



**American Red Cross**  
Western New York Chapter

*On behalf of the  
American Red Cross,  
and our partners we  
thank you for your  
service and sacrifice!*

## ERIE & NIAGARA COUNTY Military Family Resource Guide



Brought to you by the  
Western New York  
Chapter of  
The American Red Cross

**The American Red Cross would like to thank the following organizations for their generous support of this guide:**

***American Red Cross Volunteers of the Western  
New York Chapter with special recognition of  
the American Red Cross volunteers of  
Erie & Niagara counties.***

**Please Note:**

*This is a living document and every effort was made to ensure that the information inside is accurate. For any changes, please contact the American Red Cross 716-878-2371 so we can update our records for future guides. Thank you for supporting your local American Red Cross*

Printed 2023

## NOTES

[illegible]



The American Association of the Red Cross with the help of Clara Barton was established in 1881. The Red Cross Association was later reorganized and in 1905 Congress granted it a new charter that established the basic organization of today's American Red Cross.

The American Red Cross grew during WW I (1914-1918). It met the welfare needs of rapidly expanding military forces. Red Cross field directors and other workers served troops in the United States and overseas. In 1917 Home Service was set up in many communities to provide a link between military personnel and their families.

That service still exists today and has been there as we have served our military and their families in every military conflict and war since that time. The Red Cross has traditionally been the liaison for Military families to help meet their communication needs between the family and the serving member of their family in times of need.

In 2015 we formed a working committee to step up what we offer to military families. There are countless numbers of agencies and organizations that exist to help military members and their families, but they are not always known to you. It has become our mission to communicate that information to every Military family in Livingston County. That is the inspiration for preparing this document to link you to all that is available depending on your need.

We do this because we want to let you know how much we appreciate the sacrifice and giving that all Military members and families have given to us and to our beloved country. This is a small token of our appreciation to you. We hope that you will find it useful and that you can connect to whatever service you may need. On behalf of the American Red Cross we thank you for your service!

Service to Armed Forces  
Local Advisory Committee

**INDEX**  
LISTING OF PROGRAMS

	<u>Page #</u>
Abuse/Violence/Suicide .....	14
Addiction/Recovery .....	15
Benefits.....	16
Burials.....	17
Caregiver .....	18
Children's Programs.....	19
Education.....	20
Employment.....	21
Financial .....	22
Food pantries.....	23
Health .....	24
Health (Peer to Peer).....	25
Health (Animal Programs).....	26
Hero Care Network .....	6
Home Fire Campaign.....	5
Housing Assistance .....	27
Legal.....	28
Military and Veteran Caregiver Network.....	8
Military Records .....	29
Other Helpful Sites.....	33
Recreation .....	30
Transportation.....	31
Veteran Organizations .....	32

**Western New York National Cemetery** .....585-297-1300  
1254 Indian Falls Road, Corfu, NY 14036

The Western New York National Cemetery is a new United States National Cemetery located in the Town of Pembroke in Genesee County, approximately 30 miles east of Buffalo and 45 miles west of Rochester in New York. The cemetery's street address is in Corfu but the property is actually located in the town of Pembroke

To schedule a burial, provide an official military discharge document, call the National Cemetery office at 800-535-1117 and discuss the options available.

**WNY Veterans Housing Coalition, Inc.**.....716-882-5935  
1416 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14209  
wnyvhc.org

To provide housing and support services to all homeless military veterans and their families and to advocate on behalf of all military veterans and their families and to provide housing opportunities for low income households.

- Transitional Housing Programs
- Permanent Housing Programs
- Veteran Community Housing

## WNY Heroes Inc. (Continued)

*Little Heroes:* Our program offers veterans' family members financial assistance, which can now be used to fund enrichment programs for children of Veterans or currently serving military personnel.

Children aged 2 to 18, (toddlers to high school seniors) who reside in WNY with a parent who is a veteran or military spouse/widow/widower, will qualify.

Assistance locally to fund activities such as:

- Sporting equipment or uniforms for school sports
- Musical instruments or uniforms for school orchestra/band
- Dance classes (at a recognized WNY dance academies, such as David DeMarie School of Dance, Sherry Martin School of Dance, etc.)
- Gymnastics classes (at a recognized WNY gymnastics center like Stumpfs, Flips, etc.)
- Tae Kwon Do (at a recognized martial arts facility, ie: Master Chong's, etc)
- Rolly Pollies (gym, music and art classes for kids up to age 6)
- Music with Mar



## HOME FIRE CAMPAIGN

### REDUCING FIRE DEATHS ONE HOME AT A TIME

At no cost to you, we would like to share some simple steps you can take at home that will help protect your family against fire. In addition the Red Cross will install FREE smoke alarms within your home. Visits generally last 20 minutes and can be scheduled at your convenience.

#### During the home visit, you will receive:

- Installed smoke alarms (if needed)
- Guidance in the development of a Family Disaster Plan
- Valuable emergency preparedness tips and information

#### To schedule your visit, email

[smokealarms.wny@redcross.org](mailto:smokealarms.wny@redcross.org) or call 1-716-878-2353

All demonstration and installation services will be provided by Red Cross-trained volunteers and/or licensed/insured professionals. To learn more about becoming a Red Cross volunteer, please visit [www.redcross.org/volunteer](http://www.redcross.org/volunteer).





**HERO CARE NETWORK**  
**EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION**

**1-877-272-7337**

**HOW TO CONTACT THE AMERICAN RED CROSS TO:  
RELAY A MESSAGE  
REQUEST THE PRESENCE OF A SERVICE MEMBER  
SERVING IN THE UNITED STATES MILITARY**

Twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year, the Red Cross relays urgent messages containing accurate, factual, complete and verified descriptions of the emergency to service members stationed anywhere in the world, including on ships at sea, embassies and remote locations.

Even if the service member receives an email or phone call from home, Red Cross-verified information assists the member and his/her commanding officers with making a decision regarding emergency leave.

When calling the Red Cross be prepared to provide the following information on the service member:

- Full legal name
- Rank/rating
- Branch of service (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, Space Force)
- Social Security number
- Date of birth
- Military unit address
- Information about the deployed unit & home base unit.

**WNY Heroes Inc.** ..... 716-630-5020  
1001 East Delevan, Buffalo, NY 14215  
Wnyheroes.org      Email: heroes@wnyheroes.org

A critical life sustaining vehicle for veterans and their families by providing immediate financial assistance to those in need. Now, more than ever, the need is constant and growing in alarming fashion with so many veterans returning home. WNY Heroes is here to assist in getting essential services through the VA. While these brave and heroic men & women face many challenges upon their return, their needs will further impact the need for program services within our organization.

Adopt-A-Hero's Family (Holiday Assistance)  
Heroes' Bridge (Financial Assistance)  
Operation B.O.O.T.S. (Peer to Peer)  
Pawsitive For Heros (Service Dogs)  
William E. Kramp, Jr. Scholarship  
Little Heroes (Children's Sports/Activities)

*Pawsitive For Heros:* The program will pay for service dog training as a result of the help we get from our sponsors. The dogs and their owners go through various courses together, properly preparing the dogs to serve those who've served. A service dog can go anywhere his owner goes but you're not supposed to approach them, call them by name, or even bend down and pet them. The dog can't be touched by everybody and anybody. The dog has to listen directly to the handler. It can only be touched by the handler. So there's a huge difference between therapy dog and service dog. When they put their vests on, a service dog is working. It's all business. When the vest comes off, they go right back to being normal house dogs.

**WNY Adaptive Water Sports** .....716-553-7670  
3621 Stony Pt. Road, Grand Island, NY 14072  
wnyadaptivewatersports.org email: noakrad@aol.com

It has been organized to facilitate and provide disabled veterans and individuals with physical disabilities the means, facilities and access to participate in water sports and other recreational activities to improve their quality of life. We are currently organizing programs that will provide the training and other means necessary to create these adaptive recreational opportunities.

Events include: Fishing, Paddling, Sailing, Scuba and water-skiing.

## **HERO CARE NETWORK** **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

**1-877-272-7337**

The sacrifices of military life can cause unexpected financial hardships for military families and retirees. Through our partnerships with Military Aid Societies, the Red Cross connects service members, military retirees and their families around the clock for emergency financial assistance to help with emergency travel, rent, food, utilities and other expenses. Assistance is provided through a grant, loan, or combination.

### **Eligibility:**

- Active duty military personnel and their eligible immediate family members.
- Reserve and National Guard activated under Title 10, U.S. Code, and their eligible immediate family members.
- An immediate family member of a service member in the above two categories.
- A military retiree or spouse of retiree.
- Widows of deceased service members (active or retired).

### **Expenses covered include:**

- Basic Needs including Rent/Mortgage, Food, Utility
- Insurance, Burial and Funeral Expenses
- Medical and Dental Expenses
- Vehicle Payments, Repairs, and Insurance

**To access the Military Aid Societies, contact the American Red Cross at 1-877-272-7337.**



## Military and Veteran Caregiver Network

**For 24/7 Hour support:** 1-800-273-8255 (Press 1)  
**Text:** 838255  
<https://milvetcaregivernetwork.org>

### About us:

The Military and Veteran Caregiver Peer Support Network (MVCN) offers peer-based support and services to connect those providing care to servicemembers and veterans living with wounds, illnesses and/or injuries. The Network is modeled on the nationally recognized, evidence-based programs of the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS), which has provided compassionate peer-based support to more than 60,000 loved ones of those who have died during their service in the Armed Forces.

### Mission:

The mission of the MVCN (together with our partners) is to provide our nation's pre- and post-9/11 era military and veteran caregivers with peer support to reduce their isolation and increase their senses of connectedness, engagement, hopefulness, wellness, as well as their knowledge and skills.

### Programs:

The MVCN helps caregivers of all ages, at all stages of caregiving, providing access to three peer support programs:

- Online Peer Support Community
- Peer Mentor Support Program
- Peer Support Groups (Online & Community-Based)

**Vietnam Veterans of America**.....585-786-3890

29 N. Main Street, Warsaw, NY 14569

[vva.org](http://vva.org)

Services Include:

### Outreach Programs

- Agent Orange
- Education
- Homeless Veterans
- Minority Affairs
- PTSD and Substance Abuse
- POW/MIA
- Veterans Health Care
- Veterans Incarcerated and in the Justice System
- Veterans Against Drugs
- Women Veterans

### Government Relations

### Publications

#### *Veterans Incarcerated and in the Justice System*

This program promotes awareness about the special needs of veterans who are presently or formerly incarcerated. Through research about each state's Department of Corrections Regulations, the program explores ways to implement new programs for presently or formerly incarcerated veterans and to build cooperation at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

#### *Veterans Against Drugs*

The veterans against drugs program deploys volunteer veterans into their communities to visit students, detention centers and youth organizations to educate and help youth develop responsibility, good judgment and commitment to their families, schools, communities and each other.



## Veterans Treatment Court

The New York Veterans Treatment Courts offer alternatives to honorably-discharged Veterans who are charged with non-violent felonies or misdemeanors. Their mission is to help Veterans recover and assimilate into society, connect with Veteran Organizations and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. They operate out of the Office of Public Defender and they cooperate with Court Administration, the New York Attorney's Office, private attorneys, the local Sheriff's Office, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and numerous community partners.

Participants in the Veterans Treatment Court are referred to the program by their attorney, the prosecuting attorney, or other courts. Though participation in the program is voluntary, the Department of Veterans Affairs must approve participation eligibility. In cases such as domestic violence, additional approval for the veteran's participation in the program must come from the victim.

### Locations:

Buffalo City Veterans Treatment Court.....716-845-2695  
50 Delaware Ave, Buffalo, NY 14202

Niagara County Veterans Court .....716-280-6403  
Niagara County Courthouse  
175 Hawley Street, Lockport, NY 14094

Resources for Veterans .....888-838-7697  
245 W. Houston St., New York, NY 10014

**Vets4Warriors**.....855-838-8255  
Vets4warriors.com

Vets4Warriors'peer-to-peer support network has been connecting people, information, ideas and resources to generate powerful solutions for members of the military and veteran communities for more than five years. We believe that together there is no problem that can't be solved and no challenge that cannot be overcome.

## Military and Veteran Caregiver Network (Continued)

### Services:

The MVCN helps caregivers of all ages and stages, clinicians, partners and supporters, providing access to three open caregiver-focused services:

- Resource Library
- Caregiver Master Calendar
- *WeCare* Magazine (E-zine)

### Impact:

MVCN programs are regularly evaluated to ensure that they:

- Meet the needs of caregivers for connection and engagement
- Deliver consistent, highest quality peer support services
- Facilitate access to relevant partner services and resources nationwide.

### Online Peer Support Community:

Our Online Peer Support Community offers a secure, confidential space in which caregiver peers can connect. The Online Community features discussion groups, topics, chats and webinars that offer a place to share experiences and practical information, as well as educational and training opportunities, all monitored by trained Peer Moderators. These sharing and learning opportunities are selected by and for military and veteran caregivers, in partnership with experts in their fields. All caregivers who assist a servicemember or veteran (whether a loved one or friend)—who is no longer able to carry out certain activities of daily life, due to wounds, illness or injury—are welcome. No matter where you live—or what caregiving responsibilities or challenges you face—our Online Community offers a secure space in which to connect with other caregivers for information and support.

