

# North Dakota Native Veterans Resource Guide



Dear North Dakota Veterans, Service Members, and Family:

North Dakota is proud to support the more than 56,000 veterans from our great state, with strong representation of our Native veterans, who have bravely borne the burden of battle for the protection of our country. In addition, we must remember the countless spouses, children, and other dependents who continue to serve through their many sacrifices. Some of our Native veterans are unaware of the benefits and services available to them, and often find themselves or their family members in need of assistance. Our goal is to ensure our Native veterans, service members, and family have access to the services they deserve and continue to

We are incredibly proud and humbled by the everyday service of our veterans and it is in this spirit that we have created this North Dakota Native Veterans Resource Guide.

This ND Native Veterans Resource Guide is designed to provide you with key information about Federal, State, Community, and Tribal-based programs. It serves as a general directory and provides a wealth of information to get you started. It should be noted that **this is not a comprehensive list of all benefits, services, and organizations.** New information is always evolving. You can find the most current resource materials at: <https://www.nd.gov/Veterans/>.

This resource guide was originally created under the direction of Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Tribal Service Veteran Officer, Richard Marcellais by Amelia Randall Marcum, and updated by the National Resource Center on Native American Aging's Native Aging in Place Project staff.

Thank you for your service to our nation!

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# HONORING THE MILITARY SERVICE OF NATIVE AMERICANS



We designed this resource guide to assist our Native Veterans, service members, and their dependents with questions about healthcare, employment, financial assistance and much more! Our goal is to assist Native Veterans of North Dakota and their dependents in obtaining all benefits to which they are entitled, both federal and state, either by direct assistance through the [Tribal Veteran Service Officers](#) or [County Veteran Service Officers](#), or by contacting [National Service Officers](#).

If you're serving in active duty, including National Guard and Reserve with federal pay, you may be eligible for VA benefits both during service and after separation or retirement. If you're a traditional or technical member of the National Guard and Reserve, you may also be eligible. Most of the programs are offered through the US Department of Veterans Affairs or ND Department of Veterans Affairs.

The ND Department of Veterans Affairs assists Veterans and their dependents in obtaining federal and state benefits, to which they are entitled. ND County Veteran Service Officers provide counseling services for employment, educational programs, disability benefits, medical care entitlement, nursing home assistance, death benefits, and other Veterans activities.

ND Tribal Veteran Service Officers (VSO's) are your resource for dedicated and professional assistance in obtaining federal and state Veterans' benefits. They provide expertise and advocacy to access benefit programs. The VSO's and staff are employees of their respective tribe. These services are provided at NO CHARGE to Veterans and their dependents.

Tribal VSO's handle inquiries and applications regarding Veterans' health care, compensation, pension, long-term care and other benefits for Veterans of all ages. Burial benefit assistance is provided to the survivors of Veterans. Widows and widowers of Veterans are eligible for many state benefits, and in limited cases, federal benefits. Tribal VSO's work with the National Service Officers of various Veterans' organizations when filing VA benefit claims. Tribal VSO's also interact with several other tribal, state, and federal government agencies that provide resources or assistance to Veterans.

The VA has implemented a public health response to the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) to protect and care for Veterans and their families. The Fargo VA Health Care System has initiated a COVID-19 Call Center, to help field calls related to COVID-19 symptoms, testing, and general questions. The number is (701) 239-3700 extension 2319. Updates can be found at: [www.fargo.va.gov](http://www.fargo.va.gov)

# ND VETERANS AFFAIRS SERVICE OFFICES

## **ND Veterans Affairs Main Office**

4201 38th Street SW Suite 104

Fargo, ND 58104-7535

**Office Phone:** (701) 239-7165

**Office Fax:** (701) 239-7166

**Toll-Free** 866-634-8387

**Office Hours:** 8:00 AM-4:30 PM

Monday-Friday (excluding holidays)

## **Veterans Services: VA Regional Office**

Fargo VA Regional Office (VARO)

2101 North Elm Street Room 208

Fargo, ND 58102

**Office Hours:** ND Dept of Veterans Affairs: 8:00

AM-4:30 PM, Monday-Friday and closed on

Tuesday mornings (excluding holidays)

North Dakota is home to over 56,000 Veterans. Our goal is to ensure that every Veteran in the State of North Dakota receives every benefit to which he or she may be entitled from the US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), other agencies, and the State of North Dakota.

The department disseminates current information to the state Veteran population through the use of news media, [Veteran Service Officers](#), [Veteran Service Organizations](#), and this website. We accept and carry through to completion compensation claims, counsel Veterans on employment, educational programs, disability benefits, medical care entitlement, nursing home assistance, death benefits, and other related Veteran activities. The department, working under the supervision of the [Administrative Committee](#), also monitors legislation and assists others in acquiring information. We also administer the [Veterans Aid Loan Program](#), the [Hardship Grant Program](#) to assist Veterans financially with basic needs such as dental, hearing, etc., and the [Transportation Program](#) to help transport Veterans to the VA Hospital in Fargo, Miles City, MT, or Ft. Meade, SD and to several community based outpatient clinics.

The department has the responsibility of training newly appointed Tribal Service Officers and County Veteran Service Officers (CVSO) selected by their respective County Board of Commissioners. The department also conducts a minimum of two training seminars each year for all County and Tribal appointees. You can find more information on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

## **Veterans History Project**

We invite you to visit the [ND State Historical Society's Veterans History Project](#) page. They continue to accept the stories of wartime Veterans who live in or served from North Dakota. These stories illuminate individual experiences, enhances the understanding of these eras, and provides bridges between generations. You can also contact them at [archives@nd.gov](mailto:archives@nd.gov) to share your stories.

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# VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (VSO)

## National/State

National Service Officers (NSO), to include those that represent the state, work as a liaison between the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the County Veteran Service Officers to determine the best plan for Veterans and their dependents to receive benefits. NSO's are employed by and work for Veterans Organizations or the state. NSO's act as power-of-attorney, at the request of the Veteran, and represent Veterans and/or their dependents with benefits claims submitted to the US VA. A Veteran IS NOT required to be a member of the organization to have them serve as their representative.

## County Veteran Services Officers

County Veteran Service Officer (VSO's) are your local resource for dedicated and professional assistance in obtaining federal and state Veterans' benefits. They provide the expertise and advocacy that Veterans need to optimize access to benefit programs. County VSO's handle inquiries and applications regarding Veterans' health care, compensation, pension, long-term care and other benefits for Veterans of all ages. Burial benefit assistance is provided to the survivors of Veterans.

Widows and widowers of Veterans are eligible for many state benefits, and in limited cases, federal benefits. Most of the programs are offered through the US Department of Veterans Affairs or the ND Department of Veterans Affairs. County VSO's are in contact with these agencies on a regular basis. They work with NSO's of various Veterans' organizations when filing VA benefit claims. The County VSO's and staff are employees of their respective counties. Each County is required by law to appoint and pay the expenses of a VSO as provided by [NDCC 37-14-18](#) and [NDCC 37-14-19](#). Funding is provided by county property tax per [NDCC 57-15-06.4](#) and [NDCC 57-15-06.7 \(7\)](#)

## Tribal Veteran Services

Tribal VSO's are your local resource for dedicated and professional assistance in obtaining federal and state Veterans' benefits. They provide the expertise and advocacy that Veterans need to optimize access to benefit programs.

Tribal VSO's handle inquiries and applications regarding Veterans' health care, compensation, pension, long-term care and other benefits for Veterans of all ages. Burial benefit assistance is provided to the survivors of Veterans. Tribal VSO's are there to assist widows and widowers of Veterans, who may be eligible for state benefits, and in limited cases, federal benefits.

Most of the programs are offered through the US Department of Veterans Affairs or the North Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs. Tribal VSO's are in contact with these agencies



on a regular basis. They also work with the National Service Officers of various Veterans' organizations when filing VA benefit claims. Tribal VSO's also interact with several other tribal, state, and federal government agencies that also provide resources or assistance to Veterans. The Tribal Veteran Service Officer and staff are employees of their respective tribe.

These services are provided at **NO CHARGE** to Veterans and their dependents.



## ND TRIBAL VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (VSO)



### **Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Nation** **Veterans Service Office**

Sisseton Post Office Building  
PO Box 509  
Agency Village, SD 57262  
Office Phone: (605) 698-3388

#### **Geri Opsal**

Program Manager/Veterans Service Officer  
Cell Phone: (605) 268-0502  
[gerio@sw-nsn.gov](mailto:gerio@sw-nsn.gov)



### **Spirit Lake Nation** **Tribal Veterans Service Office**

PO Box 359  
Fort Totten, ND 58335  
Office Phone: (701) 766-1706  
Office Fax: (701) 766-1713

#### **Marty Alex**

Veteran Service Officer  
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[emdir@spiritlakenation.com](mailto:emdir@spiritlakenation.com)



### **Standing Rock Sioux Tribe** **Tribal Veterans Service Office**

Tribal Building 1 - North Standing Rock Avenue  
PO Box D  
Fort Yates, ND 58538  
Office Phone: (701) 854-8527  
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**Tribal Veterans Service Office**

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## North Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs also represents:

**American Legion:** The nation's largest wartime veterans service organization, committed to mentoring youth and sponsorship of wholesome programs in our communities, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting strong national security, and continued devotion to our fellow servicemembers and veterans. For more information please visit: <https://www.veterans.nd.gov/american-legion>

**AMVETS:** Aims to enhance and safeguard the entitlements for all American Veterans who have served honorably and to improve the quality of life for them, their families, and the communities where they live through leadership, advocacy, and services. For more information please visit: <https://www.veterans.nd.gov/amvets>

**Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association:** Association of Combat Veterans from all branches of the United States Armed Forces who ride motorcycles as a hobby. As a registered 501(c)(19) veterans' charity, our mission is to support and protect those who have defended our country and our freedoms. For more information please visit: <https://www.combatvet.us/>

**Disabled American Veterans – DAV:** Dedicated to a single purpose: empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity. Providing free, professional assistance to veterans and their families in obtaining benefits and services earned through military service and provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and other agencies of government. For more information please visit: <https://www.veterans.nd.gov/dav>

**Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA):** Strives to build an empowered generation of veterans who provide sustainable leadership for our country and their local communities. We work toward this vision through programs in four key impact areas: supporting new veterans in Health, Education, Employment and building a lasting Community for vets and their families (HEEC). For more information please visit: <https://www.veterans.nd.gov/iava>

**Marine Corps League-ND:** serving as an information portal for the Marine Corps League detachments within North Dakota as a well as information relevant to the Department of North Dakota (statewide organization), the Midwest Division (ND, SD, KS, NE, MO, IA, MN) and the national Marine Corps League organization. For more information please visit: <https://www.veterans.nd.gov/marine-corps-league-nd>

**ND Military Outreach:** State program designed to assist Military Veterans, Past and Present Service Members, and their Families in finding resources, services, and benefits to meet their needs. Military Outreach Specialists are regionally located throughout North Dakota. They connect you with information and resources in the areas of: Federal and State Veteran Benefits, Military Records, Mental Health/ PTSD, Retirement, Financial, Employment, and Homelessness. For more information please visit: <https://www.veterans.nd.gov/military-outreach>

**MOAA Military Officers Association of America - Roughriders Chapter:** The mission of the chapter is to promote the aims of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). We advocate for national, state, and local legislative actions that protect the rights and interests of uniformed

servicemembers, veterans, dependents, and survivors of the same. For more information please visit: <https://www.veterans.nd.gov/moaa-military-officers-association-america>

**ND National Guard Enlisted Association:** Our mission is to foster and improve the National Guard by promoting and encouraging friendly and social relations among all members of the National Guard, and to promote and advance the status, welfare, and professionalism of Enlisted Members. For more information please visit: <https://www.veterans.nd.gov/node/3397>

