CALVET
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

FOLLOW US!

NEWSLETTER

All veterans are reminded that the fastest way to learn about and secure the benefits they have earned is by visiting their local County Veterans Service Office. A listing of these offices is available at www.cacvso.org.

DECEMBER 2014

CalVet Launches Veterans Homes Hiring Blitz

If you are looking for a great job making a difference in the lives of our Veterans, then CalVet is looking for you!

In preparation for the immediate opening of our new Skilled Nursing Unit at our CalVet West Los Angeles Veterans Home, CalVet is now hiring:

- 27 Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs)
- 11 nurses
- an activities coordinator
- a social worker
- a nursing supervisor
- plus clerical, food service, custodial, and numerous other clinical positions.

"We're looking for compassionate individuals who care about our Veterans," said Tom Bucci, the Administrator of our CalVet West LA Veterans Home. "Our goal is filling our beds in our Home as soon as we hire the professional and caring staff we need."

On January 14, visit our CalVet Job Fair at our West LA Home. Applicants will receive a one-stop opportunity to speak with CalVet Human Resources staff about how to get a state job and to take the exams necessary to establish application eligibility—a necessary step in state service employment.

CalVet continues hiring statewide.

"We have job openings throughout our eight long-term care homes," said, Diane Vanderpot, Undersecretary Veterans Homes of California. "We are particularly in need of nurses, therapists, and other clinical staff. In the coming months, you will see CalVet staff attending community job fairs and Veterans resource fairs recruiting for our homes."

In addition to West LA, CalVet operates Veterans homes in Barstow, Chula Vista, Fresno, Lancaster, Redding, Ventura, and Yountville. All homes are looking to hire staff. To learn more about CalVet exams and jobs, visit our award-winning new website www.calvet.ca.gov/jobs

Veterans' preference can be applied to help Veterans qualify for open as well as open, non-promotional examinations. Any Veteran, Veteran spouse, widow or widower, or spouse of a 100-percent disabled Veteran who achieves a passing score on an entrance examination will be eligible to apply for employment within that job classification.

For more information about Veterans' preference, see https://jobs.ca.gov/job/veteransinformation.

INSIDE

War Experience through Tattoos p. 5
Major Changes at USDVA p. 10
CalVet Leaders Honor Veterans Day Statewide p. 12

Secretary's Message

Thank You and Welcome Home this Holiday Season

This time of year, many of us are attending festive holiday events, planning friendly meals for loved ones, and spending time in the warmth and comfort of our own homes.

Amidst all the excitement this holiday season, please remember our nation remains at war, and offer a kind thought for our service members, our Veterans, and their families.

According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, nearly 42 million Veterans served our nation. Approximately 23 million are alive today. Tens of thousands of our servicemembers are now deployed overseas.

Nearly two million Veterans call the Golden State home, and nearly 30,000 will be retiring next year, so let's warmly welcome them home with open arms. In addition, this holiday season, please join me in wishing:

That many more of our troops return home safely and whole to their families and friends;

That returning Veterans transition easily to civilian life;

That wounded warriors are embraced by their families and communities and defined by their abilities, not their challenges;

That all our Veterans find affordable healthcare and stable housing;

That California and the nation meet President Obama's challenge to end Veteran homelessness;

That returning Veterans receive the education they need to secure challenging and fulfilling careers;

That employers see the value of hiring our talented, skilled, and loyal Veterans;

That Disabled Veterans Business Enterprise owners receive the advocacy, assistance, and resources they need to compete fairly for State government and other contracts;

That Veterans suffering from mental health conditions obtain fast and quality assistance.

And that those who want to make a difference in the lives of Veterans and their families volunteer at a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs facility or other Veterans service organization.

This holiday season, let's solemnly reflect on all we have as individuals, families, communities, and as a nation. Let us search within ourselves for what we can offer those who are without.