## CONTACT AT A GLANCE

<b>VETERANS CRISIS HOTLINE .....</b>	<b>988 PRESS 1</b>
<b>Emergency .....</b>	<b>9-1-1</b>
<b>211 WNY Helpline.....</b>	<b>2-1-1</b>
Adopt A Soldier (online only).....	aasp.vet
Altamont Veterans Program .....	716-892-0132
American Red Cross Western NY Chapter .....	716-886-7500
American Legion National Headquarters .....	800-433-3318
America's VetDogs .....	631-930-9000
American Veterans (AMVETS).....	301-683-4031
Amherst-Buffalo Cremation Service .....	716-599-1418
Angel of America's Fallen .....	719-377-7352
Baby & Children's Ministry by Harvest House .....	716-824-7818
Baby Needs Pantry .....	716-881-5150
By Community Action Organization of WNY .....	ext. 4772
Battle Buddy Info.....	Battle-buddy.info
Blue Star Mothers of America .....	716-449-6608
Boots for Troops .....	218-798-7567
Boots to Business .....	sba.gov
Buffalo Niagara Honor Flight.....	716-473-8465
Buffalo State College .....	716-878-3504
Buffalo Vet Center.....	716-862-7350
Canisius College .....	716-888-2200
Catch A Lift Fund .....	855-496-4838
Daemen University.....	716-839-7214
Disabled American Veterans (DAV) .....	716-857-3354
Dog T.A.G.S. Program .....	710-810-7532
DNMA .....	dmna.ny.gov
D'Youville University .....	716-829-8000
Erie Community College .....	716-851-1832
<b>Erie County Crisis Line.....</b>	<b>716-834-3131</b>

## VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS (VFW)



### Erie County:

9 Eckerson Ave., Akron, NY 14001 .....	716-442-6001
13116 Main St., Alden, NY 14004 .....	716-697-1361
8989 Erie Rd., Angola NY 14006 .....	716-549-5798
2909 S. Park Ave., Buffalo NY 14218 .....	716-823-9605
1 Legion Drive, East Aurora, NY 14052.....	716-652-9862
2551 March Rd., Eden NY 14057.....	716-992-9400
3007 Bowen Road, Elma, NY 14059.....	716-714-9899
20 Sandhill Road, Gowanda, NY 14070.....	716-532-5817
2121 Grand Island Blvd, Grand Island, NY 14072 .....	716-773-6343
65 Church St. Hamburg, NY 14075.....	716-649-3380
2985 Lakeview Rd., Hamburg NY 14075 .....	716-648-2618
1822 Como Park Blvd., Lancaster, NY 14086 ...	716-684-4371
3741 Walden Ave., Lancaster NY 14086.....	716-681-8387
5784 Ellis Road, Orchard Park, NY 14127 .....	716-481-3264
110 Elgin St., Tonawanda NY 14150 .....	716-693-7160
650 E. Main St., Springville, NY 14141.....	716-592-7378
2683 Clinton Street, West Seneca, NY 14224...	716-574-9933
18 East Spring St., Williamsville NY 14221 .....	716-633-9019

### Niagara County:

112 S. Water St. Lewistown, NY 14092.....	716-405-7232
112 Caledonia St., Lockport NY 14094 .....	716-433-9528
2435 Seneca Ave., Niagara Falls NY 14305 .....	716-285-0132
434 3rd St., Youngstown NY 14174 .....	716-405-7186

## VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS (VFW)

National Headquarters .....816-756-3390  
www.vfw.org

The VFW supports vital programs. They:

*Educate* separating service members about their well-earned VA benefits through private benefits counseling sessions with a VFW Service Officer.

*Provide training* to VFW Service Officers on signs of emotional suffering so they can better direct veterans to programs and services.

*Help* cover rent, utilities or groceries for a military family struggling with the hardships of war.

*Deliver* morale-boosting “welcome home” celebrations for service members who have returned from combat.

## CONTACT AT A GLANCE (CONTINUED)

<b>Erie County Crisis Kids Helpline.....</b>	<b>716-834-1144</b>
Erie County Day Care Assistance .....	716-858-8953
Erie County Government Services .....	716-858-6000
Erie County Veterans Service Agency.....	716-858-6363
Ethereal Dreams Entertainment .....	716-983-4989
FeedMore WNY .....	716-822-2002
Forge VFR .....	888-224-7312
Habitat for Humanity (Buffalo) .....	716-204-0740
Habitat for Humanity (Niagara Falls) .....	716-265-9010
Helmets to Hardhats .....	866-741-6210
<b>Hero Care Network Military Hotline.....</b>	<b>877-272-7337</b>
Hidden Heroes .....	202-249-7170
Higher Ground New York .....	716-984-7806
Horizon Health Services.....	716-831-1800
Iraq Afghanistan Veterans of America .....	212-982-9699
Joint Services Transcript.....	jst.doded.mil/jst
Lothlorien Therapeutic Riding Program .....	716-655-1335
Marine Corps League.....	703-207-9588
Martin’s Point Health Care .....	888-674-8734
Military Child Care.....	militarychildcare.com
Military Hire .....	888-239-8825
.....	ext 314
Military and Veteran Caregiver Network .....	800-273-8255
Military One Source.....	800-342-9647
Military Order of the Purple Heart.....	888-668-1656
<b>Military Sexual Assault .....</b>	<b>877-995-5247</b>
Military Units Family Readiness	
Masten .....	716-888-5797
Connecticut .....	716-888-5798
107th .....	716-236-3411

## CONTACT AT A GLANCE (CONTINUED)

Mission: Military Spouse .....	missionmilspouse.org
<b>National Domestic Violence Hotline .....</b>	<b>800-799-7233</b>
National Park Pass .....	nps.gov
National Personal Records Center .....	314-801-0800
Navy Seabee Veterans of America .....	716-825-3751
NY Connects	
Erie County .....	716-858-8526
Niagara County .....	716-438-3030
NYS Department of Labor .....	dol.ny.gov
NYS Park Pass .....	518-474-2324
NYS Parks .....	parks.ny.gov
NYS Veterans Home (Batavia).....	585-345-2000
Niagara County Day Care Assistance .....	716-439-7656
Niagara County Government Services .....	716-439-7000
Niagara County Veterans Services Agency.....	716-438-4090
Niagara University.....	716-286-8323
Operation Family Caregiver .....	229-928-1234
Operation First Response .....	888-289-0280
Operation Home Front .....	210-659-7756
Our Military Kids.....	703-734-6654
Paralyzed Veterans of America .....	716-857-3353
Parent Network of WNY .....	716-332-4170
Property Tax Exemption.....	see county gov
Revive a Warrior .....	reviveawarrior.com
Semper Fi & American's Fund .....	760-725-3680
Soldier On.....	866-406-8449
Soldier On Success .....	888-288-3184
Student Veterans of America .....	202-223-4710

**Veterans Outreach Center, Inc.**.....585-546-1081  
 447 South Ave. Rochester, NY 14620  
 Veteransoutreachcenter.org

Programs and Services include:

- Employment Assistance
- Job Training
- On-Site Partners
- Health and Wellness
- Legal Counseling
- Residential Program
- Veteran And Family Supportive Services
- Veteran Treatment Court
- Free Bus Passes
- Quartermaster

*On-Site Partners:* In Person meetings regarding career pathways, lawyer for a day, disabled veteran outreach, employment guidance, financial counseling.

*Quartermaster:* committed to ensuring veterans and their families have access to the supplies they need, completely free of charge. Our Quartermaster is open to veterans and their families who need food, clothing, and hygiene items while supplies last.

**Veterans Treatment Court (VTC):** program is available to eligible Veterans with non-violent criminal charges who have either a substance abuse or mental health diagnosis. The goal of VTC is to treat the underlying issues that are at the root of the criminal behavior. With intensive case management, the Veteran is given all the tools they need to return to being a productive member of society. This group of Veterans is further supported by the opportunity to attend a variety of peer groups on a voluntary basis while they are in treatment and after their discharge.

## Veteran Service Organizations-New York State

NYS Division of Veterans Services .....716-862-8902  
 Buffalo VAMC VA Medical Center  
 3495 Bailey Avenue Room 602C, Buffalo, NY 14215

NYS Division of Veterans Services ..... 716-649-6111 ext 2388  
 HAMBURG TOWN HALL  
 6100 SOUTH PARK AVENUE UPPER LEVEL, HAMBURG, NY 14075

NYS DIVISION OF VETERANS' SERVICES .....716-532-0674  
 L.K. PAINTER COMMUNITY  
 2355 MAIN STREET PO Box 575, COLLINS, NY 14034

NYS DIVISION OF VETERANS SERVICES NIAGARA FALLS  
 ..... 716-862-8250 EX 24770  
 CBOC, 1300 PINE AVE, NIAGARA FALLS, NY 14301

### Services include:

Disability Compensation	Pension
Burial	Discharge Issues
Education	Employment
Homelessness	Legal
Military Records	Property Tax Exemption
PTSD	Suicide Prevention
"Thank A Vet" Program	VA Health Care
VA Home Loan	And more.

## CONTACT AT A GLANCE (CONTINUED)

Team RWB .....	833-832-6792
The Battle Within Foundation .....	716-935-0570
Travis Mills Foundation .....	207-480-3490
Tunnel to Towers .....	t2t.org
University of Buffalo .....	716-829-5586
U.S. Department Of Veterans Affairs .....	800-827-1000
Vehicles for Veterans .....	855-811-4838
Veteran.com.....	844-483-0838
Veterans Administration Medical Clinics.....	various
Veteran Caregiver .....	veterancaregiver.com
<b>Veterans Crisis Hotline.....</b>	<b>988 Press 1</b>
Veterans Helping Veterans .....	877-655-6447
Veterans Institute of Training & Technology .....	703-224-8809
Veterans One-Stop Center of WNY .....	716-898-0110
Veterans Outreach Center .....	585-546-1081
Veterans of Foreign Wars National Headquarters .....	816-756-3390
Veterans Service Organizations .....	various
Veterans Treatment Court (Buffalo) .....	716-845-2695
Veterans Treatment Court (Lockport).....	716-280-6403
Vets4Warriors .....	855-838-8255
Vietnam Veterans of America.....	585-786-3890
Warriors Family Assistance Program .....	518-463-1162
WNY Adaptive Water Sports .....	716-553-7670
WNY Heroes .....	716-630-5020
WNY National Cemetery .....	585-297-1300
WNY Veterans Housing Coalition.....	716-882-5935



## ABUSE/VIOLENCE/SUICIDE

### Page #

211 WNY Helpline.....	34
Erie County Crisis Line.....	50
Erie County Crisis Kids Helpline.....	50
Erie County Government Services .....	52
Military Sexual Assault .....	67
National Domestic Violence Hotline .....	69
Niagara County Government Services .....	77
Soldier On.....	87
Veterans Crisis Hotline.....	96
Veteran Service Agency's	
Erie County .....	53
Niagara County .....	78
NYS Buffalo .....	100
NYS Hamburg .....	100
NYS Niagara Falls.....	100
NYS Regional Buffalo & Affiliates Office.....	99

## Veterans Service Organizations at the Buffalo Regional Benefit Office

130 S. Elmwood Ave., Buffalo NY 14202

The veterans service organizations listed below offer in depth counseling and benefits assistance in applying for, and obtaining a multitude of benefits offered through the Department of Veterans Affairs. Their accredited representatives represent veterans and their dependents in all claims before Dept. of Veterans Affairs.

American Legion-Suite 614 .....	716-857-3363 or 716-857-3361
AMVETS-Suite 623 .....	716-857-3350 or 716-857-3351
Disabled American Veterans-Suite 620.....	716-857-3354
Military Order of the Purple Heart-Suite 624.....	716-857-3346 or 716-857-3347
Vietnam Veterans of America-Suite 679.....	716-857-3344 or 716-857-3404
Paralyzed Veterans of America-Suite 621 .....	716-857-3352 or 716 857-3353
Veterans of Foreign Wars-Suite 626 .....	716-857-3403

**Veterans One-Stop Center of WNY.....716-898-0110**

1255 Niagara St. Suite 230 Buffalo, NY 142132

www.vocwny.org      email: veteransfirst@vocwny.org

Our dedicated team helps former service members, male or female, and their families find resources and services they need. One of our team members, many of them veterans themselves, will work with you one-on-one to help identify your needs and help you achieve them. They will be with you every step of the way to make the process as easy as possible for you and your family.

- PFC Joseph P. Dwyer Peer Support Program
- Women's Veterans Peer Support
- Benefits Counseling Services
- Education Services
- Employment Services
- Legal Services
- Financial Counseling
- Readjustment Counseling
- Housing and Emergency Services

*PFC Joseph P. Dwyer Peer Support Program*

This program brings United States Armed Forces Veterans, service members and their families together through Veteran-to-Veteran collaborative services, social activities, and community service, easing the transition from military to civilian life.

*Women's Veteran Peer Support*

Connect with other women Veterans in the community. We offer opportunities to encourage women Veteran-to-Veteran collaborative services, social activities, and community service, easing the transition from military to civilian life. Women Veterans can join us for social events like axe throwing, skydiving, manicures and pedicures, hibachi lunch outings, and a walking tour of Lily Dale to name a few.

ALL OF OUR PROGRAMS ARE COMPLETELY FREE

**ADDICTION/RECOVERY**

Page #

211 WNY Helpline.....	34
Horizon Health Services.....	60
Soldier On.....	87
Veteran Service Agency's	
Erie County .....	53
Niagara County .....	78
NYS Buffalo .....	100
NYS Hamburg .....	100
NYS Niagara Falls.....	100
NYS Regional Buffalo & Affiliates Office .....	99
Vietnam Veterans of America.....	105

## BENEFITS

	Page #
211 WNY Helpline.....	34
Disabled American Veterans (DAV) .....	47
Military Order of the Purple Heart.....	67
Paralyzed Veterans of America .....	83
Property Tax Exemption.....	85
Veteran.com .....	94
Veterans One-Stop Center of WNY.....	98
Veteran Service Agency's	
Erie County .....	53
Niagara County .....	78
NYS Buffalo .....	100
NYS Hamburg .....	100
NYS Niagara Falls.....	100
NYS Regional Buffalo & Affiliates Office.....	99
Vietnam Veterans of America.....	105
Veteran.com .....	