**The Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH):** The mission The Purple Heart is to foster an environment of goodwill and camaraderie among combat wounded Veterans, promote patriotism, support necessary legislative initiatives, and most importantly, provide service to all Veterans and their families. For more information please visit: <https://www.purpleheart.org/>

**The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA):** Promise to lead the fight to enhance the quality of life for all enlisted personnel of the uniformed services, Veterans, their families, and survivors. To stop the erosion of earned benefits through our legislative efforts, maintain our esprit de corps, dedication and patriotism, and to promote devotion and allegiance to God and Country. For more information please visit: <https://www.trea.org/>

**Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW):** VFW's vision is to ensure that veterans are respected for their service, always receive their earned entitlements, and are recognized for the sacrifices they and their loved ones have made on behalf of this great country. For more information please visit: <https://www.veterans.nd.gov/vfw>

**Vietnam Veterans of American (VVA):** VVA's goals are to promote and support the full range of issues important to Vietnam Veterans, to create a new identity for this generation of Veterans, and to change public perception of Vietnam Veterans. For more information please visit: <https://www.veterans.nd.gov/vietnam-veterans-america>

# HEALTH CARE BENEFITS

## Health & Wellness

### **CHAMPVA-Healthcare for Dependents of Certain Veterans**

The Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA) is a comprehensive health care program in which the VA shares the cost of covered health care services and supplies with eligible beneficiaries. The program is administered by the Veterans Health Administration Office of Community Care (VHA OCC) in Denver, Colorado. For more information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/health-care/family-caregiver-benefits/champva/>

### **Healthcare Equipment Loan Program (HELP)**

NDAD's Healthcare Equipment Loan Program (HELP) provides home healthcare equipment and other durable medical pieces at no charge for up to 90 days. It's available through all of our offices (Bismarck, Fargo, Grand Forks, Minot and Williston). For more information please visit: <https://ndad.org/services/equipment/>

### **Home Base**

Home Base is dedicated to healing the invisible wounds for Veterans, Service Members and their Families through world-class clinical care, wellness, education and research. As a National Center of Excellence, Home Base operates the first and largest private-sector clinic in the nation devoted to healing invisible wounds such as post-traumatic stress, traumatic brain injury, anxiety, depression, co-occurring substance use disorder, military sexual trauma, family relationship challenges and other issues associated with service. Since inception, Home Base has served more than 15,000 Veterans and family members with care and support, trained more than 55,000 clinicians, educators and community members nationally and remains at the forefront of discovering new treatments– ensuring a brighter future for the 21st century warrior and military family. For more information please visit: <https://www.homebase.org/> or call (617) 724-5202.

### **My HealtheVet**

The new My HealtheVet portal on VA.gov will provide a single place for you to manage your health care needs in the same location where you manage your other VA benefits and services. The new My HealtheVet on VA.gov will combine tools and health data from My HealtheVet and My VA Health (Oracle Cerner) into one unified patient portal. For more information please visit: <https://www.myhealth.va.gov/mhv-portal-web/home>

### **ND Organ Transplant Fund**

In addition to NDAD's direct financial assistance for organ transplant recipients and donors, NDAD administers the North Dakota Organ Transplant Fund. This fund was established by the North Dakota Legislature in 1991 to provide funds to help individuals alleviate demonstrated financial needs related

to costs associated with transplant operations not normally covered by insurance. Money for the Organ Transplant Fund are generated from state income tax refunds of less than \$5. For more information please visit: <https://ndad.org/services/North-Dakota-Organ-Transplant-Fund/>

### **Tri Care Health Insurance**

TRICARE is managed by the Defense Health Agency under the policy guidance and direction of the Assistant Secretary of Defense. The DHA manages the TRICARE budget, executes TRICARE policies and oversees the entire TRICARE health program. Military retirees are eligible for TRICARE For Life. TRICARE For Life offers secondary coverage to Medicare for all beneficiaries who have both Medicare Parts A and B. For more information please visit: <https://tricare.mil/>

### **The Elizabeth Dole Foundation - Health & Wellness Spotlight Series**

The Elizabeth Dole Foundation has teamed up with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and Philips to provide veterans, caregivers, and military families with information about high priority topics surrounding the COVID-19 epidemic, health, and wellbeing. For more information please visit: <https://hiddenheroes.org/find-help/spotlight-series/>

### **VA General Health Care**

Since 1929, VAMC Fargo has been improving the health of the men and women who have so proudly served our nation. We consider it our privilege to serve your health care needs in any way we can. Services are available to more than 89,000 Veterans living in North Dakota, Minnesota, and South Dakota. For more information please visit: <https://www.fargo.va.gov/>

## **Dental**

### **Homeless Veteran Dental Program Dental Program**

The mission of the Homeless Veteran Dental Program is to increase the accessibility of quality dental care to homeless Veteran patients and to help assure success in VA-sponsored and VA partnership homeless rehabilitation programs throughout the United States. For more information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/dental.asp>.

### **ND Department of Health Oral Health Program**

The North Dakota Department of Health's Oral Health Program does not run dental clinics in the state but provides support to selected agencies and organizations to provide dental care. Safety net clinics are most often nonprofit, community-sponsored dental clinics that usually see patients who do not have other access to dental care. These programs typically serve patients covered by Medicaid and offer sliding fee schedules or reduced fees. For more information please visit: <http://www.ndhealth.gov/oralhealth/>

### **VA Dental Insurance Program (VADIP)**

The Veterans Health Administration has negotiated an agreement with MetLife and Delta Dental to provide dental insurance, at a discounted rate, to Veterans and CHAMPVA beneficiaries. Participation

is voluntary, and purchasing a dental plan does not affect Veteran's eligibility for VA dental services and treatment. For more information please visit: <http://www.ndhealth.gov/oralhealth/>.

## Hearing

### Hearing Aids Through the VA

To qualify you be receiving your primary care at the VA and have your VA primary care provider refer you to audiology, or have a hearing related VA Service connection, or have at least a 10% VA service connection and a referral from you VA primary healthcare provider. For more information please visit: [https://www.prosthetics.va.gov/psas/hearing\\_aids.asp](https://www.prosthetics.va.gov/psas/hearing_aids.asp).

### North Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs Hardship Assistance Grant for Hearing Aids

The purpose of this assistance is to provide monies to give aid and comfort to Veterans and their spouses. The individual must have an unmet need of hearing, must be approved by the Commissioner of Veterans Affairs. Applicants must qualify as Veteran or eligible dependent as defined in NDCC 37-14-01.1. Income and asset level, be a North Dakota resident for one year prior to application date, and present, medical bills showing all work completed, and all payments and credits must be received by the department within 60-90 days of the date of approval. For more information please visit: <https://www.veterans.nd.gov/hardship-assistance-grant>.

## Mental Health

### Commissioner Challenge on Suicide Prevention

The North Dakota Commissioner of Veterans Affairs is challenging all Organization Leaders in North Dakota to accept the challenge of ensuring their members take the S.A.V.E. training to help prevent Veteran suicides. For more information please visit: <https://www.veterans.nd.gov/commissioners-challenge-suicide-prevention-0>

### Crisis Line

Veterans Crisis Line responders are available 24/7 to help active-duty service members and their families and friends through a crisis through the Military Crisis Line. Service members, including members of the National Guard and Reserves, along with their loved ones, can Dial 988 and Press 1, chat online at [MilitaryCrisisLine.net](http://MilitaryCrisisLine.net), or send a text to 838255 to receive free, confidential support. For more information please visit: <https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/about/about-us/>

### Medical Marijuana for ND Veterans

The use of Medical Marijuana in North Dakota was approved by 64% of ND Voters through measure 5 in the 2016 November General Election. A North Dakota Medical Marijuana Card can be applied for by ND Residents to treat certain debilitating medical conditions as defined in NDCC 19-24.1(15). ND Veterans may gain access to Medical Marijuana to treat certain debilitating medical conditions. The Veteran must provide a copy of 12 months of his/her VA treatment notes for the claimed debilitating medical conditions in place of a doctor recommendation. For more information please visit:

<https://www.veterans.nd.gov/medical-marijuana-nd-veterans#:~:text=ND%20Veterans%20who%20use%20the,place%20of%20a%20doctor's%20recommen dation.>

### **Service Dog Grant for ND Veterans with PTSD**

North Dakota Veterans suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) may now apply for a grant which may provide them with a specially trained Service Dog. The dogs provide the special needs of the Veteran they are to serve whether it is calming anxiety attacks, providing comfort and assurance in public settings or waking a Veteran from a nightmare. To meet the minimum qualifications for a PTSD service dog the Veteran must be a North Dakota resident, have a diagnosis of PTSD, be engaged in counseling or therapy and have a doctor's recommendation for a PTSD Service Dog. All qualified Veterans are urged to apply. For more information please visit:

<https://www.veterans.nd.gov/service-dog-grant-nd-veterans-ptsd>

### **The North Dakota Veterans Home**

The North Dakota Veterans Home, located in Lisbon, North Dakota, consists of 111 basic care and 38 skilled nursing beds. To be eligible for admission, Veterans must be a legal resident of North Dakota for 30 days, have served in a North Dakota regiment, entered the Armed Services as a North Dakota resident, or be a spouse of a Veteran that meets the above criteria. For more information please visit:

<https://www.ndvh.nd.gov/>

### **VA FARMS**

VA FARMS uses agritherapy, an approach that incorporates mental health care and services with agricultural vocational training, to support Veterans' behavioral and mental health needs. ORH partners with a variety of stakeholders, including non-profit organizations, academic organizations and state governments to offer these services to rural Veterans. By providing occupational skills, social connection and clinical care, VA FARMS addresses several of the factors that impact rural Veterans' overall well-being. To learn more about how ORH programs support the health of rural Veterans nationwide visit: <http://www.ruralhealth.va.gov/>

***If you are in crisis, please call 911, go to your nearest Emergency Room, or Dial 988 and Press 1, chat online at [MilitaryCrisisLine.net](https://www.militarycrisisline.net), or send a text to 838255 to receive free, confidential support.***

## **Optical**

### **Eye Glasses Through the VA**

To qualify you be receiving your primary care at the VA, and have your VA primary care provider refer you based on you are unable to actively participate in your health care or have at least a 10% VA service connection and a referral from you VA primary healthcare provider. For more information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/health-care/about-va-health-benefits/vision-care/>.



### **North Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs Hardship Assistance Grant for Optical**

The purpose of this assistance is to provide monies to give aid and comfort to Veterans their spouses. The individual must have an unmet need of eye glasses, must be approved by the Commissioner of Veterans Affairs. Applicants must qualify as Veteran or eligible dependent as defined in NDCC 37-14-01.1. Income and asset level, be a North Dakota resident for one year prior to application date, and present, medical bills showing all work completed, and all payments and credits must be received by the department within 60-90 days of the date of approval. For more information please visit:

<https://www.veterans.nd.gov/hardship-assistance-grant>.

