



# The Guardian

*The monthly newsletter of the New Mexico Dept. of Veterans' Services*  
**September 2025**

•Website: [www.nmdvs.org](http://www.nmdvs.org)

•Facebook: [NMDVSHealthcare2015](https://www.facebook.com/NMDVSHealthcare2015)

•Instagram: [newmexicoveterans](https://www.instagram.com/newmexicoveterans)

## September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month

Everyday, we work to raise awareness about suicide prevention and renew our commitment to supporting those who have served our nation. The New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) recognizes that Veterans and their families have given so much in service to our country. Yet, too many continue to face invisible wounds such as PTSD, depression, and the challenges of transitioning back to civilian life. Suicide Prevention Month is a reminder that no veteran should face these struggles alone.



Across the United States, suicide remains a leading cause of death, and the risk is even higher among veterans. Behind every identification number and rank is a name, a face, and a story of service and sacrifice. Together, we can help ensure that every veteran knows support is within their reach.

### Local Resources for Veterans in New Mexico

**The New Mexico 988 Crisis and Access Line (NMCAL)** is available 24/7/365 to provide free, confidential support for anyone in distress, including Veterans and their families. Veterans can call or text 988 and press "1" to be connected directly with the Veterans Crisis Line, where responders understand military culture and the unique challenges faced by those who have served. Learn more at [988nm.org](http://988nm.org).

**Peer to Peer Warmline** – A safe, confidential line where individuals can connect with trained Peer Support Specialists who have military experience and can offer empathy, understanding, and guidance. Available daily from 3:30 PM to 11:30 PM at 1-855-4NM-7100 (1-855-466-7100).

**NMConnect App** – A free, confidential mobile app that connects veterans and their families to 988, the Warmline, and local and national resources. It also includes self-help tools and wellness tracking to support resilience. [Download for iOS & Android](#).

**New Mexico 5 Actions Program™** – A free, confidential online tool that helps individuals, families, and communities address substance use and addiction, issues that too often go hand in hand with veteran suicide. Learn more at [nm5actions.com](http://nm5actions.com).

Asking for help is not a sign of weakness. It is a sign of strength. Whether you are struggling yourself or you are concerned about a fellow service member, reaching out can help save lives. NMDVS remains committed to preventing Veteran suicide through participation and collaboration in the New Mexico Governor's Challenge to reduce suicide rates among Veterans, service members, and their families. NMDVS has partnered with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), including the New Mexico Crisis and Access Line (NMCAL)/988, local non-profits, clinicians, the New Mexico National Guard, VA representatives, and the New Mexico Department of Health in this effort.

For more information on programs and resources, the NMDVS Healthcare Coordination Division is dedicated to assisting and advocating on behalf of our veterans and their families with their healthcare-related needs. Visit the resources page at <https://www.nmdvs.org/healthcare/>

# AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2025 THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS ELIMINATING PAPER CHECKS

## What does this mean for you?

- **Do you receive monthly checks from Social Security? Do you receive your yearly Tax Refund by check? Do you receive Veterans Benefits by check?**

You will need a bank account for direct deposit or apply for an exception (very limited) with the U.S. Treasury as soon as possible.

- **Do you make payments to the IRS or federal government by check?**

You will now need to make those payments electronically.

## BANK ON NEW MEXICO CAN HELP YOU ACCESS A SAFE AND AFFORDABLE BANK ACCOUNT.

Bank On New Mexico, powered by Prosperity Works, partners with financial institutions and community organizations to help you access a bank account, even if you have been turned away in the past.

**Bank On certified accounts are provided by trusted banks and credit unions.**

These accounts offer:

- No overdraft fees
- Low or no monthly fees
- Direct deposit to get your refund faster
- Easy ways to sign up from home, virtually, or over the phone
- Free, user-friendly tools, including debit card, bill pay, withdrawals, low-balance alerts, smartphone apps, and more.
- Ongoing support for your financial journey

## Get started today!

Setting up a bank account will ensure you receive your social security payment, tax refund, or veteran benefits quickly, safely and without predatory fees.

For more information and to see a map with participating Bank and Credit Union branch locations:

- Scan the QR code
- Visit [bankonnewmexico.org/accounts](https://bankonnewmexico.org/accounts)
- Learn more about Bank On New Mexico and Bank On accounts at [prosperityworks.net/bank-on-new-mexico](https://prosperityworks.net/bank-on-new-mexico)





## Property Tax Exemptions

The New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) is accepting applications for the Veterans property tax exemptions signed into law on March 20, 2025. The standard Veteran property tax exemption increased to \$10,000 and will be applied to the Veteran/unmarried surviving spouse's notice of value. In 2026 and subsequent tax years, the amount shall be adjusted for inflation.

For tax year 2026, the Disabled Veterans Exemption allows for the Veteran/unmarried surviving spouse to apply for an adjusted exemption in an amount equal to the percentage of the Veteran's disability as determined by federal law. Veterans who choose to add the new Disabled Veteran tax exemption must submit an application to NMDVS and file it with their County Assessor.

### Documents needed to verify eligibility:

- A copy of DD-214, NA 13038, NOAA Form 56-16, or PHS Form 1867
- VA Award Letter showing percentage of disability
- NM Driver's License, ID, Voter registration card, or most recent NM Personal Income Tax Return
- Widow/Widower copy of marriage and death certificates

If you have questions, please call NMDVS at 505-827-6300 or 505-383-2400. Visit any of our field offices or visit [nmdvs.org](https://nmdvs.org) for a property tax exemption form and get your certificate now.

## New Mexico State Park Lifetime Veterans Pass

The New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) is accepting applications for the New Mexico State Park Lifetime Veterans Pass. This pass gives eligible Veterans free, unlimited access to all New Mexico state parks, including day-use and overnight camping. Standard entry and campsite fees are waived, but reservation processing charges, group shelters, special event sites, and cabin rentals are not included.

The program is a partnership between NMDVS and the State Parks Division under the Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD). To qualify, applicants must be New Mexico residents with honorable or general (under honorable conditions) service in the U.S. Armed Forces, including the National Guard, Reserves, U.S. Public Health Service, or NOAA Corps.



### Applicants must submit:

- A completed application form
- Proof of service DD-214, NOAA Form 56-16, or PHS Form 1867
- Proof of New Mexico residency (driver's license, voter registration, or state tax return)

For an application, frequently asked questions, and more information, visit the NMDVS website [here](https://nmdvs.org).

Approved Veterans will receive a non-transferable vehicle hang-tag pass that must be displayed in the park.

**Please note:** Due to high demand, processing times may be longer than usual. Our team is working diligently to ensure every submission is handled as quickly and accurately as possible.

Thank you for your patience and for your service.



## New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services Notice of Change to Walk-In Service Days **September 2025**

Due to the growing demand for benefits and services, NMDVS has updated its walk-in service schedule for September.

Beginning in September, DVS Field Offices will designate specific walk-in days for veterans seeking assistance with VA claims and State Benefits.

**On these designated days, veterans can be seen without an appointment for full services.**

Services remain available every weekday; however, veterans visiting field offices on non-designated walk-in days without scheduled appointments may experience limited services or long wait times but can opt to drop off applications for benefits.

**NMDVS State Benefits Offices\*\* will continue to offer full service to daily walk-ins, with no change in availability.**

Veterans seeking state-specific benefits may visit these offices at any time during regular business hours.

**\*\* denotes office is both Field and State Benefit Office**

Office Location	Walk-in Service Day 8:15 AM-4:30 PM	Phone
Alamogordo	Wednesdays	(575) 437-4635
Albuquerque Pinetree Center **	Thursdays	(505) 383-2400
Albuquerque Goodwill	Mondays -Tuesdays - Wednesdays	(505) 274-0393
Albuquerque VA Hospital	Wednesdays	(505) 623-1729
Albuquerque VARO **	Thursdays	(505) 479-0672
Belen	Thursdays	(505) 537-9339
Clovis	Wednesdays	(575) 825-9602
Farmington	Wednesdays	(505) 916-4835
Gallup	Wednesdays	(505) 389-8731
Grants	Tuesdays	(505) 521-8132
Hobbs	Wednesdays	(575) 241-0714
Las Cruces	Wednesdays	(505) 644-6869
Las Vegas	Tuesdays	(505) 331-8838
Rio Rancho	Wednesdays	(505) 221-7190
Roswell	Mondays	(575) 988-5900
Santa Fe **	Wednesdays	(505) 827-6300
Silver City	Mondays	(575) 313-5627
Taos	Wednesdays	(505) 709-5263

## Upcoming DVS Veterans' Benefits Outreach Visits

NMDVS is scheduled to make the following outreach visits at the locations listed below.

Veterans and/or their eligible dependents are encouraged to stop by to file for or ask information about—VA disability ratings, VA medical or mental health care, retiree pensions, military burials, and many other VA benefits.

Staff can also help with applying for state Veterans' benefits such as discounted fishing and hunting licenses, Veterans' license plates, property tax exemptions, state park passes, and many more state Veterans' benefits.

Please bring a copy of your DD 214, NA 13038, NOAA 56-16, PHS 1867, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, which are necessary for filing all Veterans' benefits claims. VA award letter showing percentage of disability, NM Driver's License, ID, voter Registration card, and Widow/Widower copy of marriage and death certificates if applicable. NMDVS can help Veterans file for lost or misplaced DD 214s.

Artesia	10/15, 11/19, 12/17	United Veterans Hall, 402 W Hermosa Dr.	10am-3pm
Carlsbad	10/8, 10/22, 11/12	VFW Post 8703, 1919 San Jose Blvd.	10am-3pm
Cannon AFB	10/21, 11/4, 11/18	Military & Family Readiness Center	2:30pm-5:00pm
Capitan	10/1,12/3	Capitan Library, 101 E 2nd St.	10am-2pm
Deming	10/8, 11/12	Old VFW Bldg., 4045 Overhill Dr. NW	10am-1pm
Deming	10/22, 11/26	Luna County Senior Center, 800 Granite St.	10am-3pm
Española	10/1, 11/5	Workforce Connection Ctr. 56 Co Rd. 126B	10am-2pm
Eunice	10/16, 12/11	Eunice Library, 1003 Avenue N	9am-11:30am
Holloman AFB	10/6, 10/20	Military Family Readiness Center	8am-10am
Jal	10/16, 12/11	Woolworth Library, 100 E Utah Ave	1pm-3:30pm
Lovington	10/23, 12/18	Lovington Library, 115 Main St.	9am-11:30am
Ruidoso	11/5	Ruidoso Community Ctr/501 Sudderth Dr.	10am-3pm
Socorro/Belen	10/14, 11/11	Forget Me Not Veteran Ctr/705 N. California	9am-3pm
Tatum	10/23, 12/18	Tatum Library, 323 E Broadway St.	