**Veterans Helping Veterans**.....877-655-6447  
Vethelpingvet.org

Teaching classes in Home Buying and Mortgage, Obtaining your Certificate of Eligibility (COE), teaching what you qualify for in disability benefits, credit analysis and repair, and advocacy and grants.

Our Veterans are interested in your best interest. Our code is the same as yours, to serve you with utmost honesty and respect. We want to see you thrive and succeed in obtaining your home. You have earned it with your service and we are here to show you how.

**Veterans Institute of Training and Technology Inc.**  
.....703-224-8809  
2331 Mill Road, Suite 100, Alexandria, VA 22314  
Vittinc.org                      Email: support@vittinc.org

Veterans Institute of Training and Technology's mission is to provide veterans and their dependents with premier training that will lead to marketable jobs and career opportunities as they transition from the military to the civilian workforce. VITT will provide veterans and their dependents free information technology training that is in high demand. Many of the organization's classes will lead to marketable certifications. These certifications are important credentials and validations of knowledge and experience. Training that will be provided include CISCO Certified Network Associate (CCNA), CISCO Certified Network Professional (CCNP), Microsoft Back Office, and Human Resource Management Course. In addition, VITT will provide education to familiarize veterans and their families with the federal employment hiring and application process.

## Veteran Caregiver

Veterancaregiver.com email: lkreter@wisehealth.com

As a veteran or a Caregiver of a veteran or service member, your life may be altered by injury, illness, or aging. If you're feeling isolated or alone, want or need people around you who "get it", and you'd benefit from networking with peers and professionals, community health and recovery resources, you've come to the right place. Caregiver Peer Support is remarkable and valued and helping or receiving help can come at just the right time to make a difference.

## Veterans Crisis Line ..... 988

**Call 988** if you need to speak to a trained crisis counselor who can help with mental health-related distress.

You can also text 988 or chat online with the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline. You can also call if you are concerned about someone else.

**Go to the nearest Emergency Room** for immediate medical attention.



## BURIALS

Page #

211 WNY Helpline.....	34
Amherst-Buffalo Cremation Services .....	39
Marine Corps League (Funeral Honors).....	64
Veteran Service Agency's	
Erie County .....	53
Niagara County .....	78
NYS Buffalo .....	100
NYS Hamburg .....	100
NYS Niagara Falls.....	100
NYS Regional Buffalo & Affiliates Office .....	99
WNY National Cemetery .....	109

## CAREGIVER

	Page #
211 WNY Helpline .....	34
Erie County Government Services.....	52
Hidden Heroes .....	58
Military & Veteran Caregiver Network .....	8
Mission: Military Spouse .....	69
NY Connects (Erie and Niagara County) .....	73
Niagara County Government Services.....	77
Operation Family Caregiver.....	80
Semper Fi & America's Fund.....	86
Veteran Caregiver .....	96

## Veterans Administration Medical Centers and Clinics

Provides primary care, mental health care, specialty care, cancer care, cardiology, diabetes care, mental health care, palliative and hospice care, treatment for HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) and hepatitis, disease prevention and wellness programs, alcohol and drug abuse rehabilitation, posttraumatic stress disorder care, domiciliary program, community living center (nursing home) care and more.

Packard VA Clinic .....	716-862-8885
1325 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14209	
Buffalo VA Clinic .....	716-862-8865
2963 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14214	
West Seneca VA Clinic .....	716-821-7815
968 Union Road, West Seneca, NY 14224	
Niagara Falls VA Clinic .....	716-862-8580
1300 Pine Ave, Niagara Falls, NY 14301	
Lockport VA Clinic.....	716-438-3890
5725 South Transit Road, Lockport, NY 14094	
Springville VA Clinic .....	716-592-2409
231 S. Cascade Dr Unit 107, Springville, NY 14141	
Buffalo VA Medical Center .....	716-834-9200
3945 Bailey Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14215	
Mental Health Care .....	716-862-3117
Syracuse VA Medical Center	315-425-4400
800 Irving Avenue, Syracuse, NY 13210	



**Vehicles for Veterans**.....844-483-0838  
 50 Foundation Plaza #1400 Buffalo, NY 14202  
[Vehiclesforveterans.org](http://Vehiclesforveterans.org)

Vehicles for Veterans is Car Donation Foundation's tax-exempt vehicle donation program that benefits disabled veterans. Our car donation program accepts cars, boats (with trailer), RVs, trucks, SUVs, and motorcycles, whether they are running or not. At no cost to you, we will arrange to have your vehicle towed away at a scheduled time that is best for you and your preliminary tax receipt will be mailed to you within 15 days.

Thousands of veterans across the country rely on funding from the programs which Vehicles For Veterans benefits. Give back to those who gave everything to the country today! One strong community of support can help disabled and other veterans programs to assist even more unreached veterans.

## **Veteran.com**

Discover Military and Veteran benefits. From Military Pay, to Retirement, Health Benefits, and Everyday Military Discounts. We've got you covered.

- Military Discounts
- Benefits
- Housing
- Money & Finance
- Jobs
- Education
- Resources

## **CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS**

	Page #
211 WNY Helpline.....	34
Angels of America's Fallen.....	39
Baby and Children's Ministry .....	40
Baby Needs Pantry .....	41
Erie County Day Care Assistance .....	51
Marine Corps League.....	64
Military Child Care.....	65
Niagara County Day Care Assistance .....	77
Operation Homefront.....	82
Our Military Kids.....	83
Parent Network of WNY .....	84
Semper Fi & America's Fund .....	86
WNY Heroes .....	107

## EDUCATION

	Page #
211 WNY Helpline.....	34
Boots for Troops .....	43
Buffalo State College .....	44
Canisius College .....	46
Daemen University.....	47
D'Youville University .....	49
Erie Community College .....	49
Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America .....	61
Joint Services Transcript.....	62
Marine Corps League.....	64
Niagara University.....	79
Student Veterans of America .....	89
University of Buffalo .....	93
Veterans Institute of Training and Technology .....	97
Veterans One-Stop Center of WNY.....	98
Veteran Service Agency's	
Erie County .....	53
Niagara County .....	99
NYS Buffalo .....	100
NYS Hamburg .....	100
NYS Niagara Falls.....	100
NYS Regional Buffalo & Affiliates Office.....	99
WNY Heroes.....	107

**University of Buffalo** .....716-829-5586  
 321 Student Union, North Campus  
 Buffalo, NY 14260  
[Buffalo.edu](http://Buffalo.edu)

At UB, we know it's not always easy to deal with the paperwork involved with your VA benefits. We're here to help answer all of your questions and guide you through the process, so you can focus on your classes.

- Certify your enrollment
- Receiving your VA Benefits
- Changes to schedules, enrollment status
- When your benefits change.

Are you interested in serving others, going to events and hanging out with other student veterans? Then join the UB Student Veterans Association (SVA), where you'll find students who share your common experience — and a desire to get the most out of their time at UB. The SVA is a student-run organization that is committed to scholarship, service and camaraderie, and is open to student veterans, dependents of active duty military, and those who are currently serving in the Reserves, Guard or ROTC.

**U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs** .....800-827-1000  
[Va.gov](http://Va.gov)

Provides a wide array of information, verify the status of disability or survivors. benefits payments, check on eligibility including home loans, life insurance, education and health care, establishment of a direct deposit account, and access a VA benefits counselor.

## Tunnel to Towers Foundation

2361 Hylan Blvd., Staten Islands, NY 10306

T2t.org

Since 9/11, we have been helping America's heroes by providing mortgage-free homes to Gold Star and fallen first responder families with young children and by building specially-adapted smart homes for catastrophically injured veterans and first responders. We are also committed to eradicating veteran homelessness and helping America to Never Forget September 11, 2001.

### *Smart Homes Program*

The Tunnel to Towers Foundation builds mortgage-free smart homes for our most catastrophically injured veterans and first responders. Each home is designed to address the unique needs of each individual. Smart homes host a myriad of features such as automated doors and lighting, wider halls and doorways, special showers to accommodate wheelchairs, automatic door openers, cabinets, counters, and stove tops that can be raised and lowered, back-up generators, and central heating and air conditioning systems that can be controlled by tablets. These homes help our most severely injured veterans and first responders to reclaim their day-to-day independence.

### *Gold Star Family Home Program*

The Foundation will provide a mortgage-free home to surviving spouses with young children.

### *Veteran Homelessness*

Veterans in this program will receive the support they need to help them address any obstacles to living a more independent life. In addition to delivering a mortgage-free home, the Foundation will also provide comprehensive care by connecting Veterans with appropriate local services (such as: mental health counseling, skills training, and addiction support).

## EMPLOYMENT

Page #

211 WNY Helpline.....	34
Boots to Business .....	43
Erie County Government Office.....	52
FeedMore WNY .....	55
Helmets to Hardhats .....	57
Iraq Afghanistan Veterans of America .....	61
Military Hire .....	66
New York State Department of Labor	
Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program .....	74
Local Veterans Employment Representative .....	74
Niagara County Government Office .....	77
Soldier On.....	87
Veterans One-Stop Center of WNY.....	98
Veteran Outreach Center .....	100
Veteran Service Agency's	
Erie County .....	53
Niagara County .....	78
NYS Buffalo .....	100
NYS Hamburg .....	100
NYS Niagara Falls.....	100
NYS Regional Buffalo & Affiliates Office .....	99

## FINANCIAL

### Page #

211 WNY Helpline.....	34
Adopt A Soldier .....	34
Hero Care Network Financial Assistance .....	7
Iraq Afghanistan Veterans of America .....	61
Marine Corps League.....	64
Operation First Response .....	81
Operation Homefront.....	82
Semper Fi & America's Fund .....	86
Veterans One-Stop Center of WNY.....	98
Veterans Outreach Center .....	101
Veteran Service Agency's	
Erie County .....	53
Niagara County .....	78
NYS Buffalo .....	100
NYS Hamburg .....	100
NYS Niagara Falls.....	100
NYS Regional Buffalo & Affiliates Office.....	99
WNY Hero's .....	107

**Travis Mills Foundation** .....207-480-3490  
 647 Castle Island Road, Mt. Vernon, Maine 04352  
[Travismillsfoundation.org](http://Travismillsfoundation.org)  
[foundation@travismillsfoundation.org](mailto:foundation@travismillsfoundation.org)

We support veterans through our nationally recognized retreat located in the Belgrade Lakes Region of Maine. Veteran families who have been injured in active duty or as a result of their service to our nation receive an all-inclusive, all-expenses-paid, barrier-free experience in Maine where they participate in adaptive activities, bond with other veteran families, and enjoy much-needed rest and relaxation in Maine's outdoors.

The following adaptive and traditional activities are provided.

Culinary Arts (Cooking Courses, Bating)	
Guest chefs	Martial Arts (Self Defense)
Challenge Ropes Course	Cycling
Horseback Riding	Shooting Sports
Hiking	Golfing
Massage therapy	Ice fishing
Yoga	Archery
Kayaking	Canoeing
Boating	Fly Fishing
Bass Fishing	Guided Fishing Trips
Pottery	Painting
Snowshoeing	

**Team RWB** .....833-832-6792  
 Teamrwb.org info@teamrwb.org

Our mission is to enrich the lives of America’s veterans by connecting them to their community through physical and social activity.

Team RWB members share more than just values. We share an ethos – a set of guiding beliefs and ideals that characterize our community. An ethos persuades or inspires people to action and that is what our organization is all about. While ethos can be sometimes hard to define, you certainly know it when you see it. Ethos is demonstrated, not stated. Lacrosse, running, rucking, yoga, cycling, triathlons, functional fitness are a few of the programs they offer. Join the Buffalo chapter now.

**The Battle Within Foundation** .....716-935-0570  
 3014 Delaware Ave., Kenmore, NY 14217  
 Thebattlewithinfoundation.com

PTSD. Finding a way forward by sparking new research opportunities. Supporting veterans in crisis, educating the public, and honoring our heroes for their service, regardless of where they died.

## FOOD PANTRIES

Page #

211 WNY Helpline.....	34
Erie County Government Services (SNAP) .....	52
FeedMore WNY .....	55
(listing of food pantries and days open)	
Niagara County Government Services (SNAP) .....	77





## HEALTH

### Page #

211 WNY Helpline.....	34
Buffalo Vet Center (Counseling).....	45
Erie County Government Services (Mental) .....	52
Hero Care Network Emergency Communication .....	6
Martins Point Health Care .....	65
Military & Veteran Caregiver Network Peer Support.....	8
Niagara County Government Services (Mental) .....	77
Veterans Administration Medical Centers and Clinics ...	95
Veterans Outreach Center .....	101
Veteran Service Agency's	
Erie County .....	53
Niagara County .....	78
NYS Buffalo .....	100
NYS Hamburg .....	100
NYS Niagara Falls.....	100
NYS Regional Buffalo & Affiliates Office.....	99

**Soldier On Success** .....888-288-3184  
[Soldieronsuccess.org](http://Soldieronsuccess.org)

Veterans Homeownership Center: Our dedicated team is knowledgeable in housing matters and resources unique to active military and veterans, and can connect you to the right kind of assistance for improving your credit, achieving affordable housing, and maintaining homeownership success.

Services include:

- Rental counseling to help avoid eviction
- Pre-purchase coaching to create a path to homeownership
- Post-purchase support for a successful transition from renter to homeowner
- Foreclosure prevention counseling
- Reverse mortgage counseling to explore options for aging in place.