# TRAVEL & FINANCIAL BENEFITS

## **Chase Bank Military Survivor Program**

The goal of the program is to offer debt forgiveness to surviving family members and beneficiaries for the debt of military customers who have been killed in combat action or died in a combat theater of operations since January 1, 2011. If a servicemember was liable for debt, the balances may be waived for most existing Chase mortgages, credit cards, auto loans, student loans and other consumer or business debt. For more information please visit: <https://www.chase.com/digital/military/survivor-program#:~:text=The%20goal%20of%20the%20program,operations%20since%20January%20%2C%202011.>

## **Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC)**

Is a tax-free monetary benefit generally payable to a surviving spouse, child, or parent of Servicemembers who died while on active duty, active duty for training, or inactive duty training or survivors of Veterans who died from their service-connected disabilities. DIC for parents is an income-based benefit. For more information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/disability/dependency-indemnity-compensation/>

## **Disability Compensation**

Disability compensation is a tax-free monetary benefit paid to Veterans with disabilities that are the result of a disease or injury incurred or aggravated during active military service. Compensation may also be paid for post-service disabilities that are considered related or secondary to disabilities occurring in service and for disabilities presumed to be related to circumstances of military service, even though they may arise after service. Generally, the degrees of disability specified are also designed to compensate for considerable loss of working time from exacerbations or illnesses. For more information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/disability/>

## **Disabled American Veteran License Plates**

To be eligible the US Department of Veteran Affairs office must sign a certification letter stating the applicant is 100 percent service-related disabled or attesting eligibility under Public Law 663 of the 79th Congress. There is no annual license fee. Qualified Veterans are eligible for two (excise tax) exempt vehicles licensed with the DAV license plate at a time. Plates may not be displayed on a vehicle with a gross weight equal to or exceeding 26,000 lbs. For more information please visit: <https://www.nd.gov/Veterans/benefits/disabled-american-Veteran-license-plates>

## **Dreams for Veterans**

Dreams for Veterans serves our nation's heroes by giving back to terminally ill Veterans and their families through the fulfillment of a final wish. Final wishes range from basic need items (like a working appliance or mobility scooter) to bedside reunions, final vacations with family, "meet and greets" with personal heroes or reconnecting with aspects of former military service. A dream not only serves the recipient, but also brings comfort and peace to caregivers, loved ones, hospice

professionals, Veteran affairs and service officers, and all those they serve in communities across the nation. For more information please visit: <https://www.dreamfoundation.org/veterans/>.

### **Financial Loan Program**

The purpose of NDAD's Financial Loan Program is to expand personal financing options for North Dakotans with a disability to purchase assistive devices and services. Individuals who may have difficulty obtaining conventional financing may be eligible for financing through this low-interest program, provided in association with Alerus Financial. For more information please visit: <https://ndad.org/services/request/>

**Family Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (FSGLI)** insures spouses and children of Servicemembers with SGLI coverage. Spousal coverage may not exceed the Servicemember's coverage. Dependent children are automatically covered at no charge. Term life insurance coverage is automatically provided to spouses and dependent children of Servicemembers insured under SGLI. For more information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/life-insurance/options-eligibility/fsgli/>

### **Great Plains Foodbank**

North Dakota is home to over 56,000 Veterans, many of whom struggle to provide nutritious food for their families as a result of unemployment, low wages, or service-related disabilities. In an effort to ensure that all qualified Veterans are receiving benefits they deserve, the Great Plains Food Bank has made alleviating hunger among our nation's heroes an integral part of our mission. For more information please visit: <https://www.greatplainsfoodbank.org/>.

### **Loan Programs**

The Veterans Aid Fund is a permanent fund to be used solely for the purpose of making loans to Veterans or their widow/widowers. To qualify, the applicant is required to be a resident of North Dakota for at least one year. The maximum loan amount is \$5,000. The interest rate is 8% per annum. Time limit can be from six months to 48 months. One half of the interest paid will be refunded provided the loan is repaid under the agreed upon terms. For more information please visit: <https://www.nd.gov/Veterans/benefits/loan-programs>

### **Military Operations Adjusted Compensation**

In order to ease the financial hardships and personal and family sacrifice sustained by members of the North Dakota national guard, and North Dakota residents of the reserve, and active duty component who were mobilized after December 5, 1992, in support of military operations around the world it is the intent of the legislative assembly that additional compensation be provided to those resident Veterans of North Dakota and payment of that compensation is declared to be a public purpose. It is the further intent of the legislative assembly to encourage North Dakota resident Veterans to continue service. For more information please visit: <http://www.nd.gov/Veterans/benefits/compensation-and-pension>

### **National Veterans Legal Services Program (NVLSP)**

NVLSP's Lawyers Serving Warriors® program offers pro bono legal help with disability issues to Veterans from all eras. Their current pro bono initiative is to assist Veterans with two types of disability claims -- applications for Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC) and applications to the Physical Disability Board of Review for an increase in the military disability rating. Their attorneys are experts in the law governing military and Veterans' disability benefits, and they use this expertise to train and mentor volunteer lawyers so they are prepared and qualified to handle disability cases. This ensures that every service member and Veteran whom they serve receives top notch legal representation. For more information please visit: <https://www.nvlsp.org/>.

### **North Dakota Coalition for Homeless People**

The mission of the North Dakota Coalition for Homeless People is to lead the effort to end homelessness through coordination, education and advocacy. They strive to ensure that North Dakota safe, decent, and affordable housing that is available to all. For more information please visit: <https://www.ndhomelesscoalition.org/> or call: (701) 428-2481.

### **North Dakota National Guard Emergency Relief Fund (ERF)**

The N.D. National Guard Emergency Relief Fund (ERF) provides financial support in sudden and unforeseen emergency situations, such as natural disasters, accident, illness, fire or theft to the more than 4,300 North Dakota National Guard members and their Families during times of need. For more information please visit: <https://ndngfoundation.org/erf/>

### **Tragedy Assistance Program (TAPS)**

The North Dakota Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (ND-TAPS) supports the national TAPS initiative and provides services to those who have lost a loved one serving in the Armed Forces. The funds are used to cover transportation costs for Families of fallen heroes to travel to Washington, D.C. to participate in the annual National TAPS program. For more information please visit: <https://www.taps.org/>

### **PWTF Hardship Assistance Grant**

The purpose of this assistance is to provide monies to give aid and comfort to Veterans. The individual must have an unmet need of dental and/or denture, optical, hearing, transportation, special needs for medical reasons, housing deposit, other emergency needs approved by the Commissioner of Veterans Affairs. For more information please visit: <https://www.veterans.nd.gov/hardship-assistance-grant>

### **Supportive Services for Veterans Families (SSVF)**

Community Action in working with a grant through the North Dakota Coalition for the Homeless People has funding assistance for North Dakota Veterans who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. To receive supportive services under this program, you must be: a person who served in the military and who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable, not currently serving on active duty in the military, Veteran Family, and Very Low-income. For more information please visit: <https://www.capnd.org/programsandinitiatives/statewideprograms/supportive-services-for-veteran-families/>

### **Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance Traumatic Injury Protection (TSGLI)**

An automatic feature of SGLI that provides payments to Servicemembers who suffer losses, such as amputations, blindness, and paraplegia, due to traumatic injuries that occur in service. All Servicemembers insured by SGLI are automatically covered by TSGLI. For more information please visit: <https://www.nd.gov/Veterans/benefits/life-insurance>

### **Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI)**

A low-cost group term life insurance program for Servicemembers. Coverage can be extended for up to two years if the Servicemember is totally disabled at separation. Coverage is automatic for most active duty Servicemembers, Ready Reserve and National Guard members scheduled to perform at least 12 periods of inactive training per year, members of the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Public Health Service, cadets and midshipmen of the U.S. military academies, and ROTC members. For more information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/life-insurance/options-eligibility/tsgli/>

### **Special Extra Earnings for Military Service**

Under certain circumstances, special extra earnings for your military service from 1957 through 2001 can be credited to your record for Social Security purposes. These extra earnings credits may help you qualify for Social Security or increase the amount of your Social Security benefit. Special extra earnings credits are granted for periods of active duty or active duty for training. Special extra earnings credits are not granted for inactive duty training. For more information please visit: <https://www.ssa.gov/benefits/retirement/planner/military.html>

### **Special Monthly Compensation (SMC)**

Is an additional tax-free benefit that can be paid to Veterans, their spouses, surviving spouses and parents. For Veterans, Special Monthly Compensation is a higher rate of compensation paid due to special circumstances such as the need of aid and attendance by another person or a specific disability, such as loss of use of one hand or leg. For spouses and surviving spouses, this benefit is commonly referred to as aid and attendance and is paid based on the need of aid and attendance by another person. For more information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/disability/compensation-rates/special-monthly-compensation-rates/>

### **The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**

SNAP helps low-income North Dakotans meet their nutritional needs.

The N.D. Department of Human Services issues about \$7 million in food benefits each month to about 27,200 households in the state. Forty-four percent of the program participants are children, and 42 percent of the households have earned income. Benefits are issued on EBT cards and can only be used to buy food products at grocers, farmers markets and other USDA-approved vendors. For more information please visit: <https://www.hhs.nd.gov/applyforhelp/snap>

### **USDA Rural Repair and Rehabilitation Loans and Grants**

The Very Low-Income Housing Repair program provides loans and grants to very low-income homeowners to repair, improve, or modernize their dwellings or to remove health and safety hazards. To obtain a loan, homeowner-occupants must be unable to obtain affordable credit elsewhere and must have very low incomes, defined as below 50 percent of the area median income. They must need to make repairs and improvements to make the dwelling safer and more sanitary or to remove health and safety hazards. Grants are only available to homeowners who are 62 years old or older and cannot repay a Section 504 loan. For Income and Property Eligibility please see our Eligibility Site. Loans of up to \$20,000 and grants of up to \$7,500 are available. Loans are for up to 20 years at 1 percent interest. A real estate mortgage and full title services are required for loans of \$7,500 or more. For more information please visit: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/single-family-housing-programs/single-family-housing-repair-loans-grants/nd>

### **The Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program**

The Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program (Pro Bono Program) was created in 1992, with a dual mission: to provide assistance to unrepresented Veterans or their family members who have filed appeals at the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims (Court); and to recruit and train attorneys in the then fledgling field of Veterans' law. Each appellant who requests Pro Bono Program assistance receives a thorough review of his or her appeal. An appellant whose case is not accepted by the Program receives substantive legal advice about his or her case and an explanation as to why the Pro Bono Program cannot place the appeal with a volunteer attorney. Our mission is to ensure that every Veteran or survivor who has taken an appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veteran Claims, who has a legally credible claim, and who wishes to be represented by counsel, shall have competent representation. For more information please visit: <https://www.vetsprobono.org/>

**Veterans' Group Life Insurance (VGLI)** allows Veterans to convert your SGLI to a civilian program of lifetime renewable term coverage after separation from service. For more information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/life-insurance/options-eligibility/vgli/>

**Veterans' Mortgage Life Insurance (VMLI)** provides mortgage life insurance protection to disabled Veterans who have been approved for a VA Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) grant. VMLI is available to Veterans who received a Specially Adapted Housing Grant (SAH), have title to the home, and have a mortgage on the home. For more information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/life-insurance/options-eligibility/vmli/>

### **VFW Unmet Needs**

Unmet Needs is there to help America's service members who have been deployed in the last six years and have run into unexpected financial difficulties as a result of deployment or other military-related activity. The program provides financial aid of up to \$5,000 to assist with basic life needs in the form of a grant -not a loan- so no repayment is required. To further ease the burden, we pay the creditor directly. For more information please visit: <https://www.vfw.org/assistance/financial-grants>

### **VA Legal Help for Veterans**

Some VA facilities host non-VA legal service providers that can assist Veterans free of charge. Click here to see a list of those legal service clinics. The VA Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO) Specialist at the closest VA Medical Center may be another source of information about the clinics. For more information please visit: <https://www.veterans.nd.gov/legal-assistance>

### **VA Beneficiary Travel (Travel Pay)**

The Beneficiary Travel program provides eligible Veterans and other beneficiaries mileage reimbursement, common carrier (plane, train, bus, taxi, light rail etc.), or when medically indicated, "special mode" (ambulance, wheelchair van) transport for travel to and from VA health care, or VA authorized non-VA health care for which the Veteran is eligible. For more information please visit: <https://www.veterans.nd.gov/benefits-and-services/transportation>

## EDUCATION & TRAINING

**AFCEA Educational Foundation Afghanistan and Iraq War Veterans Scholarship:** Scholarships of \$2,500 are offered to active-duty and honorably discharged U.S. military Veterans and reservists and National Guard personnel of the Enduring Freedom-Afghanistan or Iraqi Freedom Operations. Candidates must be actively pursuing an undergraduate degree in an eligible major at accredited two- or four-year institutions in the United States. Distance-learning or online programs affiliated with a major U.S. institution are eligible. For more information please visit: <https://www.nd.gov/Veterans/benefits/Veteran-scholarships>