Sincerely,

Peter J. Gravett

Peter J. Gravett, Major General (Ret)
Secretary, California Department of Veterans Affairs

CalVet Releases Women Veterans Outreach Toolkit

On Veterans Day, CalVet released our new Women Veterans Outreach Toolkit to educate government, business, education, healthcare, and community service organizations about the unique challenges facing the nearly 200,000 women Veterans in the Golden State.

"While female Veterans face many of the same challenges as their male counterparts, some are unique to women," said Lindsey Sin, CalVet Deputy Secretary for Women Veterans Affairs. "Our Toolkit offers very specific ways organizations can support our female Veterans as they transition to civilian life – a process research shows remains more difficult for women."

Created in response to requests for guidance by service providers, our CalVet Toolkit offers facts about women Veterans, best practices, a "to do list" of actions to assist women Veterans, plus links to state and national resources. The publication is the first-ever toolkit published in the nation designed to provide resources for groups assisting women Veterans.

On Veterans Day, the Sacramento Bee published a front page article about the challenges our women Veterans face. The article profiled two local women who exemplify their strength and resolve to succeed after military service.

"I commend CalVet for providing this much-needed Toolkit," said Major Ophelia Alvarez-Willis, M.D., Commissioner, California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls. "CalVet's Toolkit is an extraordinary improvement in our state's efforts to assist leaders and advocates committed to ensuring women Veterans obtain healthcare, employment, housing stability, and safety." CalVet's toolkit is also endorsed by the California Association of County Veterans Services Officers, CalVet's partner in serving our Veterans.

To view our Women Veterans Outreach Toolkit, go to http://bit.ly/1xxQHsa. To read the Sacramento Bee articles about women Veterans and the CalVet Toolkit, go to http://bit.ly/1wYrUgN and http://bit.ly/1EHvApM.

CALVET STRIKE TEAM UPDATE

CalVet Strike Team claims review efforts in San Diego, Los Angeles, and Oakland as of November 6, 2014.

Number of Claims Reviewed	**36,206**
Lump Sum Payments Total	**$31,810,376***
Monthly Award Payments Total	**$4,075,090**
Annualized Monthly Awards Payment Total	**$48,901,078****

*Retroactive payments based on the time the claim has been sitting at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
**Payments going to California veterans every year for the rest of their lives.

CALVET SMALL BUSINESS/DVBE UPDATE

CalVet's October Small Business (SB) / Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE) Monthly Report for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 reflected the following estimates:

- Agency Total: SB increase to 19.84% from 18.08%
- Agency Total: DVBE increase to 5.13% from 4.33%

CalVet LINC Helps Navy Veteran in a BIG Way

Every day, our CalVet staff around the Golden State assist Veterans with obtaining earned and needed benefits. In a recent example, U.S. Navy Veteran Corinna Pereira separated from military service over twenty years ago. She filed a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) claim for disability compensation related to medical issues she suffered during her service. Because Corinna never followed through with the physical exam required to receive her USDVA disability rating and begin receiving payments, her claim was never fully processed.

About two years ago, to her good fortune, Corinna met David Rose, CalVet's Central Valley Local Interagency Network Coordinator (LINC). David convinced her to reopen her disability claim. After six months of digging for old medical records and being called into several USDVA examinations, the USDVA approved Corinna's claim and awarded her a 30% disability rating.

"I felt so relieved that the trauma I had suffered during my military service was finally acknowledged," Corinna said. "Now I'm being compensated financially for my disability."

Corinna's story gets even better. After helping Corinna receive her disability compensation benefits, David directed her to file for Chapter 31 Vocational Rehabilitation benefits so she could complete her Bachelor's degree and find a higher-paying job. Recently accepted into the vocational rehabilitation program, Corinna's education now is being paid for, she was approved for a monthly housing stipend she intends to put toward paying off the student loans she accrued previously, and she is now considering applying for an MBA program next year.

To learn about the Veterans benefits you may be entitled to receive and how to claim them, go to www.calvet.ca.gov and complete a secure, online personal profile. The next time you log on to the CalVet site, the information you see will be based on your personal information, geographic location, and specific areas of interest.

