Serving Those Who Served

The Official Newsletter of the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs



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Greetings teammates,

October had us busy with a number of great events. A big thank you to all who turned out for the KDVA 5K Run Walk and our Virtual Women Veterans Day Celebration.

As we head into November, we take time to recognize and honor the men and women who have served in our nation's Armed Forces. Veterans Day is more than a date on the calendar—it's a reminder of the courage, dedication, and sacrifice that protect the freedoms we enjoy every day.



To all our Veterans: thank you. Your service and example continue to inspire us. This month, and always, we honor your commitment, your resilience, and the values you represent.

Let's each take a moment to express our gratitude, whether by reaching out to a colleague, participating in a local event, or simply reflecting on the meaning of service. Together, we can ensure that the contributions of our Veterans are never forgotten.

Very respectfully,

Whitney P. Allen, Jr.

Commissioner Whitney P. Allen, Jr. Kentucky Department of Veteran Affairs

Latest VA News



VA launches offline mobile app to support HBPC teams in remote areas

New app provides support to Veterans in remote areas

October 24, 2025

Alan Greilsamer
VA EHRM Communications

VA launches offline mobile app to support HBPC teams in remote areas

New app provides support to Veterans in remote areas October 24, 2025 Alan Greilsamer VA EHRM Communications

Home-Based Primary Care (HBPC) teams now have a faster and more secure way to support Veterans in remote areas, even those without internet access, thanks to the recent implementation of the Oracle Health Community Care app, formerly known as Mobile Care.

The app allows HBPC staff to view critical patient information, including documentation, orders, medications, labs and histories, in an offline, read-only capacity, enabling providers to deliver consistent, high-quality care in rural or low-connectivity areas. The app also has additional features, such as essential risk assessments and offline free-text documents.

Saving time and reducing disruptions

This marks a major improvement over previous workflows, which required staff to log in to laptops, connect to hotspots, access virtual private networks and launch Citrix to reach patient records. Now, staff can open a patient chart directly at the point of care, saving time and reducing disruptions. The app is in use across all six facilities that are live with the Federal Electronic Health Record, and performance so far has been strong. From Aug. 22 through mid-September, 97% of the nearly 1,400 transactions conducted in the app — such as opening a patient chart, submitting a lab order, or saving a note — were completed in under two seconds.

"I had a patient move and used the app to find their new home while in the field," said Jessica Berger, a dietician at Mann-Grandstaff VA Medical Center in Spokane, Washington. "I have used some advanced filters on my documents to pull up notes by author or note type for ease of access. It makes finding some of the notes very easy, and I can view them in AdHoc Notes. I also bring my laptop into the home for visits, so I will use it to document in AdHoc while I reference other information on the phone app. This helps me save time."

The app, available on government-furnished iOS devices such as iPhones and iPads, also improves data safety and security. By giving HBPC staff access to records directly on their devices instead of printing out patient charts or taking handwritten notes, it reduces the risk of sensitive patient data being lost or mishandled.

Beyond added convenience, the app also supports stronger engagement with Veterans. Staff can use the app during visits to show Veterans trends in their health information, helping them better understand the importance of their treatment plans.

By equipping HBPC teams with mobile access to patient records without needing internet access, the Oracle Health Community Care app helps staff deliver care more efficiently, securely and effectively.

For more information and resources, visit the EHR Modernization website.

Upcoming Events

KYNECT-A-VET 100 Veterans What is KYNECT-A-VET? Eligible to Receive If you are a Kentucky veteran aged 60 or older OR a veteran of any age with a traumatic brain injury as defined by KRS a Samsung 211.470, you may qualify to receive a Samsung mobile device Mobile Device that is preloaded with the "Here Now Help" app to increase veteran access to resources and supports. This pilot program is a partnership with the KY Department of Veteran Affairs and the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Department for Aging and Independent Living. How do I apply? Kentucky agencies serving veterans may complete an application to nominate a veteran who meets the eligibility criteria. How can I obtain an application? The application is located on the KDVA website at: An announcement will be sent to agencies serving veterans. All completed applications will be sent to a secured KDVA email box. What is the deadline to submit an application? 0 Applications can be submitted starting nov through midnight EST Applications must be fully completed and submitted by the due date to be considered. Selected nominees will be notified no later than July 31, 2025. Here Now Help App Increase Veteran Access to Who do I contact for more information? Email millie.stevens@ky.gov Local, State & Federal Resources & Supports Connectivity to Mental & Physical Health Services, Crisis KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT CABINET FOR HEALTH