### The following are weekly outreach visits:

Santa Fe	Mondays	Santa Fe Vet Center, 6535 Airport Road	9am-4pm
Santa Fe	Fridays	Santa Fe Vet Center/, 6535 Airport Road	9am-2pm
T or C Vet. Home	Wednesdays	State Veterans' Home/992 S. Broadway	9am-4pm

Veterans and their eligible dependents can always contact any of the NMDVS field offices statewide listed on the last two pages of this newsletter. Each office is staffed by nationally certified Veterans Service Officers (VSO), who can also offer assistance by phone or email.

**If you know of or are hosting a veterans' or community event that would benefit from having a Veterans' Service Officer on site to help answer questions on benefits available please contact DVS Field Services Director Robin Wilson at [Robin.Wilson@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:Robin.Wilson@dvs.nm.gov)**



## 78th Birthday of the U.S. Air Force and Air National Guard

On September 18, we proudly celebrate the 78th birthday of the United States Air Force and the Air National Guard. This day honors their vital role in safeguarding our nation, their legacy of innovation, and the generations of Airmen who have dedicated themselves to service.

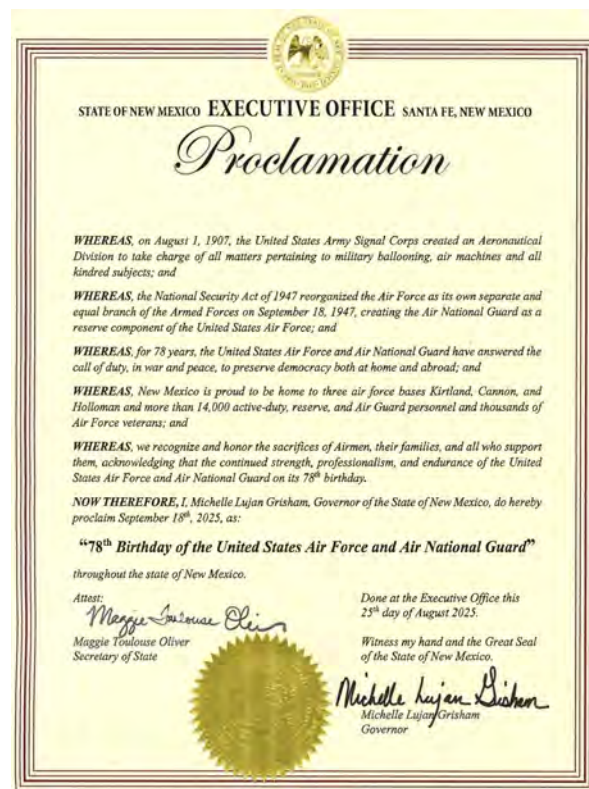
The story of the Air Force began on August 1, 1907, when the U.S. Army Signal Corps created an Aeronautical Division tasked with overseeing “all matters pertaining to military ballooning, air machines, and all kindred subjects.”

Four decades later, the National Security Act of 1947 transformed military aviation by establishing the Air Force as an independent and equal branch of the Armed Forces. That same act created the Air National Guard as the reserve component of the Air Force, ensuring a strong, ready force at home and abroad.

For 78 years, the men and women of the Air Force and Air National Guard have answered the call in both war and peace, defending democracy, responding to emergencies, and standing watch across the globe. Their commitment represents the very best of American service and sacrifice.

Here in New Mexico, we are especially proud to be home to three Air Force bases: Kirtland, Cannon, and Holloman, along with more than 14,000 active duty, reserve, and Air Guard personnel, and thousands of Air Force veterans who continue to contribute to our communities.

As we mark this milestone, we honor the dedication of Airmen, their families, and all who support them. The continued strength, professionalism, and endurance of the U.S. Air Force and Air National Guard ensure that America remains strong, safe, and free. Happy 78th Birthday to the U.S. Air Force and Air National Guard!



## Forgotten Heroes Burial Ceremony 2025

On Thursday, September 18, 2025, the cremated remains of 38 unclaimed military Veterans will be laid to rest with full military honors during the annual Forgotten Heroes Burial Ceremony. The memorial service will begin at 9 a.m. at Legacy Church, located at 4701 Wyoming Blvd NE, Albuquerque. Following the ceremony, the urns will be escorted by law enforcement, service agencies, and the New Mexico American Legion Riders. The ceremony concludes at 11 a.m. at the Santa Fe National Cemetery, 501 North Guadalupe Street.



The Forgotten Heroes Funeral Program is a partnership between the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services, Bernalillo County, the New Mexico National Guard, Albuquerque Police Department, Santa Fe Police Department, Bernalillo County Sheriff's and Fire Departments, Director's Choice Funeral Home, and Santa Fe National Cemetery. The program ensures that honorably discharged Veterans who pass away without family or friends to claim them receive a proper burial with the dignity and respect they deserve.

The public is invited to attend and serve as “family” to provide a final salute for these fallen Veterans who have served our country. This event demonstrates that respect for military service has no expiration date.

# Preserving “HERstory” Documenting Military Women’s Service

The New Mexico Department of Veterans’ Services (NMDVS) proudly supports the Military Women’s Memorial Strive For 500 Campaign, a nationwide effort honoring women who have served our country by sharing their stories and experiences.

For generations, women have served with unwavering courage, dedication, and sacrifice. From the Revolutionary War to modern conflicts, their contributions have shaped our history and secured our freedoms. Yet, for too long, these stories were often overlooked or difficult to access.

That changed with the creation of the Military Women’s Memorial Register. This one-of-a-kind interactive database preserves the names, service records, photographs, and personal stories of women who have served in the U.S. military. For over 30 years, the Memorial has documented these stories, providing a permanent repository of American, military, and women’s history. It’s a place where “HERstory” truly comes to life, allowing visitors to explore individual profiles and understand the impact women have had on our nation.

New Mexico has an opportunity to contribute to this national treasure. The Strive For 500 Campaign challenges each state and territory to register at least 500 military women in 2025. New Mexico is home to thousands of incredible servicewomen, Veterans, and retirees whose stories deserve to be told.

If you are a servicewoman or Veteran, or know one, we strongly encourage you to take advantage of the free registration with the Military Women’s Memorial. It’s a simple process that will permanently etch your legacy into our nation’s history. By joining the Strive For 500 effort, you are helping shine a light on incredible acts of service, foster a deeper appreciation for the diverse roles women have played in the military, and inspire future generations of leaders. Visit [womensmemorial.org/make-herstory](https://womensmemorial.org/make-herstory) to share your story and be part of this important effort.

## CELEBRATE MILITARY WOMEN - SHARE YOUR STORY



### THE MISSION:

The mission of the Military Women's Memorial is to invite you to honor, preserve, and share the rich and diverse stories of women who have served—and continue to serve our nation in uniform. It seeks to recognize their courage, sacrifice, and contributions across all branches of the military, ensuring their legacy is remembered and celebrated for generations to come.



### THE VISION:

As the only historical repository documenting all military women's service. We educate and inspire through innovative and interactive exhibitions, our world-class collections and engaging programs and events for all generations. We honor the commitment, contributions and experiences of every woman who served in, or with, the armed forces





## Military Women's Memorial

The Military Women's Memorial is located at the entrance to Arlington National Cemetery, honors and tells the stories of women, past and present, who serve our nation.

Without **HER**story our nation's history is incomplete

The Military Women's Memorial is the only historical repository documenting all military women's service, we educate and inspire through innovative and interactive exhibitions, our world-class collections, and engaging programs and events for all generations. We honor the commitment, contributions and experiences of every woman who serves in, or with, the Armed Forces.

[www.womensmemorial.org](http://www.womensmemorial.org)

Take your rightful place in history.  
Scan the QR Code with your  
cell phone to

Register **HER**story



REGISTER  
**HER  
STORY**  
*today!*



Join the thousands  
of women who  
have registered  
their **HER**story  
with the Military  
Women's Memorial





# POW MIA Recognition Day September 19th

On Friday, September 19th, our state and nation will observe National POW/MIA Recognition Day. For many Veterans, this day is not just another date on the calendar; it is a time to remember brothers and sisters in arms who never came home and to honor those who endured captivity with courage and dignity.

In New Mexico, this remembrance carries a special weight. The 200th Coast Artillery, our “New Mexico Brigade”, stood among the first to face combat in World War II. Many of those Soldiers were forced into the infamous Bataan Death March. Their sacrifice is etched into our state’s history and their resilience continues to inspire generations of service members. Across New Mexico, memorials like the Bataan Memorial Park in Albuquerque and the Bataan Memorial Building in Santa Fe, keep their stories alive for all who served and continue to serve.

For Veterans, the black and white POW/MIA flag holds deep meaning. The stark image of the prisoner’s silhouette reminds us of our comrades who were left behind and of the promise we made never to forget them. Flying that flag is not just a tradition, it’s a bond of loyalty to those who cannot stand beside us.

On this day, Veterans across our state will gather at military bases, memorials, and community events. Some will attend flag ceremonies or stand watch at a missing man table. Others will share stories with their families or quietly raise the POW/MIA flag at home. However we choose to honor this day, we do it with respect, remembrance, and the promise that no one is forgotten.

For every Veteran, POW/MIA Recognition Day is a chance to reflect on the bonds of service. It is a moment to honor the sacrifices of our brothers and sisters and to renew our commitment to those still missing. Here in New Mexico, where military history runs deep, that commitment endures. This September 19th, let us remember, honor, and stand united because we know what it means when we say: You are not forgotten.

The Bataan Building in Santa Fe serves as the headquarters of the New Mexico Department of Veterans’ Services. Named in honor of the New Mexicans who endured the Bataan Death March during World War II, the building stands as both a working government office and a tribute to sacrifice. The building was added to the National Register of Historic Places and is home to military displays and New Mexico's Eternal Flame.



# Gold Star Mother's and Families Day September 28th

Observed on the last Sunday in September, Gold Star Mother's Day, falls on September 28th this year. It is a deeply meaningful day set aside to recognize and honor mothers who have lost a son or daughter in military service, as well as the families who continue to bear that loss.

The phrase "Gold Star" dates to World War I, when families would display flags in their windows to represent loved ones serving in the armed forces: a blue star for each active service member, and a gold star placed over the blue to signify a life lost in service to the nation. This enduring symbol reminds us of the price of freedom and the sacrifices made not only by those who serve but also by the families who support them.

Founded in 1928, American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. has carried forward this tradition of remembrance, providing comfort, community, and advocacy to ensure the stories and sacrifices of fallen service members are never forgotten. The New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc., part of the National Garden Clubs program, has also played a vital role in honoring Veterans and Gold Star families. Their Blue Star program honors Veterans past, present, and future, while the Gold Star program offers honor, hope, and healing for families of the fallen.