You may also contact your local County Veterans Service Office by calling 844-SERV-VET (844-737-8838). A list of all CVSOs, including street addresses, phone number, and hours of operation, go to www.cacvso.org. Click on Contact Us and then click on your county of residence.

San Diego Strike Team: What We Learned in a Year

By Deanna Martinez
CalVet Veterans Claims Representative

After a first year of impressive results by the CalVet Strike Teams, there is no question our efforts to assist the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) reduce the backlog claims benefited thousands of California Veterans. Each month, CalVet reports to the California Legislature the number of claims our Strike Teams reviews and the monetary benefits awards that result. Across the board, CalVet, legislators, California Veterans, taxpayers, and the USDVA can celebrate the accomplishment of an extraordinary first year.

From the onset, our CalVet San Diego Strike Team took the helm through development of performance metrics, workload management, training, and community outreach. Our efforts resulted in implementation of best practices at the other regional offices.

Aside from being industry leaders, it is our compassion for the Veterans we assist that motivates us to come to work and be the best version of ourselves daily. The majority of Strike Team staff are Veterans who have service connected disabilities ranging from hearing loss and tinnitus to PTSD and TBI. It is "more likely than not" someone on our staff can relate to the Veterans we assist.

So how does this connection translate to daily work? If you ask anyone on our Strike Team staff what his or her biggest accomplishment has been over the last year, they will tell you they became better listeners. Letters and emails from grateful Veterans bear this out:

I want to take this opportunity to say thank you and recognize your staff member for their assistance. Filing a claim was not an easy process, but they were willing to listen. . .

Active listening is not a skill most of us come by naturally; but it is a skill all CalVet Strike Team members work to perfect. During our first year of service, we learned the importance of really listening to the Veterans we serve and the difference it can make in the lives of our Veterans and their families.

CalVet Holds LINC Summit

By John Kraft
CalVet Veterans Services Division

CalVet's Veteran Services Division employs eight field agents, known as LINCs (Local Interagency Network Coordinators), throughout the state. Our LINCs locate, educate, make benefits connections for, and follow up with Veterans and their families. As their outreach duties take them in many different directions, it's difficult to have them all gathered in one place.

That's exactly what will happen during CalVet's semi-annual LINC summit, convening in Ventura, the second week of December. During the summit, LINCs will share the unique attributes of their service regions and learn from each other's best practices in the field. They will also visit several key Veteran facilities, including the Ventura County Veterans Service Office, CalVet's Veterans Home of Ventura, and the Ventura County Military Collaborative gathering, where direct-service providers showcase their specialties and share ideas.

Our summits keep our team fresh and on-point advocating for our nearly two million Veterans in California. Our experienced professionals are the eyes, ears, and caring arms of CalVet. They are an incredibly skilled bunch, and always willing to hone their skills further.

Our summits also go a long way in fostering the team spirit so prevalent in our military, and it makes sense to meet our Veterans with like-minded team players, whose shared goal is enhancing the lives of Veterans and their families in the best ways possible.

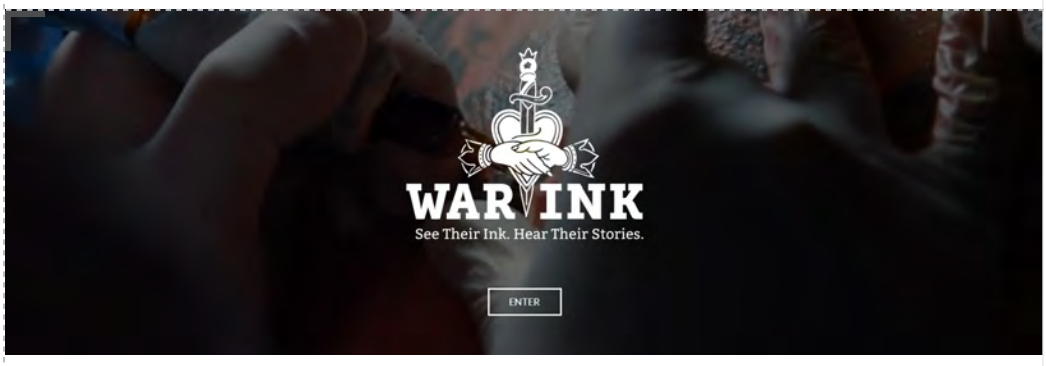
CalVet Supports U.S. Vets Stand Down in LA

CalVet is proud to support U.S. Vets as it hosts the 2014 Veteran and Families Stand Down on December 20-22, 2014 in Los Angeles.