Click here to access the the application form.

OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Complete the form, save it, and attach it to an email to be sent to kynectavet@ky.gov

AND FAMILY SERVICES

Intervention

Resources, & Much More!

Register now!

JOB SEEKERS

Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs presents

Virtual Job Fair

Employer Cost: Zero | Job Candidate Cost: Zero

SAVE THE DATE
Wednesday, November 19
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM EST



10-11 AM Only Veterans + Military Families

11 AM - 1 PM All Job Candidates

*Including Veterans and Military Families

The future schedule is below (3rd Wednesday of each month):

December - No Event

January 21, 2026

February 18, 2026

Brought to you by





We're excited to announce the next Commonwealth of Kentucky's Virtual Job Fair, presented by the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs, and we'd love for you to be a part of it!

Register Now!

Employers register here: https://pvapi.premiervirtual.com/s/xaD9nd
Job Seekers register here: https://pvapi.premiervirtual.com/s/xaD9nd

Event Details: Virtual Job Fair

Date: Wednesday, November 19, 2025 Time: 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM EST Employer & Job Seeker Cost: Zero

Schedule:

- 10:00 AM 11:00 AM: Veterans & Military Families
- 11:00 AM 1:00 PM: Open to All Job Candidates

This event is completely free for both employers and job candidates / seekers, providing an excellent opportunity to connect and explore career opportunities. Looking ahead, our job fair will take place on the third Wednesday of each month in 2025.

Here's a preview of the upcoming dates:

- December 2025 no virtual job fair
- January 21, 2026
- February 18, 2026
- March 18, 2026
- April 15, 2026
- May 20, 2026

Make sure to mark your calendars, and feel free to share this with anyone who might benefit from attending. We look forward to seeing you there!

Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs and the Catholic Enrichment Center Veterans Day Celebration

November 5, 2025 Noon to 7PM

FREE to attend, no registration required!

Healthcare services, technology trainings, educational vendors, medicine disposal opportunities, resource tables, and food.

We're requesting donations of coats, jackets and blankets which will be made available to homeless Veterans.

Catholic Enrichment Center 3145 W. Broadway, Louisville, KY



Shepherdsville Stand Down

November 14, 2025 Noon to 5PM



Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs Homeless Veterans Program and area partners want to celebrate our Bullitt County Veterans by providing assistance and resources for at-risk veterans:

- Veteran Housing Eligibility Resources
- · Food
- · Personal Hygiene Items
- Winter Gear
- Benefit Information
- Employment Counseling
- Utility Assistance

Plus, many other community services and resources.

American Legion KY Post 157 830 Old Preston Highway Shepherdsville, KY 40165

Free transportation provided by Mark 12 Ministries. Please call 502-240-7543

For more information on the Homeless Veterans Program visit our website at veterans.ky.gov



What's New at KDVA?

HELP



Use the QR Code to get the app. Use this access code: 219378 HereNow Help has been developed to assist veterans in self care, peer care and clinical care. The application will provide veterans with ease of access to services and resources. The free app is available now on the Google Playstore and Apple Store.





2025 KDVA 5K Run Walk











Oct. 11, 2025, KDVA held the 5th annual 5K Run Walk for the Homeless Veterans Program in the E.P. Tom Sawyer State Park in Louisville, KY. A heartfelt thank you to all the runners, volunteers, and supporters who made the 5K for our veterans a success.