**Student Veterans of America** ..... 202-223-4710  
 1012 14th St. NW 12th Floor, Washington DC 20005  
[www.studentveterans.org/chapters/find-a-chapter/to-find-a-chapter-near-you](http://www.studentveterans.org/chapters/find-a-chapter/to-find-a-chapter-near-you).

SVA inspires yesterday's warriors by connecting student veterans with a community of dedicated chapter leaders. Every day these passionate leaders work to provide the necessary resources, network support, and advocacy to ensure student veterans can effectively connect, expand their skills, and ultimately achieve their greatest potential.

University at Buffalo SVA  
 SUNY Buffalo State SVA  
 D'Youville College SVA  
 Niagara University SVA

## Soldier On (continued)

### *Veteran Justice Partnership*

Provide services, treatment options and alternative sentencing for veterans who are facing incarceration.

### *Employment*

Soldier On partners with businesses in the community to create employment opportunities for our veterans. Employment coordinators work to foster and maintain relationships between local employers and veterans while providing the support necessary for success.

### *Case Management*

All veterans meet with a case manager upon arrival to perform an initial assessment. Based on this assessment, the case manager works in collaboration with the veteran to devise a service plan addressing identified needs and objectives. Each veteran has a personalized service plan outlining barriers and goals related to substance abuse, mental health, medical needs, finances, education, employment and housing. The case manager meets with the veteran on a regular basis to monitor progress. In addition to scheduled meetings, case managers are always available to provide additional support or assistance.

### *Programming*

Soldier On's programming are designed to foster dignity, integrity and hope, while providing access to groups surrounding substance abuse/addiction services, mental health, medical care, housing readiness, financial literacy, wellness, life skills counseling. Veteran-to-veteran relationships are the foundation of our program. The success is built upon our veterans' commitment to motivating, educating and serving one another.

## HEALTH (Peer to Peer)

Page #

Buffalo Vet Center .....	45
Ethereal Dreams Entertainment .....	54
Readjustment, Transition	
Forge VFR .....	56
Iraq Afghanistan Veterans of America .....	61
Marine Corps League.....	64
Transition	
Operation First Response .....	81
Semper Fi & America's Fund .....	86
Soldier On.....	87
Veteran One-Stop Center .....	98
Peer to Peer, Women's Groups, Readjustment	
Vets4Warriors .....	104
WNY Heroes .....	107

## HEALTH (Animal Programs)

Page #

### SERVICE DOGS

America's VetDogs .....	38
Dog T.A.G.S. Program .....	48
Semper Fi & America's Fund .....	86
WNY Heroes .....	107

### HORSE PROGRAMS

Lothlorien Therapeutic Riding Center .....	63
Semper Fi & America's Fund .....	86

**Soldier On** .....866-406-8449  
Wesoldieron.org                      Email info@wesoldieron.org  
Serving Erie and Niagara counties

Soldier On provides three housing locations: a 165-bed shelter leased from the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Leeds, MA; a 71-bed transitional living facility in Pittsfield, MA, and the first of its kind, award winning 39-unit housing cooperative Gordon H. Mansfield Veterans Community in Pittsfield. The treatment program is focused on building social skills, creating an enhanced sense of togetherness and providing motivation for residents to spend their free time serving others instead of themselves. A wide variety of treatment groups range from Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous to computer technology and current events. Soldier On employs a full time psychologist who focuses on the chronically mentally ill and veterans with dual diagnosis. Furthermore, each veteran is assigned a case manager to assist in attaining necessary services and developing an individualized service plan that addresses the veterans' needs and goals. The Soldier On employment program includes financial awareness classes, specialized services for incarcerated veterans, financial assistance for training and education, resume building, interview preparation and job fairs. We provide our veterans with transportation to and from appointments and services that are not offered where they live.

#### *Incarcerated Veterans Program*

Veterans willing to participate in the program are separated into their own pod at the jail where they are interviewed and assessed and then provided special counseling and other services with the intent of fully reintegrating them back into the community and reducing their rate of recidivism. Each veteran is individually evaluated for their needs around substance abuse, physical and mental health, and behavioral history and then provided services specifically tailored to the veteran's personal needs.

**Semper Fi & American's Fund** .....760-725-3680  
 715 Broadway Street, Quantico, VA 22134  
 Thefund.org info@thefund.org

We operate our programs and services through a “needs-based” approach. Staff and volunteers work one-on-one with our service members, veterans, and military families—providing ongoing support for as long as legitimate needs require.

**Service Member and Family Support Program**

- Bedside Financial Support
- Housing Assistance
- Transportation Assistance
- Specialized & Adaptive Equipment
- Visiting Nurse Program
- Caregiver Support & Retreats
- Skip's Kids Program
- LCpl Parsons Welcome Home Fund for Vietnam Veterans
- Disaster Relief Program
- Afghan Interpreters Welcome Fund

**Transition Program**

- Veteran to Veteran Support
- Apprenticeship Program
- Education and Career Assistance
- Veteran & Unit Reunions

**Integrative Wellness Program**

- NeuroFitness
- Arts & Music Program
- Tim and Sandy Day Canine Companies Program
- Jinx McCain Horsemanship Program
- Post Traumatic Growth Video Resources

**Post-Traumatic Stress Support Program**

- Peter Murphy's Sports Program

**HOUSING ASSISTANCE**

Page #

211 WNY Helpline.....	34
Adopt A Soldier Platoon .....	34
Altamont Veterans Program .....	35
Erie County Government Services .....	52
Habitat for Humanity .....	57
Home Fire Campaign .....	5
Iraq Afghanistan Veterans of America .....	61
NYS Veteran Home (Batavia) .....	76
Niagara County Government Services .....	77
Operation Home Front .....	82
Property Tax Exemption.....	85
Semper Fi & America's Fund .....	86
Soldier On.....	87
Soldier On Success.....	89
Tunnels to Towers.....	92
Veterans Helping Veterans .....	97
Veterans Outreach Center .....	101
Veterans One-Stop Center of WNY.....	98
Veteran Service Agency's	
Erie County .....	53
Niagara County .....	78
NYS Buffalo .....	100
NYS Hamburg .....	100
NYS Niagara Falls.....	100
NYS Regional Buffalo & Affiliates Office .....	99
WNY Veterans Housing Coalition.....	109

## LEGAL

	Page #
211 WNY Helpline.....	34
Iraq Afghanistan Veterans of America .....	61
Soldier On.....	87
Veterans One-Stop Center of WNY.....	98
Veteran Service Agency's	
Erie County .....	53
Niagara County .....	78
NYS Buffalo .....	100
NYS Hamburg .....	100
NYS Niagara Falls.....	100
NYS Regional Buffalo & Affiliates Office.....	99
Veterans Treatment Court.....	104
Vietnam Veterans of America.....	105

## Property Tax Exemptions

See your local tax assessor.

*Alternative veteran property tax exemption.* Obtaining a veterans exemption is not automatic-If you're an eligible veteran, you must submit the initial exemption application form to your tax assessor. The deadline in most communities is March 1; confirm the date with your assessor.

*Alternative veterans exemption.* Available only on residential property of a veteran who has served during a designated time of war, or who has received an expeditionary medal.

- Currently available in over 95 percent of the county, city, town, and village taxing jurisdictions across the state. The remainder of these jurisdictions may choose to offer this exemption in the future. School districts also have the option to offer this exemption.
- Check with your assessor or clerk to see whether the alternative veterans exemption is offered.
- Authorized by Real Property Tax Law, section 458-a.

*Cold War veterans exemption.* Available only on residential property of a veteran who served during the Cold War period.

- Counties, cities, towns, villages, and school districts have the option to offer this exemption to qualified veterans.
- Check with your assessor or clerk to see whether the Cold War veterans exemption is offered.
- Authorized by Real Property Tax Law, section 458-b.

### *Eligible funds exemption*

- Provides a partial exemption.
- Applies to property that a veteran or certain other designated person purchases. Such owners must purchase the property with pension, bonus or insurance monies.

**Parent Network of Western New York.....716-332-4170**

1021 Broadway Street, Buffalo, NY 14212

Parentnetworkwny.org info@parentnetworkwny.org

Parent Network of WNY is a not-for-profit agency that provides education and resources for families of individuals with special needs (birth through adulthood) and for professionals.

Children of military-connected families are likely to attend public or private schools across the eight counties of the Western New York region. Military-connected families have access to unique services and supports that are not available to the general population. Transitioning from life on a military base, overseas service, or active duty to civilian life can pose distinctive challenges for both children and parents who are trying to access services. If you, your family, or a military connected family in your life needs assistance accessing services for a special needs family member, connect with Parent Network of WNY.

**Revive a Warrior.....reviveawarrior.com**

A glossary of organizations geared toward veterans.

**MILITARY RECORDS**

Page #

Erie County Clerk.....	52
Joint Services Transcript.....	62
Military Units/Family Readiness .....	68
National Personnel Records Center .....	71
Niagara County Clerk.....	77
Property Tax Exemption.....	85
Veteran Service Agency's	
Erie County .....	53
Niagara County .....	78
NYS Buffalo .....	100
NYS Hamburg .....	100
NYS Niagara Falls.....	100
NYS Regional Buffalo & Affiliates Office.....	99

## RECREATION

	Page #
211 WNY Helpline.....	34
Adopt A Soldier Platoon .....	34
Boots for Troops .....	43
Buffalo Niagara Honor Flight.....	44
Catch A Lift Fund .....	46
Erie County Government Services .....	52
Higher Ground New York .....	59
NYS Park Passes and Listing .....	75
National Park Passes.....	70
Niagara County Government Services .....	77
Team RWB .....	90
Travis Mills Foundation .....	91
Veteran Service Agency's	
Erie County .....	53
Niagara County .....	78
NYS Buffalo .....	100
NYS Hamburg .....	100
NYS Niagara Falls.....	100
NYS Regional Buffalo & Affiliates Office.....	99
WNY Adaptive Water Sports .....	106

**Our Military Kids** .....703-734-6654  
 2911 Hunter Mill Road, Suite 203, Oakton, VA 22124  
 Ourmilitarykids.org email: omkinquire@ourmilitarykids.org

Our Military Kids recognizes the sacrifice of children of deployed National Guard, deployed Reserve, or post 9/11 combat-injured service members by offering extracurricular activity grants that build the child's self-confidence, enhance family wellness, and strengthen a shared sense of community.

Visit the website to apply.

**Paralyzed Veterans of America** .....716-857-3353  
 130 S. Elmwood Ave. Suite 621, Buffalo, NY 14202  
 Pva.org .....rachael@pva.org

Paralyzed Veterans of America, a congressionally chartered veterans service organization founded in 1946, has developed a unique expertise on a wide variety of issues involving the special needs of our members – veterans of the armed forces who have experienced spinal cord injury or dysfunction.

PVA will use that expertise to be the leading advocate for:

- Quality health care for our members
- Research and education addressing spinal cord injury and dysfunction
- Benefits available as a result of our members' military service
- Civil rights and opportunities that maximize the independence of our members.

To enable Paralyzed Veterans to continue to honor this commitment, we must recruit and retain members who have the experience, energy, dedication, and passion necessary to manage the organization and ensure adequate resources to sustain the programs essential for Paralyzed Veterans of America to achieve its mission.



**Operation Homefront**.....210-659-7756  
Operationhomefront.org

Our organization provides relief, resiliency, and recurring family support programs and services throughout the year to help military families overcome short-term difficulties so they don't become long-term hardships.

Critical Financial Assistance 877-264-3968

#### Housing

- Transitional Housing (apartments)
- Permanent Homes
- Transitional Homes
- Transitional Housing (Villages)

#### Family Events

- Back to School Brigade
- Holiday Meals for Military
- Star Spangled Babies
- Holiday Toy Drive
- Homefront Celebrations
- Military Child of the Year

Operation Homefront's Star-Spangled Babies baby shower program is a recurring family support service helping military service members and their growing families to welcome the newest patriot to their families. Welcoming a new baby to the family is exciting, but it can be tough if finances are tight and your service member is deployed.

This program provides:-Baby supplies, new parent information, refreshments, and a bag of goodies for baby. In most locations, the families who participate have deployed service members, wounded service members, and other junior and mid-grade service members and their families.

## TRANSPORTATION

### Page #

211 WNY Helpline.....	34
Adopt a Soldier Platoon .....	34
Boots for Troops .....	43
Erie County Government Services .....	52
Niagara County Government Services .....	77
Semper Fi & America's Fund .....	86
Vehicles for Veterans .....	94
Veterans Outreach Center .....	101

## VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS

	Page #
American Legion .....	36
American Veterans (AMVETS).....	38
Blue Star Mothers .....	42
Disabled American Veterans (DAV) .....	47
DMNA .....	48
Marine Corps League.....	64
Military OneSource .....	66
Military Units/Family Readiness .....	68
Navy Seabee Veterans of America .....	72
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs .....	93
Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) .....	102

**Operation First Response** .....888-289-0280  
 20037 Dove Hill Road, Culpeper, VA 22701  
 Operationfirstresponse.org  
 email: info@operationfirstresponse.org

We are dedicated to serving our wounded Service Members, Disabled Veterans, First Responders and Gold Star families. Operation First Response is a direct service charity. As such, we give back over 95% of the funds we raise directly to America's Finest who need our assistance.

