress & strategies to overcome.
RESILIENCY: In-depth look at how to withstand & recover from the difficulties of life.
STRESS MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP: Discover meditative/other practice to relieve stress
RESILIENCY WORKSHOP: Discover tools to develop plan to strengthen resiliency skills
MONEY MANAGEMENT: Financial literacy class on paychecks, budgets, expenses & credit
THINKING CRITICALLY: Become better thinkers. Build analytical skills, learn to determine the validity of information.

EmploymentSkills

Career Compass Employment Skills Series (NESW):
N/EXPLORE A CAREER: Explore career interests, identify existing skills & analyze for potential jobs
E/RESUME & APPLYING: Create/improve resume and learn how to apply for jobs online better.
S/INTERVIEWING: Best practices in interviewing & professional communication for success.
W/YOUR NEW JOB: Building relationships, good attitude & behavior skills to grow in your new position.
PUBLIC SPEAKING INTRO: Build communication skills. Know, manage & influence your audience. Learn the basics, followed by a practice session



ALBUQUERQUE FISHER HOUSE



VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
New Mexico VA Health Care System



IS YOUR FAMILY MEMBER ELIGIBLE? ASK YOUR VA CARE TEAM

A "home away from home" allowing families and loved ones to be close during an inpatient stay and to focus on what's important--the healing process.

A member of the inpatient Veterans Care Team must enter the request for bedside support of a veterans, a family member cannot call directly **FISHER HOUSE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA (50 FAMILIA)**

- 50 miles/from ABQ Fisher House
- Family member/caregiver of an inpatient Veteran at the VA
- Actively engaged in the inpatient's treatment plan
- Medically stable and capable of self-care (Guest must be)
- Independent and able to live in a shared space setting
- Living in stable, permanent housing (not homeless)
- Is free from communicable illness (flu, chicken pox, measles, C-Diff, COVID, etc.)
- Agrees to the Fisher House Guest Agreement and Rules



Raymond G. Murphy/NMVAHCS
Albuquerque Fisher House
1501 San Pedro Dr. SE, Building 85
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87108
(505) 265-1711 Ext. 3180 - ABQFisherHouse@va.gov

because A Family's Love
is Good Medicine



Funded by a HRSA BH Expansion Grant

Pathways to Wellness

Join us for an in-person symposium for mental health providers, substance use counselors, and allied professionals

**Friday, July 18, 2025
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
NMHU Student Union Building
800 National Avenue
Las Vegas, NM**

Symposium



**Welcome Message
Speaker(s) - TBA!**



Brian Serna, LPCC, LADAC
Owner and CEO of Serna Solutions



Dr. J Rocky Romero, LMSW, CPSW
NLBHA Program Director, Prevention & Training



Marge Kelley LPCC and Lorie Dwinell, LICSW
The Mountain Center and HeartSpace NM



Nick Boukas
Director, Behavioral Health Services Division (BHSD)



Dr. Ted Wiard, LPCC, CGC
Author, Founder, & Executive Director of Golden Willow Retreat

- **7 FREE CEUS** provided by the non-profit NMAAP (NADAAC of NM)
- **Continental breakfast and lunch** provided
- **Door prizes**
- **Networking and outreach opportunities**

Register by **June 30, 2025** for this FREE conference while seats are available



Register to set up a booth

ARE YOU A VETERAN IN SEARCH OF GUIDANCE?

Enjoy a complimentary week filled with mindful education, body rejuvenation, and uplifting camaraderie alongside fellow veterans and their partners in the beautiful mountains of New Mexico. Discover valuable therapeutic and holistic tools while embracing Post Traumatic Growth.

NATIONAL VETERANS WELLNESS & HEALING CENTER 2025 RETREAT SCHEDULE

NEW DATE ADDED!!

~~April 6-13~~

~~April 27 - May 4~~

~~June 1-8~~

September 7-14

October 19-26



Retreats offer complimentary lodging, meals, and a variety of activities such as massage therapy, acupuncture, yoga, horseback riding, and much more! Please note that travel expenses are not included.



Eligibility Criteria for Attendance:

- 1. Veterans diagnosed with PTS
- 2. A support partner must accompany you
- 3. Participants must have been free from drug or alcohol abuse for at least 12 months

Note: New Mexico veterans will receive priority. Veterans from other states will be accepted as funding permits.

505-501-8337
retreats@vethealingcenter.org

Apply Today!



Donate Today!



AUG 2 2025 **Veterans - Disabled Veterans - Active Duty**
Fly Fishing 101 Class - It's Free!
Eagle Nest Lake State Park



Fly Fishing 101 Beginners Class
For Disabled Veterans - Veterans - Active Duty
Aug. 2, 2025 - Eagle Nest Lake State Park - It's free!