Veteran Centers Trunk or Treat

Check out some of the pictures from our Veterans Centers' staff and residents. Always a great time to be had.





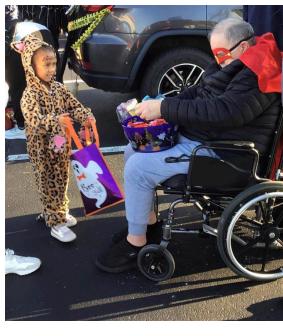
Happy Halloween!













Bowman Fest











Our Women Veterans had a fantastic time hosting a table alongside Fleet Reserve Association Branch 177 on Saturday, October 4!It was a great day connecting with fellow veterans, sharing resources, and honoring the service and legacy of women who have worn the uniform. A huge thank-you to everyone who stopped by to say hello and show their support — your encouragement keeps us going strong!

Women Veterans Health Open House





The Robley Rex VA Medical Center hosted its annual Women's Health Open House on September 27, welcoming more than 50 women Veterans from across the region. The

event featured informational sessions, health resources, and opportunities for Veterans to connect directly with providers and community partners. Dina Parrott, Women Veterans Program Coordinator for the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs (KDVA), greeted attendees and hosted a resource table to share information about KDVA's programs, benefits, and upcoming events.

"This open house is a wonderful opportunity to connect with women Veterans where they are," Parrott said. "It's always powerful to see women come together, learn about the resources available to them, and know they are supported by both KDVA and the VA."

The open house reflected the VA's commitment to providing comprehensive, womencentered care and underscored KDVA's mission to advocate for and serve Kentucky's women Veterans.

Homeless Veterans Program receives donations ahead of Shepherdsville Standdown





The Homeless Veterans Program received various donations in the form of clothing, hygiene products and more on Oct. 29, 2025, in Frankfort, KY. Special thanks to Gina Mickelson (center), Director of Growth Initiative- Lifeline Homecare who provided the donations.



Veterans can visit their Kentucky Career Center and take advantage of the following no-cost services:

- · Career assessments
- · Labor market information
- · Access to training opportunities, job fairs, and workshops
- · Job interview preparation
- · Resume and cover letter assistance
- Assistance with KEE Suite
- · Access to computers and free Internet service
- Help applying for federal employment and training programs in which veterans receive priority of service

Specialized Staff

Some veterans face significant barriers that make it difficult for them to find suitable employment, especially vets who are transitioning into civilian life. Most offices have specialized staff—all of whom are veterans—who work closely with employers to create more opportunities for veterans and provide the following services to veterans themselves:

- Help developing an employability plan and goals
- · Coaching in individual and group settings
- Referrals to supportive services, including vocational rehabilitation, transportation, elder care, food and nutrition services, and non-profit organizations that address homelessness

Priority of Service for Veterans

U.S. military veterans and other covered persons receive Priority of Service (POS) in all employment, training, and placement services in any workforce preparation program funded by the U.S. Department of Labor.

Veterans receive access to services or resources provided sooner than others

Covered persons include the spouse of a veteran who died of a service-connected disability, has a total service-connected disability, is missing in action, or is a prisoner of war.

For more information about POS and other programs for veterans, visit https://www.dol.gov/vets/



VISIT KCC.KY.GOV/VETERANS TO LEARN MORE.

National Veterans Memorial and Museum Initiative





SHARE YOUR STORY

The National Veterans Memorial and Museum (NVMM) partnered with StoryCorps' Military Voices Initiative to collect, preserve, and amplify the stories and experiences of our nation's Veterans.







All those touched by military service, including active-duty service members, Veterans, spouses, children, friends, and community members are invited to record a conversation about a Veteran's experience. At the end of the conversation, you will receive a digital copy of the interview, while a second copy will be preserved in the NVMM Story Collection and the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress.

By adding to the NVMM Story Collection, you ensure the legacy of service lives on - not just in history books, but in the hearts and minds of future generations!