It has been a very busy year with the Blue and Gold in New Mexico, marked by meaningful dedication ceremonies across the state: June 12th, the Artesia Garden Club and City of Artesia dedicated a Blue Star and Gold Star Marker at 511 W. Texas Avenue. Troop 228 presented the colors in a moving ceremony, and Mayor Pro Tem Jeffrey Youtsey signed a proclamation declaring the day as Blue Star, Gold Star Family Day.

On June 26, 2025, in Roswell, the Home Garden Club dedicated a Gold Star Marker at the General Douglas McBride Cemetery, 3101 South Main Street. Mayor Tim Jennings accepted the marker on behalf of the city. Garden Club members presented a beautiful wreath, and the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) Cabinet Secretary Jamison Herrera dedicated the marker on behalf of the National Garden Clubs, Gold Star Families, and Gold Star Mothers. NMDVS Director of Veteran State Benefits Edward Mendez delivered the Gold Star Families' tribute. Earlier events this year also included dedications in Albuquerque, Clovis, and Angel Fire. Additional markers are planned for Albuquerque later this fall, as well as future dedications in Hobbs.

As we observe Gold Star Mother's and Families Day on September 28th, New Mexico honors the families whose lives have been forever changed by loss. Through the work of the Garden Clubs and the Gold Star Monuments across our state, we ensure that the service and sacrifice of our Veterans and their families will never be forgotten.

Photos: (top, left to right ) NMDVS Cabinet Secretary Jamison Herrera, Shirley Tetreault Blue Star/Gold Star Chair with the New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. and NMDVS Director of Veteran State Benefits Edward Mendez in Roswell (middle) Artesia Gold Star Artesia (bottom) Blue Star Marker Artesia





## Two 100 Year Old WWII Veterans Honored

The New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) honored two World War II Veterans before they threw out the first pitch at Isotopes Park on Sunday, August 24th. Lawrence Talamante and Ted Rush, both celebrating their 100th birthdays, were recognized by Lieutenant Governor Howie Morales and NMDVS Cabinet Secretary Jamison Herrera.

Ted Rush was born in Chicago in 1925 and, in 1943, answered his call to duty by joining the United States Marine Corps, performing as a musician with the Halls of Montezuma Orchestra, and trained in Guadalcanal. He landed with the 4th wave of the invasion at Yontan Airfield, serving as a stretcher bearer during the Battle of Okinawa. Mr. Rush met war correspondent Ernie Pyle on his first day in Okinawa; a moment that later came full circle when he went on to teach at Ernie Pyle Junior High School in Albuquerque. His connection between wartime experiences and his years as an educator in New Mexico reflects a lifetime of service both in uniform and in the classroom.

Lawrence Talamante, born in Gallup, NM, in March 1925, left high school in 1943 to answer his call to duty by joining the United States Navy, beginning a journey serving with the Seabees and sailing on the USS Pine Island and the William Mitchell during WWII to serving as a field kitchen cook and on the Fleet Air rescue mission in the Korean War in 1950. His continued service in the Naval Reserve after returning from the Navy highlighted his dedication and willingness to serve others. Mr. Talamante was a culinary specialist within his community and at the Ft. Wingate Army Depot near Gallup, NM.

We honor not only their service and sacrifice, but also the courage of an entire generation who answered the call during World War II. As the number of living WWII Veterans grows smaller each year, it is more important than ever to preserve their legacy and ensure their resilience continues to inspire



Photos: (top) Lt. Gov. Morales and NMDVS Sec. Herrera with the Talamante family and Ted Rush; (middle) Ted Rush pitching; (bottom) Lawrence Talamante pitching.





# NMDVS Agency & Veteran Service Officer Training

From August 11th to 15th, the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS), in partnership with the National Association of County Veterans Service Officers (NACVSO) and the New Mexico Indian Affairs Department (NMIAD), hosted an in-person accreditation training in Albuquerque. This intensive, week-long program brought together Tribal Veteran Service Officers (VSOs) and NMDVS staff to strengthen their knowledge of Veterans' benefits and build the skills needed to advocate for Veterans and their families effectively.

Seven Tribal VSOs and three NMDVS VSOs earned their national accreditation upon completion of the course. This accreditation grants these officers the ability to directly represent Veterans before the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). With this authority, they can ensure Veterans in their communities receive professional, informed, and timely assistance in navigating the complex VA benefits system. The training also fostered the exchange of cultural perspectives and best practices, strengthening the partnership among Tribal Nations, Pueblos, Tribes, the State of New Mexico, and NMIAD in serving Veterans.

By hosting this training locally, NMDVS, NACVSO, and NMIAD demonstrated their commitment to making accreditation more accessible to VSOs serving in rural and Tribal communities. As a result, more Veterans across New Mexico, particularly in sovereign Tribal nations, will have access to accredited representatives dedicated to helping them secure the benefits they have earned through their service.

NMDVS also held its annual All Agency Training Event on August 15th in Albuquerque, bringing together staff from every corner of the state, providing employees with the opportunity to step away from their daily routines and connect with colleagues who share the same mission, serving New Mexico's Veterans and their families.

Over the course of the training, staff participated in workshops and were encouraged to collaborate across divisions. More than just a series of presentations, the event served as a forum for exchanging ideas, discussing challenges, and learning best practices from one another.

For many employees, the training was also a chance to put faces to the names they work with every day over the phone and email. These connections not only build stronger working relationships but also help ensure that Veterans across the state receive consistent, high-quality service no matter where they live.





# NMDVS All Agency Training Awards Presentation



**Rookie of the Year** – Congratulations to Amberly Viner, Women Veterans Program Manager at NMDVS, for being recognized as the top-performing first-year employee. This award honors her exceptional performance, customer service, and work ethic. Presented by Cabinet Secretary Jamison Herrera.



**The Groot Award** – Congratulations to Clarissa Sierra, Silver City Veteran Service Officer with NMDVS, for being recognized for her resilience, community commitment, and “whatever it takes” attitude in serving New Mexico’s Veterans. Presented by Cabinet Secretary Jamison Herrera.



**The Yoda Award** – Awarded to the NMDVS employee known for their expertise and guidance, the one colleagues and Veterans turn to for advice and mentorship. Congratulations to Jeff George, State Benefits Bureau Chief with NMDVS, for sharing his knowledge and talents with colleagues, Veterans, and their families. Presented by Cabinet Secretary Jamison Herrera.



**Employee of the Year:** Recognizing exceptional performance, agency-wide contributions, and leadership that strengthens NMDVS’s mission to serve New Mexico Veterans and their families. Congratulations to Danelle Lucero, CFO/Acting ASD Director, presented by Cabinet Secretary Jamison Herrera.



# Fall Honor Guard Training Conference and Competition

On Friday, August 25th, the competition was as intense as the temperatures at the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) 16th Annual Military Honors Training Conference and Competition, which was held at the New Mexico Veterans Memorial in Albuquerque. In collaboration with the New Mexico National Guard (NMNG), teams from across the state traveled to participate in this year's event.

NMDVS Deputy Cabinet Secretary Eric James opened the program with NMNG Lt. Col. James Chavez serving as master of ceremonies. Danelle Lucero, NMDVS CFO and Acting ASD Director, explained the requirements teams must meet to receive a stipend from NMDVS, including attending at least one of the two annual conferences or competitions.

As part of the training, Honor Guard members refine their skills in flag folding and presentation, rifle volleys, and the playing of "Taps". Teams were judged on these elements by representatives from NMNG, NMDVS, and event sponsor AARP. Competitions were officiated by Edward Mendez, NMDVS Director of State Benefits, Cemeteries, and Memorial Programs. Members of the New Mexico Army National Guard (NMARNG) Funeral Honors Program demonstrated the proper rendering of burial honors, led by Sgt. Ivan Cano Rubio with team members Sgt. Isacc Nuñez, Sgt. Alejandro Vigil, and Spc. Jose Torres.

NMDVS Cabinet Secretary Jamison Herrera closed the event by presenting awards and thanking participants for their dedication and service. NMDVS, NMNG, and the New Mexico Chapter of AARP are profoundly proud and grateful for the services provided by our volunteer Honor Guards.





# Fall Honor Guard Training Conference and Competition



1st Place Small Group: Marine Corps League #478



1st Place Medium Group: Marine Corps League #478



1st Place Large Group: Marine Corps League #478



Bugle Winner: Al Bourguet American Legion Post 13





# Alamogordo Honors 100 Year Old Marine Fred Ballek

The New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) joined the community of Alamogordo on Saturday, August 30th, to honor World War II Veteran Major Fred Ballek, who marked his 100th birthday on August 21st.

The Yellow Jackets of Otero County, an organization that supports the Veterans of Honor Flight of Southern New Mexico, hosted the celebration. Members of the Marine Corps League, American Legion, and other Veteran organizations gathered to recognize Major Ballek's century of life and distinguished record of service.

NMDVS Cabinet Secretary Jamison Herrera presented Major Ballek with a plaque and a formal letter of appreciation, acknowledging both his service in the United States Marine Corps and his extraordinary milestone.

Born in East Haddam, Connecticut, in 1925, Major Ballek grew up during the Great Depression, a time of profound change and challenge in American history. In 1942, as the world was engulfed in war, he answered the nation's call by enlisting in the United States Marine Corps. He went on to serve with the Marine night fighter squadrons in Okinawa during World War II. After that, he was deployed to Vietnam. Major Ballek also served the solemn duty as a Casualty Assistance Calls Officer, responsible for notifying families of fallen service members, providing support during times of loss, and ensuring they received the benefits and honors owed to their loved ones.

Following his career in the Marine Corps, Major Ballek continued his commitment to service as a member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary. His devotion to Veterans and the community endures through his lifetime memberships in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, Marine Corps League, and numerous other organizations dedicated to supporting those who have served.

On behalf of NMDVS and the people of New Mexico, we extend our deepest gratitude to Major Fred Ballek for his service, sacrifice, and enduring legacy. We honor his century of life, his devotion to country, and wish him a most heartfelt 100th birthday.



Photo (left to right): Commandant Ronald Barnard, Jr. Vice Jeff Rager, Maj. Fred Ballek, Sir Vice Karl Harig; (front) Dr. Sandra Negri-Barnard.



## Local Collaborative 18

On Saturday, August 23rd, the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) participated in the Local Collaborative 18 (LC18) Veterans and Families Event at Northern New Mexico College in Española.

The event was hosted in partnership with the Eight Northern Indian Pueblos Council, Inc. (ENIPC), a nonprofit consortium representing the tribal governments of Nambe, Picuris, Pojoaque, San Ildefonso, Ohkay Owingeh, Santa Clara, Taos, and Tesuque. ENIPC works to strengthen the well-being of these Pueblo communities through collaboration with tribal, state, and federal governments, focusing on education, healthcare, and economic development.