- Family Assistance Program
- Last Mission Project (Counseling and Therapy Treatment)
- OFR Backpacks: OFR sends backpacks to wounded service members located at combat support hospitals in theatre. These backpacks are filled with a set of clothing, hygiene products, a handmade blanket, and a phone card and sent to a POC to be given to our wounded upon arrival. These items enable our wounded to have some personal items considering many have their uniforms cut off on the battlefield and it may take weeks for personal items to be returned. OFR also provides Hygiene bags to Veteran Food Shelters and Veteran Homeless Shelters.
- Operation Final Salute
- Random Act of Kindness Initiative
- Project Specialized Training

**Operation Family Caregiver** .....229-928-1234  
 PO Box 547, Americus, GA 31709  
 Operationfamilycaregiver.org

Operation Family Caregiver (OFC) is a free and confidential program for adult family members or friends caring for a military service member or post-9/11 veteran with visible or invisible (post-traumatic stress or traumatic brain) injuries or adjustment concerns. One of our coaches meets 1:1 with the same caregiver in a place of the caregiver's choosing (including via Skype and/or phone when not near us or that's what a caregiver prefers). The program is evidence-based with statistically significant improvements of caregiver depression and health status, as well as reduction of children's anxiety. Our coach meets with the caregiver four times over 4 – 6 months to support positive solutions to problems the caregiver identifies. In between each meeting a phone call is made to the caregiver. The emphasis is on the FOCUS acronym, which expands to: Facts, Optimism, Creativity, Understanding, and Solve. OFC is not psychotherapy, though coaches may help clients identify concerns they can share with their therapists.



## OTHER HELPFUL SITES

Page #

Battle Buddy Information.....	42
Listing of Organizations for Veterans	
Boots for Troops .....	43
Care Packages	
Hero Care Network Emergency Communication .....	6
In case of accident/injury/illness/death/birth	
Mission: Military Spouse.....	69
Information for Spouses	
Operation First Response .....	81
Care Packages	
Revive A Warrior .....	84
Listing of Organizations for Veterans	
Semper Fi & America's Fund .....	86
Many, Many Services, too many to list.	
The Battle Within Foundation .....	90
Research on PTSD	
Veterans Outreach Center .....	101
Family Supportive Services	
Vietnam Veterans of America.....	105
Government Relations, Publications	

**211 WNY Helpline** .....2-1-1 or  
.....888-696-9211  
[www.211.org/services/veterans](http://www.211.org/services/veterans)

2-1-1 WNY is your free and confidential link to health and human services. Every day, across Western New York, people just like you are looking for help. 211 WNY is here 24/7. Lists all agencies that assist veterans within a specific county.

**Adopt-a-Soldier Platoon** .....Online only  
[Aasp.vet](http://Aasp.vet)

The mission of Adopt-a-Soldier Platoon is to lift the morale and support the welfare of active members and veterans of the United States Armed Forces, their immediate families, and the immediate families of deceased veterans.

*Operation Wounded Care:* This includes, but is not limited to: specially-adaptive vehicles; motorized wheelchairs; ADA renovations to bathrooms and homes; entertainment/recreation; hunting and fishing trips for Wounded and Homeless Vets; financial stipends; and other needs they may have.

*Camp4Heroes:* a retreat in North Carolina that is being developed as a sanctuary for Life, Love and Respect for our Injured Servicemen/women, as well as police, fire and first responders. We believe that Camp4Heroes will be instrumental in helping our Wounded Vets heal their souls from the trauma of war.

**Niagara University Veterans**.....716-286-8323  
5795 Lewiston Road, Niagara University, NY 14109  
[Niagara.edu/veterans](http://Niagara.edu/veterans)

Niagara University has a long history of honoring and supporting students who, like you, served all of us through service in our nation's armed forces. Since its earliest days, countless numbers of soldiers and veterans have attended Niagara, enriching the campus and transforming the lives of others. Included among those veterans are two Medal of Honor recipients, General William Donovan and Lieutenant John Bobo, and a humanitarian nominated for sainthood, Fr. Nelson Baker. They, along with thousands of notable alumni, have made a difference in the world.

Since World War II, Niagara has welcomed many veterans who came back to school, either to begin or resume their education. In that same welcoming spirit, we welcome you to our campus and thank you for your service.

Niagara University is committed to supporting you as you begin this new chapter in your life. We look forward to partnering with you to facilitate your academic goals, and we are eager for your participation in our campus as we learn and grow together. Take a look at our academic programs, schedule a visit and meet with admissions and financial aid counselors, and prepare to continue your mission of making a difference.

## Niagara County Veterans Service Agency

.....716-438-4090

175 Hawley Street, Lockport, NY 14094

Niagaracounty.com

### Services include:

Disability Compensation	Pension
Burial	Discharge Issues
Education	Employment
Homelessness	Legal
Military Records	Property Tax Exemption
PTSD	Suicide Prevention
"Thank A Vet" Program	VA Health Care
VA Home Loan	And more.

Niagara County Veteran Service Office's mission is to insure that all veterans and their dependents have access to any benefits to which they may be eligible as the result of the veteran's active duty military or naval service. There are benefits due to some reservists and national guardsmen, but this must be determined on an individual basis.

Niagara County Clerk Joseph A. Jastrzemski has launched a Purple Heart Recognition initiative for Niagara County Veterans who are or were recipients of the Purple Heart - the oldest military award presented to American service members.

## Altamont Veterans Program.....716-892-0132

30 Wyoming Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14215

email: altamontpgm@gmail.com

Altamontpgm.wixsite.com/buffalovetpsgm

34-bed program that provides clinical services and transitional housing for veterans who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless. The program provides clinical support, case management, basic life skills, counseling, and assistance with access to employment.

### Eligibility:

Male veterans with a referral from the VA Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless. Veterans must be willing to engage in case management and clinical services offered as part of the program. Eligible veterans must have the ability to live independently and have the goal of permanent housing in the community.

### No Program Fees

### The Veterans Program Provides:

- Transitional housing
- Permanent housing
- Clinical assessments
- Case management
- Counseling
- Self- help programs
- Vocational job training & job placement
- Post employment support

**American Legion National Headquarters**.800-433-3318  
700 N. Pennsylvania St. Indianapolis, IN 46206  
Legion.org

Most prospective members do not realize all The American Legion does for people of all ages at the local, state and national levels. The Legion conducts, promotes and supports hundreds of career fairs for veterans and transitioning servicemembers, bringing employers face to face with job hunters. Through Operation Comfort Warriors, the Legion raises funds to provide comfort items for U.S. troops recovering in military hospitals and transition units worldwide. Legion staff lobbies Congress for better quality of life for U.S. military personnel. Through American Legion Baseball, nearly 100,000 young men get to experience teamwork and competition each year. The Legion provides more than \$138,000 in scholarships through The National American Legion High School Oratorical Contest. And Legion Riders, through the annual Legacy Run, have raised more than \$2 million for the Legacy Scholarship, helping ensure the children of U.S. servicemembers killed on or after Sept. 11, 2001, have a chance at a college education. American Legion department service officers help thousands of veterans receive VA benefits they earned through service to their country.

#### **AMERICAN LEGION POSTS**

##### **Niagara County**

2299 Quaker Road, Gasport, NY 140675..... 716-772-7562  
3251 Hosmer Rd., Gasport, NY 14067..... No Phone  
752 E. Market St., Niagara Falls NY 14303..... 716-282-7001  
8643 Buffalo Ave., Niagara Falls NY 14304 ..... 716-283-0251  
923 Niagara Ave., Niagara Falls NY 14305..... 716-282-0749  
5530 Townline Rd., Sandborn, NY 14132 ..... 716-731-9510  
6525 Ward Rd., Sanborn NY 14132..... 716-731-4712  
102 Casewood Dr., Wilson, NY 14172..... 716-751-6756

**Niagara County Day Care Assistance** .....716-439-7656  
20 East Ave., Lockport NY 14094  
Niagaracounty.com

If you are a single parent or two-parent family with both parents working outside the home, you may be eligible for NPA Daycare Assistance. To apply for this program, call the number listed above to have an application packet mailed to you, or stop by one of our offices (to pick one up. You can also apply online.

**Niagara County Government Services** ..... 716-439-7000  
175 Hawley Street, 1st Floor, Lockport, NY 14095  
Niagaracounty.com

**Take your DD214 to the County Clerk's office and have it registered!** If you do not want to wait for the National Archives to send you a copy when you lose yours, *take your DD214 to the County Clerk's office and have it registered!* This is your most important document from the military. *Take your DD214 to the County Clerk's office and have it registered!*

A partial listing of County services includes:

Adult Protective Services	Caregivers
Civil Service	Driving and Motor Vehicles
Domestic Violence	Domestic Violence Advocacy
HEAP	Mental Health
Parks, Camping, Shelters and Golf	
Permits	Personal Records
Property/Taxes	SNAP
Senior Services	Social Services
Temporary Assistance	And more

## NYS Parks Continued

Buckhorn Island State Park.....716-773-3271  
E. River Road, Grand Island, NY 14072

Sprague Brook County Park.....716-592-2804  
9674 Foote Road, Glenwood, NY 14069

Niagara Falls State Park .....716-278-1794  
332 Prospect St., Niagara Falls, NY 14303

Whirlpool State Park .....716-284-5578  
Niagara Scenic Parkway, Niagara Falls, NY 14303

Fort Niagara State Park .....716-745-7273  
1 Scott Ave., Youngstown, NY 14174

De Veaux Woods State Park.....716-284-5778  
3180 De Veaux Woods Dr. E., Niagara Falls, NY 14305

Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site .....716-884-0095  
641 Delaware Ave., Buffalo, NY 14202

**NYS Veterans Homes**.....585-345-2000  
220 Richmond Ave, Batavia, NY 14020

New York State Veterans Homes are skilled nursing facilities owned and operated by the New York State Department of Health for veterans and their dependents.

We provide quality care to all eligible veterans and their eligible dependents in need of skilled nursing care and rehabilitative services. We also conduct geriatric research and provide education and training for health care professionals.

## AMERICAN LEGION POSTS



### Erie County

9 Eckerson Ave., Akron, NY 14001 ..... 716-442-6001  
13143 Broadway St., Alden NY 14004 ..... 716-937-3110  
2075 Electric Ave., Blasdell, NY 14219 ..... 716-370-1449  
432 Franklin St., Buffalo NY 14202 ..... 716-885-8083  
533 Amherst St., Buffalo NY 14207 ..... 716-875-9276  
977 Delaware Ave., Buffalo, NY 14209 ..... No Phone  
136 Cazenovia St., Buffalo NY 14210 ..... 716-825-9557  
1356 E. Delavan Ave., Buffalo, NY 14215 ..... 716-449-6668  
3354 Delaware Ave., Buffalo NY 14218 ..... 716-877-9279  
1770 S. Park Ave., Buffalo NY 14220 ..... 716-822-6400  
66 E. Oakwood Place, Buffalo, NY 14240 ..... 716-668-6824  
3210 Genesee St. Cheektowaga, NY 14225 ..... 716-896-3346  
85 Manitou Street, Depew, NY 14043 ..... 716-481-3569  
7353 Erie Rd., Derby NY 14047 ..... 716-947-0928  
2912 Legion Dr., Eden NY 14057 ..... 716-992-3304  
100 Legion Drive, Gowanda, NY 14070 ..... 716-532-3592  
2524 Grand Island Blvd. Grand Island NY 14072 716-773-7915  
1965 Abbott Rd., Lackawanna, NY 14218 ..... 716-825-3733  
10571 Main St., North Collins, NY 14111 ..... 716-337-0466  
5115 Abbott Road, Orchard Park, NY 14127 ..... 716-202-4203  
5784 Ellis Road, Orchard Park, NY 14127 ..... 716-662-9780  
50 Gates St., Sloan, NY 14212 ..... 716-896-2954  
950 Payne Ave. N., Tonawanda, NY 14120 ..... 716-693-1740  
35 Legion Pkwy., West Seneca NY 14224 ..... 716-675-7613  
109 Zoar Valley Road, Springville, NY 14141 .... 716-592-5627  
154 Bellingham Dr., Williamsville, NY 14221 ..... 716-583-0736  
962 Wehrle Dr., Williamsville, NY 14221 ..... 716-204-2405

**American Veterans (AMVETS) - National Headquarters**  
..... 301-683-4031  
Amvets.org

AMVETS local and national programs are how we deliver on our promise of preserving freedoms secured by America's Armed Forces and enhancing the quality of life for veterans and all citizens. Browse our programs and learn how you can support or participate.

### **AMVETS Posts**



3758 Sheridan Dr., Amherst, NY 14226  
149 Lake Ave., Blasdell, NY 14219  
25 Review Pl., Buffalo, NY 14207  
4721 Broadway, Depew, NY 14043  
33 Legion Parkway, Lancaster, NY 14086  
10147 Springville Boston Rd., Springville, NY 14141  
2683 Clinton St., West Seneca, NY 14424

**America's VetDogs** .....631-930-9000  
371 E. Jericho Turnpike, Smithtown, NY 11787  
Vetdogs.org

Created to provide enhanced mobility and renewed independence to veterans, active-duty service members, and first responders with disabilities, allowing them to once again live with pride and self-reliance. America's VetDogs specializes in placing highly-skilled service and guide dogs to individuals with physical injuries, PTSD, hearing and vision loss, and seizures. Not only does a service dog provide support with daily activities, it provides the motivation to tackle every day challenges.

**NYS Park Passes**.....518-474-2324  
Parks.ny.gov

New York's state parks offer countless opportunities to explore your natural environment, escape from the grind of the everyday and experience exciting new adventures. Beaches, boat launches, hiking trails, campsites, and golf courses all await you!

Empire Pass: Patriot Plan Benefit

Members of the New York State National Guard or military reserves who are currently serving on active duty in support of the war on terrorism is eligible for one free Empire Pass for use by his or her immediate family during deployment and/or for his or her own use when returning home.

Lifetime Liberty Pass

The Lifetime Liberty Pass permits New York State veterans with a 40% or greater service-connected disability discounted use of state parks, historic sites, and recreational facilities.