Follow the QR Code or go to nationalvmm.org/education/nvmm-story-collection/ for more tips and to record your conversation

Turn this page over for a list of great questions to start your conversation.





Questions? Contact Mason Farr at mfarr@nationalvmm.org



Great Questions from the NVMM

Great Questions List

Choose a few questions from the list below or come up with your own. No need to feel like you have to ask every question!

Military Service

- When were you in the military? Which branch did you serve in?
- · What motivated you to join the military?
- How did your friends and family react when you told them your plans to serve?
- What was it like when you left home to begin your journey in the military?
- Tell me about basic training. Were you prepared for military life? What were you unprepared for?
- Where were you stationed during your time in service? What was your favorite or least favorite place to be?
- · What jobs did you have in the military?
- · Describe your daily life while in the service.
- If you served in combat and are comfortable sharing, what was that experience like? When and where were you in combat?
- How did you stay in touch with friends and family while in the service?
- Describe your transition from military to civilian life. Was it easy or difficult? Why?
- · What did you do after leaving the military?
- What lessons did your service teach you that you still carry with you?
- What does your service mean to you?

Military & Veteran Family Members

These questions are great when speaking to a family member about someone who served in the military.

- What do you see as our family's legacy? How does military service influence that legacy?
- In which branches of the military have our family members served?
- What was it like growing up with a family member in the military?
- What lessons did you learn from the service of a family member?
- Can you tell me about when you became a military family member?
- How did your life change when your family member entered the service?
- Do you have advice for other military family members?
- Is there anything you wish service members and civilians understood about being the family member of a service member?
- Do you remember your favorite place you lived?
 What was special about it?
- · How did being a military child shape your life?
- Can you tell me about a person that you felt understood by as the child of a service member?

Questions? Contact Mason Farr at mfarr@nationalvmm.org

Farming Training Program focused on Veterans

CONNECT WITH US

Farming for Cash is being implemented in these locations

- I. Lexington, KY
- 2. Frankfort, KY
- 3. London KY and nearby
- 4. Guthrie and Russellville KY and nearby

If you live nearby and are ready to start farming or expand your current farm with new growing and selling techniques, please connect with us.



CONTACT US

Sid Dasgupta at Siddhartha.Dasgupta1@kysu.edu James Howard at James. Howard@kysu.edu

You can also reach out to Michael Lewis at NCAT (mikel@NCAT.org) and Wayne Riley of the Laurel County African American Heritage Center at KYhistoryman@yahoo.com





A training program for beginning and prospective farmers!

Focus on military veterans and small scale farms



WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

· DO YOU KNOW THE EARNING CAPACITY OF SMALL SCALE

FARMING

Using 1,000 square foot as our reference, the plot will produce: Head lettuce 420 heads/crop, retail value \$840, wholesale \$315 Tomatoes I,000 lb/season, retail value \$2,000, wholesale \$1,000 Cucumbers 2,000lb/season, retail value \$2,000, wholesale \$1,000

• HOW WILL "FARMING FOR CASH" TRAIN YOU?

Two types of trainings: workshops and apprenticeships WORKSHOPS TOPICS

Finding land and money to start your first farm

Deciding what to grow, how much land to farm, how to sell, etc.

Income and costs predictions for farming

Understanding direct and wholesale sales and regs (GAP and FSMA) Selling to grocery stores, selling via social media, Paypal Licensing and insuring a farm

Farm business planning, book keeping, and farm tax preparation APPRENTICESHIP TOPICS

"ARMED TO FARM" training for military veterans through our partner National Center for Appropriate Technology TRACTOR SCHOOL: learn safe use and maintenance of tractors and implements in soil prep, hay making, planting, cultivation, etc. TOMATO SCHOOL: learn advanced organic tomato production, tomato management from Michael O'Gorman HYDROPONICS SCHOOL: learn hydroponic strawberry, tomato, and greens production in low-cost high tunnels SMALL-PLOT INTENSIVE FARMING SCHOOL: learn to grow an intensive garden using fertigation, plastic mulching, and labor-saving methods

CHECK OUT ARMED TO FARM: https://www.armedtofarm.org/

HOW WILL YOU LEARN?