Activities included behavioral health workshops, wellness therapies, and traditional dances. NMDVS Cabinet Secretary Jamison Herrera recognized the service of all Veterans present, while Tribal Liaison Beverly Charley emphasized the importance of collaboration and mutual support. Krista Luna, NMDVS Healthcare Division Director, presented information on rural transportation, care coordination, and homeless programs, and met one-on-one with Veterans to coordinate future services, referrals, resources, and answer questions. Angelica Lapahie, Suicide Prevention Coordinator, provided an overview of suicide prevention services and assisted Veterans with questions about suicide prevention efforts.

The NMDVS Tribal Liaison Program plays a vital role in fostering collaboration across all Tribal communities in New Mexico. Serving as the primary point of contact for Native American Veteran concerns, the Tribal Liaison ensures ongoing communication and partnership.

For more information, contact Beverly Charley, NMDVS Tribal Liaison, at [Vetdvs.triballiaison@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:Vetdvs.triballiaison@dvs.nm.gov).





# Veterans' Memorial Walkway Brick Installation Ceremony

On the morning of Saturday, August 30th, volunteers, staff, and community members came together to lay 512 bricks along the Veterans Memorial Walkway at the Angel Fire Vietnam Veterans Memorial, including eight special bricks honoring Medal of Honor recipients, creating a lasting tribute to Veterans and active military personnel.

The annual event, hosted by the David Westphall Foundation in partnership with the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS), provides a meaningful opportunity to honor those who have served. Since 2007, Run for the Wall (RFTW) riders have generously contributed their labor and support, helping to make each ceremony a heartfelt tribute.

The New Mexico National Guard 615th Transportation Battalion provided additional assistance, alongside American Legion Post 12 and other Veteran organizations, further strengthening the sense of community and shared purpose.

The day began with an opening ceremony led by Westphall Foundation president Jay Mitchell, followed by a warm welcome from NMDVS Deputy Cabinet Secretary Eric James. In a moving moment, Deputy Secretary James presented Vietnam Veteran Gilbert Padilla of the U.S. Army with a challenge coin in recognition of his service, and Padilla's family placed his engraved brick in the walkway, a symbol of honor and remembrance.

Each brick carries a story: some memorialize those who made the ultimate sacrifice, while others celebrate Veterans who returned home and lived full lives. Together, they form a mosaic of service, courage, and memory; a solemn yet healing cornerstone of the Angel Fire Memorial.

Managed by NMDVS in collaboration with the Westphall Foundation, the Memorial offers more than just the Walkway. Visitors can explore the museum, library, and visitor center, gaining insight into the daily lives and sacrifices of military personnel. A half-scale replica of the National Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall bears the names of over 58,318 fallen service members, including 400 New Mexicans, connecting local heroes to the national story of Vietnam Veterans. The Memorial also overlooks the Angel Fire State Veterans Cemetery, which opened in July 2020.

The Angel Fire Vietnam Veterans Memorial stands as a powerful reminder of service, sacrifice, and community; where every brick tells a story and every visit honors the legacy of those who served.





## Take Your First Step Toward Entrepreneurship



Offered through the New Mexico Veterans Business Outreach Center (VBOC), Boots to Business is a free, two-day foundational entrepreneurship course designed for transitioning service members, veterans, National Guard and Reserve members, and military spouses interested in starting or growing a small business.

Participants will gain essential knowledge on the core principles of business ownership, including how to evaluate the feasibility of a business idea and how to develop a strategic business plan—an indispensable tool for any new or expanding venture. The curriculum also covers key topics such as securing start-up or growth capital, accessing technical assistance, and exploring federal contracting opportunities.

Join us for one of our dynamic, full-day sessions, typically held from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please note that on-base access is required for classes held at military installations.

Whether you're just beginning your entrepreneurial journey or looking to expand your business, we're here to help guide your next steps. For more information about the Boots to Business program or to register, please contact VBOC Advisor **Christina Stover** at [christina.stover@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:christina.stover@dvs.nm.gov) or call **(505) 469-8501**.

City	Dates	Location
Clovis, NM	September 18 & 19	Cannon Air-Force Base
Virtual B2B Reboot	September 26 (8am-4:30pm)	Click <a href="#">here</a> to register
Clovis, NM	November 13 & 14	Cannon Air-Force Base

*\* Participants will require base access*

*Funded in part through a Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration.*

# We Would Love to Help Promote Your Business!

## Register your veteran-owned business with VBOC today!

*Scan the QR code to fill out the form.*



U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION



VETERANS BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS



# POWER HOUR

Where Veteran Entrepreneurs Meet,  
Learn and Level-Up



**Sept 25th**



**5 - 7 pm**



**8200 Carmel Ave NE**

- ✓ Insights from VBOC
- ✓ Veteran Networking
- ✓ Door Prizes from veteran sponsors
- ✓ Actionable take home tools

#### Contact Info



**505-544-8771**



**Jon.martinezab@gmail.com**

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**JOHNNY MARTINEZ**  
**Director of VBOC**

**RSVP NOW**







The New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) recognizes Angelica Lapahie, Suicide Prevention Coordinator with the Healthcare Coordination Division. Angelica has only been with the agency for a few months, but she brings a wealth of knowledge to the team. She is a Certified Sexual Assault Advocate, a Certified Native/Tribal Veterans Advocate, and holds certifications in Army ACE/ASIST and VA S.A.V.E. She earned a master's degree in psychology and forensic psychology from Grand Canyon University. She has worked on diverse teams, assisting with a range of complex projects.

Krista Luna, Director of the Healthcare Division, shared that she is fluent in English, Navajo, and Spanish. She added, "Her passion and dedication are valuable assets to the Healthcare Coordination Division, NMDVS, and to our Veterans."

### **What brought you to NMDVS?**

I came from various fields. I worked mostly in Military and Law Enforcement, including investigations, Background Checks, and task forces. I finished my master's degree after my military service and enjoyed talking with fellow Veterans and assisting them.

### **What is your connection to the Veteran community?**

The majority of my family members have served in the military (my grandfather, parents, uncles, brother, and I). One of the photos provided is from the Smithsonian, 'Why We Serve', a museum exhibit, reflecting my family's service. I am a U.S. Army Veteran, NM Army National Guard, six years, NCO Sergeant of S2. I am also a part of three honor/color guards. The Native American Women Warriors (NAWW) is a national color guard, the first all-female, Native American color guard. I am a member of the Women Veteran Warriors (VWW) Color Guard from New Mexico, so I have been attending local New Mexico color guard events. I am also an American Veterans (AMVETS) Post 120 member, one of the only AMVET posts on the Navajo Reservation. I've spent most of my life serving Veterans.

### **Tell us a little about yourself, your hobbies, and what you enjoy doing in your free time.**

I am mostly an introvert, and as a former Army Intelligence officer, I'm not inclined to talk about myself, so I often forget to mention my accomplishments. My main clans are Red Bottom people and born of the Tangle clan. I like spending time with my family, husband, and pets. I weave traditional rugs. I enjoy reading, watching movies, hiking, traveling, and gardening. I am sure I forgot to mention interesting random facts.

NMDVS is hiring! View new job postings on the State of New Mexico careers page [here](#).





NEW MEXICO

# CONFERENCE ON AGING

ENGAGE AS YOU AGE

SEPTEMBER 23-25, 2025

GLORIETA CONFERENCE CENTER

## Conference Highlights

Three days of programming featuring:

- Interactive workshops and information sessions
- Engaging speakers, activities, and entertainment
- Insurance, health, caregiver, long-term care, and other resources
- Meals and snacks
- Exhibits and networking
- Shuttles to and from Santa Fe and around the venue
- Concert by Al Hurricane Jr.

## Resources

- Multi-state agency expo
- On-site benefits sign-up opportunities
- Recreational activities including pickleball, zip lining, nature hikes, crafts and more!

**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**  
**AgingInNM.org**







## News from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

### SCOUTS Program brings care to Veteran's homes in New Mexico

In New Mexico, one-third of the population lives in a rural area. Older New Mexican Veterans often need to travel long distances to receive needed services. However, innovations at [VA New Mexico Health Care System](#) have changed how hundreds of Veterans receive their care. [Supporting Community Outpatient, Urgent care & Telehealth Services \(SCOUTS\)](#) is a program that sends Intermediate Care Technicians (ICTs) to the homes of older or medically complex Veterans who have recently left the Emergency Department (ED) to provide follow-up care.



SCOUTS addresses health concerns before they can worsen while a Veteran waits for their next scheduled appointment at a VA Medical Center. This cuts down on wait times by providing faster care.

ICTs typically conduct a home visit between 48 and 72 hours after a Veteran has been discharged from the ED. ICTs check for situations where Veterans might require more assistance. They check for situations like a lack of internet access, geriatric syndromes such as dementia or malnutrition, and if the Veteran is having difficulty moving throughout their home. ICTs then facilitate a telehealth visit with the Veteran and a VA provider to check for risks that might lead to a repeat visit to the ED.

"Medicine is coming full circle now," said Albuquerque VA ICT Michael Anguti. "Home visits through ICTs are the future of care. Our ICTs coordinate with a provider, PT [physical therapy], OT [occupational therapy], to prevent falls, help Veterans move around the house, identify problems, and address them. We keep Veterans on the radar and bring them in when need be."

#### Connecting Veterans with care early

John Romero, an ICT who drives up to 12 hours a week for Veteran home visits, emphasized the preventative care benefits SCOUTS offers. "We are the ER plus," he said. "We go to the houses to provide wound care, draw blood, screen them with some questions to see if they need any additional services to make them less likely to return to ER."

The SCOUTS team also works to prevent first-time ED visits by providing proactive support. Gregory Sanford, another ICT on the Albuquerque team, explained how their team will call Veterans over the phone who are 75 years or older and have not been to a VA ED, to see if they have any unmet needs. By conducting these screenings, they can help Veterans stay out of the ED.

"Veterans feel they're worth somebody's time and are cared for in between appointments. There's mutual respect and appreciation," said Romero.

SCOUTS now operates out of 10 VA sites nationwide, and it will continue to diffuse across the country to other sites. To learn more about SCOUTS, visit its webpage on [Diffusion Marketplace](#).

# Veterans Crisis Line Fact Sheet



## Confidential crisis help for Veterans and their families

The Veterans Crisis Line is a toll-free, confidential resource that connects Veterans in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) responders.

Veterans and their loved ones can **Dial 988 then Press 1**, chat online at [VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat](https://VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat), or send a text message to **838255** to receive free, confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, even if they are not registered with VA or enrolled in VA health care.