### **Allied Van Lines Scholarship**

Annually, 2 recipients will be awarded \$1,000 towards their education. Any servicemen, Veteran, or military dependent majoring in logistics, as well as equivalent majors such as business, business operational management, and other like majors can apply for this scholarship. For more information please visit: <https://www.nd.gov/Veterans/benefits/Veteran-scholarships>

### **American Legion Auxiliary Non-Traditional Student Scholarship**

Intended for adults returning to their studies later in life, this scholarship helps cover the cost of attendance at schools, professional programs, and two- and four-year degree programs. Applicants should be active members of the American Legion, Auxiliary, or Sons of the American Legion. For more information please visit: <https://www.legion-aux.org/Scholarships/Non-Traditional-Student>

### **American Legion Baseball Scholarship**

The American Legion awards between \$22,000 and \$25,000 in scholarships to deserving baseball players each year. Each Department Baseball Committee may select a player from its department to receive this scholarship. The American Legion will award several scholarships each year depending on the number of applicants and interest earned from the trust fund. For more information please visit: <https://www.legion.org/scholarships/baseball>

### **American Legion Legacy Scholarship**

A needs-based scholarship designed to fulfill a financial gap for children of U.S. military members who died while on active duty on or after Sept. 11, 2001 or children of post-9/11 veterans having been assigned a combined disability rating of 50 percent or greater by the Department of Veterans Affairs also qualify. For more information please visit: <https://www.legion.org/scholarships/legacy>

### **AMVETS National Scholarship Program**

The AMVETS National Scholarship Program is available to financially assist Veterans who have exhausted government aid, or who might not otherwise have the financial means to continue their education. For more information please visit: <https://www.nd.gov/Veterans/benefits/Veteran-scholarships>



### **Army Scholarship Foundation**

The Army Scholarship Foundation is a charitable, non-profit organization dedicated to providing college scholarships to deserving children of current and former members of the U.S. Army, and to spouses of currently serving soldiers. For more information please visit:

<https://armyscholarshipfoundation.org/scholarships/>

### **Army Women's Foundation**

The Foundation's Legacy Scholarship program recognizes the importance of education and helping recipients to achieve their educational goals. The Legacy Scholarship program offers financial support to Army women and their lineal descendants in four areas: Technical Certificate programs, Community College coursework, Undergraduate Degrees, and Graduate Degrees. For more information please visit: <https://www.nd.gov/Veterans/benefits/Veteran-scholarships>

### **Apprenticeship Training**

Apprenticeship Training is on-the-job training coupled with theoretical related instruction. You receive your G.I. Bill benefits while working full time and earning wages. Apprenticeship programs are normally from two to five years in length. Some examples of currently approved apprenticeship programs are: Carpenter, Electrician, Brick Layer, Asbestos Worker, Plumber, Iron Worker, Corrections Officer, Machinist, and Maintenance Mechanic. For more information please visit:

<https://www.commerce.nd.gov/workforce/workforce-programs/apprenticeship>

### **ASU Veterans Education Fund**

Through the gifts of anonymous donors, the ASU Veterans Education Fund was established to offer multiple scholarships. The contributors are devoted to the success of Veterans nationally and at Arizona State University. Awards will be based on a student's financial need, level of effort and the potential to complete his or her program of study. For more information please visit:

<https://www.nd.gov/Veterans/benefits/Veteran-scholarships>

### **Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship**

The American Legion Auxiliary sponsors the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship to support the children of our warriors. These scholarships are awarded to 15 students annually who excel in academics and volunteer in their communities. For more information please visit:

<https://www.legion-aux.org/Scholarships/Children-of-Warriors>

### **Dr. Aurelio M. Cacomo Family Foundation Memorial Scholarship**

The Dr. Aurelio M. Cacomo Family Foundation Memorial Scholarship is awarded to Veterans, including members of the National Guard and Reserves, who are seeking new skills in order to be competitive in the job market. For more information please visit: <https://www.amvets.org/cacomo-scholarship>

### **Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship**

The Edith Nourse Rogers Science Technology Engineering Math (STEM) Scholarship allows eligible Veterans using the Post-9/11 GI Bill or dependents using the Fry Scholarship to get added benefits. This scholarship provides up to 9 months (or \$30,000) of benefits for training in high-demand fields. For more information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/education/other-va-education-benefits/stem-scholarship/>

### **Francis P. Matthews and John E. Swift Educational Trust Scholarships**

The award supports candidates with a parent who was killed or permanently disabled by hostile action while serving in the military. Applications must be filed within two years of the date of death or official determination of disability. Recipients must attend a bachelor's program at a Catholic college. For more information please visit: <https://www.kofc.org/en/what-we-do/scholarships/educational-trust-scholarship.html?1tab=1tab0>

### **Freedom Alliance Scholarship Fund**

Students are eligible if they are the dependent child of an active duty service member who was killed or permanently disabled (100%) rating as the result of an operational mission or training accident, or who is currently certified as POW or MIA. See application form and scholarship rules for complete eligibility details. For more information please visit: <https://fascholarship.com/apply/>

### **Fry Scholarship**

The Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship (Fry Scholarship) provides Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to the children and surviving spouses of Service members who died in the line of duty while on active duty after September 10, 2001. Eligible beneficiaries attending school may receive up to 36 months of benefits at the 100% level. For more information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/education/survivor-dependent-benefits/fry-scholarship/>

### **General Henry H. Arnold Education Grant Program**

These \$2,000 grants are awarded to selected sons and daughters of Active Duty, Title 10 AGR/Reserve, Title 32 AGR performing full-time active duty, retired, retired reserve and deceased Air Force members; spouses of active duty members and Title 10 AGR/Reservists; and surviving spouses of deceased personnel for their full-time undergraduate studies. For more information please visit: <https://afas.org/haparnoldgrant/>

### **Heroes' Legacy Scholarships program**

Honors not only those who have fallen in battle, but all who have died or have become disabled through their active military service since September 11, 2001. The program is open to their dependent unmarried children under age 23. For more information please visit: <https://fisherhouse.org/programs/scholarship-programs/heroes-legacy-scholarship/>

### **Jeannette Rankin Women's Scholarship Fund**

Do you know a low-income woman 35 or older working to complete her college degree? Since 1976, Jeannette Rankin Women's Scholarship Fund has helped more than 750 low-income women attend college. In fall 2016, Rankin Fund will award scholarships to 100 women across the U.S. We would like to invite students who meet the requirements below to apply for our scholarship program. A Rankin Fund scholarship applicant must be A woman, A U.S. citizen or permanent resident, Age 35 or older, as of March 18, 2016, Low-income (financial guidelines are available on our website), Enrolled in or accepted to a regionally or ACICS accredited school, Pursuing a vocational education, an associate's degree, or a first bachelor's degree. For more information please visit:

<https://www.veterans.nd.gov/veteran-scholarships>

### **Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation**

Provides scholarships for post-high school education and career training to all qualified deserving sons and daughters of Marines and Navy Corpsmen with particular attention given to children whose parent has been killed or wounded in action and those who have demonstrated financial need. For more information please visit: <https://www.mcsf.org/>

### **MG James Ursano Scholarship Program**

A need-based scholarship program established to assist children of Army Soldiers in obtaining a 4-year undergraduate degree. For more information please visit:

<https://www.armyemergencyrelief.org/scholarships/>

### **Military.com Money for School**

While looking for money for school many servicemembers, Veterans, and their families tend to overlook more than \$300 million of military -- and Veteran -- related scholarships and grants. These scholarships often go unclaimed. Don't let "scholarship mythology" stop you from applying for education money. Learn the truth about using scholarships to help cover your education costs. For more information please visit: <https://www.military.com/education/money-for-school>

### **Military Mortgage Center**

Offer an annual \$2,500 college scholarship to one deserving military student. Semiannual payments of \$1,250 are given during the fall and winter semesters. For more information please visit:

<https://militarymortgagecenter.com/military-scholarships/>

### **Military Nursing Corps**

Military nursing corps members are nurses or nursing students who receive either student loan forgiveness for nurses or scholarships in exchange for a period of military service. You can choose between full-time and part-time options. Participants with a nursing degree receive officer status upon enlistment. For more information please visit: [Army Nurse Corps](#) or [Navy Nurse Corps](#) or [Air Force Nursing](#)

### **Military Spouse Scholarships**

The program is to help prepare military spouses for meaningful employment and to better contribute to their family's financial security. Scholarship funds are for military spouses only (active duty, retiree, Reserve, National Guard, and/or survivor). You must prove you are a military spouse by providing a copy of your marriage certificate and other applicable documents. For more information please visit: <https://youtu.be/3UvK6ElzXco>

### **National Call to Service**

The National Call to Service military financial aid program is an alternative to the MGIB that is open for veterans who served specific, unbroken lengths of service in a military occupational specialty. It provides a choice of veteran financial aid awards, including a cash bonus or assistance with education. This is the only VA financial aid for veterans program that offers an alternative to educational support. For more information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/education/other-va-education-benefits/national-call-to-service-program/>

### **North American Van Lines Scholarship**

Any serviceman, Veteran, or military dependent majoring in logistics, business, or management can apply for this scholarship. This scholarship will award 2 students with \$1,000 to the school of their choice. For more information please visit: <https://www.veterans.nd.gov/veteran-scholarships>

### **Pat Tillman Foundation**

The Pat Tillman Foundation offers merit-based scholarships to help service members, veterans, and military spouses begin careers in the public and private sectors. Applicants should be full-time undergraduate or graduate students. For more information please visit: <https://pattillmanfoundation.org/tillman-scholars-military-scholarships/>

### **Mrs. Patty Shinseki Spouse Scholarship Program**

Spouses pursuing an undergraduate degree or professional certification may receive assistance for up to four academic years of full-time study or eight academic years of part-time study. For more information please visit: <https://www.armyemergencyrelief.org/scholarships/spouse/>

### **Post-9/11 GI Bill**

The Post-9/11 GI Bill offers financial aid for military members who served on active duty on or before September 11, 2001 (9/11) and for their children. Recipients are eligible for up to 48 months of financial aid, but the VA notes that, "many applicants are eligible for only 36 months." For more information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/education/>

### **ROTC Nursing Programs**

The Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) provides students with military financial aid for college in exchange for a commitment to enlist as an officer in the Army, Navy, or Air Force upon graduation.

