

Nebraska Veterans Coalition



Leading the way for Nebraska's Veterans

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A Volunteer Organization Bringing Awareness To Veteran's Issues

Volume 3, Issue 12, December 1, 2022, Newsletter

I recommend if you view this Newsletter on your phone, you print it or open it on your pc. It has a lot of information and is hard to read on the phone.

Dean Kenkel, Co-founder of Nebraska Veterans Coalition

This is about us:

The Nebraska Veteran's Coalition

The Coalition has led the way in Nebraska since 2014 to persuade the Nebraska Unicameral to enact legislation designed to improve the lives of veterans, active-duty military personnel, and their families to attract and retain Veterans as a means of increasing the size of the Nebraska Work Force. We continue to follow Nebraska state and federal veteran-related legislation along with joining several veterans group Facebook pages. We provide considerable information to veterans on various topics and guide them toward agencies that can help them.

If you are not already a member of our group of over 5,000 friends, please check us out on Facebook (Nebraska Veterans Coalition) and 'Friend' us. We also have a Twitter account - @VetsCoalitionNE. We are currently updating our *website containing both Nebraska and National News events and links to websites of interest to veterans.* <http://www.nebraskaveterans.org/>,

Nebraska Veterans Coalition would like to invite you to visit our website and advertise as a veteran-owned business or business that hires veterans. Send your business card to the Webmaster and your business will be added as a supporter of the Coalition and is a free posting. Also, view our mission statement to learn more about us. <http://www.nebraskaveterans.org/> Email this website's Webmaster CORNHUSKER69@yahoo.com

We are members of a program for the Nebraska Governor's Challenge managed by the Nebraska Department of Veterans Affairs. The Governor's Challenge has many states and territories participating in the challenge. They are working to develop and implement state-wide suicide prevention best practices for SMVF, using a public health approach. SAMHSA has partnered with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) ([*See Governors Challenge Section Below*](#))

Our mission statement can be found on our Facebook or website
We do not ask for, solicit, or accept funding/donations for our efforts.

Join our
Newsletter



Find our
Website

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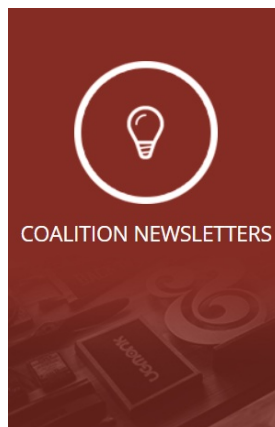
Find this on our website



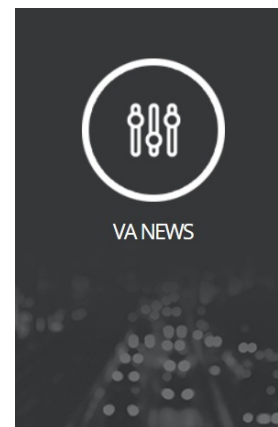
Service
Description



Service
Description



Service
Description



Service
Description

Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs



<https://veterans.nebraska.gov/>

Benefits and Services Overview

Part of our mission is to help veterans identify and access benefits. There is a wide range of county, state, and federal benefits related to education, employment, finance, health care, housing, legal assistance, recreation, taxes, and more. Use our Benefits Expert to help guide you to the benefits you're interested in or learn about some of the most-used benefits. If you have additional questions, don't hesitate to contact your [County Veterans' Service Officer](#) or a [State Service Officer](#).

Nebraska Veterans' Gateway

Welcome to your gateway to career and employment resources for Nebraska veterans. We've gathered resources and tools to help shine the way for veterans and their families to find meaningful employment, receive training and education, and get assistance transitioning from military service to civilian life.

Nebraska Veterans' Homes

Our Homes

Nebraska's state veterans' homes offer top-of-the-line domiciliary, intermediate, and skilled nursing care for the men and women who have served our country, as well as eligible family members. The four homes are located in Bellevue, Norfolk, Kearney, and Scottsbluff to provide care to veterans across the state. Click on the homes below to learn more about them. Our homes offer top-of-the-line health services, a range of recreational activities, friendly communities for veterans and their families, and so much more. [Click here to view our State of Nebraska Veterans' Homes brochure.](#)

Military & Veterans' Registry Application

Applicants must submit a DD-214 or NGB-22 indicating the length and character of services.

- If the name of the DD-214 is different from the veteran's current legal name, documentation of the name change is required.
- If you are currently on active duty, please provide a military ID card. This does not include retirement ID cards or VA service cards.

A paper application is available if you prefer to mail in your application. [Download Paper Application](#)

News & Events

<https://veterans.nebraska.gov/news>

VA invites the public to dispose of unused medications and prescriptions during nationwide 'VA Medication Take Back' days

The importance of mammograms and early detection

Army veteran sentenced to 7 years in prison on Capitol riot charges

News from the Library of Congress

[Get Email Updates](#)

Subscribe to the Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs email updates

<https://nebraska.us20.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=7ed59c632774bcfb0ff3e470a&id=d19ed89514>

[VA adopts Login.gov for a unified Veteran sign-in experience](#)

[The government-based service provides seamless experiences across multiple government platforms](#)

WASHINGTON — By creating an account on Login.gov, Veterans can now use the same login and password to access a growing list of federal government websites, including the Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Personnel Management and Small Business Administration to deliver a secure and streamlined identity verification experience.

[Currently, Veterans can login to VA.gov, My HealtheVet and VA's flagship Health and Benefits mobile app using Login.gov.](#)

One account and password

Login.gov is a secure sign-in service used by the public to sign in to participating government agencies. Participating agencies will ask you to create a Login.gov account to securely access your information on their website or application.

You can use the same username and password to access any agency that partners with Login.gov. This streamlines your process and eliminates the need to remember multiple usernames and passwords.

- [What is Login.gov? | Login.gov](#)
- [Who uses Login.gov?](#)
- [Create an account](#)
- [Help Center](#)

LEGISLATIVE

[Nebraska Unicameral](#)

[What to expect Hearing rooms Testifier Tips](#)

<https://tinyurl.com/43hnaux9>

What to expect

A committee may consider several bills during an afternoon. The committee chairperson will announce the order in which bills will be heard, the rules for testifying and whether there will be a time limit on your testimony.

The length of time spent on each bill varies, depending largely on the number of people testifying, the length of their testimony and the number of questions asked by committee members.

Each bill first will be presented by the senator who sponsors it. Committee members may follow up with questions. The committee chairperson then will ask proponents of the bill to testify. Then opponents of the bill will be invited to testify, followed by those giving neutral testimony.

Addressing committee members or testifiers from the audience is prohibited. Applause and other public demonstrations also are prohibited. Please turn off phones to avoid disturbing the hearing.

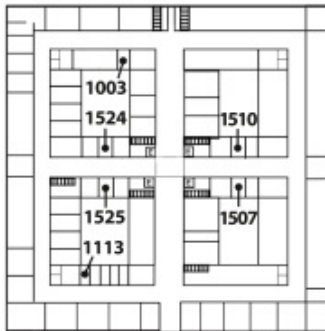
Senators routinely come and go during hearings. They have other commitments, including the presentation of bills in other committees that are meeting simultaneously.

To find the names and contact information of committee chairpersons, visit NebraskaLegislature.gov/committees.

Published January 2022
Unicameral Information Office
Clerk of the Nebraska Legislature
P.O. Box 94604 • Lincoln, NE 68509
402-471-2788 • unicamleg@ne.gov
NebraskaLegislature.gov

Hearing rooms

First Floor



| Committee | Room | Dates |
|---|------|------------------|
| Agriculture | 1524 | T |
| Appropriations | 1003 | M, T, W, Th, F |
| Banking, Commerce & Insurance | 1507 | M, T |
| Business & Labor | 1524 | M |
| Education | 1525 | M, T |
| General Affairs | 1510 | M |
| Government, Military & Veterans Affairs | 1507 | W, Th, F |
| Health & Human Services | 1510 | W, Th, F |
| Judiciary | 1113 | W, Th, F |
| Natural Resources | 1525 | W, Th, F |
| Nebraska Retirement Systems | 1525 | at call of Chair |
| Revenue | 1524 | W, Th, F |
| Transportation & Telecommunications | 1113 | M, T |
| Urban Affairs | 1510 | T |

* Committee rooms are subject to change. For the most current information, visit NebraskaLegislature.gov.

Testifier Tips



ABOUT COMMITTEES

Bills introduced in the Legislature must receive a public hearing by a legislative committee. These hearings are an opportunity for citizens to speak directly to state senators regarding the creation of Nebraska laws. Everyone is allowed to testify at public hearings and all testimony is included in the official committee record.

The Nebraska Legislature has 14 standing committees: • Agriculture • Appropriations • Banking, Commerce and Insurance • Business and Labor • Education • General Affairs • Government, Military and Veterans Affairs • Health and Human Services • Judiciary • Natural Resources • Nebraska Retirement Systems • Revenue • Transportation and Telecommunications • Urban Affairs Each of these committees has six to nine members.

HEARING LOCATIONS AND TIMES

Public hearings on bills typically are held in the afternoons during the first half of the legislative session. Committees have regularly scheduled rooms and meeting days, although they sometimes meet in different rooms at varying times in order to accommodate testifiers or large audiences.

Hearings usually begin at 1:30 p.m. See the hearing room assignments and a Capitol map on the back of this brochure.

The weekly schedule of committee hearings is published on the last legislative day of the week throughout the legislative session.

The schedule is available on a table in front of the Clerk's Office, in the Sunday editions of the Lincoln Journal Star and the Omaha World-Herald, in the weekly Unicameral Update (update.legislature.ne.gov) and at NebraskaLegislature.gov.

If auxiliary aids or reasonable accommodations are needed for you to attend a hearing, please call the Office of the Clerk of the Legislature at 402-471-2271. If you have a hearing or speech impairment, please call the Nebraska Relay System at 800-833-7352 (TTY) or 800-833-0920 (Voice). Advance notice of 10 business days is needed when requesting an interpreter.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

If you plan to provide copies of your testimony, please consider contacting the committee to see if they prefer electronic submissions. If providing hard copies, please bring enough for each committee member, plus three more for support staff.

Please fill out the sheet provided in the hearing room prior to testifying. Once you are seated at the testifier's table, you must identify yourself, spell your name, and state what organization you represent, if any. Speak directly into the microphone, as committee proceedings are transcribed.

Be prepared to limit your testimony to three to five minutes. If you also are providing written testimony, please summarize rather than read it verbatim.

Committee members may ask questions after your testimony. However, testifiers are not allowed to ask questions of committee members.

If you are not testifying on a bill in person and would like to submit written comments online to be included in the official hearing record as an exhibit, you may do so on the corresponding bill page at [NebraskaLegislature.gov](https://nebraskalegislature.gov). To be included in the official hearing record, online comments must be submitted by 12 p.m. CST on the last workday immediately preceding a bill's public hearing.

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE NEWS

<https://nebraskalegislature.gov/news/news.php>

Because being informed is an important part of a citizen's ability to participate in the legislative process, [NebraskaLegislature.gov](https://nebraskalegislature.gov) offers several news-related services to its users.

Each week during the legislative session, the Unicameral Update covers legislative activity, including stories on floor action and committee hearings. Committee hearing schedules are included in each issue, as well as a weekly review of all legislative activities and educational and informational features.

[Unicameral Update Online](#)

Unicameral's video recordings of committee hearings, floor debates

Nicole Fox, Director of Government Relations at The Platte Institute and former Nebraska State Senator shares her perspective on Why Transparent Governments Post Hearings Online

Nebraska is 1 of only 4 states that doesn't post recordings of its state legislative meetings to an official website or to YouTube.

View the complete video presentation:

If you'd like to watch this episode on YouTube, press play. Or you can listen to the podcast on [Spotify](#) or [Apple Podcasts](#).

<https://platteinstitute.org/nicole-fox-on-why-transparent-governments-post-hearings-online/>

Nicole: I'd like to mention that currently there are transcripts available for legislative proceedings, but those transcripts are not always available in a timely manner. When you are able to locate them, you have to go through dozens, sometimes hundreds of pages, just to find information on maybe that one bill that you're looking for. And some people may like to read, some people prefer to obtain their information through a presentation. So, being able to watch a video would fit their needs better. As a legislator, in a single session, you might be dealing with and weeding through 600 – 700 introduced bills. As a senator, you can't know everything that's going on in every committee.

Sign our petition calling on lawmakers to require that the Unicameral's video recordings of committee hearings, floor debates, and votes be posted online for all Nebraskans to see.

Jim Vokal, CEO of the Platte Institute and host of [Nebraskanomics](#).

Workforce Licensing Recognition

Breaking Down Barriers to Work

Problems

Laura Ebke, Senior Fellow at The Platte Institute and former Nebraska State Senator shares her perspective on workforce licensing recognition

- Nebraska is faced with a workforce shortage.
- In Nebraska, nearly 1-4 jobs require some sort of government permit or license
- Approximately 200 occupations in Nebraska require some form of state licensure
- Many of Nebraska's initial job licensing requirements are burdensome compared to other states.
- Workers and families whose jobs require state licensing look at the difficulty of meeting licensing requirements.

The Solution

Recognition of Workforce Experience

- Recognizes workers don't lose their skills because they cross state lines.
- Licensing boards accept licenses from other states with similar scopes of practice.
- Focus on the experience, rather than widely diverse initial licensing requirements across the country.
- Provides full recognition of virtually all occupations - including for military spouses and family.
- Recognizes military occupational specialty (MOS) for those who have trained in civilian licensed occupations during their service.

Overview

- Many states moved to waive licensing requirements for out-of-state healthcare workers at the onset of the
- COVID-19 pandemic, allowing healthcare professionals to move easily across state lines.

- If recognition of other-state licensure was safe in fields that directly impacted public health and safety, we should broaden its scope to include other occupations for workforce development
- Nineteen states have passed some form of broad universal recognition at least seven had introduced broad legislation in the 2021-2022 legislative sessions, a few have broadly recognized occupations of veterans and military spouses. Nebraska recognizes workers don't lose their skills because they cross state lines.

Platte Institute Senior Fellow Laura Ebke says there's more the state can do to welcome workers with career and military experience to join Nebraska's workforce.

If you'd like to watch this episode on YouTube, press play. Or you can listen to the podcast on [Spotify](#) or [Apple Podcasts](#).

<https://platteinstitute.org/laura-ebke-on-solutions-for-nebraskas-worker-shortage/>

A [transcript of this episode](#) is available below.

Jim Vokal, CEO of the Platte Institute and host of [Nebraskanomics](#).

CONTACT YOUR STATE SENATOR

NEBRASKA NEEDS A PROGRAM LIKE THIS

A new program helps Veterans get a CDL

Mar 1, 2022

Iowa needs truck drivers and the state is helping Veterans transition into this high-demand career! The Iowa Department of Transportation will waive Commercial Driver's License (CDL) testing for eligible Veterans who have related military experience and have been out of the service for less than a year. Find out more details, including the full list of requirements here (go to site): https://iowadot.gov/mvd/military_cdl For those who don't qualify but are still interested, there are other resources available such as the Trucking with the Troops program at Hawkeye Community College. You can find more information about the program here: (go to site) **MORE:** <https://www.hawkeyecollege.edu/studen...>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LuRitim5iVM>

Nebraska's First Casino

Nebraska's first casino has already sent nearly \$800,000 to property tax relief Tax revenue realized after first five weeks of operation of WarHorse casino in Lincoln

By: [Paul Hammel](#) - November 14, 2022 8:07 pm

LINCOLN — Nebraska's first gambling casino has contributed nearly \$800,000 to a state property tax relief fund so far, including \$597,854 during the month of October, a state report indicated Monday.

And officials with the WarHorse Casino expect that gaming tax revenues will steadily grow as they begin advertising and marketing the temporary facility at the Lincoln Race Course on the southwest edge of Lincoln.

"We're really pleased at the way it's been received," said Lynne McNally, the CEO of the state's horsemen's association. "It was very important to us to start contributing to that property tax relief fund."

70% to property tax relief

Casinos are required to pay 20% of their gross gambling revenue in state gaming taxes, with 70% of that money going to the state's long-running Property Tax Credit Fund. That fund reduces a portion of local property tax bills.

Another 25% of gaming taxes are split evenly between the host county and host city for a casino.

More:

<https://nebraskaexaminer.com/2022/11/14/nebraskas-first-casino-has-already-sent-nearly-800000-to-property-tax-relief/>

HEALTH CARE

Thousands of independent pharmacies now able to rejoin Tricare network

Nearly [15,000 independent pharmacies](#) will have a chance to rejoin the Tricare retail pharmacy network, according to officials with Express Scripts.

The move comes in response to the Kroger grocery chain's Sept. 30 announcement that its 2,200 pharmacies in 35 states would no longer participate in the Tricare provider network, officials said.

Express Scripts will send a notice announcing a December contract solicitation directly to the pharmacies that either declined the recent contract or are affiliated with a wholesaler that declined the contract on their behalf. If the pharmacy

accepts the contract, it will be able to rejoin the [TRICARE](#) network effective Jan. 15.

MORE: <https://www.militarytimes.com/news/your-military/2022/11/14/thousands-of-independent-pharmacies-now-able-to-rejoin-tricare-network/>

Deb Fischer
United States Senator
November 18, 2022

Dear Dean,

Thank you for contacting me about pharmacy benefits under TRICARE. I appreciate you sharing your concerns with me, and I agree with you.

As you know, in recent weeks, Express Scripts, which manages the pharmacy benefit for TRICARE beneficiaries, announced their new contracts for 2023. According to reports, these contracts will lower reimbursements to many community pharmacies and likely result in many leaving the program.

I share your concern about the impact of these new contracts and the potential for TRICARE beneficiaries to lose access to this important benefit. I am particularly concerned about the consequences for TRICARE beneficiaries in rural areas as these areas often only have community pharmacies.

That is why I joined several of my Senate colleagues in sending a [letter](#) to the Department of Defense's Health Agency, requesting answers to a series of questions about what steps they are taking to monitor current and future TRICARE pharmacy contracts, as well as what steps they are taking to ensure adequate access to in-person pharmacy services for TRICARE beneficiaries.

It is critical to ensure that TRICARE beneficiaries have access to this important benefit. Please be assured that I will continue to closely monitor this issue in the days and weeks ahead.

Again, thank you for contacting my office. If you have additional questions or comments, please do not hesitate to let me know or visit my website at www.fischer.senate.gov

Sincerely,

Deb Fischer

United States Senator

P.S. If you are in Washington, please plan to attend the Nebraska breakfast. The breakfast will resume once a month when the Senate is in session. Call my Washington, D.C. office at (202) 224-6551 or visit my website for current dates and to [RSVP](#).

To stay updated on my work on this issue and others, sign up for monthly e-updates from my office [HERE](#).

Please do not reply to this message as this mailbox cannot receive incoming messages.

Lincoln Office 1248 O Street, Suite 1111, Lincoln, NE 68508 (402) 441-4600, (402) 476-8753 FAX

Omaha Office 11819 Miracle Hills Drive, Suite 205, Omaha, NE 68154, (402) 391-3411, (402) 391-4725 FAX

Scottsbluff Office 120 East 16th Street, Suite 203, Scottsbluff, NE 69361, (308) 234-2329, (308) 630-2321 FAX

Kearney Office 20 West 23rd Street, Kearney, NE 68847, (308) 234-2361, (308) 234-3684 FAX

<http://fischer.senate.gov>

TRICARE Open Season 2022 is from Nov. 14 - Dec. 13, 2022.

Subject: IN CASE YOU MISSED IT: Your TRICARE Health Matters Newsletter [Stateside] Date: Mon, 17 Oct 2022

15:58:59 +0000 From TRICARE Communications

https://www.tricare.mil/Resources/MediaCenter/TRICARE-Videos/OpenSeason_2022

<https://www.tricare.mil/SearchResults?search=Open%20Season>

<https://newsroom.tricare.mil/>

Email Updates

Sign up to receive TRICARE updates and news releases via email.

Subscribe to receive email updates from TRICARE

Links to social media

- [Goes to Facebook](#)
- [Goes to Twitter](#)
- [Goes to YouTube](#)
- [Goes to LinkedIn](#)

[Goes to Defense.gov](#) Defense.gov

[Goes to Health.mil](#) Health.mil

[Goes to DHA website](#) Goes to DHA website

[Goes to Twitter](#)

[Resources - 2022 TRICARE Open Season | TRICARE](#)

AT EASE USA: Facing PTSD Together

Mission: Expand access to PTSD treatment

Vision: Eliminate PTSD

Values: Honor & Commitment, Innovative & Resourceful Care and Compassion, Evidence-based Methods

Provides Compassionate Care

Trusted and Confidential

Effective Therapy

Services and Support

Providing: Outpatient therapy services,

Peer-to-Peer Support

Support Groups

Contact information for a team of expert professionals today: (531) 247-4040

10605 Burt Circle, Omaha, NE 68114 AtEaseUSA.org

Veterans Health Administration Update **Gulf War**

Mindfulness Meditation Class for Veterans

Join VA's free, phone-based class called "[Mindfulness Meditation](#)." Designed for Veterans of all eras, this class will help you manage the challenges and stressors of everyday life. Each class covers a topic related to mindfulness, followed by guided meditation practice. Classes are available from 11 a.m. to noon ET on these upcoming days: October 14, November 4, December 2, January 6, and February 3. Join any or all classes.

Tomorrow, all Veterans enrolled in VA health care will be eligible for new toxic exposure screenings

Nov. 7, 2022, 05:17:00 PM

[Printable Version](#)

[Need Viewer Software?](#)

Tomorrow, all Veterans enrolled in VA health care will be eligible for new toxic exposure screenings

Screenings mark a key step in implementing the PACT Act, which President Biden signed into law on August 10

MORE: <https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=5838>

GOVERNORS CHALLENGE



Governor's and Mayor's Challenges to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans, and their Families

SAMHSA has partnered with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to bring the Governor's and Mayor's Challenges to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans, and their Families (SMVF) to states, territories, and communities across the Nation. For the Governor's Challenge, 52 states and territories are taking part in the challenge and are working to develop and implement state-wide suicide prevention best practices for SMVF, using a public health approach. For the Mayor's Challenge, 22 communities were originally engaged as part of the challenge. Currently, 19 of those teams are still actively participating, and sixteen of the communities are within participating Governor's Challenge states. SAMHSA's SMVF TA Center is providing technical assistance for these initiatives.

From Daryl Harrison

Governor's Challenge is a combined effort of the Veterans Administration and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration to reduce Veteran Suicide.

This is a three-pronged attack. Later I will share my reasoning for labeling it an attack. The three prongs are:

1. Identify Service Members, Veterans, and their Families and screen for Suicide Risk
2. Promote Connectedness and Improve Care Transitions
3. Increase Lethal Means Safety and Safety Planning.

Governor's Challenge group 2 was formed by the Nebraska Department of Veterans Affairs and Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services and is charged with developing the protocols, procedures, and interagency relationships that will prevent veteran suicide in Nebraska.

In my many years, I have never participated in a working group of such intellectual and experiential depth and breadth. It will be called upon. In the brief four months, we have been formed, the following studies have come out.

The first has an Issue Date of 10/20/2022

Comprehensive Healthcare Inspection Summary Report FOUND:

The OIG identified a weakness with the completion of mandatory training by staff who develop suicide safety plans. Lack of training could prevent staff from providing optimal treatment to veterans who are at risk for suicide.

The OIG subsequently issued one recommendation.
It READS:

The Under Secretary for Health, in conjunction with Veterans Integrated Service Network directors and facility senior leaders, ensures that staff complete mandatory suicide safety plan training prior to developing suicide safety plans.

As you likely know Commissioners, if the core of educational delivery is lacking, the direct consequence of poorly informed or uninformed staff causes synergistic dilution of success. In this case, I know that means our brothers and sisters are paying for this shortcoming in their lives.

Now, let me share with you why this must be an attack on SMVF suicide.

A report of America's Warrior Partnership dated 9/17/2022 tells us:

When suicide and SIM (Self Injury Mortality) rates "are combined, this brings the true rate of deaths among former service members to at least 44 per day or 2.4 times the rate the VA reports."

I do not wish to undermine the VA or bolster the positions of sidebar studies yet we must act swiftly, educated, and with compassion.

- Please return to your organizations, your constituents, your friends, and your families to let them know there is a group of their fellow Nebraskans named the Governor's Challenge fighting to save Service members' and Veterans lives. Ask them to support our endeavors if called upon and pray for us as we move forward.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION



Job Offer for Veterans

AEU is currently looking for a clinical program manager who holds a LMHP or LIMHP license. As you know, our mission is to serve our military families struggling with PTSD.

Job Overview

At Ease USA is a non-profit organization committed to providing access to confidential trauma treatment and therapeutic support for active military, veterans, and their loved ones, regardless of their ability to pay. AEU complements existing services offered by military and veterans' organizations, with a focus on the elimination of barriers to treatment for those suffering from the effects of deployment and the uncertainty of war.

We are hiring an experienced Clinic Manager to help us grow.

Responsibilities for Clinical Program Manager

- Recruit and coordinate mental health therapists to provide services statewide;
- Design and implement business strategies to help the clinic meet organizational goals;

Contact **Beth Kramer (531) 247-4040 For Complete Job Description**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Beth@AtEaseUSA.org

10605 Burt Circle Omaha, NE 68114 <https://ateaseusa.org/>

VR5: Free Lifetime Passes to U.S. National Parks

Nov 16, 2022

Members of the Military, Veterans, and Gold-Star families are eligible for FREE park passes that provide access to more than 2,000 federal recreation areas including the national parks. **MORE:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vKBBgq5Fjcc>

This month's FEATURED COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER INFORMATION Extracted from

Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs

<https://veterans.nebraska.gov/>

County Veterans Service Offices Directory 11/21/2022

<https://veterans.nebraska.gov/cvso>

BURT COUNTY

Service Officer Penny Warren (402) 374-2920 veterans@burtcountyne.gov

Fax: (402) 374-2956

Location Courthouse

Mailing Address 111 N. 13th, Ste 4

Tekamah, NE 68061

Hours Wed, Thurs & Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Website http://www.burtcounty.ne.gov/webpages/veterans_services/veterans_services.html

Also CVSO for Thurston County

BUTLER COUNTY

Service Officer Joey Ossian (402) 367-7472 jossian@butlercountyne.gov

Fax : (402) 367-3249

Location. Courthouse

Mailing Address 451 5th Street David City, NE 686321

Monday – Friday 8:30 12:30

Website http://www.co.butler.ne.us/webpages/veterans_services/veterans_services.html

CASS COUNTY

Service Officer Brian Coffman (402) 296-9368 ccvso@cassne.org

Admin Assistant Jacie Victor Fax: (402) 296-9369 ccvsoadmin@cassne.org

Location Courthouse

Mailing Address 346 Main St., Rm. 102 8 am to 5 pm Plattsmouth, NE 68048

Hours: Monday- Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. closed noon-1:00 p.m.

Website: <https://www.cassne.org/county-services>

Veterans Peer Support Group



Meetings will be held
every Monday

6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

At Ease USA - Café
(enter through gym)

10605 Burt Circle
Omaha, NE 68114

For more information contact:
At Ease USA clinical manager,
Laura Fischer, at 531-247-4040 ext 2.



AtEaseUSA.org



Heartland of America Chapter -- We Never Stop Serving -- We Are One Powerful Voice -- for Every Officer at Every Stage of Life and Career

Open the link below and see the Newsletter

The Bulletin Board is the Newsletter of the Heartland of America Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America. Content is from members, MOAA's Take Action, Legislative Action Center, and other military-oriented sources. The material used is public domain or attributed as to source and copyright. Our editorial policy is the same non-partisan policy as MOAA

(Open link for MORE <http://www.heartlandmoaa.us/>)

MOAA - MOAA Home Page
NEWS

MOAA Resources

Get Answers to Your TRICARE

<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2022-news-articles/get-answers-to-your-tricare-for-life-questions-at-this-online-event/>

Along with [materials available at TRICARE.mil](#), you may find some of the answers you're seeking in one of many MOAA products addressing this crucial benefit for retirees and their families:

<https://www.moaa.org/micro/tricare-guide-2021-2022/>

<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/moaa-publications/Aging-into-Medicare-Detail/>

<https://www.moaa.org/content/topic-and-landing-pages/moaa-tricare-toolkit/>

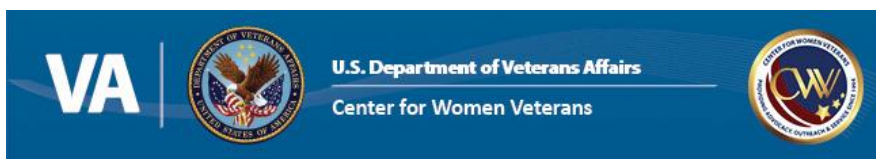
<https://www.moaa.org/content/benefits-and-discounts/health/tricare-over-65/tricare-over-65-landing-page/>

<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2020-news-articles/what-tricare-for-life-enrollees-should-know-about-medicare-advantage-plans/>

Nebraska Veterans Council (NVC)

The NVC is made up of members from The American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, American Veterans, Vietnam Veterans of America, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Nebraska Association of Professional Veteran Advocates, and the Marine Corps League. The general purpose of this Council shall be charitable, benevolent, educational, civic, and patriotic in character, and its objectives to be:

1. To coordinate a statewide intelligent, aggressive, and serviceable organization for the purpose of all veterans, their dependents, and /or survivors of the State of Nebraska.
2. To provide a practical means by which veterans organizations throughout the state may effectively contribute to the betterment of all veterans and their dependents and survivors as follows:
 - a. State legislation affecting veterans and dependents and/or survivors.
 - b. Concern for the general programs for veterans and all veteran organizations represented, including medical care, employment, and social activities.
 - c. To establish a system of public relations to inform the public on behalf of all veterans and veterans organizations.



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Women Veterans CWV -

Center for Women Veterans (CWV)

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

Welcome, all women Veterans, family members, caregivers, and advocates! The Center for Women Veterans (CWV) mission is to monitor and coordinate VA's administration of health care, benefits, services, and programs for women Veterans. We serve as an advocate for cultural transformation and to raise awareness of the responsibility to treat women Veterans with dignity and respect to #BringWomenVeteransHome2VA.

Women Veterans Outreach

<https://www.va.gov/womenvet/outreach/index.asp>

News Update

We want to hear from women who have served in the military

In Case You Missed It: The Center for Women Veterans is sharing recent news stories that may interest women Veterans, military women, and their supporters every week. Share your thoughts about them on social media @VAWomenVets.

Women Veterans NOT using your earned VA Benefits & Services, we would love to hear from you. Please take our survey; it takes 5 minutes and is anonymous. <https://survey.voice.va.gov/?cwv-women-veterans>

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs CWV - Research Update

<https://www.va.gov/womenvet/research/index.asp>

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs sent this bulletin at 11/15/2022 10:00 AM EST

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVA/bulletins/33808f6>

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs sent this bulletin at 10/11/2022 09:00 AM EDT

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVA/bulletins/3319dd6>

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs sent this bulletin at 10/18/2022 09:00 AM EDT

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVA/bulletins/332eff5>

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs sent this bulletin at 09/27/2022 09:00 AM EDT

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVA/bulletins/32f299d>

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs sent this bulletin at 09/20/2022 09:00 AM EDT

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVA/bulletins/32dee59>

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs sent this bulletin at 09/13/2022 09:00 AM EDT

VA does not endorse and is not responsible for the content of any external website links. These sites are provided for informational purposes only.



[About WoVeN | WoVeN | Women Veterans Network \(wovenwomenvets.org\)](https://wovenwomenvets.org)

Our Story

Before the development of WoVeN, our staff worked with women Veterans for years across a variety of settings. During this time, they saw the power of connection that happens when women Veterans came together and shared their stories. But they also noticed that women Veterans sometimes struggled to find each other. The idea for WoVeN was born – a community of women Veterans, where women can benefit from sisterhood and support one another! Established in 2017, WoVeN is a vibrant community for women Veterans of all eras and service branches. In addition to providing community, WoVeN strives to empower women Veterans with information, education, and resources to improve their quality of life.

Connection and community are at the core of the WoVeN program. You can get involved in WoVeN by [joining a WoVeN group](#), [becoming a WoVeN Peer Leader](#), or interacting with other women Veterans through our [Facebook Community Page](#). **MORE:**

WoVeN News

[WoVeN News | WoVeN | Women Veterans Network \(wovenwomenvets.org\)](https://wovenwomenvets.org)

Millard VFW Post 8334

@vfw8334 ·

[Millard VFW Post 8334 - Home | Facebook](#)

· Nonprofit organization

The Millard VFW permanently closed its canteen on 11/30/21. We still have a post charter and your membership is still active.

We are holding our monthly meetings at 7 pm on the 4th Tuesday of the month in the Millard American Legion 13913 S St, Omaha, NE 68137.

We still hold a mission to our veterans, families, and to the community.

Please contact the commander, Greg Kleve at (402) 850-3864 with any and all questions regarding the Millard VFW. Thank you.



Grant Opportunities

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

VFW Foundation announces this year's grants are now open for application

November 18, 2022

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Standing as the pillars that both uphold thriving or uplift struggling communities, VFW Posts have carried this mission for more than 11 decades.

From building local playgrounds and memorials to organizing military support events for active-duty troops and cushioning natural disasters with incessant relief efforts, VFW members at the grassroots level take pride in continuing a history of service.

In helping local efforts at the Post and District levels across the world, the VFW Foundation announced new and innovative ways this year's grants can assist in enhancing service projects that will further impact communities. The VFW Foundation is offering three grants operating on a reimbursement basis in order to help Posts, Districts and their Auxiliaries achieve more.

"The VFW Foundation offers these grants as a way for VFW Posts, Districts, and their Auxiliaries to increase the impact of the important volunteer projects they do for their communities," VFW Foundation's Grants Manager Jason Couch said.

Applications for the #StillServing Community Support Grant and District Corporate Partnership Grant, as well as the Uniting to Combat Hunger Grant (UTCH), are now being provided to assist local projects set to help communities. Though each grant has been around for years, this year's grants come with new guidelines.

"The VFW Foundation has provided grants to Posts and Auxiliaries for more than five years now, but major changes were made to the guidelines of all grants this year," Couch said. "We have made all grants reimbursement-based and thusly, eliminated the need for grant recipients to provide a follow-up report after receiving an award."

Couch also added that another opportunity will open up in the spring for any local VFW Post or Auxiliary that misses the initial end date for the UTCH Grant's application period in December.

"We do this as a way to build momentum for the campaign's conclusion at Convention," Couch said.

For any further questions or concerns, please contact Couch at JCouch@vfw.org.

Below are each grant's guidelines, info, and application link:

- #StillServing Grants – Applications available at vfw.org/Grants.

Employment Opportunities

apply for State Jobs Online

<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/nebraska>

Apply to statejobs.nebraska.gov or 1526 K Street, Suite 100, Lincoln, NE 68508, or your local Workforce Development Office.

NE State Personnel

Special Accommodations

Under ADA and/or to

Apply call: 402-471-2075

EEO/AA/VET

(TDD Calls Only: 402-471-4693)

Nebraska National Guard to build new readiness center in Bellevue

Story by Brian Mastre • Oct 25

BELLEVUE, Neb. (WOWT) - At any given moment Nebraska has 3,500 men and women ready to problem solve. The trend has been to move National Guard readiness centers out of communities. The military here argued that this one should be in Bellevue because of the location.

It's between [Offutt Air Force Base](#) and base housing.

"It's very important for us to be a part of that because the National Guard has always been part of the fabric of a community," said Col. Brent Flachsbart with the Nebraska National Guard.