NYS Parks Include (Erie and Niagara County):

Buffalo Harbor State Park ..... 716-822-1207  
1111 Fuhrmann Blvd., Buffalo, NY 14203

Amherst State Park ..... 716-631-7000  
390 Mill St. Buffalo, NY 14221

Knox Farm State Park..... 716-652-0786  
437 Buffalo Road, East Aurora, NY 14052

Woodlawn Beach State Park..... 716-609-2163  
3580 Lake Shore Road, Bladsell, NY 14219

Evangola State Park ..... 716-549-1802  
10191 Old Lake Shore Road, Irving, NY 14081



**NYS Department of Labor**    [Dol.ny.gov/services-veterans](http://dol.ny.gov/services-veterans)

**Erie County**

Buffalo Career Center .....716-851-2600  
284 Main Street, Buffalo NY 14202

Williamsville Career Center .....716-634-9081  
4175 Transit Road, Transitown Plaza, Williamsville, NY 14221

Niagara County .....718-278-8277  
Niagara WorkSourceOne  
1001 11th St., Suite E. Room 1014, Niagara Falls, NY 14301

*Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program*

Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program Specialists (DVOPs) are disabled veterans themselves. They provide individual career services exclusively to veterans and eligible persons who have significant barriers to employment. They also provide a full range of employment services, including comprehensive assessments, individual employment plans, job referrals, referrals to training and support services, and resume and interview preparation assistance.

*Local Veterans Employment Representatives*

Local Veterans' Employment Representatives (LVERs) staff are also veterans. They specialize in advocating on behalf of veterans and eligible persons with business, industry, and community organizations to promote employment and training opportunities. They also provide services for veterans and eligible persons, including job matching and job placement, conduct employer outreach, inform Federal contractors of the process to hire qualified veterans, and promote credentialing and licensing opportunities.

**Located at:**

Buffalo Downtown Career Center .....716-851-2656  
284 Main Street, Buffalo NY 14202

**Amherst-Buffalo Cremation Service** .....716-599-1418  
280 Grover Cleveland Highway Amherst, NY 14226  
[Amherst-buffalocs.com](http://Amherst-buffalocs.com)      [anne@jerfh.com](mailto:anne@jerfh.com)

Amherst-Buffalo Cremation Service has been a highly reputable and respected veteran's burial provider in New York. Our key priorities are high-quality care and meticulous attention to detail. We are one of the most extensive and professional military burial providers in the East Amherst area. All of our military services are provided in strict compliance with requirements mandated by the Department of Veterans Affairs. These military honors include a rifle detail, a color guard, the playing of "Taps," and the presentation of a burial flag from uniformed service members, one of whom is a member of the deceased veteran's parent service.

**Angels of America's Fallen** .....719-377-7352  
10010 Devonwood Ct., Colorado Springs, CO 80920  
[Aoafallen.org](http://Aoafallen.org)      email: [hello@aoafallen.org](mailto:hello@aoafallen.org)

Honoring our Fallen by supporting the dreams of their children: Our mission is to encourage and fund healthy positive activities for the children of fallen firefighters, military, and law enforcement. Between grief counseling and scholarships others provide, Angels stands beside the children all year, every year until adulthood. With your help, we're fueling these kids' dreams beyond the ultimate loss.

We support them through a long-term commitment to see them engaged all year, every year, all the way through 18 years old without having to reapply. We pay for the activities, but our support is much more than just writing checks; we follow up to encourage the children and share in celebrating their successes throughout each year. This long-term engagement is crucial for creating true lasting positive impact, and helps them develop their own personal identity, increase self-confidence, and write their own story of success rather than growing up in the shadow of a hero.

## **Baby and Children's Ministry by Harvest House of South Buffalo**

175 Jefferson Ave. Buffalo, NY 14206 .....716-824-7818  
Harvesthousebuffalo.org

At the Baby & Children's Ministry, mothers, fathers, grandmothers, and other caregivers have their pride and dignity restored as they shop for items their children need. The Baby & Children's Ministry supports more than 200 community service agencies who send more than 5,000 children living in poverty to our ministry each year. Most of the items given away have been donated through private individuals, clothing drives, baby showers, and scouting projects.

Services include:

- Clothing
- Safe cribs
- Car seats
- Strollers
- Toys
- Books
- Pajamas
- Pack 'n plays
- Socks
- Underwear

Clients must have a Baby & Children's Ministry referral form to visit us. Referral forms are available through an agency, such as: Catholic Charities, WIC, Buffalo Prenatal, etc. If an agency does not have the Baby & Children's Ministry referral form, it may be requested by the agency via phone, email or fax. Any further questions regarding the Baby & Children's Ministry, please call (716) 824-7818 Ext. 214 or email Lupe Pena, Director at [BabyMinistry@harvesthousebuffalo.org](mailto:BabyMinistry@harvesthousebuffalo.org)

## **NY Connects-Erie County.....716-858-8526**

95 Franklin St., 13th floor Buffalo NY 14202 ..... 800-396-2705  
www3.erie.gov/nyconnects email: nyconnects@erie.gov

Welcome to Erie County NY Connects - your "one-stop" for information about Long-term Care for people who live in Erie County. Finding your way around the Long-term Care system can be challenging. Our goal is to help you identify the best available care options - whether that means staying at home with the right mix of services or finding a place where your needs, or those of your loved one, can be met. Long-term Care includes a variety of health and other services used by people of any age who need help to function in their daily lives. Long-term care contains a mix of medical and non-medical services that can be provided in various settings. This may include care provided by family members, early childhood intervention, home-delivered meals, adult day care, case management, assisted living, personal care services, nursing, physical therapy and nursing home care.

## **NY Connects-Niagara County .....716-438-3030**

111 Main St., Lockport NY 14094..... 800-342-9871  
www.niagaracounty.gov email: nyconnects@niagaracounty.com

NY Connects Niagara County offers information and assistance, education and screening to individuals, their families and/or caregivers, as well as people employed in helping service professions. We assist residents in making informed choices regarding their long term care needs by letting residents know who provides those services nearest to them and how to get in touch with service providers. NY Connects is a joint initiative between the Niagara County Office for the Aging and the Department of Social Services.

**Navy Seabee Veterans of America** .....716-825-3751  
West Seneca, NY  
Nsva.org

Bringing All Seabees together to share in the pride of their service.

The Navy Seabee Veterans of America Inc., is a National Organization, perpetually incorporated in the State of Illinois under the "General Not For Profit Corporation Act". The Navy S.V.A. is organized for the purpose that " We, the Veterans of the Naval Construction Forces and the Civil Engineer Corps of the United States Navy, who have Honorably served our Country during time of war and peace, recognizing that service to God and Country is the foundation on which our Nation was founded, do hereby rededicate ourselves to that service, and further pledge our lives and actions to preserve the fundamental ideals of American Government, which we believe are Justice, Freedom, and Equality for all".

**Baby Needs Pantry by Community Action Organization of WNY** .....716-881-5150 x 4772  
45 Jewett Ave., Buffalo, NY 14214

The Baby Needs Pantry is designed to assist low-income families with baby formula, baby food, diapers and other basic necessities.

This program provides:

- Baby formula
- Baby food
- Diapers

Family may visit once in a 30 day period. Please note; items are given out based on availability. Items may not be available when you visit. Please reach out by phone to get more information on eligibility and availability.



## **Battle Buddy Info**

Battle-buddy.info

Battle-Buddy Info is an online Directory of Military Resources for Active Duty, Veterans and their Caregivers. We list military focused non-profits and resources that provide direct assistance to veterans and active duty personnel, in a user-friendly format. We work hard to maintain relevant information and resources, not only from non-profit organizations or government sources, but from peer support networks, Caregiver Blogs, books of interest as well as general topics related to issues the men and women who serve our nation face when returning to civilian life.

## **Blue Star Mothers of America .....716-449-6608**

NY7 Buffalo-Niagara Chapter

PO Box 2074, Buffalo, NY 14231

bluestarmothersny7.org      Email: presidentny7@gmail.com

We are mothers, stepmothers, grandmothers, foster mothers and female legal guardians who have children serving in the military, National Guard or Reserves, or children who are veterans. We support each other and our children while promoting patriotism. Our organization focuses on our mission every single day and will never, ever, forsake our troops, our veterans or the families of our Fallen Heroes.

Projects include:

- Care packages for deployed troops
- Football and bingo pizza parties at the VAMC
- Area ceremonies and parades
- Clothing closet donations
- Welcome home events
- Paint with a twist

## **National Personnel Records Center .....314-801-0800**

Archives.gov/veterans

Recent military service and medical records are not online. However, most veterans and their next of kin can obtain free copies of the following military service records any of the ways listed below.

DD214/Separation Documents  
Official Military Personnel File (OMPF)  
Replacement Medals  
Medical and Health Records

Request online at [vetrecs.archives.gov](http://vetrecs.archives.gov)

By Mail: Use form SF180 for most complete information  
National Personnel Records Center  
Military Personnel Records

1 Archives Drive, St. Louis, MO 63138

By Fax: Use form SF180 for most complete information  
314-801-9195

Generally there is no charge for basic military personnel and medical record information provided to veterans, next-of-kin and authorized representatives from Federal (non-archival) records. If your request involves a service fee, you will be notified as soon as that determination is made.

For additional information please call the National Personnel Records Center Customer Service Line. You can also contact your local County Veterans Service Office for information.

## NATIONAL PARK PASSES

Nps.gov      store.usgs.gov/militarypass

The free Military Pass is a way to thank current US military members and their dependents, Gold Star Families, and US military veterans for their support of our country and to encourage them to explore recreational opportunities on their public lands and waters.

A free **lifetime Military Pass** is available for Gold Star Families and US military veterans. A free **annual Military Pass** is available for current US military members and their dependents. The passes provide free access to more than 2,000 federal recreation areas, including national parks, wildlife refuges, and forests.



## Boots to Business.....sba.gov

Boots to Business (B2B) is an entrepreneurial education and training program offered by SBA as part of the Department of Defense's Transition Assistance Program (TAP). B2B provides participants with an overview of business ownership and is open to transitioning service members (including National Guard and Reserve) and their spouses.

## Boots for Troops .....218-798-7567

Boots4troops.org      email: info@boots4troops.com

The mission at Boots For Troops is to uplift and empower the over-all morale and mental well-being of deployed service members defending our freedom.

- Care Package Program
- Honor our Heroes
- Travel Assistance
- Jimmy Rogers Military Spouse Scholarship

Care Package Program: We send over a form via e-mail that asks a series of questions such as what does the service member need where they are deployed? What are their favorite snacks? What is their favorite sports team, and more. Lastly, each package comes with a new pair of personal boots selected by the package recipient. This program is designed to generate the biggest morale boost possible.

The Travel Assistance Program helps provide financial relief for E1-E5 so they will be able to travel home for the holidays to be with their loved ones or to get home in an emergency situation. Boots For Troops books the flights in full and does not need repayment. We believe in the importance of family and being able to be there in a time of need.

**Buffalo Niagara Honor Flight .....716-473-8465**

PO Box 426, Clarence, NY 14031

Buffaloniagarahonorflight.org

info@buffaloniagarahonorflight.org

Buffalo Niagara Honor Flight (BNHF), a hub of the National Honor Flight Network, recognizes United States Veterans for their sacrifices and achievements by flying them to Washington, DC to see their memorials at no cost to the Veteran. Priority is given to WWII Veterans, Korean War and Vietnam Veterans, and terminally ill Veterans from all wars are eligible. Veterans are taken on a first come first served basis. Guardians fly with each veteran on every flight providing assistance and helping them have a safe, memorable and rewarding experience.

**Buffalo State College .....716-878-3504**

1300 Elmwood Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14222

Inclusion.buffalostate.edu/veterans-and-military services

Welcome to all Armed Service Members, Veterans, Spouses and your Dependents. Buffalo State is honored to help support and guide you on your higher education experience. At Buffalo State, your core values, experiences, and service are not overlooked. We are committed to the intellectual, personal, and professional growth of all our students. The goal of the college is to inspire a lifelong passion for learning, and to empower a diverse population of students to succeed as citizens of a challenging world.

**Mission: Military Spouse**

PO Box 641341, El Paso, TX 79904

Missionmilspouse.org email: hello@missionmilspouse.org

What military spouses need to know. Mission: Milspouse originally began as Army Wife Network founded in April 2009. At that time, it joined together what was previously known as Army Wife Talk Radio (est. 2005), Field Problems, and Loving A Soldier blog.

In the last 18 years, our following has drastically expanded to also serve and support those connected to the military, including male spouses, mothers, fathers, children, friends, veterans, service members, and military-related nonprofits. The resources we provided soon bloomed to serve all military spouses of all branches and all components.

As a result of this growth, Army Wife Network fully rebranded to become Mission: Milspouse in January 2023. Now we are a fully-vetted 501(c)3 non-profit organization!

**National Domestic Violence Hotline:**

.....800-799-7233

## **Military Units/Family Readiness**

Masten Avenue Armory (Army) .....716-888-5797  
27 Masten Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14204  
Connecticut Street Armory (Army).....716-888-5798  
184 Connecticut Street, Buffalo, NY 14213  
107th ATKW (Air Force).....716-236-3411  
9910 Blewett Ave., Niagara Falls, NY 14304

Family Assistance Centers serve the needs of Servicemembers, their Families, veterans, or survivors by providing Eight Essential Services. These centers offer information and referral services to all Servicemembers and their Families regardless of their branch of service or duty status. The services provided are: Crisis Intervention, Legal Resource and Referral, Financial Resource and Referral, Tricare Information, ID cards and DEERS, Community Information and Outreach, Exceptional Family Member Program or EFMP and Emergency Family Assistance Centers.