During college, students take military science classes and their regular classes. Students receive funding for tuition, room and board, and additional costs like textbooks. For students planning on a military career, this can be an efficient way to earn a degree and enter the military as an officer, while receiving valuable leadership training. For more information please visit: [Army ROTC Nursing](#) or [Navy ROTC Nursing](#)

### **Samsung American Legion Scholarship**

Worldwide electronics leader Samsung endowed a scholarship fund of \$5 million to be administered by The American Legion in 1996. Meant to show appreciation for U.S. veterans who came to Korea's aid during its struggle against communist forces in the Korean War, the Samsung American Legion Scholarship Program established a series of scholarships derived from interest and other income from the principal amount. For more information please visit: <https://www.legion.org/scholarships/samsung>

### **Spirit of Youth Scholarship Fund**

The Spirit of Youth Scholarship Fund is an umbrella that supports three separate scholarship opportunities for participants in American Legion Auxiliary programs. One is for American Legion Auxiliary Junior members; another is for the Honorary National Junior President; and one is for participants in the American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation program. For more information please visit: <https://www.legion-aux.org/scholarships/spirit-of-youth>

### **Survivors' and Dependents' Education Assistance**

The Survivors' and Dependents' Education Assistance (DEA) program, also known as Chapter 35, offers financial aid for military families of veterans who were killed, captured, or disabled, or who are missing in the line of duty. For more information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/education/survivor-dependent-benefits/dependents-education-assistance/>

### **Tailhook Educational Foundation Scholarship**

This Navy nursing scholarship supports the children and grandchildren of Naval aviators, Naval flight officers, air crewmen, or any veterans who served on a U.S. Navy aircraft carrier. Applicants should be high school graduates preparing to enroll in an undergraduate program. For more information please visit: <https://www.tailhook.net/scholarship-application>

### **ThanksUSA Scholarship**

For dependent children, age 24 and under of U.S. military service personnel, or be spouses of U.S. military service personnel, and be current high school seniors or graduates who plan to enroll or students who are already enrolled in a fulltime undergraduate course of study at an accredited two- or four-year college or university or vocational-technical school. For more information please visit: <https://www.thanksusa.org/scholarships.html>

### **The Purple Heart Scholarship**

The Purple Heart Scholarship is available to the recipient of a Purple Heart; a direct descendant of a member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart or of a Veteran killed in action or who died of

wounds; or a spouse or widow(er) of a recipient of the Purple Heart. For more information please visit: <https://www.veterans.nd.gov/veteran-scholarships>

### **The Retired Enlisted Association's (TREA) National Scholarship program**

TREA members are proud to be able to offer these scholarships to high school students with a parent, grandparent or great-grandparent who is or was a member in good standing (deceased or otherwise). Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance (DEA) offers education and training benefits to the spouses and children of Veterans who are permanently and totally disabled due to a service-related condition, Veterans who died while on active duty, or who died as a result of a service-related condition. Children must generally use benefits between the ages of 18 and 26; and spouses generally have a 10 year period in which to use benefits, or a 20 year period for spouses of Service members who die on active duty or Veterans that receive a permanent and total rating effective within 3 years of release from active duty. Benefits may be used for degree and certificate programs, apprenticeships, and/or on-the-job training. For more information please visit: <https://www.trea.org/>

### **TonaLaw Veterans Scholarship**

Sponsored by a New York law office, this scholarship offers funding for Armed Forces veterans. For more information please visit: <https://tonalaw.com/scholarship/>

### **US Army Soldier for Life**

The Soldier for Life (SFL) Program improves Soldier, Family and Army readiness by developing a broad network of resources to support every Soldier, Veteran and Family member through all phases of their service. Soldier for Life networks with the community at large to shape education, employment, and health policies, programs and/or services on behalf of our Soldiers, Army Veterans and their Families. For more information please visit: <https://soldierforlife.army.mil/Education-Toolkit/The-Basics>

### **Veterans of Foreign Wars**

The VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship" provides service members and veterans with the financial assistance they need to complete their educational goals without incurring excessive student loan debt. It's just another way for us to say "thank you" to those who fought for our freedoms. For more information please visit: <https://www.vfw.org/assistance/student-veterans-support>

### **Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E)**

Veteran Readiness and Employment (formerly called Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment) Explore VR&E helps you explore employment options and address education or training needs. In some cases, your family members may also qualify for certain benefits. For more information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/careers-employment/vocational-rehabilitation/>

### **VA education and training benefits**

VA education benefits help Veterans, service members, and their qualified family members with needs like paying college tuition, finding the right school or training program, and getting career counseling. For more information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/education/>

### **Yellow Ribbon Program**

The Yellow Ribbon Program can help you pay for higher out-of-state, private school, foreign school, or graduate school tuition and fees that the Post-9/11 GI Bill doesn't cover. For more information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/post-9-11/yellow-ribbon-program/>

# EMPLOYMENT

## **Employment Assistance Guide for Homeless Veterans**

This guide lists many resources for homeless Veterans searching for employment. Homeless Veterans have the same legal rights as all Veterans to employment assistance, preferences in federal hiring practices, and eligibility for Departments of Veterans Affairs and Labor employment programs. However, homelessness presents unique challenges and potential obstacles. For more information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/HVCES.asp>

## **Feds Hire Vets**

Feds Hire Vets is a website for Federal employment information for Veterans, transitioning military service members, their families, and Federal hiring officials. For more information please visit: <https://www.fedshirevets.gov/>

## **G.I. Jobs**

Our mission is to simplify the military transition experience using education and employment tools and resources to guide you to a successful career. For more information please visit: <https://www.nd.gov/Veterans/benefits/job-seeking-resources>

## **Homeless Veteran Supported Employment Program (HVSEP)**

Provides vocational assistance, job development and placement, and ongoing support to improve employment outcomes among homeless Veterans and Veterans at-risk of homelessness. Formerly homeless Veterans who have been trained as Vocational Rehabilitation Specialists (VRSs) provide these services. For more information please visit: <https://www.nd.gov/Veterans/benefits/job-seeking-resources>

## **Job Service North Dakota**

Job Service North Dakota has a Veterans' Employment Team that exclusively serves Veterans. The Veterans' Employment Team provides individualized services to help Veterans overcome employment barriers and develop a plan for employment. The Team is here to help put military skills and experience into understandable civilian terms, guide Veterans in their job search and develop an employment plan specifically for their needs, provide up-to-date labor market information, provide guidance for career and educational choices, offer assistance and advice on developing an effective resume, and practical advice on taking the "stress" out of a job interview. For more information please visit: <https://www.jobsnd.com/job-seeker/veterans/services-veterans>

## **Local Veterans Employment Representative Program (LVER)**

Local Veterans Employment Representatives (LVER) conduct outreach to employers and engage in advocacy efforts with hiring executives to increase employment opportunities for Veterans and



encourage the hiring of Veterans. For more information please visit:

<https://veteranjobs.stripes.com/resources/vet-reps/help.asp>

### **O\*NET**

The O\*NET program is the nation's primary source of occupational information. Central to the project is the O\*NET database, containing information on hundreds of standardized and occupation-specific descriptors. The database, which is available to the public at no cost, is continually updated by surveying a broad range of workers from each occupation. Information from this database forms the heart of O\*NET OnLine, an interactive application for exploring and searching occupations. The database also provides the basis for our Career Exploration Tools, a set of valuable assessment instruments for workers and students looking to find or change careers. For more information please visit: <https://www.mynextmove.org/vets/>

### **Quentin Burdick Job Corps Center**

Full-time position available for a Security Officer in Minot, ND. One year of experience in military/industrial security or fire prevention is required. View the job posting here. For more information please visit: <https://www.nd.gov/Veterans/benefits/job-announcements>

### **Sanford Health Supports Veterans**

At Sanford Health, we have the utmost respect for our military members and want to be there for our heroes. We are dedicated to providing them with not only exceptional care but with the employment opportunities they deserve to support their families. We recently announced a new industry-leading benefit for members of the Guard and Reserve. To show our support and ease financial burdens for our mobilized military members and their families, Sanford invests in employed service men and women by providing differential pay to supplement employees' compensation during qualified military deployments for up to 12 months. It is our honor to be the provider and employer of choice for our nation's Veterans. Please visit our Sanford Health Veteran career site for opportunities in your area at: <https://sanfordhealth-Veterans.jobs/>

### **Stars and Stripes Veteran Job Center**

A dedicated job center that features employers who seek former military members. VETS serves America's Veterans and separating service members by preparing them for meaningful careers, providing employment resources and expertise, and protecting their employment rights. For more information please visit: <https://www.nd.gov/Veterans/benefits/job-seeking-resources>

### **U.S. Department of Labor My Next Move for Veterans**

My Next Move for Veterans is designed for U.S. Veterans who are current job seekers. The interactive tool helps vets learn about their career options. The site has tasks, skills, salary information, job listings, and more for over 900 different careers. Veterans can find careers through keyword search; by browsing industries that employ different types of workers; or by discovering civilian careers that are similar to their job in the military. Veterans can also take advantage of the O\*NET Interest Profiler, a

tool that offers personalized career suggestions based on a person's interests and level of work experience. For more information please visit:

<https://www.nd.gov/Veterans/benefits/job-seeking-resources>

### **Veterans Administration Career and Employment Assistance**

We offer the help you need to build your career and find the opportunities that are right for you. For more information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/careers-employment/>

### **Veterans Business Outreach Center of the Dakotas**

A one-stop-shop for service members, veterans, and military spouses looking to start, purchase, or grow a business. Located nationwide, VBOCs provide training workshops, including Boots to Business and Boots to Business Reboot programs, as well as business development assistance such as training, advising and mentoring, and resource referrals. For more information please visit:

<https://und.edu/dakotasvboc/>

### **Veterans' Employment and Training Service**

Our Vision is to enable all veterans, service members, and military spouses to reach their full potential in the workplace. For more information please visit: <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/vets>

### **Veterans Preference**

Veterans who are disabled, who served on active duty in the Armed Forces during certain specified time periods or in military campaigns are entitled to preference over others in hiring for virtually all federal government jobs. For more information please visit:

<https://www.nd.gov/Veterans/benefits/Veterans-preference-federal>

### **Veteran and Military Transition Center**

Veteran and Military Transition Center is a one-stop website for employment, training, and financial help after military service. For more information please visit: <https://www.careeronestop.org/veterans/>

### **Veteran Readiness and Employment**

We help Service members and Veterans get personalized counseling and support to guide their career paths. For more information please visit: <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/learn/employment>

### **Veteran Recruiting**

The website Veteranrecruiting.com holds Virtual Career Fairs throughout the year, where Veterans and military spouses can meet online with dozens of Veteran-friendly employers. You can check the calendar for the next Career Fair by clicking here. Be sure to sign up and register ahead of time. For more information please visit: <https://veteranrecruiting.com/>

# FAMILY SUPPORT

## **ChildCare Aware® of America**

The nation's leading voice for child care. They work with state and local Child Care Resource and Referral agencies (CCR&Rs) and other community partners to ensure that all families have access to quality, affordable child care. To achieve their mission, they lead projects that increase the quality and availability of child care, offer comprehensive training to child care professionals, undertake research, and advocate for child care policies that improve the lives of children and families. For more information please visit: <https://www.childcareaware.org/fee-assistancerespite/military-families/>

## **ChildCare Aware of North Dakota**

Provides localized resources for parents and providers. For more information please visit: <https://ndchildcare.org/>

## **Child Care Assistance Program**

The N.D. Child Care Assistance Program helps income-eligible families pay for childcare while they work or attend school or training. For more information please visit: <https://www.hhs.nd.gov/applyforhelp/ccap>

## **Elizabeth Dole Foundation – Military and Veteran Caregivers**

The Foundation's programs provide military and veteran caregivers the support they need at the local, state, and national levels. These programs engage individuals, organizations, and communities. For more information please visit: <https://www.elizabethdolefoundation.org/our-programs/>

## **Family Caregiver Alliance**

A public voice for caregivers, illuminating the daily challenges they face, offering them the assistance they so desperately need and deserve, and championing their cause through education, services, research and advocacy. For more information please visit: <http://www.caregiver.org/caregiver/jsp/home.jsp>

## **Hidden Helpers**

Generations of children and youth have witnessed first-hand the physical and emotional effects of war. In their childhood and adolescence, they have experienced more stress, anxiety, responsibility, and complex feelings than most of us will in our lifetimes. And while these hidden helpers are proud to be a part of their family and of their loved one's service, the load they carry is heavier than they should have to bear. Join our efforts to uplift the voices of military caregiver kids, better understand the unique challenges they face, and enhance the support services available to them. For more information please visit: <https://hiddenheroes.org/resources/hiddenhelpers/>

## **Military OneSource**

Military OneSource is a free 24/7/365 information and referral service available via toll-free telephone and Internet access to Active Duty, Reserve and Guard (regardless of activation status) and their

immediate family members. The Military OneSource program improves the quality of life of military families and the overall effectiveness of the military community. For more information please visit: <https://www.ndguard.nd.gov/service-member-family-support-0/military-onesource> or Call (1-800-342-9647).