In two years this will become the 43rd readiness center in Nebraska.

A place for nearly 400 national guardsmen and women to train on weekends. For a handful of other units such as the civil support team, those who respond to all chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear incidents, this will be their home. **MORE:** <https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/nebraska-national-guard-to-build-new-readiness-center-in-bellevue/ar-AA13niPz>

Center for Rural Affairs

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

Unapologetically Rural

We are unapologetically rural. We stand up for the small family farmer and ranchers, new business owners, and rural communities. For more than 40 years, we've been a leading force engaging people to build a better rural future. We live this work. Welcome to our rural revolution.

Our Mission

Establish strong rural communities, social and economic justice, environmental stewardship, and genuine opportunity for all while engaging people in decisions that affect the quality of their lives and the future of their communities. **MORE:**

<https://www.facebook.com/ruralaffairs/?emci=563b4ec7-b65a-ed11-819c-002248258d2f&emdi=6c3862ce-b65a-ed11-819c-002248258d2f&ceid=3524086>

Events

VETERANS ADVISORY GROUP

LINCOLN BUDDY CHECK

Sandhills Global is Sponsoring Veterans Advisory Group Lincoln's Buddy Check at Bagels and Joe 215 North 14th Street Lincoln NE from 7 to 9 PM Tuesday the 22nd.

All veterans and their SO's welcome. Snacks and beverages are supplied, with free parking next door at Larsen Park and Go garage. come and join us for casual conversation and fellowship. Come relax and enjoy! AT EASE Brothers and Sisters. Your copy should address 3 key questions: Who am I writing for? (Audience) Why should they care? (Benefit) What do I want them to do here? (Call-to-Action)

Millard American Legion Post 374

<https://www.facebook.com/post374.org/>

Join our Legion Family

We will be packing boxes to send overseas to our Nebraska National Guard troops on Saturday, Dec. 3rd at 2:00 at the post. We're collecting condiment packets to send to them so they can have a little taste of home! There will be a container at the bar if you want to donate!

We are located at 13913 "S" Plz, Omaha, NE 68137 in the same strip mall as Amazing Pizza Machine. We have 14 beers on tap Import and domestic, and great drink prices.



Wreaths Across America - Offutt Air Force Base Cemetery

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2022 AT 11 AM

To Honor and Remember the lives of those interred at Offutt AFB Cemetery (Fort Crook Post)

Please join us for National Wreath Day as we Remember our fallen, Honor those serving and their families, and Teach our future generations about the cost of freedom.

Details on the schedule of events will be posted as we get closer to the date.

Wreaths are \$15 each and are tax-deductible donations. For every 2 wreaths sponsored, Offutt AFB Cemetery will earn an additional 3rd wreath.

Use the link below to sponsor before the Nov. 28 deadline.

<https://www.wreathsassamerica.org/.../161972/Overview/...>

USEFUL LINKS

AMVETS

Blue Valley Community Action, Inc.

Central Nebraska Community Action Partnership

DANTES Military Family Resources <https://www.dantes.doded.mil/FinancialAid/MilitaryFamilyResources.html>

DANTES provides no-cost education and career-planning programs <https://www.dantes.doded.mil/>

Disabled American Veterans <https://www.dav.org/>

Family Assistance Center <https://ne.ng.mil/FPO/Pages/FAC.aspx>

GI Bill Assistance <https://benefits.va.gov/gibill/>

Homeless Program <https://www.va.gov/homeless/>
<https://www.va.gov/nebraska-western-iowa-health-care/>

Launch a New Cybersecurity Career <https://www.fedshirevets.gov/>

Marines helping Marines <http://marineshelpingmarines.org/>

Military Order of the Purple Heart <https://www.purpleheart.org/>
Military.com Veteran Jobs <https://www.military.com/veteran-jobs>
My Health Vet <https://www.myhealth.va.gov/mhv-portal-web/home>
My VA facility and status updates <https://www.va.gov/>
Northeast Nebraska Community Action <https://nencap.org/>
One net online <https://www.onetonline.org/>
Paralyzed Veterans of America <https://pva.org/>
Parenting and Professionalism Parenting and Professionalism: The Myth of Having It All - ZERO TO THREE
Parents as Teachers, <https://parentsasteachers.org/>
Sesame street for military families <https://sesamestreetformilitaryfamilies.org/>
The American Legion <https://www.legion.org/>
Today's military life magazine <https://www.todaymilitary.com/military-life/futures-magazine>
Tricare <https://www.tricare.mil/>
US Small Business Administration homepage <https://www.sba.gov/>
VA benefits homepage <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/homepage>
VA Contact Center <https://www.va.gov/contact-us/>
VBA eBenefits <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/homepage>
Vet Center <https://www.vetcenter.va.gov/>
Veterans Affairs Health Administration (VHA) <https://www.nebraska.va.gov>
Veterans Affairs Health Administration (VHA) <https://www.nebraska.va.gov>
Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) <https://www.vfw.org/Assistance>
Wounded Warrior Project <https://www.woundedwarriorproject.org/>

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Nebraska Veterans Coalition
Address: 10000 Maple Street
Omaha, NE 68116
Phone: (402) 630-5840

Get In Touch

Nebraska Veteran Coalition | 10000 Maple Street, Omaha, NE 68116

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