The large-scale, three-day event at the Los Angeles Convention Center plans to feature direct services for Veterans in need, including on-site health screenings, dental and vision care, counseling, legal assistance, claims advocacy, food, clothing, hygiene supplies, and much more.

Dozens of CalVet staff will be on hand to help Veterans and their families navigate the event and access the services available to them.

For more info about the Stand Down event and to pre-register, visit www.usvetsinc.org/inglewood or call (562) 826-5373 or (310) 927-0889.



Library Exhibit Documents War Experience through Tattoos

On Veterans Day, in honor of California's nearly 2 million Veterans, Contra Costa County Library launched War Ink, an online exhibit of Iraq and Afghanistan Veteran memorial tattoo art.

War Ink documents the unfiltered record of war as seen in the tattoos of 18 California Veterans. The photographs are accompanied by stories told by our Veterans and recorded by the nationally renowned StoryCorps' Military Voices Initiative.

The tattoos were featured in GQ, Juxtapose, and other magazines and websites. The exhibit is curated by creator Jason Deitch, a former combat medic and sociologist, and Chris Brown, Contra Costa County Library's Project Director.

More than 100 local, state, national, and international television and radio stations, newspapers, and websites have covered the exhibit.

War Ink is made possible through a growing collaborative that includes StoryCorps, grant-makers Cal Humanities, Pacific Library Partnership, and a cooperative group of innovative California library systems exploring the creative potential for the library field.

Veterans interested in the project are encouraged to contact Jason Deitch at jasonadeitch@gmail.com or (510) 593-8423.

Vets Benefit from Treatment Courts

By Senator Hanna-Beth Jackson

In court rooms around California, including Santa Maria, many of our state's Veterans and military personnel are getting a vital second chance. Both our Veterans and communities are benefitting.

I was honored to attend the recent graduation of eight men from the Santa Maria Veteran's Treatment Court. These courts, in 20 counties of this state, are serving Veterans who come through the criminal justice system and are suffering from conditions resulting from combat, including post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, traumatic brain injury and sexual trauma. These combat-induced conditions are at the root of the crime and self-destructive behaviors that have brought them into the justice system.

As the result of groundbreaking California law passed in 2006, judges can steer Veterans facing these conditions through a rigorous and highly demanding treatment process in place of jail time. Very often these Veterans are facing a DUI conviction or an offense involving domestic violence. Most had never been in trouble with the law before being deployed.

Often working in collaboration with volunteer Veteran mentors, and support and services offered through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, these courts promote sobriety and recovery through accountability and frequent court appearances. In exchange for completing a rigorous, often 12-18 month process, defendants can earn a sentence reduction, and in some cases, a dismissal of charges.

There are conditions that must be met. Not all military personnel are eligible. A defendant's condition must stem from time in combat. Veterans who commit very serious crimes are not eligible.

Yet the ultimate goal – returning defendants back to the community with skills to be law-abiding citizens—is proving to be remarkably within our grasp. At a time when county resources are stretches thin and jails are overcrowded, Veteran's Treatment Courts are addressing Veterans' underlying conditions, saving millions of dollars in taxpayer money, preventing unnecessary jail time, and providing second chances to those who have served our country.

A recent study of Veteran's Treatment Court graduates in San Diego showed no recidivism among its 27 graduates. That's what I call stopping crime and destructive behavior in its tracks.