### **North Dakota National Guard (NDNG) Child & Youth Program**

The mission of North Dakota National Guard (NDNG) Child & Youth Program (CYP) is to promote and sustain the quality of life and resilience of Army National Guard dependent children and youth by providing secure, timely, flexible, high-quality support services and enrichment programs. For more information please visit: <https://www.ndguard.nd.gov/service-member-family-support-0/child-youth-program>

### **NDNG Family Support**

NDNG Family Support establishes and facilitates ongoing communication, involvement, support, and recognition between National Guard Families and the National Guard in a partnership that promotes the best in both. To contact NDNG family support in your area visit:

<http://www.ndguard.ngb.army.mil/family/Pages/default.aspx>

### **Our Military Kids**

Our Military Kids provides tangible support to the children of deployed and severely injured National Guard and Military Reserve personnel through grants for sports, fine arts and tutoring that nurture and sustain the children during the time a parent is away in service to our country. For more information please visit: <https://www.nd.gov/Veterans/benefits/our-military-kids>

### **Project New Hope**

Project New Hope exists to provide Veteran family retreats. Including the whole family (even the kids!) is unique to Project New Hope and fosters family togetherness through a wilderness getaway. It is our goal to provide combat Veterans and their families with the education, training, and skills necessary to manage their lives after wartime service; repair of relationships is a primary goal. And of course, have fun in the process! There is no cost to the families on the retreat. For more information please visit:

<https://www.nd.gov/Veterans/benefits/project-new-hope>

### **Respite Relief for Military and Veteran Caregivers**

The Respite Relief for Military and Veteran Caregivers offers family caregivers of veterans or service members access to free, short-term relief with the help of in-home care professionals. For more information please visit: <https://hiddenheroes.org/find-help/respite/>

### **Service Member and Family Support Center (SMFSC)**

Service Member and Family Support Center (SMFSC) are operated regionally throughout North Dakota. They are here to provide support and assistance to Service Members and their Families by offering information about military, federal, state, and local resources. Soldier & Family Readiness is a key factor in the unit readiness. We provide proactive education, assistance and support to Soldier &

Family Readiness Groups (SFRG). For more information please visit:

<https://www.ndguard.nd.gov/service-member-family-support-0/service-member-and-family-support-center-smfsc>

### **Survivor Outreach Services**

Mission is to build a unified program which embraces and reassures Survivors that they are continually linked to the Army Family for as long as they desire. Survivor Outreach Services (SOS) connects you with people and services that can help you throughout the grieving process. For more information please visit: <https://www.ndguard.nd.gov/service-member-family-support-0/survivor-outreach-services>

### **VA Caregiver Support Program**

The Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) Caregiver Support Program (CSP) offers clinical services to caregivers of eligible and covered Veterans enrolled in the VA health care system. The program's mission is to promote the health and well-being of family caregivers who care for our Nation's Veterans, through education, resources, support, and services. There is a CSP team CSP Team Locator located at every VA facilities. For more information please visit: <https://www.caregiver.va.gov/>

### **VA Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC)**

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC) offers enhanced clinical support for Family Caregivers of eligible Veterans. For more information please visit: [https://www.caregiver.va.gov/support/support\\_benefits.asp](https://www.caregiver.va.gov/support/support_benefits.asp)

### **VA Program of General Caregiver Support Services**

The Program of General Caregiver Support Services (PGCSS) is one of two programs within the Caregiver Support Program. PGCSS provides peer support mentoring, skills training, coaching, telephone support, online programs, and referrals to available resources to caregivers of Veterans. For more information please visit: [https://www.caregiver.va.gov/Care\\_Caregivers.asp](https://www.caregiver.va.gov/Care_Caregivers.asp)

### **Veteran Caregiver.com**

VeteranCaregiver.com Is a safe place to air questions and frustrations on and offline, but they also provide individualized assistance when you've hit the wall. As a veteran or a caregiver of a veteran, your life may be significantly altered by injury, illness, or aging. If you're feeling isolated or alone, want/need people around you who "get it", and you'd benefit from networking with peers and professionals, community health and recovery resources, you've come to the only site of its kind. Veteran Caregiver is here to fill the need for acknowledgement, mentoring as only peers can do, and to provide accessible support from others who share or can address your challenges. For more information please visit: <http://veterancaregiver.com/>

### **Veteran and Military Transition Center**

Employment, education, and relocation resources just for military spouses. For more information please visit: <https://www.careeronestop.org/Veterans/BenefitsAndAssistance/for-military-spouses.aspx>

**Wounded Veteran Family Care Program**

For those families who provide a substantial amount of care for a catastrophically wounded, injured, or ill Veteran at home. For more information please visit: <https://woundedveteranfamilycare.org/>

# HOUSING

## **Community Facilities Programs**

Community Facilities Programs provide loans, loan guarantees and grants for essential community facilities including homeless shelters and other facilities serving rural Veterans. Funding is available to public entities such as municipalities, counties, and special-purpose districts, as well as to non-profit corporations and tribal governments in rural areas and towns of up to 20,000 in population. For more information please visit: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities>

## **Community Action of North Dakota**

The Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program was started in 2008 and has grown to cover the majority of the United States, starting in North Dakota in 2012. The goal of SSVF is promoting housing stability among very low-income veteran families who reside in or are transitioning to permanent housing. SSVF supports a Housing First approach by helping the veteran family meet its primary need of housing, while addressing barriers to housing stability. For more information please visit:

<https://www.capnd.org/programsandinitiatives/statewideprograms/supportive-services-for-veteran-families/>

## **Fisher House Foundation**

Best known for the network of comfort homes built on the grounds of major military and VA medical centers nationwide and in Europe. Fisher Houses are beautiful homes, donated to the military and Department of Veterans Affairs. These homes enable family members to be close to a loved one at the most stressful time - during the hospitalization for a combat injury, illness or disease. For more information please visit: <http://www.fisherhouse.org/>

## **Habitat for Humanity**

Lake Agassiz Habitat for Humanity (LAHFH) is a locally run affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, a non-profit Christian organization with the goal of eliminating poverty housing and homelessness. Habitat for Humanity provides a unique opportunity for hardworking families to build and buy their own homes. Our homes are sold at no profit to our homeowner families, with a 0% interest mortgage. The mortgage lengths vary depending on the family income. Habitat for Humanity homeowner mortgage payments are put into a revolving fund that helps pay for construction of future homes in Cass and Clay counties. For more information please visit:

<https://www.lakeagassizhabitat.org/>

## **Homes 4 Wounded Heroes**

Military Warriors Support Foundation awards mortgage-free homes to wounded heroes injured during combat in Iraq and Afghanistan. The homes are for families who have severe and/or unique circumstances due to their injuries received while serving our country. In addition to the home, the

families will receive 3 years of family and financial mentoring. For more information please visit:

<https://militarywarriors.org/main-programs/h4wh>

### **Housing Grants for Disabled Veterans**

VA provides grants to Servicemembers and Veterans with certain permanent and total service-connected disabilities to help purchase or construct an adapted home, or modify an existing home to accommodate a disability. Two grant programs exist: the [Specially Adapted Housing \(SAH\) grant](#) and the [Special Housing Adaptation \(SHA\) grant](#).

### **HUD-VA Supportive Housing (VASH) Program**

VASH is a joint effort between the Department of Housing and Urban Development and VA. HUD allocated nearly 38,000 "Housing Choice" Section 8 vouchers across the country. These vouchers allow Veterans and their families to live in market rate rental units while VA provides case management services. A housing subsidy is paid to the landlord on behalf of the participating Veteran. The Veteran then pays the difference between the actual rent charged by the landlord and the amount subsidized by the program. For more information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/homeless/hud-vash.asp>

### **Missouri Valley Coalition**

The Missouri Valley Coalition for Homeless People, Inc. is a regional nonprofit dedicated to helping ensure that housing and other basic human needs are within everyone's reach in an affordable and dignified manner. The coalition exists to advocate, coordinate and optimize services for people experiencing homelessness, or at risk of homelessness, across North Dakota's Missouri Valley including the counties of Burleigh, Emmons, Grant, Kidder, McLean, Mercer, Morton, Oliver, Sheridan and Sioux. For more information please visit: <https://mvchp.com/resources/#veteran-resources>

### **Native American Direct Loan**

If you're a Veteran, and either you or your spouse is Native American, our Native American Direct Loan (NADL) program may help you get a loan to buy, build, or improve a home on federal trust land. You may also get a loan to refinance an existing NADL and reduce your interest rate. For more information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/housing-assistance/home-loans/loan-types/native-american-direct-loan/>

### **ND Coalition for Homeless People**

The North Dakota Coalition for Homeless People is a dynamic organization of service providers, joined together to work on the concerns of homelessness in our state. The Coalition believes that housing and other basic human needs should be within everyone's reach in an affordable and dignified manner. Our vision is to be a statewide team of agencies collaborating to end homelessness. Accomplishing this vision requires assistance from every community in the state. Regional Homeless Coalitions provide resources within communities to help accomplish this vision. For more information please visit: <https://www.ndhomelesscoalition.org/>



### **ND Veterans Home**

The North Dakota Veterans Home, located in Lisbon, North Dakota, consists of 111 basic care and 38 skilled nursing beds. To be eligible for admission, Veterans must be a legal resident of North Dakota for 30 days, have served in a North Dakota regiment, entered the Armed Services as a North Dakota resident, or be a spouse of an eligible Veteran. For more information please visit:

<https://www.ndvh.nd.gov/>

### **Operation Finally Home**

Operation FINALLY HOME is a national, non-profit organization with a unique network of experienced builders, suppliers, and supporters dedicated to building homes for wounded, ill or injured Veterans, surviving spouses and their families. We bring together home builders, the military and communities to build custom mortgage-free homes for America's military heroes and the widows of the fallen, those who have worn America's uniform and sacrificed so much to defend our freedoms and values, providing a strong foundation to help them move forward with their lives. It is our honor to unite all of those who respect and value the sacrifice of America's Veterans and their families. For more information please visit: <https://www.operationfinallyhome.org/veterans>

### **Rebuilding Together Fargo-Moorhead Area**

Our mission is to bring volunteers and communities together to improve the homes and lives of homeowners in need. We do this by offering home repair and renovation services, free of charge, to low-income families with an emphasis on helping the elderly, people with disabilities and Veterans. For more information please visit: <https://www.rebuildingtogetherfma.org/>

### **Stand Downs Events**

Stand Downs are one part of the Department of Veterans Affairs' efforts to provide services to homeless Veterans. Stand Downs are typically one to three-day events providing services to homeless Veterans such as food, shelter, clothing, health screenings, VA and Social Security benefits counseling, and referrals to a variety of other necessary services, such as housing, employment and substance abuse treatment. For more information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/homeless/events.asp>

### **USDA Single Family Housing Direct Home Loans in North Dakota**

Loans are available to help low- to moderate- income individuals or households purchase homes in rural areas. Funds can be used to build, repair, renovate or relocate a home. This financing can be accessed through an approved lender or directly from USDA, depending upon income. For more information please visit: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/single-family-housing-programs/single-family-housing-direct-home-loans/nd>

### **USDA Single Family Housing Repair Loans & Grants in North Dakota**

Also known as the Section 504 Home Repair program, this provides loans to very-low-income homeowners to repair, improve or modernize their homes or grants to elderly very-low-income homeowners to remove health and safety hazards. For more information please visit: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/single-family-housing-programs/single-family-housing-repair-loans-grants/nd>

### **VA's Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) Program**

HCHV offers outreach, exams, treatment, referrals, and case management to Veterans who are homeless and dealing with mental health issues, including substance use. At more than 135 HCHV sites, trained, caring VA specialists provide tools and support necessary for Veterans to get their lives on a better track. For more information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/homeless/hchv.asp>

### **VA Homeless Programs**

Veterans who are homeless or at risk of homelessness—and their family members, friends and supporters—can make the call to or chat online with the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans, where trained counselors are ready to talk confidentially 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Call to 1-877-4AID VET (877-424-3838) or [Chat Online](#)