- Learn how to fly fish
- Bring a military buddy
- Lunch provided! - Door prizes!

Space is limited - Sign-up with the link below
Or scan QR code

tu.myeventscenter.com/event/101august2-105510



POC: Doc Thompson - Trout Warriors Volunteer - Email: doct@flyfishnewmexico.com



4th Annual Dennis Geshel Memorial Golf Tournament

Benefiting Honor Flight of Northern New Mexico

Honor Flight of Northern New Mexico is a non-profit organization created to honor New Mexico's veterans for all their sacrifices. Funds raised from the golf tournament help take our he-roes on a FREE 3-day trip to Washington, D.C. to visit and reflect at their memorials. Current priority is given to World War II, Korean War and Vietnam War Veterans along with Veterans from other conflicts who may be terminally ill.



Breakfast and registration at 8AM. Lunch will be served directly following the tournament. Collared shirts are required.

Isleta Eagle Golf Course
4001 New Mexico 47
Friday, September 12, 2025
Morning Shotgun—9AM



For more information visit: <https://www.honorflightnorthernnm.org>

31st ANNUAL

THE ROTARY DEL NORTE FOUNDATION

GOLF TOURNAMENT

BENEFITING VETERANS INTEGRATION CENTERS



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2025 AT 8 AM

**SANTA ANA
GOLF CLUB**

288 PRAIRIE STAR ROAD
SANTA ANA PUEBLO, NM 87004

**TEAM
REGISTRATION**

\$700

**FOUR PERSON
SCRAMBLE**

18 HOLES

**FOOD
PROVIDED**

BREAKFAST BURRITOS
& CATERED LUNCH

REGISTER AT WWW.NMVIC.ORG

HOLE SPONSORS AND HELPERS NEEDED

POC - JERRY BECKER EMAIL: jerry.becker@nmvic.us

BENEFITING THE VETERANS INTEGRATION CENTERS & THE ROTARY DEL NORTE FOUNDATION

FARMINGTON STAND DOWN 2025

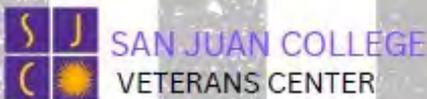


VETERANS & FAMILIES PLEASE COME JOIN US!!

OCTOBER 10, 2025 - 8:00AM - 2:00PM

**AT THE SAN JUAN COLLEGE
HEALTH HUMAN PERFORMANCE**

**CENTER
4601 COLLEGE BLVD.
FARMINGTON, NM**



A HAND UP, NOT A HAND OUT



NMDVS Field Offices in New Mexico

NMDVS has field offices throughout the state that are staffed with nationally accredited veterans service officers (VSOs) dedicated to helping veterans with filing VA claims, applying for state veterans benefits, or with anything else a veteran or their family needs.

Office hours are Monday-Friday from 8am-5pm, (excluding holidays). Though this service is free, appointments are required and can be made by contacting the VSOs below. **Please note: VSOs can also provide help by phone or email for any veteran or eligible dependent anywhere in New Mexico.**

Alamogordo/Southeast NM

David Henley

411 10th Street #107

(575) 437-4635

david.henley@dvs.nm.gov

Alamogordo/Southeast NM

Matthew Quinn

411 10th Street #107

(575) 546-8367

matthew.quinn@dvs.nm.gov

Albuquerque Metro Area

May Chavez (ABQ Metro Supervisor)

Pinetree Corporate Center/Bldg. 2
4801 Indian School Rd. NE/2nd floor

(505) 527-2302

helen.chavez@dvs.nm.gov

Albuquerque (Bernalillo/Moriarty)

Kelly Messer

Good Will Office
5000 San Mateo Blvd. NE
(505) 274-0393

kelly.messer@dvs.nm.gov

Albuquerque Metro Area

Mike Nelson

Pinetree Corporate Center/Bldg. 2
4801 Indian School Rd. NE/2nd floor
(505) 525-3331

mike.nelson@dvs.nm.gov

Albuquerque (VARO)

Corey Riedel

Dennis Chavez Federal Bldg.
500 Gold Ave. SW/3rd floor
(505) 479-0672

corey.riedel@dvs.nm.gov

Albuquerque/Mobile Unit

James Brandon

Pinetree Corporate Center/Bldg. 2
4801 Indian School Rd. NE/2nd floor
(505) 470-7503

james.brandon@dvs.nm.gov

Albuquerque/Mobile Unit

David Swisher

Pinetree Corporate Center/Bldg. 2
4801 Indian School Rd. NE/2nd floor
(505) 525-3331

david.swisher@dvs.nm.gov

Belen/ABQ Metro & Central NM

Rob Miller (Central/Mobile Supervisor)