### **Military Units in Erie and Niagara County NYNG (ARMY)**

152nd Brigade Engineer Battalion  
• HHC 152nd Brigade Engineer Battalion.....716-888-5705  
• B Co. 152nd Brigade Engineer Battalion.....716-322-1347  
• C Co. 152nd Brigade Engineer Battalion .....716-888-5679  
• E Co., 427 Brigade Support Battalion .....716-888-5679  
2 Squadron 101st Cavalry 716-878-0262  
• HHT 2 Squadron 101st Cavalry .....716-878-0282  
• Det 1, B Troop, 2 Squadron 101st Cavalry .....no phone  
• C Troop 2 Squadron 101st Cavalry.....716-664-0982  
• D Co 427 Brigade Support Battalion .....716-888-5675  
• C Co 427 Brigade Support Battalion .....716-888-5743  
153rd Troop Command Brigade.....716-888-5741  
• HHD 153rd Troop Command Brigade .....716-888-5760  
105 Military Police Company.....716-888-5613  
152nd Engineer Support Company .....716-888-5718

### **NYANG (Air Force)**

107th Attack Wing.....716-282-5923  
9910 Blewett Street, Niagara Falls, NY 14301

**Buffalo Vet Center** .....716-862-7350  
2372 Sweet Home Road Suite 1, Buffalo, NY 14228  
[Va.gov/buffalo-vet-center/](http://Va.gov/buffalo-vet-center/)

We are the people in the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs who welcome home war veterans with honor and respect for service to country. Most of us are veterans ourselves and many of us also served in a war zone. Understanding, acceptance and respect are essential elements of the services we provide. The Vet Center is a place where war veterans can feel comfortable among other veterans. It is also a place where family members can talk to a counselor who understand the realities of military life for service members and their families.

Vet Centers provide non-medical counseling and assistance to war zone veterans and their family members who are experiencing problems and issues related to active duty military service in a war zone or in the course of deployment during war. We are a community-based program located in major cities, with satellite sites in smaller towns.

### **Services Include:**

- Readjustment counseling
- PTSD counseling
- Marital/family counseling
- Military sexual trauma counseling
- Substance abuse counseling
- Women partners' group
- Benefits assistance and referral
- Liaison with other VA agencies
- Referral to community agencies
- Bereavement counseling

**Canisius College** .....716-888-2200  
2001 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14208  
Canisius.edu info@canisius.edu

Canisius is a proud participant in the Yellow Ribbon Program which includes tuition benefits for veterans and more. Contact our staff to learn how Canisius supports servicemen and women.

- Canisius is consistently ranked among the top 20 universities in the Northeast for veterans by U.S. News and World Report.
- Our dedicated veteran's support staff offers counseling and an array of support services.
- You can take advantage of flexible military service credits.

**Catch A Lift Fund** .....855-496-4838  
Catchaliftfund.org Fitness for Veterans

The Catch A Lift Fund enables post 9/11 combat injured veterans all over the U.S. to recover and rehabilitate both physically and mentally through physical fitness, motivation and support.

**Military Order of the Purple Heart**.....888-668-1656  
Buffalo 336-776-8449  
Niagara Falls 716-695-7677

Although our membership is restricted to the combat wounded, MOPH provides support to all veterans. Our Service Program is dedicated to supporting all veterans in understanding and accessing VA benefits. We listen to veteran needs and provide continuous liaison with members of Congress on key issues. We host a myriad of activities at the local level by its Chapters throughout the country. We strive to serve all of our country with programs such as Americanism, building awareness and pride.

**Military Sexual Assault:**  
DoD Secure Hotline .....877-995-5247  
[www.safehelpline.org](http://www.safehelpline.org)

Under DoD's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Policy, Service members and their adult military dependents have two reporting options - Restricted Reporting and Unrestricted Reporting. Under Unrestricted Reporting, both the command and law enforcement are notified. With Restricted (Confidential) Reporting, the adult sexual assault victim can access healthcare, advocacy services, and legal services without the notification to command or law enforcement.

Sexual assault is the most underreported crime in our society and in the Military. While the Department of Defense prefers that sexual assault incidents are reported to the command to activate both victims' services and law enforcement actions, it recognizes that some victims desire only healthcare and advocacy services and do not want command or law enforcement involvement. The Department believes its first priority is for victims to be treated with dignity and respect and to receive the medical treatment, mental health counseling, and the advocacy services that they deserve.



**Military Hire** ..... 888-239-8825x314  
520 S. Main St, Suite 2511-27, Akron, OH 44311  
militaryhire.com

Online employment service for Veterans and Employers. Veterans can post resumes and search and apply for jobs. Employers can post jobs and search and hire veterans. Host job fairs, free transition guide, resume writing, etc.

**Military One Source** .....800-342-9647  
An official Defense Department website  
Militaryonesource.mil

Military OneSource is your connection to information, answers and support when MilLife happens. We can help you overcome challenges, reach your goals and thrive.

As a member of our military family, you are eligible to use this Department of Defense-funded program anytime, anywhere. If we can't get you the answers you need, we'll connect you to someone who can.

- ARMY - "Army OneSource":.....800-464-8107
- MARINES - "Marines OneSource":.....800-869-0278
- NAVY - "Navy OneSource":.....800-540-4123
- AIR FORCE - "Air Force OneSource":.....800-707-5784

Military OneSource consultants can provide a brief assessment and referral to mental health professionals across the country for six free counseling sessions.

**Daemen University** .....716-839-7214  
4380 Main Street, Amherst, NY 14226  
Daemen.edu email: vetservices@daemen.edu

The Daemen University Nancy Haberman Gacioch (NHG) Center for Veterans welcomes students who are active duty members, students who served in the armed services, and student dependents of military service members. This Center provides computers, printers, desks, tables, and whiteboards along with a full-size refrigerator and microwave to better ensure academic success and social integration within the Daemen University community. In addition, the Center also provides career, vocational, and academic coaching and counseling.

**Disabled American Veterans (DAV)** .....716-857-3354  
VA Regional Office  
130 W. Elmwood Ave. Ste 620 Buffalo, NY 14202  
Dav.org

DAV stands ready to assist all veterans, transitioning service members, and our more than 1-million members nationwide in a variety of ways. Your Local DAV National Service Officer (NSO) can help with:

- -Assisting veterans in filing claims
- -Caregiver benefits
- -Guidance on state and local veteran benefits
- -Burial benefits
- -Vocational readiness and employment

**Dog T.A.G.S. Program** .....710-810-7532  
1 Souder Court, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050  
Dogtagsprogram.org

Find Dog Tags New York on Facebook or call 716-472-9596;  
email: p51hoarse@hotmail.com.

Train, Assist, Guide, Serve. Service Dog Program.  
A service dog owner training program for veterans suffering from service connected PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder), and/or TBI (Traumatic Brain Injury). The veteran trains his/her personal dog with the help of experienced dog trainers. We have veterans who have served in conflicts ranging from Vietnam to present day Iraq and Afghanistan.

### **Division of Military and Naval Affairs (DMNA)** dmna.ny.gov

The New York State Division of Military and Naval Affairs (DMNA) is the state's executive agency responsible to the governor for managing New York's Military Forces, which consists of nearly 20,000 personnel. The New York Army National Guard, with a strength of about 10,400 Soldiers, and the New York Air National Guard, with a strength of about 6,000 Airmen, are federal reserve forces which also respond to the governor when not mobilized. The New York Naval Militia, with a strength of about 2,700 personnel, and the New York Guard, with 400 personnel, are state uniformed forces.

Programs include:

Military Member Services  
Family Services  
NYS Defense Forces

Benefits  
Community  
Employment

**Martin's Point Health Care**.....888-674-8734  
141 Sully's Trail, Suite 4, Pittsford, NY 14534 716-839-0285  
Martinspoint.org

Explore TRICARE Prime Options, Help Understand TRICARE Prime, Enroll in the US Family Health Plan. Get excellent benefits at no or low cost with a wide network of civilian doctors! Martin's Point offers **highly-rated TRICARE® Prime plan options**, including:

The Martin's Point US Family Health Plan, which serves active-duty families, and military retirees and their families (to age 65).

The TRICARE Young Adult Prime plan, which serves young adult dependents (to age 26).

Our plans are available in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, upstate New York, and northern Pennsylvania. If you are looking to enroll for the first time, you can connect with a local benefits specialist to reap the full benefits a partnership with Martin's Point.

**Military Child Care**..... Militarychildcare.com  
<https://public.militarychildcare.csd.disa.mil/mcc-central/mcchome/>

Access to child care directly affects mission readiness, morale, and retention of defense personnel worldwide. For this reason, the Department of Defense is committed to connecting military and DoD-affiliated families to quality, affordable child care programs. Visit the website to learn more.

**Marine Corps League Headquarters**.....703-207-9588  
Mclnational.org

We support the Toys for Tots efforts working with the Marine Corps Reserve and Toys for Tots Foundation to raise millions of dollars for the youth of America, and to collect and distribute millions of toys all across the United States.

The Marine Corps League provides funeral honors support to over 10,000 funerals per year. This support allows the Marine Corps (Active and Reserve) to focus more of their resources on mission preparation.

The Marine Corps League supports the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation, Semper Fi Fund, Navy Marine Corps Relief Society, Mack's Marines, and the Young Marines.

We have several scholarship/award programs including the Marine Corps University LtGen Lejeune (luh-jern) Leadership Award, Delta Dental Scholarship, and college scholarships through the Marine Corps League Foundation.

One of our most critical missions is assisting transitioning Marines and their families in support of the Marine Corps' Marine for Life program.

#### Local Chapters

Bett-Toomey #216, 1794 Electric Ave., Lackawanna, NY 14218  
716-471-1002

Conrad Kania #230, 6525 Ward Road, Sandborn, NY 14132  
716-688-1074

Lockport Devil Dog #232, 37 Park Ave., Lockport, NY 14094  
716-523-3057

Niagara Frontier #239, 35 Legion Parkway, West Seneca, NY  
14224 716-681-5772

Lt. John Paul Bobo #1118, 923 Niagara Ave., Niagara Falls, NY  
14305 716-380-7009

Southtowns #1136, 1 Legion Dr., East Aurora, NY 14052  
716-683-1323

**D'Youville University** .....716-829-8000  
320 Porter Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14201  
Dyu.edu email: contactus@dyc.edu

Our Veteran Services Office (VSO) is committed to providing the best available services, programs and resources to veterans and dependents who attend D'Youville. Our focus is to assist veterans and their dependents or covered individuals in applying and processing educational benefits that they may be eligible for through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

We ensure that every VET and MAL student remains connected to the community leveraging all opportunities and resources for success from recruitment to graduation while on their DYU journey.

#### **Erie Community College Veterans Program**

.....716-851-1832  
Dan Frontera, South Campus, Room 3118,  
4041 Southwestern Blvd. Orchard Park, NY 14127  
Ecc.edu email: vafrontera@ecc.edu

We are your new unit, and we want you to succeed and walk across the stage wearing your Red, White, and Blue Military cord at Commencement. Visit our website for more information.

## **Erie County Crisis Line .....716-834-3131**

Help with personal/family problems, elder abuse, sexual assault & domestic violence issues, 24 hour access to safe shelter for victims and their children, out-patient domestic violence counseling & support groups.

## **Erie County Crisis/Kids Helpline**

.....716-834-1144

Relationship & Family Problems, Self-Esteem, Body Image and Eating Disorders, Drug & Alcohol Abuse, Grief & Loss, Peer Pressure, Bullying & School Problems.



## **Lothlorien Therapeutic Riding Center, Inc.**

.....716-655-1335

15 Reiter Road, East Aurora, NY 14052

Lothlorientrc.org email: keller.ltrc@gmail.com

### ***Way of the Warrior Program***

Through an Equine Facilitated Learning (EFL) approach, workshop attendees focus on a variety of one-on-one, hands-on activities with their horse partner, building a pathway to healing. EFL requires no previous experience with horses and involves working on the ground with the horses and a facilitator in a safe setting. EFL may or may not proceed to working on horseback.

Participants learn about coping skills, building trust and improving overall mental health and well-being. They discover tools that help them develop a level of emotional intelligence and agility and how to trust their bodies' internal GPS. The accepting nature and tolerant personality of the horse encourages participants to test the limits of their abilities and learn to make good choices in a safe, accepting environment.

**Joint Services Transcript** .....on-line only  
(Previous AARTS, SMART and VRAP)  
[Jst.doded.mil/jst](http://jst.doded.mil/jst)

JST is the Joint Services Transcript that has replaced the Coast Guard Institute Transcript, the Army/American Council on Education Registry Transcript System (AARTS) and the Sailor/Marine American Council on Education Registry Transcript (SMART). JST is an academically accepted document approved by the American Council on Education (ACE) to validate a service members military occupational experience and training along with the corresponding ACE college credit recommendations.

All enlisted, officers and warrant officers, both active and veterans from all Army components, Coast Guard, Marine Corps and Navy. are eligible for this program. Note that JST receives its data from underlying Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps and Navy personnel systems. Air Force personnel should contact CCAF to receive transcripts (URL: [www.au.af.mil/au/ccaf/transcripts.asp](http://www.au.af.mil/au/ccaf/transcripts.asp)).

The Benefit it provides is a description of military schooling and work history in civilian language. It serves as a counseling tool for academic and career counselors in advising service members and veterans. It serves as an aid in preparing resumes and explaining Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, National Guard and Navy work experience to civilian employers. It also saves time and money by awarding academic credits, which means less tuition to pay and less time spent in the classroom. You do not have to be active duty in order to access the JST website and your transcript. Active duty, Reserve, Veterans or National Guard personnel can use JST.