### **VFW Unmet Needs**

As the nation's largest organization of combat Veterans, we understand the challenges Veterans, service members and military families can face and believe that experiencing financial difficulties should not be one of them. Unmet Needs is there to help America's service members who have been deployed in the last six years and have run into unexpected financial difficulties as a result of deployment or other military-related activity. The program provides financial aid of up to \$5,000 to assist with basic life needs in the form of a grant -not a loan- so no repayment is required. To further ease the burden, we pay the creditor directly. For more information please visit: <https://www.vfw.org/assistance/financial-grants>

# BURIAL & MEMORIAL

## Authorized Partnership Provider Program

The Authorized Partnership Provider Program (AP3) provides an opportunity for the North Dakota Army National Guard to maintain partnerships and compensate Veteran Service Organizations who augment the uniform members of a Military Funeral Honors detail for the Army, Army Reserve, Army National Guard and Army Air Corp/Army Air Force funerals. For more information please visit:

<https://www.militaryonesource.mil/leaders-service-providers/sp-l-casualty-assistance/authorized-provider-partnership-program/>

## National Cemeteries in North Dakota

### [All Nations Veterans Cemetery](#)

Bldg. 1 N. Standing Rock Ave  
Ft. Yates, ND 58538  
(701) 854-8527

### [Fargo National Cemetery](#)

8709 40th Ave. N,  
County Road 20  
Harwood, ND 58042  
(701-451-4650)

### [North Dakota Veterans Cemetery](#)

1825 46th Street  
Mandan, ND 58554  
(701) 667-1418

## ND Commemorative Memorial Coin

As per ND Century Code 37-18-15 the North Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs is to "confer a commemorative memorial coin upon a family member of a deceased North Dakota Veteran during military funeral honors". The single coin conferred upon a family member will be at no cost to the family. For more information please visit:

<https://www.veterans.nd.gov/nd-commemorative-memorial-coin>

## VA Unclaimed Veteran Remains Casket or Urn Reimbursement Program

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will reimburse for the purchase of a casket or urn used to inter a deceased, Unclaimed Veteran in a VA national cemetery or a VA-funded State or Tribal Veterans' cemetery if the Veteran died with no identifiable next of kin and insufficient resources to pay for a casket or urn. For more information please visit:

[https://www.cem.va.gov/facts/Unclaimed\\_Veteran\\_Remains.asp#:~:text=%E2%87%92%20VA%20will%20reimburse%20the.and%20%24106%20for%20an%20urn.](https://www.cem.va.gov/facts/Unclaimed_Veteran_Remains.asp#:~:text=%E2%87%92%20VA%20will%20reimburse%20the.and%20%24106%20for%20an%20urn.)

## APPRECIATION & OUTREACH

### **Coaching Into Care**

Coaching Into Care is a national telephone-based support service for family members and others who want to help reluctant Veterans access their VA health care benefits, particularly for mental health issues. Coaching Into Care is another “door” to VA care. They provide support and problem-solving assistance for family members and others concerned about a Veteran, coaching with family members about how to talk to Veterans about seeking VA care, referrals for care for Veterans and family members, and information about available programs or enrolling in VA Care. For more information please visit: <https://www.mirecc.va.gov/coaching/>

### **DoD Safe Helpline**

The DoD Safe Helpline is administered by the Department of Defense (DoD) pursuant to a contract with RAINN. Please note that Safe Helpline is intended for adult Service members in the Active Duty, National Guard, and Reserve Component consistent with DoD Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Policy as well as Coast Guard and Transitioning Service members. For additional assistance please call 877-995-5247. All others should contact the National Sexual Assault Hotline at 1-800-656-HOPE (4673) to be connected to your nearest sexual assault service provider.

### **DCoE Outreach Center**

The Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE) runs a resource center that provides information and resources about psychological health (PH), post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and traumatic brain injury (TBI). The center can be contacted 24/7 by phone at 866-966-1020, by e-mail at [resources@dcoeoutreach.org](mailto:resources@dcoeoutreach.org).

### **Military OneSource**

Military OneSource is a free service provided by the Department of Defense to Service Members and their families to help with a broad range of concerns. It offers two types of short-term, non-medical counseling services to all active-duty, Reserve, and National Guard members and their families: face-to-face counseling and telephonic consultations. You can access counseling services by contacting a Military OneSource consultant to determine which type would be best for you and your situation. Call and talk anytime, 24/7 at 1-800-342-9647.

### **Military Warriors Support Foundation**

Military Warriors Support Foundation's mission is to provide support for our nation's combat wounded heroes and Gold Star Families as they transition out of the military and into their new civilian life. This is a very fragile time for these heroes, and their families, and it is their goal to provide programs that facilitate a smooth and successful transition. Their programs include home donation, academic and employment assistance, as well as recreational activities. For more information please visit: <https://militarywarriors.org/>

### **Make the Connection**

Make the Connection is a public awareness campaign by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) that provides personal testimonials and resources to help Veterans discover ways to improve their lives. Many of our Nation's Veterans—from those who served in World War II to those involved in current conflicts—return not only with physical wounds but also mental health issues they may not recognize. Powerful personal stories and testimonials are at the heart of Make the Connection, illustrating how Veterans face and overcome mental health issues and challenges. These stories and testimonials come from Veterans of all service eras, genders, and backgrounds and each of them provides a resounding and compelling example of the positive outcomes for treatment, recovery, and many paths to more fulfilling lives. For more information, please visit: <https://maketheconnection.net/>

### **North Dakota Honor Flight**

Veterans Honor Flight of ND/MN is a non-profit organization created solely to honor America's Veterans for all their sacrifices. Top priority is given to the senior Veterans - World War II and Korean War Veterans - along with other Veterans who may be terminally ill. Flights occur in the spring and fall of each year pending fundraising. For more information please visit:

<https://www.Veteranshonorflightofndmn.org/>

### **ND Cares**

The North Dakota Cares (ND Cares) Coalition includes a broad spectrum of more than 45 military and civilian professionals dedicated to the support of North Dakota Service Members, Veterans, Families, and Survivors (SMVFS). Members share a common interest in strengthening an accessible network of support across the state, even though each entity retains authority over its own programs and services. The purpose of the ND Cares coalition is to resolve barriers or gaps in services to ensure those serving and those who have served, their families, and survivors receive the care and assistance they need. For more information please visit: <https://www.ndcares.nd.gov/>

### **ND Driver's License-Veteran Indicator**

Veterans can request to have an indicator on their North Dakota driver license to show that they are a Veteran of the US military services. For more information please visit:

<https://www.dot.nd.gov/divisions/driverslicense/veteranindicator.htm>

### **ND Game and Fish-Discounts**

A resident disabled Veteran can get a combined general game, habitat stamp, small game, and fur-bearer license for \$3.00, with an additional \$1.00 fee to purchase the resident certificate. Veterans must have a 100% service-connected disability or have an extra-schedular rating to bring the total ratio to 100%. There is a \$5.00 (plus a \$1.00 fee to purchase the certificate) for a resident fishing license if a resident disabled Veteran has a fifty percent service-connected disability as determined by the Department of Veterans' Affairs or has an extra-schedular rating to include individual unemployability that brings the Veteran's total disability ratio to fifty percent. For more information please visit: <https://www.veterans.nd.gov/free-and-discounted-services-0>

### **ND State Park Fees**

Disabled Veterans and Prisoners of War (POW): ND veterans with a 50 percent or greater service-related disability and former POWs are eligible for a free annual lifetime pass. All other ND veterans with service-related disabilities may purchase an annual permit for \$28. Requires a current Summary of Benefits Letter issued by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs for proof of disability. Acceptable proof of POW includes DD214 or, if civilian, official written proof from the National Archives Database attesting to former POW status. Contact [parkrec@nd.gov](mailto:parkrec@nd.gov) for more information.

### **Quilts of Valor**

The mission of the Quilts of Valor Foundation is to cover service members and Veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor (QOV). For more information please visit:

<https://www.qovf.org/>

### **Silver Star Families**

Silver Star Families of America (SSFOA) is dedicated to supporting and assisting wounded, ill, injured and dying active duty and Veterans and their families of ALL Branches of Service from ALL Wars. Their goal is to recognize the blood sacrifice of wounded and those with injuries and illnesses originating in a warzone and remember their efforts by honoring them with the Silver Star Service Banner.

Qualifications include: Purple Heart recipients, victims of friendly fire, those who suffer from PTSD, Agent Orange effects and Gulf War syndrome. For more information please visit:

<http://www.silverstarfamilies.org/>

### **Soldiers' Angels**

Soldiers' Angels is a volunteer-led 501(c)(3) non-profit organization providing aid and comfort to the men and women of the United States Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, and their families. Founded by the mother of two American soldiers, we are an international, volunteer-led organization supporting America's men and women in uniform. With over 30 different teams and projects, our nearly 200,000 volunteers assist Veterans, wounded and deployed personnel and their families in a variety of unique and effective ways. For more information please visit: <https://soldiersangels.org/>

### **TAPS Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors**

TAPS offers a wonderful network of trained professionals who are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We understand that grief doesn't follow a normal 'business day' schedule and we will answer your call anytime for help or information and spend as much time as necessary to help you. Whether during the day or at night, when grief can make for sleepless nights, you can call us at 1-800-959-8277. We are here for you! For more information please visit: <https://www.taps.org/join>

### **The North Dakota Military Outreach Program**

The Outreach Program is designed to encompass all Veterans, service members and families throughout the state to ensure they are aware of and receiving benefits, resources and services available to them. Trained professionals are located throughout the state to meet with you as needed. The program works with all services, eras and conflicts. Military Outreach Specialists connect all

current and former military service members and their families to the right resources, such as: Military, Medical, Child, Education, Housing, Substance Abuse, Religious Education, Family, Psychological, Financial, Personal Counseling, Employment, Marital Counseling, and Sustained Support. For more information please visit: <https://www.ndguard.nd.gov/service-member-family-support-0/military-outreach-services>

### **Vet Centers**

Vet Centers are the people in VA who welcome home war Veterans with honor by providing quality readjustment counseling in a caring manner. Vet Centers understand and appreciate Veterans' war experiences while assisting them and their family members toward a successful post-war adjustment in or near their community. For more information please visit: <https://www.veterans.nd.gov/vet-centers>

# WOMEN VETERANS

## **Center for Women Veterans**

The role of the VA Center for Women Veterans is to monitor and coordinate VA's administration of health care and benefits services, and programs for women Veterans, serve as an advocate for a cultural transformation (both within VA and in the general public) in recognizing the service and contributions of women Veterans and women in the military, and to raise awareness of the responsibility to treat women Veterans with dignity and respect. For more information please visit:

<https://www.va.gov/womenvet/>

## **Grace After Fire**

Grace After Fire is a resource solely for women Veterans to support their need to connect with each other and share yet remain anonymous. These women can reach out to others who have experienced the same concerns of re-entry, alcoholism, drug addiction or prescription addiction due to chronic pain, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), incidents of service time rape, depression, unwarranted anger, or Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) due to war time trauma. For more information please visit:

<http://www.graceafterfire.org/>

## **Office on Women's Health**

The Office on Women's Health (OWH) was established in 1991 within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Its Vision is to ensure that "All Women and Girls are Healthier and Have a Better Sense of Well Being." Its mission is to "provide leadership to promote health equity for women and girls through sex/gender-specific approaches." The strategy OWH uses to achieve its mission and vision is through the development of innovative programs, by educating health professionals, and motivating behavior change in consumers through the dissemination of health information. For more information please visit: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/>

## **Women Veterans Call Center**

The Women Veterans Call Center (WVCC) answers questions and responds to concerns from women Veterans, their families, and caregivers across the nation about VA services and resources. The call is free, and you can call as often as you like until you have the answers to your questions. For more information please visit: <https://www.womenshealth.va.gov/wvcc.asp>



# WOUNDED WARRIOR/DISABLED VETERAN RESOURCES

## **The Air Force Wounded Warrior Program**

Works hand-in-hand with the Air Force Survivor Assistance Program and Airman & Family Readiness Centers to ensure Airmen receive professional support and care from the point of injury, through separation or retirement, for life. For more information please visit: <http://www.woundedwarrior.af.mil/>