Belen Business Center
719 South Main St.
(505) 537-9339

rob.miller@dvs.nm.gov

Albuquerque (VA Hospital)

Joseph Lovato

Raymond G. Murphy VA Medical Ctr.
1501 San Pedro Dr. SE
(505) 623-1729

joseph.lovato@dvs.nm.gov

(no appointment needed)

Carlsbad

See Outreach Schedule for Dates

VFW Post 8703
1916 San Jose Blvd.
(575) 241-0714 (575) 416-2284

fred.solis-little@dvs.nm.gov

Danielle.thompson@dvs.nm.gov

Clovis/Southeast NM

Matt Barela (SE Supervisor)

904 W. Sixth St.

(575) 825-9602

matthew.barela@dvs.nm.gov

Clovis/Southeast NM

Ben Padilla

904 W. Sixth St.
(505) 537-1445

ben.padilla@dvs.nm.gov

Farmington/Northwest NM

Ambrose Oliver

1800 East 30th St.
(505) 916-4835

ambrose.oliver@dvs.nm.gov

Farmington/Northwest NM

Jenny Iser

1800 East 30th St.
(505) 327-2861

jenny.iser@dvs.nm.gov

(continued on next page)

Gallup/Northwest NM

John Livingston (*NW Supervisor*)
 908 E. Buena Vista Ave/Room 1A
 (505) 389-8731
john.livingston@dvs.nm.gov

Grants/Northwest NM

April Ball
 551 Washington Ave.
 (505) 521-8132
april.ball@dvs.nm.gov

Hobbs/Southeast NM

Freddy Solis-Littlejohn
 2120 North Alto St.
 (575) 241-0714
fred.solis-little@dvs.nm.gov

Las Cruces/Southwest NM

Miguel Martinez (*SW Supervisor*)
 2024 E. Griggs Ave.
 (575) 644-6869
miguel.martinez@dvs.nm.gov

Las Cruces/Southwest NM

Vincent Tellez
 2024 E. Griggs Ave.
 (575) 361-5298
vincent.tellez@dvs.nm.gov

Las Cruces/Southwest NM

Clint Anderson
 2024 E. Griggs Ave.
 (505) 216-8782
Clint.anderson@dvs.nm.gov

Las Vegas/Northeast NM

Arturo Marlow (*NE Supervisor*)
 917 Douglas Ave.

 (505) 331-8838
arturo.marlow@dvs.nm.gov

Las Vegas/Northeast NM

Tracy Knox
 917 Douglas Ave.

 (575) 520-5079
tracy.knox@dvs.nm.gov

Rio Rancho/Northeast NM

Dustin Newsom
 Sandoval County Admin. Bldg.
 1500 Idalia Rd./Bldg. D/room 2041
 (505) 221-7190
dustin.newsom@dvs.nm.gov

Roswell/Southeast NM

Ben Mendoza
 1600 SE Main Street /Suite A

 (575) 988-5900
benjamin.mendoza@dvs.nm.gov

Roswell/Southeast NM

Danielle Thompson
 1600 SE Main Street /Suite A

 (575) 416-2284
danielle.thompson@dvs.nm.gov

Santa Fe/Northeast NM

Phillip Hernandez
 Bataan Memorial Bldg.
 407 Galisteo St./1st Floor, Rm 134
 (505) 218-3125
phillip.hernandez@dvs.nm.gov

Silver City/Southwest NM

Clarissa Sierra
 Western New Mexico University
 1000 West College Ave.
 Juan Chacon Bldg./Rm. 138A
 (575) 313-5627
clarissa.sierra@dvs.nm.gov

Taos/Northeast NM

Leticia “Lety” Cano
 Health and Human Services Bldg. 145
 Roy Rd.

 (505)-709-5263
leticia.cano@dvs.nm.gov

State Veterans Home/T or C NM

VSO Staff/Every Thursday
 922 South Broadway St.
 Truth or Consequences, NM

Woman Veterans Program

Amberly Viner (*Program Manager*)
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Tribal Liaison

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NM Veterans Business Outreach Center (ABQ)

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NMDVS women veterans program is committed to making sure women veterans have equitable access to programs and services and claims-filing for women.

NMDVS tribal liaison focuses on educational outreach assistance for Native Americans.

VBOC provides assistance for veterans and spouses who are looking to open a small business, expanding an existing operation, or securing federal contracts.