Veteran's Treatment Courts are close to my heart. My husband, retired Judge George Eskin, started the first Veteran's Treatment Court on the South Coast, and I have been moved by the successes of this and similar programs. Just this year, I authored a bill signed into law by Gov. Jerry Brown to ensure that defendants are notified at arraignment, the first stage of the court process, that if they are current or former members of the military, they may be eligible for Veteran's Treatment Courts.

But being able to continue and replicate the success of Veteran's Treatment Courts won't be possible unless we remain committed to them. As California gears up to begin its budget process in January, adequately funding our courts, and Veteran's Treatment Courts in particular, needs to be a budget priority.

Many of us will participate in events this Veteran's Day to honor those who have served our country. One of the most important ways we can honor Veterans is to support them as they re-adjust to civilian life. More than 2 million Americans have served in Iraq and Afghanistan, and California is home to the nation's largest population of Veterans. Committing to our Veterans' wellbeing is a commitment to the safety and health of our entire community.

Source: Santa Maria Times/Lompoc Record Guest Commentary by Sen. Hanna Beth Jackson, November 5, 2014. Senator Jackson represents the 19th Senate District in the California Legislature.

CalVet Mentors in Sacramento Veteran Treatment Court

Sacramento recently became the 18th California County to establish a Veterans Treatment Court for Veterans charged with a criminal offense. Veterans are accepted into the treatment court program are paired with mentors who help them navigate the criminal justice system and their treatment. Mentors are Veterans who commit to participating in the program for at least a year, complete an orientation and training, and are able to pass a criminal background check.

CalVet Veterans Services Division staff members Phillip Leggett and Pernell Sullivan serve as volunteer mentors for the Sacramento Veterans Treatment Court and provide resource referrals to assist justice-involved Veterans who have concerns about housing, employment, and other Veterans benefits and services.

If you are interested in becoming a Sacramento County Veterans Treatment Court mentor, please contact franklinsc@saccounty.net.

Scholarship for Dependents of Service Members Killed in the Line of Duty

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship currently pays a benefit equal to the Post-9/11 GI Bill to children of service members who died in the line of duty after September 10, 2011.

Under this program, beneficiaries attending school may receive up to their full tuition and fees for a public school or a statutory annual maximum amount for a public school, plus a monthly living stipend and book allowance. In Fiscal Year 2013, the Fry Scholarship served 1,279 children. Beginning January 1, 2015, this benefit is extended to surviving spouses of military personnel who died in the line of duty after September 10, 2001.

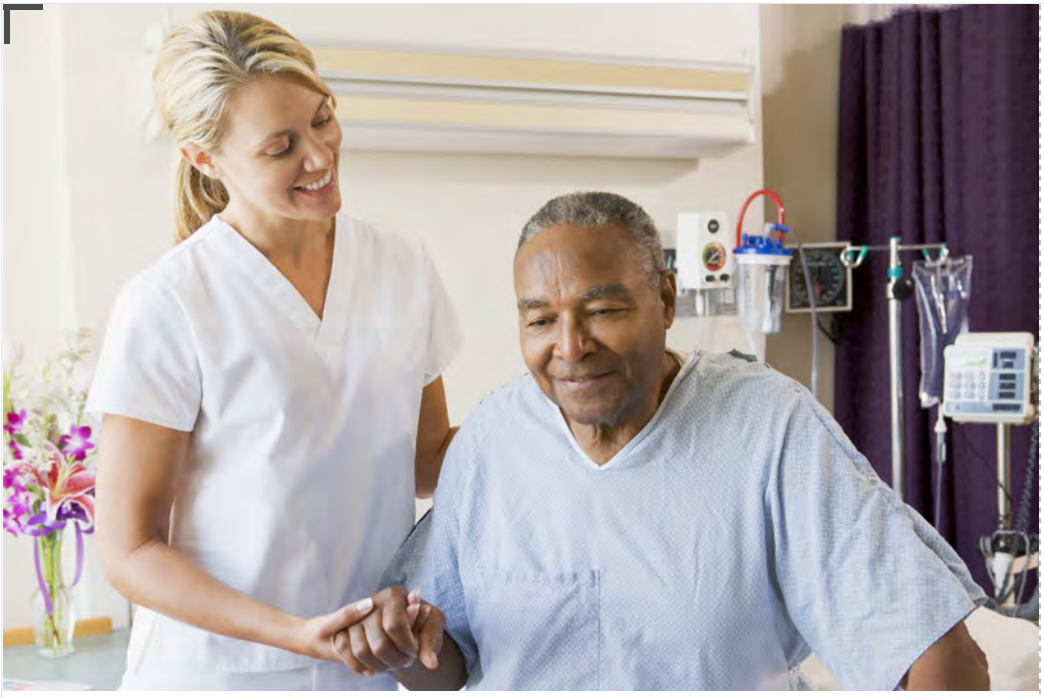
For more information about the Fry Scholarship, including eligibility rules and payment rates, go to https://gibill.custhelp.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/1411. To apply for the scholarship, complete the "Dependent Application for USDVA Education Benefits" form at http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp.

my CalVet

Receive veteran benefit information specific to your needs! Register with myCalVet today!

myCalVet provides veterans and their families the opportunity to create a customized profile which targets the benefits, resources, and services available in their community and throughout the State.

WWW.CALVET.CA.GOV



Start Your New Year by Checking Your Benefits

What's on your New Year's Resolutions list? If you're a Veteran, resolve to check with your local County Veterans Service Office (CVSO) or other accredited Veterans service representative to ensure you're getting all the Veterans benefits you and your family have earned through military service.

Many Veterans learn about new and existing benefits available to them and their dependents.

Some Veterans think they missed the opportunity to apply for some benefits. However, there is an impressive array of state and Federal benefits and local services available to Veterans and their families, including employment, education, housing, healthcare, disability compensation and others, and there is no application deadline for most of those benefits.

So add "Check my Veterans benefits" to the top of your New Year's Resolution list, and speak to your CVSO. To find the CVSO nearest you, call 844-SERV-VET (844-737-8838). Enter your zip code when prompted, and your call will be transferred to the nearest office. You may also find a listing of CVSOs at www.cacvso.org. Click on Contact Us and then click on your county of residence to find the addresses and phone numbers of all CVSO offices in your county.

CALVET
VETERANS HOMES

JOIN OUR TEAM IN SERVING OUR VETERANS!

www.calvet.ca.gov/jobs

Major Changes at USDVA

USDVA Restructures to Better Serve Our Veterans

In response to the concerns voiced by our Veterans and systemic problems discovered by the agency, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) looked for ways to restructure the organization and better serve our Veterans.

In considering changes, USDVA sought input by more than 2,000 employees at 20 facilities nationwide, and met with Veterans, Veteran Services Organizations (VSO), non-government organizations, and other stakeholders nationwide. USDVA now uses the feedback as the agency shapes the way forward and improve the delivery of services to our Veterans.

The changes USDVA plans to make include:

- Establish a new USDVA-wide customer service organization to ensure we provide top-level customer service to Veterans. A Chief Customer Service Officer who reports to the Secretary will lead this effort. The mission of the new office will be to drive USDVA culture and practices to understand and respond to the expectations of our Veteran customers.
- Establish a single regional framework that will simplify internal coordination, facilitate partnering and enhance customer service. This will allow Veterans to more easily navigate USDVA without having to understand our inner structure.
- Work with partners to establish a national network of Community Veteran Advisory Councils to coordinate better service delivery with local, state and community partners. Expanded public-private partnerships will help us coordinate Veteran-related issues with local, state and community partners, as well as USDVA employees.
- Identify opportunities for USDVA to realign its internal business processes into a shared services model in which organizations across USDVA leverage the same support services, to improve efficiency, reduce costs and increase productivity across USDVA. Right now, we're looking at options used in the private sector to enhance our rapid delivery of services, and also at our own business processes that are suited for shared services.

This is a long-term process, and USDVA is just beginning to plan how this will all unfold. Moving forward, USDVA is soliciting feedback and ideas from employees whose perspective will be invaluable.

Toward that end, USDUSDVA launched an intranet web tool through which employees nationwide can submit ideas online to improve services, streamline processes and solve issues. Employees can also vote on submissions from by colleagues through the USDUSDVA health care system. USDUSDVA's ultimate goal is to provide better service to Veterans and their families.

USDVA Implements New "Veterans Choice" Program

On November 5, 2014, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) began implementing the Veterans Choice Program. The Choice Program is a new, temporary benefit allowing some Veterans to receive health care in their communities rather than waiting for a USDVA appointment or traveling to a USDVA facility. It does not impact existing USDVA health care or any other USDVA benefit they may be receiving.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the Veterans Choice Program, a Veteran must have been enrolled in USDVA health care on or before August 1, 2014, or be eligible to enroll as a recently discharged combat Veteran within 5 years of separation. Additionally, a Veteran must also meet at least one of the following criteria.

- The Veteran is told by his/her local USDVA medical facility that he/she will need to wait more than 30 days from his/her preferred date or the date medically determined by his/her provider.

USDVA, page 11 >>

<< USDVA

- The Veteran's current residence is more than 40 miles from the closest USDVA health care facility.
- The Veteran resides in a location other than Guam, American Samoa, or the Republic of the Philippines and needs to travel by plane or boat to the USDVA medical facility closest to his/her home.
- The Veteran faces a geographic challenge, such as extensive distances around water or other geologic formations, such as mountains, that presents a significant travel hardship.

USDVA signed contracts with two private health care companies to help administer the Veterans Choice Program. To use the Choice Program, Veterans must obtain preauthorization from the national call center at (866) 606-8198.

Issuing Choice Cards

As part of this new program, USDVA is issuing a Veterans Choice Card to every Veteran who is potentially eligible for the new, temporary health benefit. The Choice Card allows Veterans to elect to receive care outside of USDVA when they qualify for the new program based on the distance of their residence from a USDVA care facility, or when wait times for USDVA health care exceed the standards established in law. The Choice Card does not replace the identification card Veterans already use to access other USDVA benefits and Veterans are advised to not throw away that identification card.

USDVA is providing a Choice Card to all eligible Veterans three phases:

- Veterans who may live more than 40 miles from a USDVA facility.
- Veterans who are currently waiting for an appointment longer than 30 days from their preferred date or the date determined to be medically necessary by their physician. This phase began November 17, 2014.
- The remainder of all Veterans enrolled for USDVA health care.

If a Veteran is not eligible to use the Choice Card right now, they should keep their card in a safe and convenient location. There is no need to call USDVA.

Preauthorization is Required

For all care under the Choice Program, preauthorization for services is required. Veterans may not simply schedule their own appointments or visit a community provider and attempt to use the Choice Card to receive care without first obtaining preauthorization.

To verify eligibility and obtain authorization for services, Veterans may call (866) 606-8198. If Veterans do not receive pre-approval, they may be responsible for some or all of the costs of the non-USDUSDVA treatment received.

For more information about the Veterans Choice Program, call (866) 606-8198 or visit http://www.USDVA.gov/opa/choiceact/.

CALVET
VETERANS HOME OF CALIFORNIA
WEST LOS ANGELES

JOB FAIR

— JANUARY 21, 2015 —
10am - 4pm

Looking for an opportunity to give back to Veterans?

-Speak with Human Resources staff
-Get instruction on navigating the State of California Job website
-On-site testing for state jobs

West Los Angeles Veterans Home
11500 Nimitz Avenue
(Wilshire and the 405)
Los Angeles, CA 90049

For directions please call
(877) 605-1332 or (424) 832-8200

WWW.CALVET.CA.GOV

CalVet Leaders Honor Veterans Day Statewide

As we do every year, our CalVet leadership honored California Veterans and their families by attending events statewide on and around Veterans Day. CalVet was privileged to read the Governor's Veterans Day proclamation at many of these events.