**Erie County Day Care Assistance**.....716-858-8953  
95 Franklin St., Buffalo NY 14202  
[Erie.gov/socialservices/day-care](http://Erie.gov/socialservices/day-care)

Low-income child care assistance is available to employed families who earn 300 percent or less of the Federal Poverty Level. Parents contribute toward the cost of care based on a sliding income scale. All eligible families are able to submit a new application for child care subsidy. Parents are encouraged to submit all pending documentation and re-certification applications by the assigned due date, to maintain enrollment in the Child Care Subsidy Program.

Plans Offered: Child day care assistance is authorized for eligible individuals through a variety of programs outlined below. Each program determines method of payment and required paperwork.

- Temporary Assistance Child Care is available to recipients of cash benefits who are also employed or engaged in an approved work activity, vocational or educational training program. Recipients should contact their caseworker or employment counselor to discuss child care assistance eligibility.
- Transitional Child Care Assistance is available to recipients of Temporary Assistance who become ineligible for cash benefits due to earned income. Transitional Child Care is guaranteed for 12 months after case closing if the working family earns less than or equal to a designated percentage of the State Income Standard (which is based on the Federal Poverty Level and subject to change). Parents contribute to the cost of care according to a sliding scale based on their household income.
- Non-Temporary Assistance Child Care (Subsidy Program) is available to working families who earn less than or equal to a designated percentage of the State Income Standard. Parents contribute to the cost of care according to a sliding scale. Assistance is also available to teen parents attending high school. The Day Care Unit is located on the fourth floor of the Rath Building, Room 449, 95 Franklin Street, Buffalo NY 14202.
- Preventive/Protective Services Child Care is available to recipients of Children Services when child care is mandated as part of a family's service plan.

**Erie County Government Services .....716-858-6000**

Edward A. Rath County Office Building  
95 Franklin Street, Buffalo, NY 14202  
Erie.gov

**Take your DD214 to the County Clerk's office and have it registered!** If you do not want to wait for the National Archives to send you a copy when you lose yours, *take your DD214 to the County Clerk's office and have it registered!* This is your most important document from the military. *Take your DD214 to the County Clerk's office and have it registered!*

A partial listing of County services includes:

- Adult Protective Services
- Caregivers
- Civil Service
- Driving and Motor Vehicles
- Domestic Violence/Advocacy
- HEAP
- Mental Health
- Parks, Camping, Shelters and Golf
- Permits
- Personal Records
- Property/Taxes
- SNAP
- Senior Services
- Social Services
- Temporary Assistance
- And more

**Iraq Afghanistan Veterans of America .....212-982-9699**

85 Broad Street, 18th Floor, New York, NY 10004  
www.iava.org email: info@iava.org

IAVA is the face of the post-9/11 veteran's movement, and we are more powerful when we speak as one voice.

IAVA is called upon by the media first because our programs and membership are authentic. Nowhere does IAVA move the needle further for veterans nationwide than its ability to engage the public and lead the national discussion.

Quick Reaction Force is IAVA's one-stop-shop solution. QRF provides free, confidential, 24/7 peer support, remote care management and connections to quality resources for all veterans and family members.

Programs include: mental health, education support, financial assistance, housing, employment, peer support, legal assistance, veteran advocacy, and more for Iraq and Afghanistan veterans.



**Horizon Health Services** .....716-831-1800  
 Horizon Corporate Office .....726-831-2700  
 55 Dodge Road, Getzville, NY 14068  
 horizon-health.org

Our program provides intensive substance use disorder treatment to men who have served in the military and/or as first responders, incorporating specialized individual and family services for those who also may have post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) or mental health disorders. See the website for a list of locations and services for Veterans.

*Locations:*

Aurora Village .....716-219-8700  
 6298 Inducon Drive East, Sanborn, NY 14132  
 Bailey Recovery Center .....716-833-3622  
 3020 Bailey Ave., Buffalo, NY 14215  
 Boulevard Recovery Center (Substance Abuse) 716-833-3708  
 Mental Health .....716-833-3792  
 1370 Niagara Falls Boulevard, Tonawanda, NY 14150  
 Broadway Recovery Center .....716-834-6401  
 77 Broadway, Buffalo, NY 14203  
 Care Coordination Program .....716-508-7700  
 1000 Young Street, Suite 500, Tonawanda, NY 14150  
 Delta Village.....716-638-9222  
 6302 Inducon Drive East, Sanborn, NY 14132  
 East Amherst Family Recover Center .....716-418-8531  
 6495 Transit Road, East Amherst, NY 14051  
 Freedom Village.....716-250-1860  
 6331 Inducon Drive, Sanborn, NY 14132  
 Hertel-Elmwood Recovery Center .....716-831-1977  
 699 Hertel Ave., Suite 350, Buffalo, NY 14207  
 Horizon Therapy Associates .....716-650-5100  
 55 Dodge Road, Getzville, NY 14068  
 Horizon Village.....716-731-2030  
 6301 Inducon Drive East, Sanborn, NY 14132  
 Horizon Village Terrace House (Detox and inpatient)  
 291 Elm St. Buffalo, NY 14203.....716-854-2444  
 Lockport Recovery Center .....716-433-2484  
 637 Davison Road, Lockport, NY 14094  
 Plus more. Visit website for full listing.

**Erie County Veteran Service Agency** .....716-858-6363  
 Edward A Rath County Office Bldg.  
 95 Franklin Street, Suite 800, Buffalo, NY 14202  
 Erie.gov/veterans veterans@erie.gov

Federal and State Services include:

Disability Compensation	Pension
Burial	Discharge Issues
Education	Employment
Homelessness	Legal
Military Records	Property Tax Exemption
PTSD	Suicide Prevention
“Thank A Vet” Program	VA Health Care
VA Home Loan	And more.

Erie County Veteran Service Office will help you navigate the Dept of Veterans Affairs’ bureaucracy, and the services are free. We will help with gathering the information necessary to support a claim, filing the claim, and tracking the claim through the VA system. We can also assist with filing appeals for denied claims. We strongly recommend that you make use of the services provided by County Veterans Service Officers. Our expertise can help you avoid the pitfalls and delays that missing paperwork or an improperly filled out claim can cause. In addition to the normal benefits provided by law to survivors of deceased veterans, this is the only agency charged with and responsible for processing, at county expense, of the burial of indigent veterans and next-of-kin of veterans. A fully trained office staff, experienced in every detail of claims processing, assures the claim and of efficient, confidential and sympathetic service with the least possible consumption of time and a minimum of “red tape”.

**Ethereal Dreams Entertainment.....716-983-4989**

34 Lincoln Av., North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Yournewlife.me      email: yournewlife123@gmail.com

**Helping Veterans out of the Darkness Into The Light**

Our goal is to bridge the gap between veterans and their communities. We're leading the way for veterans and the communities they come home to. Transitioning can be difficult for veterans, but we're dedicated to simplifying the process as a veteran-owned business.

Imagine that your taking a stroll through the woods on a floating pathway called "Ethereal Dreams". Your equipped with the Holo Lens 2 (augment/mixed reality glasses). The glasses take you to a different dimension while keeping you within this realm. Along the path you have three separate locations that create an experience unlike any other you have had before. Picture placing yourself in a sy. fy.. At your first location you see this beautiful garden style archway. With the glasses, suddenly you witness your first star gate ever. It leads you to the Geo Dome on the other side of the Archway. After you have crossed over to the other dimension and your inside this dome, for the first time you witness a living, breathing, talking Dragon and out of this world plant life. Captivated by your experience you are intrigued to continue on an adventure to the next set of domes.

**Higher Ground New York.....716-984-7806**

Highergroundusa.org

Our mission is to provide the most effective therapeutic recreation services to military families confronted with traumatic brain injury (TBI), post-traumatic stress (PTS), military sexual trauma (MST), and polytrauma, through the use of evidence based practices and the sustained continuum of care necessary for a successful reintegration into their families and communities.

Higher Ground New York hosts week-long camps for service members, veterans, and their supporters. We use therapeutic recreation and adaptive sports to help facilitate a change in perspective and give the participants the physical skills, confidence, and coping strategies necessary for a successful reintegration process.



**Hidden Heroes**.....202-249-7170  
Hidden Heros.org

Hidden Heroes brings vital attention to the untold stories of military caregivers and seeks solutions for the tremendous challenges and long-term needs they face.

You don't have to do this alone.

If you are a military caregiver, we encourage you to connect with a community of your peers via our secure Facebook group and Caregiver Q&A, to share experiences and advice with those who've been there. We also offer access to educational online courses to help you through the challenges of caregiving.

*Respite Relief for Military and Veteran Caregivers*, which offers family caregivers of veterans or service members access to free, short-term relief with the help of in-home care professionals.

*Critical Financial Assistance for Military and Veteran Caregivers*  
Life happens and unexpected costs come up. The uncertainty of a sound financial future should not add to the stress of being a caregiver. Through the generous support of Bob & Dolores Hope Foundation, the Hope Fund for Critical Financial Assistance provides much-needed aid for the caregiver, the care receiver, and their family. Caregivers can apply for grants that provide high-impact financial assistance to prevent or address a significant crisis or to improve the quality of life of their family. Every caregiver who applies for the Hope Fund will be offered additional support, referrals, and access to other benefits available through the Elizabeth Dole Foundation's holistic financial support program.

**FeedMore WNY** .....716-822-2002  
100 James E. Casey Dr., Buffalo NY 14206  
Feedmorewny.org email: hello@feedmorewny.org

FeedMore WNY offers dignity, hope and a brighter future by providing nutritious food, friendship and skills training to its neighbors in need. Through our food bank distribution center and partner hunger-relief agencies, as well as our home-delivered meal program and other targeted feeding programs, FeedMore WNY alleviates hunger and assists community members of all ages throughout Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie and Niagara counties.

- **Meal Services:** Depending on an individual's age, health and mobility status, FeedMore WNY provides programs suited to each individual—while still working to give every member of our community a meal that meets their nutritional needs.

Home-Delivered Meals, Meals Express, Animals

- **Find Food:** Pantry Locator, mobile food pantry, soup kitchen
- **Nutrition Assistance:** For older adults and kids
- **Farm Market:** Any member of the community is welcome to visit our Farm Market! The Farm Market accepts cash, credit/debit cards and SNAP as payment. Fresh produce is available until sold out. Available produce fluctuates depending on what is in season, so stop back often! A typical Farm Market stop will have between six and twelve varieties of fruits or vegetables.
- **Nutrition education:** gives community members of all ages the tools they need to make the healthy choice the easy choice.

Just say yes to fruits and vegetables

Good Cookin'-adult cooking class

Kids in the kitchen—kids cooking class

- **Community Meal Services:** Catering Service-Is your organization looking for a unique community-based meal solution? We have the capacity to produce large quantities of safe, healthy, delicious food very efficiently. You can purchase food for your day care, adult day care, hospital, school, nursing home, retirement complex or other facility.
- **Job Training-Rise:** **free** job-training for economically disadvantaged adults, providing the skills, experience, opportunities and a network of partners to help our neighbors obtain gainful employment and achieve financial self-sufficiency.

## **Forge VFR (Veteran and First Responder)**

Forgehealth.com/vfr .....888-224-7312

It takes real courage to ask for help. You know what also takes courage?

Admitting your truth. Asking for help. Acknowledging yourself. Opening up. Healing. Forge VFR was created by Veterans (Army, Navy, Marine) because we knew how difficult and challenging it was to get the help we needed and more importantly, deserved. We didn't want to have another one of us have to walk into a therapist's office and be judged, have them tell us that they can understand, when they don't.

What we've experienced, what we've seen, what we've accomplished, what we've sacrificed, what we've gained, and what we've lost cannot be understood by just anyone. It requires having walked in our shoes to truly understand.

Our addiction and mental health treatment programs are designed by Veterans, for Veterans, and families of Veterans, and will help you along every step of your journey.

The military is a great place to build a foundation, but you can't expect the military to do everything for you. When things are broken inside or outside of you, the military can't fix that, it falls on you. Losing a fellow service member in combat, a training accident, a vehicle accident, or by suicide is a reality. MST is unfortunately far too common, and failing a fit for duty test are all realities of our service and can trigger a downward spiral. As Service Members or Guardians, we are committed to our service. When we are faced with substance abuse or mental health issues, the last thing we want to do is self-report or have our chain of command knowing of our issues. We want to be able to go to the field or deploy, and we won't let our struggles get in the way of this happening. Your loyalty and commitment to service is recognized and appreciated but your loyalty and commitment to hiding your problems, from yourself, is not. At Forge VFR, privacy and trust is core to how we operate, so your chain of command finding out should be the least of your worries.

## **Habitat for Humanity**

1675 South Park Ave., Buffalo NY 14220..... 716-204-0740  
1221 Main St. Lower, Niagara Falls NY 14301.. 716-265-9010  
habitatbuffalo.org email: info@habitatbuffalo.org

Habitat for Humanity recognizes the great need for affordable housing in Erie and Niagara County. With a little help, we all have the potential to stand on our own. Decent, affordable homeownership allows families to lead better, healthier, more financially stable lives. Strong, stable homes help build strong and stable communities.

## **Helmets to Hardhats .....866-741-6210**

815 16th Street, NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20006  
Helmetstohardhats.org

Connects transitioning active-duty military service members, veterans, National Guard and Reservists with skilled training and quality career opportunities in the construction industry.

We've partnered with 15 international construction trade unions – like the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) and the International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers (SMART) – that have made a commitment to help our military heroes successfully transition to civilian life and work. We help service members explore the construction trades, get them started with earn-while-you-learn apprenticeship training programs through these partner organizations, and help connect them with employers. We also educate service members on how they can use their G.I. Bill benefits to supplement their incomes while participating in a registered apprenticeship program.