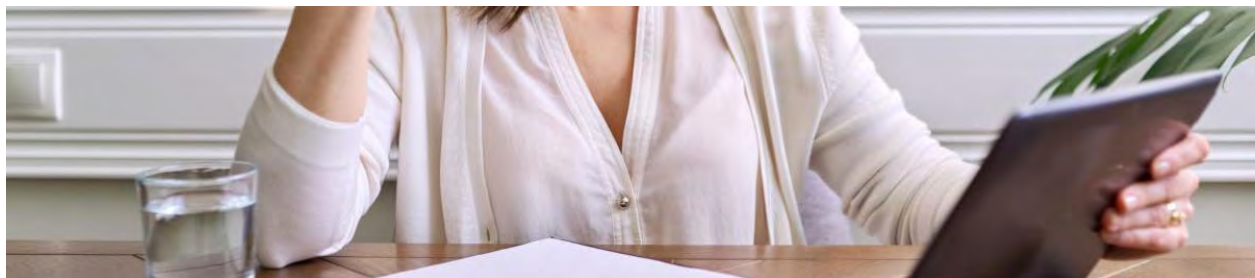


NVTAC Monthly Newsletter: October 2023

Monthly Newsletter October 2023



OCTOBER SPOTLIGHT



New Resources Page on National Veterans' Technical Assistance Center (NVTAC) Website

The NVTAC website now features an updated "Resources" page that contains a collection of best practices, guides, and helpful tips to support your work with homeless veterans. The page includes resources for veterans experiencing homelessness, LGBTQ+ veterans, spouses and survivors, information on veteran training and employment, and many more.

[Resources Page](#)

EVENTS



New Community of Practice (CoP) Registration Links

If you have already registered for any upcoming NVTAC CoP sessions, please use the updated registration links available on the NVTAC website. The updated registration links apply to all of the upcoming CoP sessions through December 2023.

[Registration Link](#)

RESOURCES



New National Veterans' Training Institute (NVTI) Resources Available

[NVTI](#) has made some major updates in the past few months that you don't want to miss. Take a moment today to:

- Tune in to one of the [new podcast episodes](#):
 - Episode 17: Serving Veterans with Substance Use Disorders
 - Episode 18: Serving Veterans Experiencing Homelessness
 - Episode 19: Why Hire Veterans? Conversation with HIRE Vets Medallion Award Winners
 - Episode 20: Promoting Registered Apprenticeship to Attract Veteran Talent
 - Episode 21: 2023 Mark Sanders Award Winner
- Watch one of the [most recent webinars](#):
 - The Role of Intensive Services Coordinators/Points of Contact within the VR&E Program
 - Empowering Public Workforce Development Professionals: Enhancing Skills for Serving Veterans
- What's New and What's Coming from NVTI?
 - Browse through NVTI's new [Veteran Service Provider \(VSP\) Career Roadmap Track](#)
 - Check out the [HVRP, JVSG, and VSP journey maps](#)



Veteran Support Program (VSP) for U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Employees

Almost one-third of CBP employees are veterans. As such, the VSP was created to assist with a variety of matters affecting veterans, including veteran employment benefits, as well as the mental, physical, and emotional health resources available through CBP and other federal, state, and local entities.

[VSP for CBP Employees](#)



U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) Don't Ask, Don't Tell (DADT) Resources

DOD is committed to increasing its efforts to reach LGBTQ+ veterans discharged under less than honorable conditions for their sexual orientation prior to the repeal of DADT, which paves the way for the inclusion of all LGBTQ+ troops in the military. The goal is to

ensure these veterans are aware of the process to request a correction to their military record.

[DOD DADT Resources](#)



Connecting Veterans and Former Service Members with Mental Health and Substance Use Care

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) promotes mental health, prevents substance misuse, and provides treatments and supports to foster recovery while ensuring equitable access and better outcomes. To help achieve this mission, SAMHSA lists various supports on their website for veterans and former service members, no matter your discharge status, service history, or eligibility for U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care.

[SAMHSA Veteran Support](#)

NEWS UPDATES



Homes for Our Troops Donates Home to Iraq Veteran

Marine Corporal Raymond Hennagir, who was injured by an explosive in Iraq during a foot patrol in 2007, received a home from Homes for Our Troops, a national non-profit that builds and donates custom homes for injured veterans. The home is equipped with

wheelchair-accessible features tailored to Hennagir's specific needs, including a roll-in shower, ease-to-use shelves, and a shoulder height oven.

[Marine Corporal Raymond Hennagir's New Home](#)



Iraq Veteran Wins Lawsuit Against Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)

After a long legal battle, Iraq veteran Le Roy Torres won \$2,490,662.89 to compensate for lost wages in salaries, benefits, and retirement.

Torres suffers from permanent lung damage after exposure to burn pits during his time serving in Iraq. He was a trooper with DPS prior to his deployment.

He returned to work for DPS after his military service and later found out about his medical condition. Torres requested permanent accommodations because he was receiving medical treatment, but only received periodic temporary accommodations. As a result, he eventually ran out of paid leave and claimed he was later pressured to resign after his request for medical retirement in August of 2012.

With this legal battle now behind him, Torres helps veterans through his non-profit organization, Burn Pits 360.

[Le Roy Torres Lawsuit](#)



VA Extends Maternity Care Coordination for Veterans

Veterans now have access to [maternity care coordinators](#) from the beginning of their pregnancy to 12 months post-partum, a significant increase from the previous end date

of 8 weeks post-partum. Maternity care coordinators connect veterans with care after delivery, helping them navigate health care services both inside and outside of VA, access care for their other physical and mental health needs, connect to community resources, and more.

“Extending postpartum care coordination up to one year allows VA maternity care coordinators the ability to double the amount of contact with their patients to help improve the physical and mental health of both parent and child,” said Acting Chief Officer for VA Office of Women’s Health Sally Haskell, MD.



New Transitional Housing for Veterans Experiencing Homelessness in St. Louis, Missouri

The Veterans Community Project has begun moving veterans experiencing homelessness into [their new homes](#). Although small, ranging from 240 to 320 square feet, the houses contain everything the veterans will need, including a full kitchen, bathroom, and living space. The community will eventually have 50 homes.



\$2 Million Awarded to Advance Homelessness Research

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awarded \$1.4 million to Northern Arizona University and the New York University (NYU) Grossman School of

NVTAC Newsletter: October 2023

Medicine to conduct research to address homelessness by engaging affected communities and elevating the perspectives and insights of people who have experienced homelessness. An additional \$600,000 was awarded to the NYU Furman Center to conduct research addressing the impact of homelessness on families.

[HUD Awards to Advance Homelessness Research](#)

SUCCESS STORY



Do you have a success story you would like to share? If you are a grantee who helped a veteran who is struggling with housing or employment, we would love to hear from you.

[Submit Your Success Stories](#)

