

NYC DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES

VETERANS RESOURCE GUIDE

Mission: The New York City Department of Veterans' Services (DVS) connects, mobilizes, and empowers New York City's Veteran community in order to foster purpose-driven lives for servicemembers – past and present – in addition to their caregivers, survivors, and families.

Housing

Veteran Peer Coordinators

Veteran Peer Coordinators (VPCs) support Veterans in shelters by:

- helping to find affordable housing
- identifying apartments Veterans are eligible for
- providing transportation to and from apartment viewings
- ensuring Veterans have rental subsidies
- coordinating with interagency and housing partners for fast inspections

Housing Coordination Center

Our Housing Coordination Center (HCC) increases the supply of housing available to homeless Veterans by finding brokers, property owners, and managers who are looking to house homeless Veterans.

Aftercare & Eviction Prevention

We provide aftercare support to ensure that recently housed Veterans can stay in their new home. Assistance includes:

- Regular check-in calls
- Referrals to community partners if the Veteran seeks additional services
- Rental arrear and mediation for both the landlord and the tenant

HUD-VASH Continuum Program

DVS co-administers a rental subsidy program with NYCHA to provide disconnected Veterans access to HUD-VASH Section 8.

Community Recognition

Veteran Voices Project

The Veteran Voices Project (VVP) is an oral history initiative designed to preserve the stories of NYC's Veterans. If you would like to document your story or volunteer as an interviewer, please call (646) 799-2743.

Final Honors Program

DVS provides eligible indigent and unclaimed Veterans dignified burials at a national cemetery. For more information, contact inadan@veterans.nyc.gov.

Multimedia

Listen to the DVS Podcast: SITREP NYC

DVS's podcast, SITREP NYC, provides a deep dive into the issues that impact Veterans and their families. The podcast features interviews with Veterans who represent the diversity of our community. Search for SITREP NYC wherever you get your podcasts.

Stay Connected

Follow us on Social Media

Follow us on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn @nycveterans.

Contact DVS

nyc.gov/veterans

212-416-5250

connect@veterans.nyc.gov

Connect to Services

VetConnectNYC

VetConnectNYC is a one-stop-shop for needs assessment and referrals. Visit VetConnectNYC.org or call 1-833-VETS-NYC (838-7692) to find NYC-based services that meet your needs.

Benefits

Processing VA Claims

The NYC DVS team is now processing VA claims to help Veterans get the benefits they deserve. For assistance with your claims contact benefitclaims@veterans.nyc.gov.

Health & Wellness

Mental Health First Aid

DVS co-created a Veteran-specific version of the Mental Health First Aid training, designed to address Veterans' mental health needs. To register for a Mental Health First Aid course call 212-416-5250.

Education

Veterans on Campus

The Veterans on Campus initiative helps colleges adopt best practices that ensure student Veterans successfully transition to civilian life.

Professional Mentorship

Service2Service

DVS partnered with NYCService to launch Service2Service, a mentorship program that connects NYC government employees with Veterans interested in careers in public service.

Entrepreneurship

Contact business@veterans.nyc.gov to learn how to get certified as a Veteran-owned Emerging Business Enterprise or Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprise.

Legal Services

As of 2017, service members and Veterans are a protected class in New York City. If you feel you have been discriminated against based on your military status, you can file a complaint with the Commission on Human Rights. For legal services including discharge upgrades, DVS can connect you to resources through the City Bar Justice Center's Veteran Assistance Project. The Project provides low-income Veterans with pro bono assistance.

To get connected, call 877-564-3383. Beginning in Fall 2020, DVS, through its Discharge Upgrade Assistance Legal Services (DUALS) program, will award \$1.5 million dollars over three years to non-profit legal organizations assisting Veterans challenging their discharge statuses due to actual or perceived sexual orientation, PTSD, MST, or other issues that affect service records. For more information, please call DVS at 212-416-5250.

NYC DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES

VETERANS RESOURCE GUIDE

COVID-19 Programs and Services

DVS has launched several new programs to support Veterans and their families during the COVID-19 crisis. Please note that our borough offices are currently closed due to the pandemic. If you would like to learn more about the following services contact DVS at connect@veterans.nyc.gov or 212-416-5250.

Community Wellness

Mission: VetCheck

DVS partnered with the Mayor's Office of ThriveNYC to launch Mission: VetCheck, a new program designed to connect Veterans during this period of social isolation. Through this program, volunteers from the Veteran community are making check-in calls to fellow Veterans across the City. These calls provide Veterans with information on public services, COVID-19 testing locations, and mental health support. Contact DVS at VetCheck@veterans.nyc.gov to learn how you can volunteer or request a check-in call for your members if you are a Veterans Organization.

Employment & Career Support

EmpireVets

Launched in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, EmpireVets is a new job board website that includes thousands of local postings and a military skills translator to help Veterans connect with professional opportunities that best serve their experience and talents. The website features openings in critical COVID-19 roles. Visit empirevets.com to learn more.

Keeping Veterans Informed

COVID-19 Webpage

The DVS COVID-19 webpage features VA service updates, answers to frequently asked questions, and messages from the DVS Commissioner. We have also amassed a list of resources to keep NYC Veterans informed about available financial assistance, business support, mental health offerings, and more. Find our COVID-19 page at nyc.gov/vets.

Contact DVS

Website: nyc.gov/veterans

Phone Number: 212-416-5250

Email: connect@veterans.nyc.gov

Food Insecurity

GetFoodNYC

With millions of New Yorkers struggling to access food, DVS staff is coordinating meal deliveries for Veterans in need. We are working with GetFoodNYC to deliver food to Veterans unable to afford groceries and homebound Veterans including seniors, disabled Veterans, and those with an increased vulnerability to COVID-19. Contact DVS if you or a Veteran you know needs help getting food.

Housing

Safely Housing Veterans During the Pandemic

The DVS Housing and Support Services team is currently working remotely to protect vulnerable Veterans. We are in constant contact with clients, landlords, shelter staff, and agency partners to identify available apartments, offer virtual tours, and - when safe - provide in-person viewings. We also process all paperwork needed to help Veterans move from the shelter into their new home. Please contact DVS if you need housing assistance or if you are worried that you may be evicted.

Weekly Newsletter

DVS delivers a weekly newsletter to keep NYC Veterans informed on the latest news regarding COVID-19's impact on the community. The newsletter features City service updates, information on DVS programs, Veteran-specific resources, and a rundown of virtual Veteran events. To sign up for our newsletter email connect@veterans.nyc.gov or use your phone to scan this QR code:

