



The Guardian

The Newsletter of the New Mexico Department of Veterans Services

www.nmdvs.org

1-(866) 433-8387 toll-free

July, 2020

DVS Fills Three Vacant Veterans Service Officer Positions



Victoria Bader

New DVS Albuquerque VSO

The New Mexico Department of Veterans Services (DVS) has filled three vacant Veterans Service Officer (VSO) positions—bringing the total number of VSO's to fifteen.

Victoria Bader is the new Albuquerque-based VSO, filling a vacancy at the agency's Northeast Heights office. She comes to DVS from ADC LTD NM as a Case Scoper, performing background investigations for security clearances.

A native of Atoka, TN, Victoria served 14-years with the United States Air Force before medically retiring in 2008. She was a Nondestructive Inspection Craftsman working on a wide variety of aircraft ranging from F-15's to C-130's. She was deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in 2007 and then again from 2009-10.

Victoria's last duty station was Kirtland AFB, where she was stationed for seven years—the last five years of service was as a volunteer Victim Advocate for victims of sexual assault. She earned an associate degree in Nondestructive Testing Technology from the Community College of the Air Force, and a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice focusing on Forensics from American Military University in 2016.

Durrell Tsosie is the new VSO in the agency's Gallup field office. The native of Navajo, New Mexico, comes to DVS from the Gallup Indian Medical Center, where he was involved in security operations.

Durrell served in the United States Marine Corps from 2007-2012 as an Infantry Rifleman and was honorably discharged at the rank of Corporal. He was stationed in Camp Pendleton, CA with the 1st Battalion 5th Marine Division Alpha Company where he completed two tours in the Helmand Province of Afghanistan in 2009 and 2011.

During his first deployment, Durrell's unit was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation as well as a Navy Unit Commendation for its participation in Operation Khanjar in 2009. Durrell was honorably discharged in 2012.

In 2019, Durrell earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology from the University of Southern Maine.



Durrell Tsosie

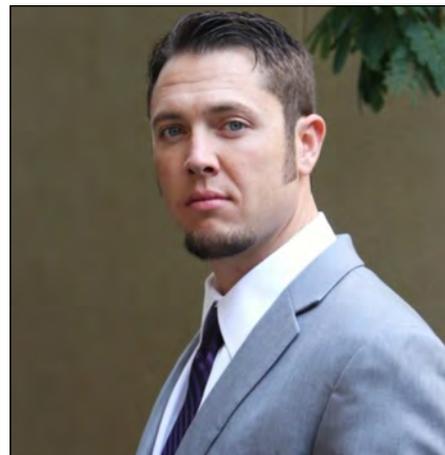
New DVS Gallup VSO

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Dustin Newsom is the new DVS Santa Fe-based VSO.

The native of Estancia served 5-1/2 years with the U.S. Army as an infantryman and 19K M1 Abrams Tank crewman. He was deployed twice to Iraq before receiving an honorable/service-connected medical discharge.

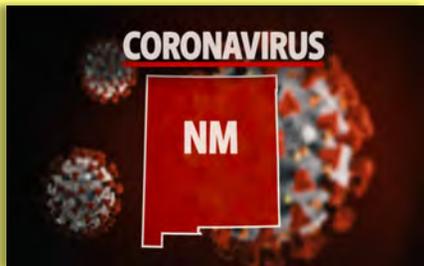
Prior to coming to DVS, Dustin was a full-time student while also working part-time in construction. He earned an associate's degree in Teacher Education from Central New Mexico Community College, and then a bachelor's degree in History, with a minor in Psychology, from the University of New Mexico.



Dustin Newsom
New DVS Santa Fe VSO

"I'm excited to welcome Victoria, Durrell, and Dustin to the DVS team," said DVS Secretary Judy Griego. "There were quite a few qualified candidates for all three positions. But their passion for helping veterans really made them stand out from the other candidates. I'm looking forward to them helping us help veterans and their families in their communities."

DVS to Continue Telework Operations



Due to the still-present COVID-19 pandemic in New Mexico—and out of concern for the safety of DVS staff and the public it serves during this health crisis—DVS will continue to conduct business solely by telephone, email, or video conferencing.

Veterans and unmarried surviving spouses of deceased veterans needing help with filing for or updating their VA or state veterans benefits can contact any DVS Veterans Service Officer (VSO) on the VSO's mobile phone, leaving messages on the VSO's office phone, real-time video conferencing, or e-mail. Other state agencies are also taking the same precautions.

Data from the state Department of Health data shows cases of COVID-19 are still continuing to rise in New Mexico (*more COVID-19 data on page 4*), and rising on a much larger scale in neighboring Arizona, Colorado, Texas, and northern Mexico. Below and on the next page is the contact information for DVS VSO's. Assistance is provided on a first-call, first-served basis. "real time" video conferencing can be arranged by contacting the VSO.

Alamogordo (VSO: Larry Weatherwax)

Office: (575) 437-4635

Mobile: (575) 491-3127

larry.weatherwax@state.nm.us

Albuquerque #1 (Karen Abeyta)

Office: (505) 346-3986

Mobile: (505) 429-0856

karen.abeyta@state.nm.us

Albuquerque #2 (Gordon Schei)

Office: (505) 346-4810

Mobile: (same as office number)

Gordon.schei@state.nm.us

Albuquerque #3 (Victoria Bader)

Mobile: (505) 225-5253

Victoria.bader@state.nm.us

Carlsbad (Dagmar Youngberg)

Office: (575) 885-4939

Mobile: (575) 988-5900

Dagmar.youngberg@state.nm.us

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Clovis (Matt Barela)
Office: (575) 762-6185
Mobile: (575) 825-9602
Matthew.barela@state.nm.us

Farmington (Beverly Charley)
Office: (505) 327-2861
Mobile: (same as office number)
Beverly.charley@state.nm.us

Gallup (Durrell Tsosie)
Mobile: (505) 218-0348
Durrell.Tsosie@state.nm.us

(Hobbs (Dalton Boyd))
Office: (575) 397-5290
Mobile: (575) 241-0714
Dalton.boyd2@state.nm.us

Las Cruces #1 (George Vargas)
Office: (575) 524-6124
Mobile: (5785) 520-2634
George.vargas@state.nm.us

Women Veterans Program
(option for women veterans)
Tracie Brasier
Program Manager
Mobile: (505) 388-8844
tracie.brasier@state.nm.us

Las Cruces #2 (Rosa Bycenski)
Office: (575) 524-6220
Mobile: (505) 870-1349
Rosa.bycenski@state.nm.us

Las Cruces #3 (Craig Chumley)
Office: (575) 524-6220
Mobile: (same as office number)
Craig.chumley@state.nm.us

Las Vegas, NM (Martin Marquez)
Office: (505) 454-0068
Mobile: (575) 520-5079
MartinM.marquez@state.nm.us

Roswell (Danielle Thompson)
Office: (575) 624-6086
Mobile: (575) 416-2284
Danielle.thompson@state.nm.us

Santa Fe (Dustin Newsom)
Mobile: (505) 221-7190
Dustin.newsom@state.nm.us

Veterans can also self-file for their VA benefits online at www.ebenefits.va.gov

Help for Veteran-Owned Businesses

Veterans who own their own business can contact the New Mexico Veterans Business Outreach Center (VBOC) for information about emergency assistance programs for small businesses affected by the COVID-19 outbreak.

Rich Coffel
VBOC Director
(505) 383-2401
RichardL.coffel@state.nm.us

Jim Cassidy (based in SE/southern NM)
VBOC Veterans Business Advisor
(575) 624-6002
JamesM.cassidy@state.nm.us

Ft. Stanton and Gallup State Veterans Cemeteries; Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Full funerals and the rendering of military funeral honors are still postponed until further notice at the DVS-managed Ft. Stanton and Gallup State Veterans Cemeteries. Burials and interments will be done by DVS staff wearing personal protective equipment (PPE). Public gatherings will continue to be limited to five individuals—all of whom are required to wear masks, and observe six-foot social distancing spacing. Families can choose to schedule full-service interments, once full post-pandemic operations resume, by contacting the following DVS cemetery supervisors:

Ft. Stanton State Veterans Cemetery
David Flores
(505) 383-4381
david.flores@state.nm.us

Gallup State Veterans Cemetery
Gilbert Lopez
(575) 921-3494
gilbert.lopez@state.nm.us

The Memorial Chapel at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Angel Fire remains open to the public. Masks are required, and social distancing spacing will be monitored by PPE-wearing DVS staff. The remainder of the Memorial grounds remains closed to the public.

Latest COVID-19 Stats *(as of July 1)*

County	Major City/Town	Cases	Deaths
McKinley	Gallup	3,395	170
San Juan	Farmington	2,460	163
Bernalillo	Albuquerque	2,178	86
Dona Ana	Las Cruces	957	9
Sandoval	Rio Rancho	731	29
Santa Fe	Santa Fe	240	3
Cibola	Grants	212	14
Curry	Clovis	165	
Lea	Hobbs	134	
Valencia	Los Lunas	124	2
Rio Arriba	Española	101	1
Chaves	Roswell	95	2
Eddy	Carlsbad	82	1
Luna	Deming	80	3
Socorro	Socorro	60	5
Roosevelt	Portales	59	1
Hidalgo	Lordsburg	49	
Otero	Alamogordo	43	4
Torrance	Moriarty	43	1
Taos	Taos	43	1
San Miguel	Las Vegas	21	
Guadalupe	Santa Rosa	20	
Grant	Silver City	19	
Sierra	T or C	12	
Lincoln	Ruidoso	11	
Colfax	Raton	9	1
Los Alamos	Los Alamos	8	
Union	Clayton	8	
Quay	Tucumcari	6	1
Catron	Quemado	2	1
Harding	Mosquero	1	
De Baca	Ft. Sumner	0	
Mora	Mora	0	
Counties Total		11,368	498

County	Correctional Facilities	Cases	Deaths
<i>(Privately Run, or Contracted w/ICE)</i>			
Otero	Otero County Prison Facility	275	
Otero	Otero County Processing Center (ICE)	147	
Torrance	Torrance County Detention Facility	32	
Cibola	Cibola County Correctional Center	2	
<i>(Managed by the State of NM)</i>			
Otero	Otero County Prison Facility	444	2
Cibola	NW New Mexico Correctional Center	1	
Santa Fe	State Penitentiary of New Mexico	1	
Valencia	Central NM Correctional Facility	6	
[Total for incarcerated inmates]		[900]	[2]
TOTAL IN NM		12,276	500

# Tested	344,181
Deaths	500
Hospitalized (currently)	127
Hospitalized (to date)	1,928
Recovered	5,514

Deaths (by Age Group)	
20's	5
30's	24
40's	18
50's	65
60's	80
70's	102
80's	128
90's	75
100's	3
Total	500

VA to Host “Live” Tele-Town Hall Meeting on July 2 for New Mexico’s Veterans & Their Families



USB Lawrence

Live in New Mexico

Join Under Secretary for Benefits, Dr. Paul R. Lawrence, when he hosts a Tele-Town Hall for Veterans in New Mexico:

- July 2nd @ 5pm ET
- Call-In: 833.380.0417

The call will be focused on COVID19 response and VBA program updates.

******This tele-town hall meeting is at 3pm New Mexico time**

Upcoming DVS Event Cancellations

July 15	Albuquerque Metro Public Safety Day	Rio Rancho/Intel parking lot
September 10-20	New Mexico State Fair <i>(Military & Veterans Day at the State Fair)</i>	Albuquerque/ New Mexico State Fair



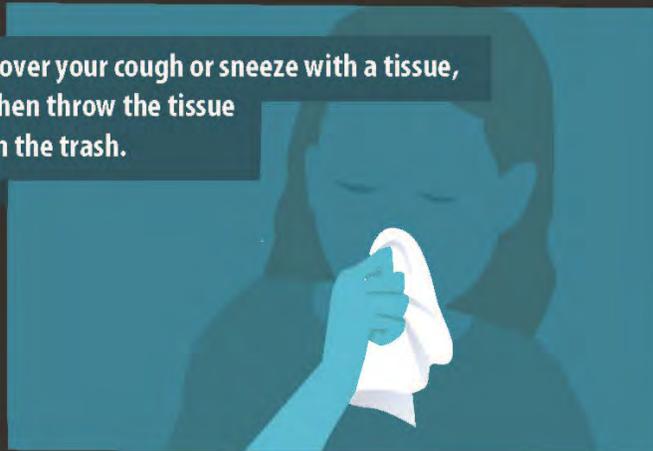
STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.

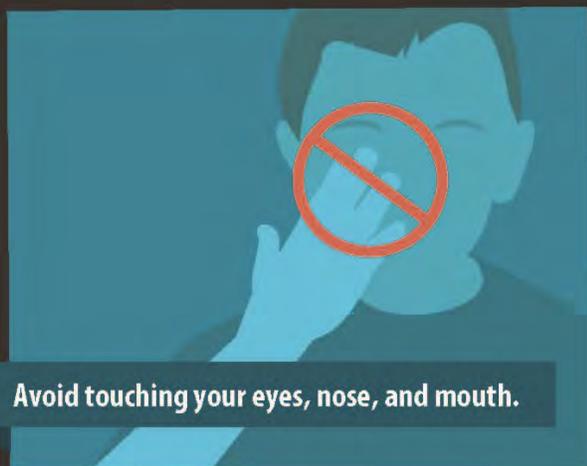
Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.



Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



NEW MEXICO
DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH

For more information: cv.nmhealth.org

Census 2020 Deadline Extended; Report Praises DVS For Its Role in Reaching Out to Veterans



Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the U.S. Census Bureau has extended the 2020 census deadline—which was originally set for the end of July, to October 31.

The national count, taken every decade, determined where billions of dollars in federal funding goes, as well as how many seats in Congress each state has.

Nationally, more than 70 million households had responded, but the agency is slowing its data collection to help protect households and employees from COVID-19. The Census

Bureau stopped field data collection — having census data collected in person — in March, but plans to reopen field offices soon, and have data collectors return to the field in early August.

Most residents should have received a letter from the U.S. Census Bureau containing an individualized code to access the online questionnaire. Those who have not received a letter or have misplaced it can go to www.2020census.gov.

State Quarterly Census Report

Here in New Mexico, the latest quarterly report by iCount and the *State Complete Count Commission* praises DVS for its continuing role in reaching out to New Mexico's veterans.



In particular, the report cites:

- The veteran population in New Mexico is substantial, and the Department of Veterans' Services (DVS) has been extremely helpful in reaching New Mexico's veterans with important census information.
- There are biweekly posts on the DVS Facebook page. On the DVS website, a banner was added that reads "New Mexico, are you ready to be counted in the 2020 Census?" You can find that banner here: www.nmdvs.org.
- Phone banking to veterans began on April 30 and included a discussion on filling out their census forms.
- Census bill inserts were included in mail-outs to veterans—which began the week of May 11th. Posters and flyers for physical spaces have been received by the agency—but due to community centers being closed, they have not yet been placed.
- There is census information included in the monthly newsletter, which has a distribution list of more than 1,200 recipients.

More Census Information: 1-(844) 330-2020

General resource information on the 2020 Census: icountnm.gov

Cheers to you this Independence Day!



Your bravery, dedication, and love for this country have helped preserve the freedoms we enjoy every day. **Thank you!**



One of your constitutional rights is to be counted in the **2020 Census**. Make sure that you and your family are counted so that we can secure more funding to support our veterans.

The decennial census is mandated by the U.S. Constitution and happens once every 10 years.

It is 10 simple questions and takes about 10 minutes to complete.

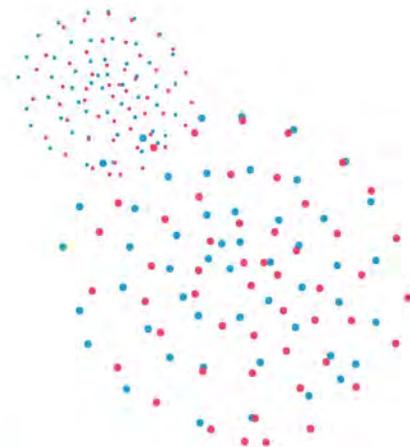
All answers are protected by law, and cannot be shared with private businesses or other federal agencies.

FILL OUT YOUR CENSUS:

 **my2020census.gov**

 **(844) 330-2020**

 **By mail**, if you've received a paper form.



Thank you for taking the time to fill out your census, and thank you for your service to our country!



LEARN MORE AT
2020census.gov or call (844) 330-2020





New Mexico PBS / KNME-TV, Ch. 5.1 presents
Programs That Celebrate America & The July 4th Weekend
 for Those Who Serve and their Families & Friends
 -- For more details, please visit www.nmpbs.org --

THE STATUE OF LIBERTY

Ch. 5.1 – Friday, 7/3 at 9:00 p.m.

This 1985 Ken Burns film chronicles the creation and history of the Statue of Liberty and what it represents to all Americans – from the development of the monument--from its conception, to its complicated and often controversial construction, to its final dedication--and offers interviews with a wide range of Americans.

A CAPITOL FOURTH (2020)

Ch. 5.1 – Saturday, 7/4 at 7:00 p.m. and again at 8:30 p.m.

PBS' National July 4th TV Tradition -- Returns for A Special 40th Anniversary Presentation

-- Plus a Tribute to the Everyday Heroes on the Front Lines of the COVID-19 Pandemic Crisis,
 and A Salute to Our Wounded Warriors and Their Families

Hosted by JOHN STAMOS, Two-Time Emmy Award-Nominated Actor & Producer,
 and VANESSA WILLIAMS, Multi-Platinum Recording Artist & Star of Television, Film & Broadway

Featuring Performances from Coast to Coast by: John Fogerty, Patti LaBelle,
 The Temptations, Trace Adkins, Renée Fleming, Andy Grammer, Yolanda Adams, Brantley Gilbert,
 Lauren Alaina, Chrissy Metz, Brian Stokes Mitchell, Kelli O'Hara, Mandy Gonzalez and
 the National Symphony Orchestra, **with live fireworks from Washington, D.C.**

Our nation's 244th birthday celebration will feature NEW performances from iconic locations across the country, including Washington, D.C, New York, Nashville, Los Angeles and Philadelphia, as well as highlights from the concert's forty-year history and the stirring patriotic favorites viewers enjoy on the Fourth of July. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the traditional live *A CAPITOL FOURTH* will not be held on the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol. Instead, to ensure the health and safety of all involved, this year's concert performances were pre-taped without a live audience.

This special 90-minute presentation of *A CAPITOL FOURTH*, will also feature a tribute to our nation's workers on the front lines in the fight against the pandemic, a segment honoring the contributions of African American heroes from our nation's past and present, and a salute to our wounded warriors and their families. The fireworks display over our nation's iconic skyline will be covered live during the broadcast captured by multiple cameras stationed around the city.



Medical Foster Home Program

New Mexico Veterans Affairs Health Care System
1501 San Pedro Drive SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108

Allison Richardson, LISW - Medical Foster Home Coordinator

MEDICAL FOSTER HOME (MFH):

Medical Foster Home is a type of Community Residential Care (CRC) home chosen by the Veteran who is unable to live independently, as a preferred means to receive family-style living with room, board, and personal care. The Medical Foster Home is matched with the Veteran's physical, social, and emotional needs, including supervision and protection. Medical Foster Home is appropriate for certain Veterans who meet a nursing home level of care, and prefer a non-institutional setting for their long-term care.

The Medical Foster Home coordinator finds a caregiver in the community who is willing to take a Veteran into their home and provide 24-hour supervision as well as needed personal assistance. VA provides comprehensive primary care through the interdisciplinary Home Based Primary Care team. The expectation is that this is a long-term commitment, where the Veteran may live for a few years, often for the remainder of his or her life.

The Veteran pays the caregiver directly. This amount is based upon the Veteran's individual level of care and financial resources.

To learn more about this program, please contact Allison Richardson, LISW - Medical Foster Home Coordinator - at 505-265-1711 x4732 office phone, 505-250-2148 work cell phone, or Allison.Richardson1@va.gov

HOME BASED PRIMARY CARE (HBPC):

HBPC is a program that delivers primary health care in the home. Care is delivered by an interdisciplinary team composed of VA staff to homebound Veterans whose medical complexity and functional impairment precludes treatment in an ambulatory care setting. Services include: primary care, nursing care and education, rehabilitation services, nutritional counseling, caregiver support, social work services, psychology, and clinical pharmacy services care management.

BENEFITS OF MEDICAL FOSTER CARE:

- Maximized medication compliance and enhanced symptom management
- Meets the changing needs and preferences of the Veteran and family throughout the course of chronic disease, often through the end of life
- Varied access to environments within the home and community
- Offers assisted living that is more affordable to Veterans during a time where demands for long term care services are increasing
- Provides choices and flexibility in daily routines
- Offers access to a variety of healthcare professionals within the home setting
- Increased perception of freedom and independence for all within setting
- Caregiver and veterans report over 90% satisfaction with the program.

MEDICAL FOSTER HOME CAREGIVER REQUIREMENTS:

- Ensure a homelike and friendly atmosphere within the residence
- Willing to follow and collaborate with HBPC team
- Be physically able to provide needed care and have respite caregivers in place
- Willing to provide 24hr 7 day a week supervision to veterans in the home
- Must be 21 years of age and home must be owned or leased by caregiver
- Medical Foster Home is the primary residence of caregiver
- Have informal or formal caregiving experience
- Home will be inspected by VA inspection team and required to follow state and local regulations

VA Launches Latest Nationwide Plan to End Veteran Suicide



**VA Secretary
Robert Wilkie**

**For more news and
benefits information
from the VA, visit
www.va.gov**

**The VA has a regional
office in Albuquerque.
For more Information:
[www.benefits.va.gov/
albuquerque](http://www.benefits.va.gov/albuquerque)**

**For information about the
New Mexico VA
Health Care System:
www.albuquerque.va.gov**

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has launched a new program, the *President's Roadmap to Empower Veterans and End a National Tragedy of Suicide* (PREVENTS), to raise awareness about mental health, connect veterans and others at risk of suicide to federal and local resources, and facilitate focused and coordinated research into suicide.

Under the program, the Departments of Veterans Affairs, Defense, Health and Human Services, and other agencies will be tasked with developing a comprehensive strategy for ending the national tragedy of suicide.

Current VA data shows 132 Americans take their own lives every day--including 20 service members, former never-federally-activated Guard and Reserve members, and veterans.

"Suicide prevention is the VA's highest clinical priority, and the department is taking significant steps to address the issue," said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. "But just as there is no single cause of suicide, no single organization can end veteran suicide alone. This new program aims to bring together stakeholders across all levels of government and in the private sector to work side by side to provide our veterans with the mental health and suicide prevention services they need. By employing a public-health approach to suicide prevention, we will equip communities to help veterans get the right care, whenever and wherever they need it."

National Suicide Prevention Activation Campaign

This summer, a PREVENTS Task Force will launch a nationwide public health campaign aimed at educating Americans that suicide is preventable, creating awareness of mental health and suicide prevention best practices with a call to action for ALL Americans to take the PREVENTS Pledge to Prevent Suicide.

A primary goal of the campaign is to change the culture surrounding issues related to suicide and mental health. The campaign will stress everyone has a role to play in the well-being of family members, friends, and coworkers. It will create awareness about risk and protective factors and encourage people to reach out to those who may be struggling.

The campaign will rely on coordinated messaging from all levels of government and non-government partners, as well as national digital, radio and television public service announcements. Efforts will focus on dissemination in states with a high concentration of veterans. It will also rely on high-profile ambassadors who will help amplify these messages.