The responders at the Veterans Crisis Line are specially trained and experienced in helping Veterans of all ages and circumstances—from Veterans coping with mental health issues that were never addressed to recent Veterans struggling with relationships or the transition back to civilian life. Veterans Crisis Line responders provide support when these and other issues—such as chronic pain, anxiety, depression, sleeplessness, anger, and even homelessness—reach a crisis point. Some of the responders are Veterans themselves and understand what Veterans and their families and friends have been through.

Since its launch in 2007, the Veterans Crisis Line has answered more than 6.2 million calls and initiated the dispatch of

emergency services to callers in crisis more than 233,000 times. The Veterans Crisis Line anonymous online chat service, added in 2009, has engaged in more than 739,000 chats. In November 2011, the Veterans Crisis Line introduced a text-messaging service to provide another way for Veterans to connect with confidential, round-the-clock support and since then has responded to more than 253,000 texts.

In 2011, the National Veterans Suicide Prevention Hotline was renamed the Veterans Crisis Line to encourage Veterans and their families and friends, who may be the first to realize a Veteran is in emotional distress, to reach out for support when issues reach a crisis point, even if it is not a suicidal crisis.

As of July 16, 2022, Veterans and their loved ones in the U.S. can Dial 988 then Press 1 to reach the Veterans Crisis Line.

VA is working to make sure that all Veterans and their loved ones are aware of the Veterans Crisis Line. To reach as many Veterans as possible, VA is coordinating with communities and partner groups nationwide, including community-based organizations, Veterans Service Organizations, and local health care providers, to let Veterans and their loved ones know that support is available whenever, if ever, they need it.

## Whether you're a Veteran or a friend or family member concerned about one, confidential assistance is only a call, click, or text away.

For more information about the Veterans Crisis Line, visit [VeteransCrisisLine.net](https://VeteransCrisisLine.net).

For more information about VA's mental health resources, visit [www.mentalhealth.va.gov](https://www.mentalhealth.va.gov).



Confidential crisis chat at [VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat](https://VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat) or text **838255**



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs





# How to save the Veterans Crisis Line number in your phone

You never know when a crisis may happen. There are simple steps you can take to be prepared. Find instructions below to save the new Veterans Crisis Line number—Dial 988 then Press 1—as a contact in your iOS or Android phone.

## iOS

- 1 Navigate to the Phone app.
- 2 Tap the "Contacts" button at the bottom, and then tap the "+" button in the top-right corner to add a new contact.
- 3 Name the contact **Veterans Crisis Line**.
- 4 Tap the "add phone" button.
- 5 Type **988** on the keypad, then tap "+\*#" in the lower left corner of the keypad.
- 6 Tap the "pause" button on the keypad and then type **1**.
- 7 Tap the "Done" button in the top-right corner to save the contact.
- 8 When you use this contact, your phone will automatically route you to the Veterans Crisis Line.

## ANDROID

- 1 Navigate to the Contacts app.
- 2 Use the "+" to add a contact.
- 3 Name the contact **Veterans Crisis Line**.
- 4 Type **988** in the phone number input.
- 5 Add a pause and then type **1**. Adding a pause may appear differently on different phones. Options include:
  - Typing in a comma
  - Clicking on a pause button directly on the phone number input (this may be displayed as "two-second pause")
  - Opening a menu by clicking three vertical dots to find the pause button
- 6 Click "Save" to save your contact.
- 7 When you use this contact, your phone will automatically route you to the Veterans Crisis Line.

*Note: Manufacturer settings can cause slight variations in your phone's contacts app. The above instructions should work for most cell phones. If further assistance is needed, contact your phone manufacturer's customer support.*



# Veterans Affairs Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers

## Eligibility Criteria Fact Sheet



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.



### Veteran Eligibility Requirements:

**A Veteran or Service member may be eligible for a Family Caregiver if all of the following requirements are met:**

- 1** The individual is either:
  - A Veteran; or
  - A member of the Armed Forces undergoing a medical discharge from the Armed Forces.
- 2** The individual has a serious injury (including serious illness) incurred or aggravated in the line of duty in the active military, naval, or air service.
  - For purposes of PCAFC, serious injury means any service-connected disability that: (1) Is rated at 70 percent or more by VA; or (2) Is combined with any other service-connected disability or disabilities, and a combined rating of 70 percent or more is assigned by VA.
- 3** The individual is in need of in-person personal care services for a minimum of six (6) continuous months based on any one of the following:
  - An inability to perform an activity of daily living;
  - A need for supervision or protection based on symptoms or residuals of neurological or other impairment or injury; or
  - A need for regular or extensive instruction or supervision without which the ability of the Veteran to function in daily life would be seriously impaired.
- 4** It is in the best interest of the individual to participate in the program.
- 5** Personal care services that would be provided by the Family Caregiver will not be simultaneously and regularly provided by or through another individual or entity.
- 6** The individual receives care at home or will do so if VA designates a Family Caregiver.
- 7** The individual receives ongoing care from a Primary Care Team or will do so if VA designates a Family Caregiver.



To apply online, visit  
<https://www.va.gov/family-member-benefits/comprehensive-assistance-for-family-caregivers>



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs





# ANGEL FIRE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL

Discover a Place of Honor and Healing

Nestled in the serene Sangre de Cristo Mountains, the Angel Fire Vietnam Veterans Memorial stands as a powerful tribute to courage, sacrifice, and remembrance.

Whether you're a veteran, a family member, a history enthusiast, or a traveler seeking a moment of reflection, this sacred site offers a space for healing, learning, and remembrance. Explore the Peace and Brotherhood Chapel, view historical exhibits, the half-scale Vietnam Memorial Wall, and walk the peaceful grounds that honor the lives of those who served.



The half-scale replica of the Vietnam Memorial Wall

## An Experience of Honor, Healing, and History

This striking granite tribute spans 250 feet in length and is etched with the names of more than 58,000 American heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice. Whether you're a veteran, a family member, or someone seeking to understand the cost of freedom, this wall invites reflection, remembrance, and unity.

The Memorial is managed by the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services in collaboration with the David Westphal Veterans Foundation. It continues to serve as a place of reflection, education, and community.

**Open daily, admission is free and open to all.**

Located off US Hwy 64 at 34  
Country Club Rd. Angel Fire, NM



For details, directions and more, visit  
[www.nmdvs.org](http://www.nmdvs.org) or [www.vietnamveteransmemorial.org](http://www.vietnamveteransmemorial.org)

# Veterans' Community Bulletin Board

The following pages feature events and informational flyers provided to the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) by Veterans and community service agencies. These flyers are published for the convenience of New Mexico's Veteran community. Inclusion in *The Guardian* does not constitute an endorsement by NMDVS of the organization, content, products, or services contained therein.

NMDVS invites government agencies and non-profit service organizations to send flyers for publication in *The Guardian* announcing an upcoming or ongoing veteran-related event. NMDVS will run these flyers as a public service courtesy to the Veteran community.

Please note:

- Flyers must have the name of a point-of-contact from the organization...along with the contact's phone number or email address. Flyers without this information will not be published.
- NMDVS is not responsible for the accuracy of the content, products, or services in these flyers.
- Views expressed in these flyers are the independent views of the authors/owners of the third-party entity that created the flyer and do not necessarily reflect the views of NMDVS.
- To the maximum extent permitted by law, NMDVS expressly denies liability for any losses suffered by any persons or organizations who, in their independent discretion and reliance, either directly or indirectly rely on content, products, services, or information offered by these independent third-party organizations.
- NMDVS reserves the right to edit or decline to publish any flyer.

Please send you submissions to [DVS.PIO@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:DVS.PIO@dvs.nm.gov)



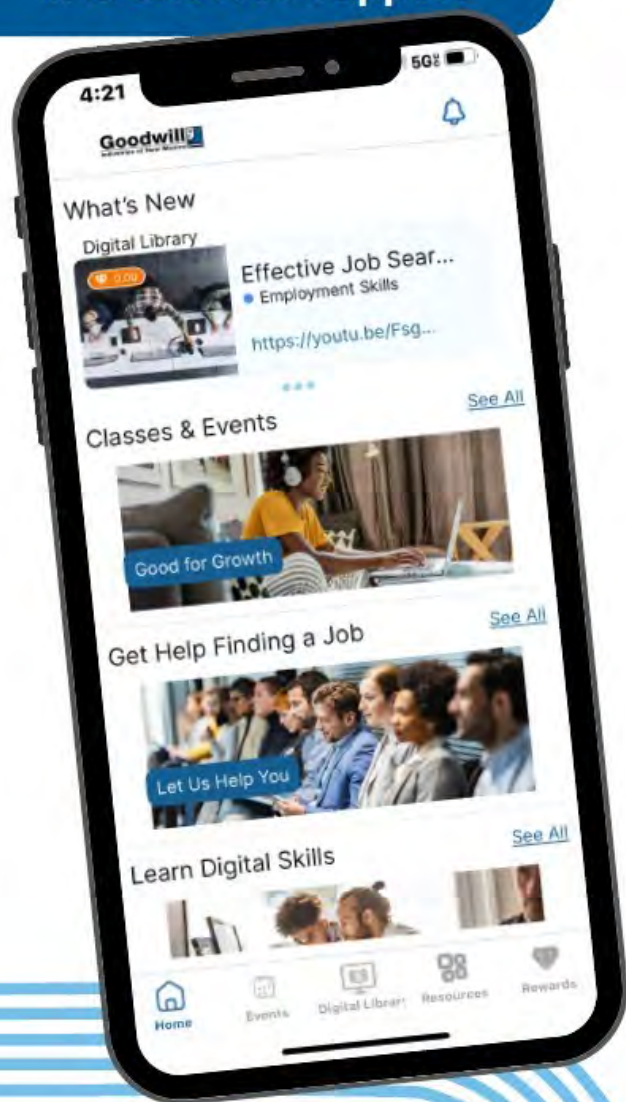




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# Goodwill Industries of New Mexico Training







TO REGISTER FOR CLASS: SCAN QR CODE ...OR GO ONLINE to  
[www.goodwillnm.org/events...](http://www.goodwillnm.org/events...) OR CALL 505.314.1875...OR EMAIL  
[mimartinez@goodwillnm.org](mailto:mimartinez@goodwillnm.org) FOR ASSISTANCE.



## SEPTEMBER 2025

FREE CLASSES FOR THE COMMUNITY !