## **Annie's House Adaptive Recreation Program at Bottineau Winter Park**

Provides services year-round to individuals and veterans with intellectual and physical disabilities. They offer programming that allows individuals with disabilities to enjoy the same activities as non-disabled individuals. They offer adaptive equipment, trained instructors in a non-judgmental friendly and fun environment. Scholarships are available for qualifying individuals. For more information or to schedule an activity at Annie's House call or email: michael.cerkowniak@annecenter.org, 701-263-4556 and ask for Mike. For more information please visit: <https://annecarlsen.org/recreation/annies/#>

## **The Army Wounded Warrior Program (AW2)**

The official U.S. Army program that assists and advocates for severely wounded, ill or injured Soldiers, Veterans, and their Families, wherever they are located, regardless of military status. For more information please visit: [https://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil/Benefit-Library/Federal-Benefits/Army-Wounded-Warrior-Program-\(AW2\)](https://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil/Benefit-Library/Federal-Benefits/Army-Wounded-Warrior-Program-(AW2))

## **Camp Hope**

Provides FREE outdoor adventures to combat wounded veterans of the War on Terror and active-duty combat-wounded Soldiers, Marines, Airmen and Sailors. For more information please visit: <http://www.camphopeusa.org/>

## **Camp Patriot**

A 5-Star rated, 501c3 non-profit organization that has transformed the lives of hundreds of wounded and disabled veterans. This important task has been accomplished by fostering trusted relationships created through their unique outdoor therapy programs. Each program is specifically designed to deliver a powerful "life transformation". Their programs encourage and support participants to discover new ways of overcoming their injuries by modifying their prosthetics', techniques and limiting beliefs. For more information please visit: <https://camppatriot.org/>

## **Catch a Lift**

Started as a memorial to Cpl. Chris Coffland and founded on his lifelong philosophy that through physical fitness you can achieve your highest potential for a healthy mind and body. His dedication and mindfulness to physical fitness was part of a daily regimen his entire life. He actively encouraged others to participate as well, so that they could lead a healthier and well balanced life. Everyday Coffland would say "I'm goin' catch a lift"; his way of saying, he was off to the gym. In keeping with

Coffland's commitment to fitness and his dedication to the wellness of others, CAL will assist wounded veterans to become physically and mentally fit again through gifted gym memberships. For more information please visit: <http://www.catchaliftfund.com/>

### **Coalition to Salute America's Heroes**

The mission is to help severely-wounded veterans and families of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom recover from their injuries and illnesses, and to inspire other organizations and the general public to participate in this effort. For more information please visit: <https://saluteheroes.org/>

### **Dreams for Veterans**

Serves our nation's heroes by giving back to terminally ill veterans and their families through the fulfillment of a final wish. Final wishes range from basic need items (like a working appliance or mobility scooter) to bedside reunions, final vacations with family, "meet and greets" with personal heroes or reconnecting with aspects of former military service. A dream not only serves the recipient, but also brings comfort and peace to caregivers, loved ones, hospice professionals, veterans affairs and service officers, and all those they serve in communities across the nation. For more information please visit: <http://www.dreamfoundation.org/veterans>

### **Fisher House Foundation**

Best known for the network of comfort homes built on the grounds of major military and VA medical centers nationwide and in Europe. Fisher Houses are beautiful homes, donated to the military and Department of Veterans Affairs. These homes enable family members to be close to a loved one at the most stressful time - during the hospitalization for a combat injury, illness or disease. For more information please visit: <http://www.fisherhouse.org/>

### **Hope For The Warriors®**

The mission is to enhance the quality of life for post-9/11 service members, their families, and families of the fallen who have sustained physical and psychological wounds in the line of duty. Hope For The Warriors® is dedicated to restoring a sense of self, restoring the family unit, and restoring hope for our service members and our military families. They have several programs to assist families financially and provide moral support. For more information please visit: <http://www.hopeforthewarriors.org/>

### **The United States Marine Corps Wounded Warrior Regiment**

Provides and enables assistance to wounded, ill and injured Marines, sailors attached to or in support of Marine units, and their family members in order to assist them as they return to duty or transition to civilian life. For more information please visit: <https://www.woundedwarrior.marines.mil/>

### **Military One Source Wounded Warrior Program**

The program can help you understand benefits, research independent living options and identify counseling and advocacy resources whether you are the Wounded Warrior of someone you love. For more information please visit: <http://www.militaryonesource.mil/wounded-warrior>

### **Military Warriors Support Foundation**

A 501(c)(3) non-profit charity, founded by Lt. General, Leroy Sisco, USA (Retired), in 2007. Their Mission is to provide support for our nation's combat wounded heroes and Gold Star Families as they transition out of the military and into their new civilian life. This is a very fragile time for these heroes, and their families, and it is their goal to provide programs that facilitate a smooth and successful transition. Their programs include home donation, academic and employment assistance, as well as recreational activities. For more information please visit: <http://www.militarywarriors.org/>

### **Navy Wounded Warrior**

The Navy's organization for coordinating the non-medical care of seriously wounded, ill and injured Sailors and Coast Guardsmen, and providing resources and support to their families. For more information please visit: <https://www.navywoundedwarrior.com/>

### **North Dakota Association for the Disabled**

A nonprofit, charitable organization founded by concerned citizens for the purpose of assisting people with mental and physical disabilities in the state of North Dakota, many of whom are not eligible for services from other agencies. For more information please visit: <http://www.ndad.org/>

### **Operation Black Hills Cabin**

Founded in 2011 by a retired military couple and is located just outside of Custer SD, in the beautiful Black Hills. It is an opportunity for a week-long respite for combat-injured OEF/OIF/OND veterans and their immediate family, to not only visit the beautiful Black Hills of South Dakota and stay in a gorgeous new 3 bedroom, fully furnished, handicapped accessible cabin, but to visit amazing sites such as Mt. Rushmore National Monument, Crazy Horse Memorial, Bear Country USA, Reptile Gardens, Jewel Cave National Monument, take a Buffalo Safari Jeep Ride, and approximately 30 other opportunities, including all dining. This is all at little or no expense to the family. There is financial assistance for travel, as well. For more information please visit: <http://www.operationblackhillscabin.org/>

### **Wounded Warrior Project**

Mission of the project is to honor and empower Wounded Warriors and to foster the most successful, well-adjusted generation of wounded service members in our nation's history. Their purpose is to raise awareness and enlist the public's aid for the needs of injured service members, to help injured service members aid and assist each other, and to provide unique, direct programs and services to meet the needs of injured service members. For more information please visit: <http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org/>

## OTHER BENEFITS

### **Camp C.O.P.E.**

Camp C.O.P.E. provides military families with an unforgettable weekend at camp. Camp C.O.P.E. gives these children hope and patience and courage. Camp C.O.P.E. allows them be just kids- again!

Through therapeutic interventions, certified therapists teach children and their families how to cope with their changed world due to deployment, injury or loss of a family member as a result of their service in our country's military. Camp C.O.P.E. provides weekend camps across the country free of charge to children and families of military personnel. This is done through generous donations and grants from individuals and our corporate partners. For more information please visit:

<https://www.nd.gov/Veterans/benefits/camp-cope>

### **First Link**

FirstLink assists people to identify, access, and make effective use of community and volunteer resources 24 hours a day. It's the *first link* to connect people to resources. Call 211 or 701-235-7335 or visit [www.firstlink.org](http://www.firstlink.org)

### **ND Veterans Court**

To best accommodate North Dakota's large geographic size and vast rural areas a "Virtual, Rural Veterans Court" has been implemented to serve our returning Veterans. For more information please visit: <https://www.nd.gov/Veterans/benefits/legal-assistance>

### **The North Dakota Veterans Legislative Council**

The North Dakota Veterans Legislative Council was established to bring Veterans organizations together in a united effort on behalf of all Veterans and dependents. It is meant to provide a practical means through which Veterans organizations throughout the state may effectively contribute to the betterment of all Veterans. The three major responsibilities of the NDVLC are to sponsor and monitor legislation that affects Veterans and their dependents, monitor all general programs for Veterans including hospital benefits, employment programs, and social programs; and finally, to establish a system of public relations for Veterans. For more information please visit: <http://www.nd.gov/Veterans/resources/employment/nd-Veterans-legislative-council-constitution-and-bylaws>

# ND MILITARY ORGANIZATIONS



ND Veterans Affairs is proud to showcase the military organizations right here in North Dakota! Please visit these websites for more news and information on your local service members!

**North Dakota National Guard:** <http://www.ndguard.ngb.army.mil/Pages/default.aspx>

**Army Guard Units:**

<http://www.ndguard.ngb.army.mil/armyguard/units/Pages/default.aspx>

**119th Wing - Air Guard:** <http://www.119wg.ang.af.mil/>

**Grand Forks Air Force Base:** <http://www.grandforks.af.mil/>

**Minot Air Force Base:** <http://www.minot.af.mil/>

**Army Reserve:** <http://www.usar.army.mil/Pages/default.aspx>

**Marine Corps Reserve:** <http://www.marforres.marines.mil/>

**Navy Reserve:** <http://www.navyreserve.com/>

**Navy Operational Support Center – Fargo:**

<http://www.tristateVeterans.com/fargocpomess/index.html>

# NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN



Native Americans have played an important role in the military history of the nation. Statistics show that we have volunteered and served in higher percentages than any other ethnicity, and our special skills and culture have resulted in pivotal benefits and victories for the US Armed Forces, along with a long list of honors and medals.

As commissioned by Congress, the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian established a National Native American Veterans Memorial on the National Mall, in the heart of Washington, DC., a place that draws nearly 24 million visitors annually.

The memorial was unveiled at the dedication ceremony in November 2020, and for the first time on a national scale, the country recognized the enduring and distinguished service of Native Americans in every branch of the U.S. Armed Forces.

The memorial honors American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Veterans and symbolize the country's respect for Native Americans' service and patriotism; raising awareness of our service across generations; and reminding all Americans of our national obligation to honor this inspired legacy.

For more information, please visit: <https://americanindian.si.edu/>. Additionally, you can find more information on our Native Veterans on their website: <https://americanindian.si.edu/online-resources/native-american-Veterans>



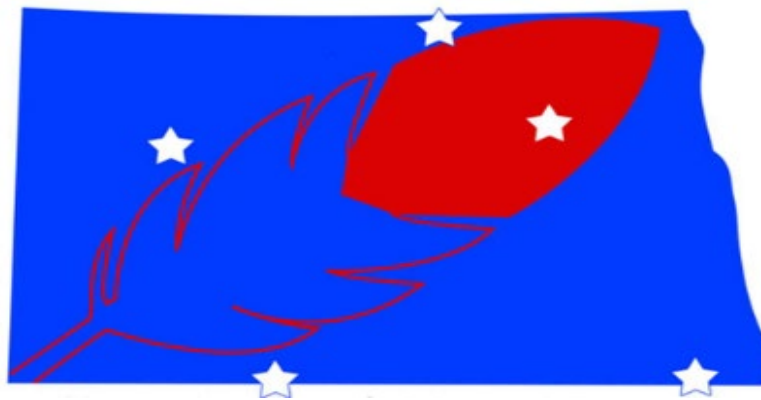


# NORTH DAKOTA HONOR FLIGHT

Veterans Honor Flight of ND/MN is a non-profit organization created solely to honor America's Veterans for all their sacrifices. Top priority is given to the senior Veterans - World War II and Korean War Veterans - along with other Veterans who may be terminally ill. Flights occur in the spring and fall of each year pending fundraising. For more information please visit: <https://www.Veteranshonorflightofndmn.org/>



# North Dakota Native Veterans Honor Flight



Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Nation



Spirit Lake Nation



Standing Rock Sioux Tribe



Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians



Three Affiliated - MHA Nation

Thank you for your service!