BE TRAINED TO FARM IN 12 MONTHS



This is a 3 year project funded by the USDA You can enroll for free. You will learn to farm in 12 months You will receive support and assistance to farm after the 12 month training GOAL: start a farm after 12 months, start earning money, after 2 years expand your farm

APPRENTICESHIP



Once enrolled, you will become a hands-on apprentice farmer where you will learn high tunnel and in-ground production.

You will also attend other farms to learn new farming methods, attend workshops, and travel to conferences all paid by the project.

STARTING YOUR FARM



After your 12-month training, we will help you start a small farm with the goal to earn money. We will help you with land access

We will connect you with other new farmers for mutual support We will connect you with farming mentors who

can answer your questions
We will connect you with USDA resources for you to buy your own farm

TBI/PTSD: THE SIGNATURE INVISIBLE BRAIN WOUNDS FROM VIETNAM, IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN:

Have you been Exposed to 70,000+ IEDs, Breaching, Large Weapons or Explosions?









TBI/PTSD Veterans can finally be treated with something different than off-label prescription medications!

Could this be you?

2-YEAR STATE FUNDED FREE HBOT TREATMENT PROGRAM FOR KENTUCKY TBI/PTSD VETERANS

Have you been knocked unconscious in combat, exposed to IEDs, explosions, or sexually assualted? Are you suffering from routine migraine headaches, sensitivity to light, having memory issues, trouble finishing sentences, difficulty expressing thoughts, self medicating? If so, you are only one of over an estimated 877,450 TBI/PTSD Veterans across America suffering from TBI/PTSD in the same manner.

- The HBOT introduction video is here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?
 v=oa3SVLqvdzQ&t=324s
- TBI is a physical wounding of the brain when the brain hits the inside of the skull.
 Over 21 Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBOT) evidence based clinical trials and with over 12,500 successful Veteran outcomes. The medical meta-analysis may be viewed here https://treatnow.org/dr-harch-systematic-review-improving-mtbi-persistent-post-concussion-syndrome.
- View TBI/PTSD Veteran video testimonials here https://www.youtube.com/@treatnowdotorg/videos.
- You may read all about the treatment process at https://treatmow.org/treatments/overview-hyperbaric-oxygen-therapy-hbot/.
- HBOT enacted laws in 10 states which may be viewed here: https://treatnow.org/knowledgebase/the-national-treatnow-summary-of-state-by-state-hyperbaric-oxygen-therapy-hbot-legislative-and-resolution-effort-10-23-2023/
- Five major VSOs support HBOT here https://treatnow.org/knowledgebase/veteran-service-organization-members-support-hbot-for-mtbi-ptsd/.
- The state of Kentucky and KDVA is in partnership with HBOT4KYVETS, Inc., and the KY medical community testing and treating TBI/PTSD Veterans.
 Veterans helping Veterans with financial support from the state to receive alternative medical treatment earned and deserved!
- Veterans may receive 40, 60, or 80 HBOT treatments, one (1) hour per day, 5 days per week, over

2–4 month period. If you're a Kentucky Veteran with diagnosis of TBI, you may qualify.

 The HBO₂ 1.5 ATA protocol for mTBI with post-concussive symptoms with or without PTSD was safe and could be used in multiple centers. The neurocognitive test scores for subjects improved in 21 of 25 measures. (National Brain Injury, Rescue, and Rehabilitation (NBIRR) Study: Jan-Mar 2019).

HBOT4KYVETS, Inc is a 501C3 non-profit which opened HBOT chambers to TBI/PTSD Kentucky Veterans for treatments in 2018 under KRS 217.930-942. If you are a Kentucky TBI/PTSD Veteran resident seeking a safe and effective treatment, **WE WANT TO SPEAK WITH YOU**. You may visit our website for more information at HBOT4KYVETS.com to review requirements and to sign up for the FREE state funded treatment program.