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>NOW OFFERING CLASSES YOU CAN ATTEND ONLINE-SEE CLASSES LISTED IN RED COLOR FONT</b>						
	1 LABOR DAY	2 CAREER COMPASS NORTH: Explore A Career	3 CAREER COMPASS EAST: Resume & Applying	4 CAREER COMPASS SOUTH: Interviewing	5 CAREER COMPASS WEST: Your New Job	6 YOU DONATE ITEMS TO GOODWILL
classes held at 5000 SAN MATEO BLVD NE	LEARN. GROW. SUCCEED. INSPIRE.	1:00 pm - 2:15 pm Computer Basics 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	1:00 pm - 2:15 pm Internet Basics 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	1:00 pm - 2:15 pm Resiliency 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm	1:00 pm - 2:15 pm Money Management 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	
7 classes held at 6001 LOMAS BLVD NE	8 Microsoft Word 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm Microsoft PowerPoint 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	9 Microsoft Explorer 9:30 am - 10:30 am Public Speaking Intro 11:00 am - 12:30 pm Office Hours 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	10 Stress Management 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm Thinking Critically 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm	11 COMMUNITY CAREER FAIR 1-3 pm Meet company hiring managers.. Job leads! 5000 SAN MATEO	12 Cybersecurity 9:30 am - 10:30 am Excel-Basics 11:00 am - 12:30 pm Office Hours 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	13 DONATIONS SOLD IN GOODWILL STORES 
14 classes held at 5000 SAN MATEO BLVD NE	15 LEARN. GROW. SUCCEED. INSPIRE.	16 Typing 101 9:00 am - 10:15 am Google Docs 10:30 am - 11:45 am	17 Internet Basics 9:00 am - 10:00 am Excel-Basics 10:30 am - 12:00 pm Office Hours 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	18 Resiliency Workshop 9:00 am - 10:30 am Discovering Data 11:00 am - 12:00 pm Office Hours 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	19 Public Speaking Intro 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm Cybersecurity 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm	20 REVENUE FUNDS OUR FREE PROGRAMS & SERVICES 
21 classes held at 6001 LOMAS BLVD NE	22 Intro to Coding 1:00 pm - 2:15 pm Coding Workshop 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	23 Game Development 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm App Development 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm	24 Stress Management Workshop 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm Microsoft Outlook 3:00 pm - 4:15 pm	25 COMMUNITY CAREER FAIR 1-3 pm Meet company hiring managers.. Job leads! 5000 SAN MATEO	26 Computer Basics 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm Money Management 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	27 NEW MEXICANS FIND JOBS! 
28	29	30				

### LifeSkills/WellnessSkills

**STRESS MANAGEMENT:** Detailed look at causes of stress & strategies to overcome.  
**RESILIENCY:** In-depth look at how to withstand & recover from the difficulties of life.  
**STRESS MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP:** Discover meditative/other practice to relieve stress  
**RESILIENCY WORKSHOP:** Discover tools to develop plan to strengthen resiliency skills  
**MONEY MANAGEMENT:** Financial literacy class on paychecks, budgets, expenses & credit  
**THINKING CRITICALLY:** Become better thinkers. Build analytical skills, learn to determine the validity of information.

### EmploymentSkills

**N/EXPLORE A CAREER:** Explore career interests, identify existing skills & analyze for potential jobs  
**E/RESUME & APPLYING:** Create/improve resume and learn how to apply for jobs online better.  
**S/INTERVIEWING:** Best practices in interviewing & professional communication for success.  
**W/YOUR NEW JOB:** Building relationships, good attitude & behavior skills to grow in your new position.  
**PUBLIC SPEAKING INTRO:** Build communication skills. Know, manage & influence your audience. Learn the basics, followed by a practice session

### DigitalSkills

**COMPUTER BASICS:** Learn basic parts of computer: buttons, ports, hardware, software etc  
**INTERNET BASICS:** Learn about the internet, search engines, browsers & online safety.  
**TYPING 101:** Learn where to place fingers on keyboard, what the keys do & basic mouse usage  
**EXCEL- BASICS:** Intro to spreadsheet features: sort, format, filter & formulas to get you started.  
**MICROSOFT WORD:** Format, save, spellcheck documents, insert images/shapes. Design layout.  
**MICROSOFT POWERPOINT:** Learn to design, animate slides and play/save presentations.  
**MICROSOFT EXPLORER:** How to download, save, organize & find files: Navigating Windows OS.  
**MICROSOFT OUTLOOK:** Navigating the interface, composing/sorting email & calendar usage.  
**GOOGLE DOCS:** Learn basics of web-based word processor. Create, edit docs online.  
**CYBERSECURITY:** Learn to identify cyber threats, phishing & protect your digital assets.  
**INTRO TO CODING:** Programming overview of JavaScript, Python and web development.  
**CODING WORKSHOP:** Fun coding games to build coding skills in JavaScript & Python  
**APP DEVELOPMENT:** Intro to app coding, a look at iOS & Android, interactive learning exercises.  
**GAME DEVELOPMENT:** Intro to creating video games and using game engines.  
**DISCOVERING DATA:** Learn ways to collect and interpret data to guide decision making.  
**OFFICE HOURS:** Meet with instructor for extra support, questions or skills practice time

**VIRTUAL OPTION CLASSES-- You can now choose to attend some of our classes online from home...or come and attend in-person. See the classes listed in this font color.**





# MILITARY CHILD OF THE YEAR<sup>®</sup>



**Help us find  
Operation  
Homefront's next  
award recipients!**



For more information,  
scan the QR code or visit  
[operationhomefront.org/mcoy](https://operationhomefront.org/mcoy)

## WHAT

Operation Homefront's Military Child of the Year Awards celebrate and recognize the tremendous achievements of outstanding military children.

## WHO

Each year, hundreds of military teens (ages 13–18) are nominated by a parent, teacher, mentor or guardian. Candidates for the Military Child of the Year Awards demonstrate resilience, strength of character, and the ability to thrive in the face of the challenges of military life.

## WHEN

The Awards Gala will be held in Washington, D.C. on April 23, 2026 during the Month of the Military Child.

## RECIPIENTS

Military Child of the Year Award recipients receive a \$10,000 cash award, a laptop computer, and are flown with a parent or guardian for a 3-night stay in Washington, D.C.

**Nominations accepted  
September 3 to  
December 2, 2025**





## NEW MEXICO ARTS & THE MILITARY **2026 MINI GRANTS** Call For Proposals



New Mexico Arts, the state's arts agency, announces the 2026 Arts & The Military Mini Grants program. This \$2,500 funding opportunity assists art organizations and veteran/service member-focused organizations to create or expand arts programming for military connected participants via a streamlined granting process.

Find the 2026 Arts & the Military Application and Guidelines at <https://nmarts.org/all-programs/arts-the-military/>

For more information, contact Arts & The Military Program Coordinator, Kevin Lenkner, 505-412-5791 or email [kevin.lenkner@dca.nm.gov](mailto:kevin.lenkner@dca.nm.gov).



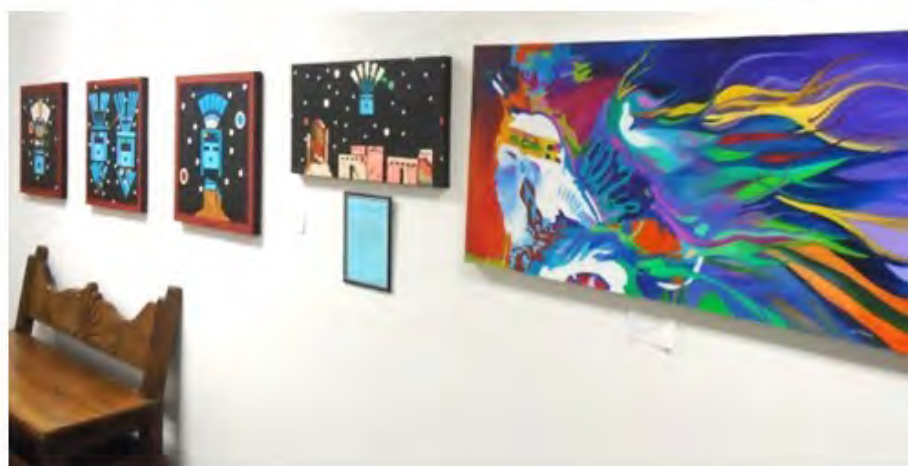
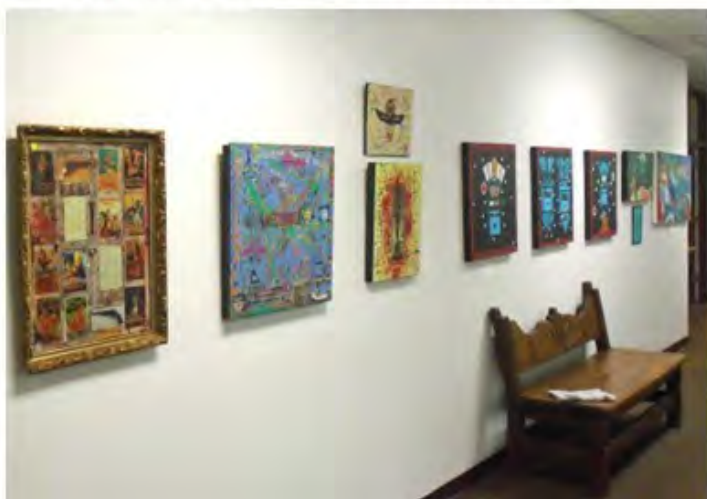
## Santa Fe Veteran Art

### Honoring Service Through Art

### Santa Fe City Hall

Hosted by Mayor Weber, initially established by Ken Dettelbach of R&R For Vets Inc., planned, coordinated, and now managed by Gary Donato, a Navy veteran, the rotating exhibit showcases various art forms from Santa Fe Veteran artists. The present display of pieces by Woodward "Woody" Schisler, Paul Pittman, and Herb Lotz reveals an amazing range of art. The exhibit is at Santa Fe City Hall, outside the Mayor's office.

**Santa Fe City Hall** \*  
200 Lincoln Ave, Santa Fe, NM 87501







# EQUINE & PISCATORIAL THERAPY

by Healing America's  
Heroes



**\$0**

for Veterans or  
First Responders  
to attend

**BOOK NOW**

Healing America's Heroes is a  
nonprofit organization dedicated to  
helping veterans and first  
responders heal from  
PTSD, MST, and TBI  
through recreational therapy

**575-244-3751**

[HealingAmericasHeroes.Org](http://HealingAmericasHeroes.Org)





# ALBUQUERQUE FISHER HOUSE



VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Health Administration  
New Mexico VA Health Care System



## IS YOUR FAMILY MEMBER ELIGIBLE? ASK YOUR VA CARE TEAM

A "home away from home" allowing families and loved ones to be close during an inpatient stay and to focus on what's important--the healing process.

A member of the inpatient Veterans Care Team must enter the request for bedside support of a veterans, a family member cannot call directly **FISHER HOUSE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA (50 FAMILIA)**

- 50 miles/from ABQ Fisher House
- Family member/caregiver of an inpatient Veteran at the VA
- Actively engaged in the inpatient's treatment plan
- Medically stable and capable of self-care (Guest must be)
- Independent and able to live in a shared space setting
- Living in stable, permanent housing (not homeless)
- Is free from communicable illness (flu, chicken pox, measles, C-Diff, COVID, etc.)
- Agrees to the Fisher House Guest Agreement and Rules



Raymond G. Murphy/NMVAHCS  
Albuquerque Fisher House  
1501 San Pedro Dr. SE, Building 85  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87108  
(505) 265-1711 Ext. 3180 - [ABQFisherHouse@va.gov](mailto:ABQFisherHouse@va.gov)

*because* A Family's Love  
is Good Medicine



**BERLIN BRIGADE**

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**September 10, 2025**

Albuquerque, NM - The Berlin Brigade (Redlegs) will host the 6th biennial conference and reunion event September 18-21, 2025, with events taking place in Albuquerque and Santa Fe. The events honor a unique chapter in U.S. military history and celebrate the service of Cold War veterans.

Join us for a day of remembrance, reconnection, and celebration honoring the legacy of the U.S. Army Berlin Brigade.

Hosted by two distinguished New Mexico veterans and former Berlin Brigade leaders, this event brings together heroes, history, and heartfelt memories. Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Jack Fox (former NM Department of Veteran Services Secretary) will deliver the "keynote" address and Col. (Ret.) John Alvarado will be unveiling a Berlin Brigade exhibit on Friday, September 19, 10:00 am at the New Mexico Veterans Memorial Center, located at 1100 Louisiana, Blvd, NE in Albuquerque.

The media, military veterans and the public are invited to attend.

The Berlin Brigade served as a vital symbol of American commitment during the Cold War, and this reunion offers a rare opportunity to hear firsthand stories and honor their legacy.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Peter Barrington, Berlin Brigade Veteran at:

(505-415-1453) or [petebarrington@rocketmail.com](mailto:petebarrington@rocketmail.com)



# Gold Star Mothers/Families

## NM American Gold Star Mothers – sponsor

Our mission – Serve Veterans, Military and Gold Star Community


Sep 13,'25 ★ 11am-1pm ★ NM Vet Park

Please RSVP by September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025

[DepartmentofNM@americangoldstarmothers.org](mailto:DepartmentofNM@americangoldstarmothers.org)

Questions call: 505-980-8787

Share our heroes. Share their stories. Say their name. Picnic - food & drinks provided.



New Mexico Veteran Memorial Park  
1100 Louisiana Blvd. SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108

*\*In the back picnic area\**



**VA**

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Health Administration

El Paso VA Health Care System

# CHALK IT UP FOR MORE TOMORROWS

**SUPPORT SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH****SEPTEMBER 24-25, 2025****9:00 AM - 1:00 PM****LAS CRUCES VA CLINIC****3401 DEL REY BLVD. LAS CRUCES NM**

## Reasons to Join Us:

- Unleash creativity with vibrant chalk for self-expression.
- Connect with fellow veterans in a supportive fun environment.
- Champion mental health by spreading positivity.
- Share support through a powerful display of unity and hope.

For information contact: [martine.hylton-sanderson@va.gov](mailto:martine.hylton-sanderson@va.gov)



31st ANNUAL

THE ROTARY DEL NORTE FOUNDATION

# GOLF TOURNAMENT

BENEFITING VETERANS INTEGRATION CENTERS



**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2025 AT 8 AM**

**SANTA ANA  
GOLF CLUB**

288 PRAIRIE STAR ROAD  
SANTA ANA PUEBLO, NM 87004

**TEAM  
REGISTRATION**

**\$700**

**FOUR PERSON  
SCRAMBLE**

**18 HOLES**

**FOOD  
PROVIDED**

BREAKFAST BURRITOS  
& CATERED LUNCH

REGISTER AT [WWW.NMVIC.ORG](http://WWW.NMVIC.ORG)

**HOLE SPONSORS AND HELPERS NEEDED**

POC - JERRY BECKER EMAIL: [jerry.becker@nmvic.us](mailto:jerry.becker@nmvic.us)

BENEFITING THE VETERANS INTEGRATION CENTERS & THE ROTARY DEL NORTE FOUNDATION





# V-FAST 4<sup>th</sup> Annual GOLF TOURNAMENT

**October 4, 2025**

## 4 Man Scramble


Proceeds Support Las Cruces  
Helping Hands Stand Down

**Price: \$175 Individual**

**\$600 Grunt Squad**

✓  Tournament

✓  Dinner

✓  Fun & Prizes!

## Red Hawk Golf Club

7502 Red Hawk Golf Rd.  
Las Cruces, NM 88012

### Times

11:30 - Registration

1:00 - Shotgun start

Join us for a day on the greens to support veterans. Enjoy a great round of golf, good food and camaraderie!

Secure your spot today and help make a difference!

Scan to



Play

For more information contact

Felipe Rodriquez | Phone: 575-640-4751

Email: vfastgolf@gmail.com





# Veterans Wellness Conference & Stand Down/Hand Up Project

**October 3, 2025**

**9AM - 4PM**

**Red Rock Park**

**Church Rock, NM 87311**



✓ **Military Surplus (Unsheltered Only)**

✓ **Housing**

✓ **Employment**

✓ **Vaccination**

✓ **Hair Cuts**

✓ **Lunch**



**For more information call Ben @ (505) 619-2370 or  
Cheryl @ (505) 722-9470**

**Sponsors are not responsible for theft, accidents, injuries, etc...**



VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Health Administration  
New Mexico VA Health Care System



BE the ONE, New Mexico

# S.A.V.E. RUN



## BIKE RIDE

Southern New Mexico



Please join us as we ride from American Legion Bataan in Deming, NM to Bataan Memorial in Las Cruces, NM. There will be several stops along the way that will outline how you can help SAVE a Veteran's life.

**Saturday, October 4, 2025**



For more information about this annual events,  
please contact [Christina.Camacho@va.gov](mailto:Christina.Camacho@va.gov)





## ORGAN MOUNTAIN VETERANS COFFEE GROUP

FREEDOM IS NOT FREE!

P.O. BOX <sup>182</sup><sub>212</sub>, ORGAN, NM 88052 - (575) 649-7365

Serving the Organ Community

# Organ Day Fiesta

Sponsored by VFW Post 6917, Organ Mountain Veterans Coffee Group, and Faith Christian Fellowship

**Saturday**

**October 4, 2025      11am - 4pm**

**Location:**

Organ Community Resource  
Center  
5880 Second St.  
Organ, NM 88052

**FREE PIG ROAST**

**RAFFLES**

Bouncy House  
Folklorio Dancers

**Live Music from:**

**12:00 pm - 2:30 pm**

Entertainment, kids games, bouncy house, raffles. This is a free lunch provided by the **VFW Post 6917, Organ Mountain Veterans Coffee Group, and Faith Christian Fellowship**. This lunch is provided to promote community engagement. We want everyone to meet their neighbors in a fun and festive environment. Community resources will be available for residents of Organ.

**Come and enjoy some sun and have some FUN!!**



# SUNM Southwest University of Naprapathic Medicine

Join the Movement  
Disrupt Healthcare with Health  
Learn to Treat the Cause not  
Symptoms

## WHY CHOOSE US?

Located in Santa Fe, New Mexico  
SUNM is the first and only accredited  
Nnaprapathic University in the Nation!

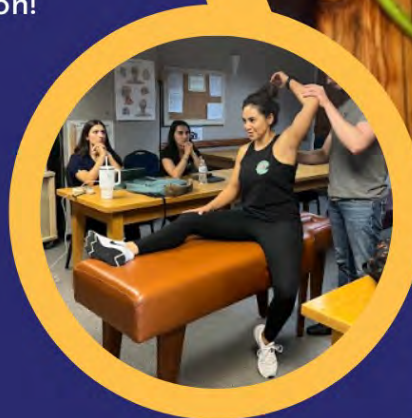
## PROGRAMS

- Doctor of Naprapathy (DN)
- Masters of Science in Anti-Inflammatory Nutrition (MSAIN)

## START DATES

- DN October 4, 2025
- MSAIN First Monday of each Month

**Veterans of the United States military  
are now eligible  
for Veterans Education Benefits  
Financial aid available to those who  
qualify**



## CONTACT US

(505) 629-7376 📞

[www.sunm.edu](http://www.sunm.edu) 🔗



## ARE YOU A VETERAN IN SEARCH OF GUIDANCE?

Enjoy a complimentary week filled with mindful education, body rejuvenation, and uplifting camaraderie alongside fellow veterans and their partners in the beautiful mountains of New Mexico. Discover valuable therapeutic and holistic tools while embracing Post Traumatic Growth.

# NATIONAL VETERANS WELLNESS & HEALING CENTER 2025 RETREAT SCHEDULE

**October 19-26**

Retreats offer complimentary lodging, meals, and a variety of activities such as massage therapy, acupuncture, yoga, horseback riding, and much more! Please note that travel expenses are not included.

**505-501-8337**

[retreats@vethealingcenter.org](mailto:retreats@vethealingcenter.org)

### Eligibility Criteria for Attendance:

1. Veterans diagnosed with PTS
2. A support partner must accompany you
3. Participants must have been free from drug or alcohol abuse for at least 12 months

Note: New Mexico veterans will receive priority. Veterans from other states will be accepted as funding permits.

**Apply Today!**



**Donate Today!**

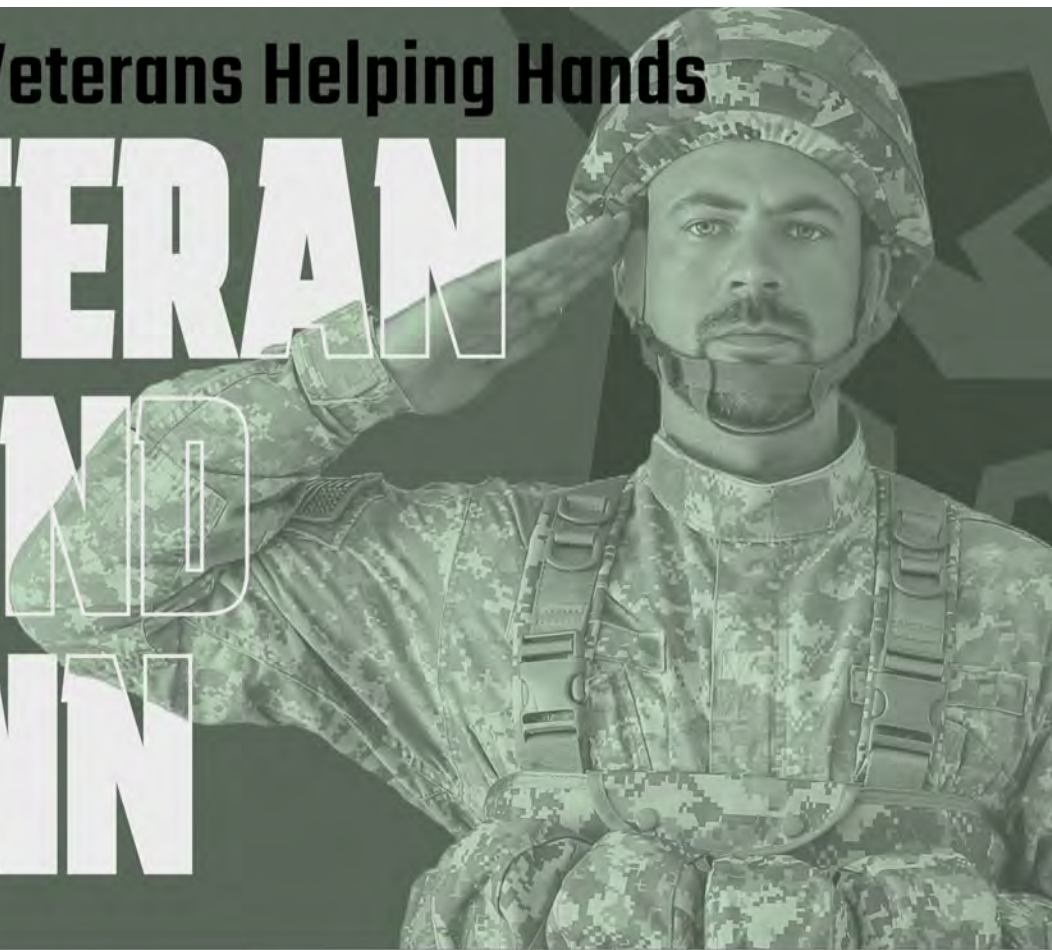


NVWHC is a non-profit serving veterans and their families since 2009.



# Las Cruces Veterans Helping Hands

# VETERAN STAND DOWN



## DATE & TIME:

**October 24, 2025**

**8:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

Breakfast starts at 7:30 am

## LOCATION:

**VFW Post 10124**

**709 South Valley Dr.**

**Las Cruces, NM**

**575-526-5761**



CITY OF LAS CRUCES



## JOIN US:

Organized by the VFW New Mexico Foundation, the Las Cruces Vet Center partners in the "Las Cruces Veterans Helping Hands Stand Down" for homeless and Veterans in need.

## SPECIAL INVITATION:

This event offers food, housing, haircuts, clothing, health screenings, VA and Social Security benefits counseling, and referrals to a variety of other necessary services such as employment and substance abuse treatment.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL LEN HAMPTON (575)405-9001  
TO SCHEDULE VAN SERVICE, CALL (575)915-4899**





## NMDVS Field Offices in New Mexico

NMDVS has field offices throughout the state that are staffed with nationally accredited veterans service officers (VSOs) dedicated to helping veterans with filing VA claims, applying for state veterans benefits, or with anything else a veteran or their family needs.

Office hours are Monday-Friday from 8am-5pm, (excluding holidays). Though this service is free, appointments are required and can be made by contacting the VSOs below. **Please note: VSOs can also provide help by phone or email for any veteran or eligible dependent anywhere in New Mexico.**

### Alamogordo/Southeast NM

**David Henley**

411 10th Street #107

(575) 437-4635

[david.henley@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:david.henley@dvs.nm.gov)

### Alamogordo/Southeast NM

**Matthew Quinn**

411 10th Street #107

(575) 546-8367

[matthew.quinn@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:matthew.quinn@dvs.nm.gov)

### Albuquerque Metro Area

**May Chavez** (ABQ Metro Supervisor)

Pinetree Corporate Center/Bldg. 2  
4801 Indian School Rd. NE/2nd floor

(505) 527-2302

[helen.chavez@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:helen.chavez@dvs.nm.gov)

### Albuquerque Metro Area

**NMDVS Staff**

Good Will Office  
5000 San Mateo Blvd. NE  
(505) 274-0393  
Office open Mon.-Tues.-Wed.

### Albuquerque Metro Area

**Mike Nelson**

Pinetree Corporate Center/Bldg. 2  
4801 Indian School Rd. NE/2nd floor  
(505) 525-3331

[mike.nelson@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:mike.nelson@dvs.nm.gov)

### Albuquerque Metro Area

**John Membrila**

Pinetree Corporate Center/Bldg. 2  
4801 Indian School Rd. NE/2nd floor  
(505) 584-2153

[John.membrila@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:John.membrila@dvs.nm.gov)

### Albuquerque/Mobile Unit

**James Brandon**

Pinetree Corporate Center/Bldg. 2  
4801 Indian School Rd. NE/2nd floor  
(505) 470-7503  
[james.brandon@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:james.brandon@dvs.nm.gov)

### Albuquerque/Mobile Unit

**David Swisher**

Pinetree Corporate Center/Bldg. 2  
4801 Indian School Rd. NE/2nd floor  
(505) 525-3331  
[david.swisher@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:david.swisher@dvs.nm.gov)

### Belen/ABQ Metro & Central NM

**Rob Miller** (Central/Mobile Supervisor)

Belen Business Center  
719 South Main St.  
(505) 537-9339  
[rob.miller@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:rob.miller@dvs.nm.gov)

### Albuquerque (VARO)

**Corey Riedel**

Dennis Chavez Federal Bldg.  
500 Gold Ave. SW/3rd floor  
(505) 479-0672  
[corey.riedel@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:corey.riedel@dvs.nm.gov)

### Albuquerque (VA Hospital)

**Joseph Lovato**

Raymond G. Murphy VA Medical Ctr.  
1501 San Pedro Dr. SE  
(505) 623-1729  
[joseph.lovato@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:joseph.lovato@dvs.nm.gov)  
(no appointment needed)

### Carlsbad

**See Outreach Schedule for Dates**

VFW Post 8703  
1916 San Jose Blvd.  
(575) 241-0714, (575) 416-2284  
[fred.solis-little@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:fred.solis-little@dvs.nm.gov)  
[Danielle.thompson@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:Danielle.thompson@dvs.nm.gov)

### Clovis/Southeast NM

**Matt Barela** (SE Supervisor)

904 W. Sixth St.  
(575) 825-9602  
[matthew.barela@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:matthew.barela@dvs.nm.gov)

### Clovis/Southeast NM

**Ben Padilla**

904 W. Sixth St.  
(505) 537-1445  
[ben.padilla@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:ben.padilla@dvs.nm.gov)

### Farmington/Northwest NM

**Ambrose Oliver**

1800 East 30th St.  
(505) 916-4835  
[ambrose.oliver@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:ambrose.oliver@dvs.nm.gov)

(continued on next page)



**Farmington/Northwest NM****Jenny Iser**

1800 East 30th St.

(505) 327-2861

[jenny.iser@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:jenny.iser@dvs.nm.gov)**Gallup/Northwest NM****John Livingston** (NW Supervisor)

908 E. Buena Vista Ave/Room 1A

(505) 389-8731

[john.livingston@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:john.livingston@dvs.nm.gov)**Grants/Northwest NM****April Ball**

551 Washington Ave.

(505) 521-8132

[april.ball@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:april.ball@dvs.nm.gov)**Hobbs/Southeast NM****Freddy Solis-Littlejohn**

2120 North Alto St.

(575) 241-0714

[fred.solis-little@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:fred.solis-little@dvs.nm.gov)**Las Cruces/Southwest NM****Miguel Martinez** (SW Supervisor)

2024 E. Griggs Ave.

(575) 644-6869

[miguel.martinez@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:miguel.martinez@dvs.nm.gov)**Las Cruces/Southwest NM****Vincent Tellez**

2024 E. Griggs Ave.

(575) 361-5298

[vincent.tellez@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:vincent.tellez@dvs.nm.gov)**Las Cruces/Southwest NM****Clint Anderson**

2024 E. Griggs Ave.

(505) 216-8782

[Clint.anderson@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:Clint.anderson@dvs.nm.gov)**Las Vegas/Northeast NM****Arturo Marlow** (NE Supervisor)

917 Douglas Ave.

(505) 331-8838

[arturo.marlow@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:arturo.marlow@dvs.nm.gov)**Las Vegas/Northeast NM****Tracy Knox**

917 Douglas Ave.

(575) 520-5079

[tracy.knox@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:tracy.knox@dvs.nm.gov)**Rio Rancho/Northeast NM****Dustin Newsom**

Sandoval County Admin. Bldg.

1500 Idalia Rd./Bldg. D/room 2041

(505) 221-7190

[dustin.newsom@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:dustin.newsom@dvs.nm.gov)**Roswell/Southeast NM****Ben Mendoza**

1600 SE Main Street /Suite A

(575) 988-5900

[benjamin.mendoza@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:benjamin.mendoza@dvs.nm.gov)**Roswell/Southeast NM****Danielle Thompson**

1600 SE Main Street /Suite A

(575) 416-2284

[danielle.thompson@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:danielle.thompson@dvs.nm.gov)**Santa Fe/Northeast NM****Phillip Hernandez**

Bataan Memorial Bldg.

407 Galisteo St./1st Floor, Rm 134

(505) 218-3125

[phillip.hernandez@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:phillip.hernandez@dvs.nm.gov)**Silver City/Southwest NM****Clarissa Sierra**

Western New Mexico University

1000 West College Ave.

Juan Chacon Bldg./Rm. 138A

(575) 313-5627

[clarissa.sierra@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:clarissa.sierra@dvs.nm.gov)**Taos/Northeast NM****Leticia "Lety" Cano**

Health and Human Services Bldg.

145 Roy Rd.

(505)-709-5263

[leticia.cano@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:leticia.cano@dvs.nm.gov)**State Veterans Home/T or C NM****VSO Staff/Every Thursday**

922 South Broadway St.

Truth or Consequences, NM

**Woman Veterans Program****Amberly Viner** (Program Manager)

Pinetree Corporate Center/Bldg. 2

4801 Indian School Rd. NE/2nd floor

(505) 372-9106

[Amberly.viner@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:Amberly.viner@dvs.nm.gov)**Tribal Liaison****Beverly Charley**

San Juan College Veterans Center

4601 College Blvd./Room 1715-B

(575) 241-3322

[beverly.charley@dvs.nm.gov](mailto:beverly.charley@dvs.nm.gov)

*NMDVS women veterans program is committed to making sure women veterans have equitable access to programs and services and claims-filing for women.*

*NMDVS tribal liaison focuses on educational outreach assistance for Native Americans.*