(continued)

Improving Suicide Prevention Research

Too often, efforts have focused on a one-size-fits-all approach to suicide prevention that fails to consider an individual's specific risk factors. As a key element of the roadmap, PREVENTS will launch the National Research Strategy to accelerate the development and implementation of effective solutions to help prevent veteran suicide.

The development of the National Research Strategy will result in an increase in focus on the isolation of risk factors and an identification of the most effective treatment practices and interventions for veterans. This all of government and all of nation approach will lead to a dramatic shift in the ability to prevent suicide for Veterans and all Americans.

Building Partnerships

The PREVENTS Task Force has built relationships with dozens of organizations across the country, including faith-based groups, universities, non-profits, corporations, small businesses as well as state and local governments.

The Task Force will continue to expand these relationships in order to share best practices for promoting mental health, ensuring awareness of and access to federal, state, local and tribal resources, and coordinating and implementing the public awareness campaign across sectors. The Task Force will encourage all 50 states, the U.S. Territories, and the District of Columbia to sign the PREVENTS proclamation affirming their commitment to preventing suicide among Veterans and all citizens.

The PREVENTS Task Force is working with communities and stakeholders to develop and further efforts focused on coordinated systems of care. Government and non-government entities alike have a critical role to play in ensuring a comprehensive system of support.

Name-Change for VA's Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment Service

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) service has changed its name to the Veteran Readiness and Employment Service to better reflect the needs of Veterans.

The new name, which includes readiness, is more in line with what service members and Veterans already understand from their military service.

"The new name puts an emphasis on the Veteran and the department's mission to help them reach their employment goals," said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. "The service will also maintain the VR&E abbreviation allowing it to remain identifiable."

The process of renaming the program began with a comprehensive Human-Centered Design (HCD) research effort to better understand the program's strengths, pain points and opportunities to increase program awareness and enhance the delivery of VR&E services. Data collection activities and information sessions were held with Veterans, service members, VR&E employees and Veterans service officers at the various stages of the HCD research process. VR&E learned that confusion and stigma around the former program name deterred some potential program participants from seeking services.

VR&E provides benefits and services that enable transitioning service members and Veterans with service-connected disabilities and an employment barrier, to prepare for, obtain and maintain suitable employment, and to the maximum extent possible, achieve independence in daily living. For more information go to <https://www.va.gov/careers-employment/vocational-rehabilitation/>.

VA Rolls Out New Simplified Travel Reimbursement System for Veterans & Beneficiaries



The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is rolling out a new system in July for Veterans and eligible beneficiaries to submit and track transportation reimbursement claims using VA's secure web-based portal, Access VA: <https://eauth.va.gov/accessva/>

The Beneficiary Travel Self-Service System (BTSSS), which is accessible 24/7, 365 days a year, will simplify how eligible veterans and beneficiaries (more info:

<https://www.va.gov/health-care/get-reimbursed-for-travel-pay/>) can claim mileage reimbursement for travel to and from both VA health care or VA authorized non-VA health care service locations.

“The VA is working diligently to find new ways to innovate and simplify how it serves veterans and their beneficiaries,” said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. “Streamlining the Beneficiary Travel Self-Service System will help our veterans get their travel reimbursements more securely and efficiently.”

BTSSS enables veterans and caregivers to submit claims for reimbursement of costs from a personally owned vehicle, common carrier, meals and/or lodging, and other travel related expenses such as tolls, parking and luggage.

The national implementation across Veterans Integrated Service Networks (VISN) will run in phases through November. The first phase will start in July. The New Mexico VA Health Care System is a member of VISN 22; the El Paso VA Health Care System and the West Texas VA Health Care Systems are members of VISN 17.

September 8: VISN's 1, 9, 12, **17**, 21, **22**

As BTSSS goes live, the use of kiosks will be discontinued however, in person claims and hard-copy submissions are still available. For more information on BTSSS and eligibility, visit the VA Travel Pay Reimbursement webpage <https://www.va.gov/health-care/get-reimbursed-for-travel-pay/>.