I Support Veterans License Plates



Who is eligible

Any owner of a noncommercial motor vehicle required to be registered for use on Kentucky Highways.

Steps Requirement

Application must be made at your local County Clerk's office. Upon receipt of this plate, your regular (special) issue license plate must be turned in or issued to another vehicle.

Decal Expires Customer's Birth Month

\$10.00 of the initial and \$5.00 of the renewal registration fee goes to the Kentucky Department of Veterans' Affairs. For more information, please visit http://veterans.ky.gov. This plate is available for personalization with an additional \$25.00 fee annually. Personalization is limited to a maximum of 5 characters.

Relevant KRS <u>186.162</u>

Military Women's Memorial "Tell Her Story"



The Military Women's Memorial (MWM) is the only major national memorial honoring all servicewomen – past, present and future. The MWM honors more than 3 million women who served and continue to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces since the American Revolution.

Women's military service should be no less recognized than men's but historically the focus of history and preservation has been on men.

Why it's Important to Register?

EVERY STORY is important, EVERY STORY deserves to be told. Yet we have lost most of our WWI women veterans and our WWII women are fast coming to their final chapter. What history we have not recorded with be lost with them. We absolutely CANNOT let another generation go by without ensuring that our collective contributions are captured and remembered.

Please REGISTER HERE: www.womensmemorial.org

There is no cost to register! You can register any woman you know who is in or has served in the military. Let's keep "HER-Story alive!

Useful VA Links

- VA Housing Assistance Page Information about home loans, eligibility, interest rates reductions and other related topics: https://www.va.gov/housing-assistance/
- National Center for PTSD Provides information and resources to veterans, care providers and organizations relating PTSD: https://www.ptsd.va.gov/
- Covid-19 Vaccine Updates Latest updates on Covid-19 guidance and vaccinations: https://www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine/
- VA Life Insurance (VALife) https://www.benefits.va.gov/insurance/valife.asp
- **Veterans Readiness and Employment (VR&E)** job training, education, employment coaching, etc.: https://www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab/index.asp

Upcoming Dates and Events

- National Veterans and Military Family Month
- · Warrior Care Month
- National Family Caregivers Month
- Daylight Savings Time Ends (November 2)
- U.S. Marine Corps Birthday (November 10)
- Veterans Day (November 11)
- Armistice Remembrance Day (November 11)
- Thanksgiving Day (November 27)

Resources for Veterans

At the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs, we are committed to supporting our veterans with the resources they need.



Discover a wealth of services and support options through FindHelpNow.org - your goto resource for immediate assistance.

Whether you're looking for mental health support, housing assistance, or employment resources, FindHelpNow.org has got you covered! Be sure to look for the "Veterans/Military" population filters available. The website displays near realtime available openings at substance use disorder and mental health facilities, recovery houses, naloxone distribution sites,

and social services resources. Visit <u>FindHelpNow.org</u> today to explore these enhanced resources and find the support you need! See YouTube video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SWfaLHnz_kk



Be seen at home or on-the-go

Telehealth Urgent Care Service at the Robley Rex VA Medical Center

Care you can get with Telehealth:

- Influenza, Covid-19
- Prescription Management
- Urgent care issues like colds, coughs, and stomach aches
- · Back pain
- Urinary symptoms
- Dental Pain
- Sore throat
- Ear pain
- Arthritis
- Gout

Telehealth Advantages

- Can be seen anywhere if you have internet or access to a phone.
- Time flexibility
- Avoid the ED waiting room
- · Friendly and professional staff



Be seen at home or on-the-go with Robley Rex VA Medical Center Telehealth Urgent Care Service. Available Monday thru Friday from 8AM - 6PM. Call (502) 287-4000 or (800) 376-8387. Select Option "#3", then Option "1" for primary care nurse.





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