Peter Gravett
Secretary
Marine Corps birthday celebration, Santa Ana; Veterans Day event, West LA Veterans Home, Los Angeles; Veterans Day event, Ventura Veterans Home, Ventura; Veterans Day Parade, La Palma; Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Los Angeles; USC Navigating Leadership Symposium 2014 and Leadership Awards reception, Sacramento; Interagency Council on Veterans Convening, Sacramento.

Michael Wells
Undersecretary Operations
Global War on Terror Wall of Remembrance, Sacramento; Veterans Day event, Veterans Memorial Plaza, Rancho Cordova; USDVA Medical Center, Mather; USC Navigating Leadership Symposium 2014 and Leadership Awards reception, Sacramento.

Diane Vanderpot
Undersecretary Veterans Homes
Northern California Veterans Cemetery, Igo; Redding Veterans Home, Redding.

Coby Petersen
Deputy Secretary Veterans Homes
El Dorado Veterans Monument, Placerville.

JP Tremblay
Deputy Secretary Legislation and Government Relations
All Veterans Monument, Martinez; Interagency Council on Veterans Convening, Sacramento; California Commanders Council meeting, Fresno.

Keith Boylan
Deputy Secretary Veterans Services
Sacramento Valley National Cemetery, Dixon; Interview with Trench Talk Radio; Veterans Day breakfast, Los Angeles.

Paul Sullivan
Deputy Secretary Communications
Golden Gate National Cemetery, San Bruno; USC Navigating Leadership Symposium 2014 and Leadership Awards reception, Sacramento; Interagency Council on Veterans Convening, Sacramento; Interagency Council on Veterans Convening, Sacramento.

Todd Irby
Chief Counsel
UC Davis Willow Clinic Health Fair, Sacramento.

Lindsey Sin
Deputy Secretary Women Veterans Affairs
Global War on Terror Wall of Remembrance, Sacramento; San Jose State University, San Jose.

Mirtha Villarreal-Younger
Deputy Secretary Minority Veterans Affairs
DQ University Veteran Pow-Wow, Davis; Global War on Terror Wall of Remembrance Ceremony, Sacramento; Honorary Grand Marshall, Veterans Day Parade, Sacramento.

Invitations for CalVet to attend these events came from the California Veteran service community. Since November is such a busy time at CalVet, we recommend sending your 2015 invitations at least three months before Veterans Day.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER 9

Recovering Warrior & Caregiver
Virtual Hiring Fair
Register today: http://www.virtualjobscout.org/#/

DECEMBER 7

Veterans Holiday Celebration @ USDVA
w/Jim Belushi and the Sacred Heart Band
Contact: (866) 955-8387
www.VHCEVENT.org

DECEMBER 13

Wreath Laying Ceremony
Sacramento Valley National Cemetery, Dixon
Contact: (707) 693-2460

DECEMBER 16

18th Annual Road March
Ceremony & BBQ
Barstow Veterans Home
Contact: Teresa Rochester (760) 252-6256

DECEMBER 20-22

U.S. Vets Veteran & Family Stand Down
LA Convention Center
1201 S. Figueroa, Los Angeles
Pre-register at www.usvetsinc.org/inglewood or
Call (310) 927-0889 / (562) 826-5373

Note: To view full calendar,
visit www.calvet.ca.gov/home/calendar

CalVet News
1227 O Street, Room 300
Sacramento, CA 95814
P (916) 653-2192
F (916) 653-2611
pao@calvet.ca.gov

Paul Sullivan
Deputy Secretary, Communications

Carolyn Ballou
Public Information Officer

Jaime Arteaga
Public Information Officer

Thomas Moralez
Graphic Designer

Greg Nannini
Office Technician

Reprint Permission
You are encouraged to forward the CalVet Newsletter to others and do not need permission to do so. If, however, you would like permission to reprint a single Newsletter article, please send your request to pao@calvet.ca.gov.

FOLLOW US!