

Vietnam Veterans of America has a proud history of representing and advocating for the needs and interests of women veterans.

Since 1983, when pressure from VVA resulted in the first GAO report on VA health care services for women veterans, we have been the leader in championing appropriate and quality health care, equal access to benefits, and the recognition that women veterans earned and deserve.

Since our founding, women have been an integral part of this organization. Our interests and concerns are reflected in our VVA legislative agenda, and in policy discussions with other organizations, government agencies and with our Congressional delegations.

Women have been elected to leadership positions at all levels of VVA.

If you served in the US Armed Forces from August 5, 1964 -May 7, 1975, whether you were stationed at home, in Vietnam or served world-wide, we invite you to join us as we move the agenda for women Veterans .

Women now comprise
More than 15 percent of our Armed Forces and have become the fastest growing population in the VA health care system.

Our numbers will continue to increase in the future and it is essential that providers of services to veterans recognize the needs of women veterans and provide equal access to resources.

This brochure offers information on resources and assistance available to women veterans.



Vietnam Veterans of America
8719 Colesville Road, Suite 100
Silver Spring, MD 20910
1800-VVA-1316
www.vva.org

*Women
Veterans
Proudly
Served*



Frequently Asked Questions

Does the VA provide gender-specific care for women veterans?

VA provides a full continuum of health care including comprehensive primary care (care for acute and chronic illnesses and preventive health services); specialty care including gynecology services, advanced breast care, maternity care and some infertility treatments; and mental health care. Some gender-specific specialty care is provided through community providers at VA expense.

Is there a women veteran's advocate at my local VA Medical Center?

Yes. Each medical center has a Women Veterans Program Manager (WVMP) who can assist you if you encounter problems in receiving care. The WVMP is also available to women seen at the Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs) associated with each Medical Center.

Does my VA Medical Center have a women's clinic?

Many VA Medical Centers have a separate women's clinic which provides primary care in addition to gender-specific care. Others provide women's health in primary care clinics.

If I think I have Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) or other mental health concerns, whom can I talk to at the VA?

If it is a situation that needs immediate attention, go directly to the nearest hospital or VA Medical Center emergency room. Otherwise you can call the VA women's health clinic for information and assistance; call the VA mental health clinic; or go to the nearest Vet Center. When you call, ask if they have a clinician who works specifically with women veterans.

Are special therapists available in the VA if I need help because of sexual harassment, domestic violence, or military sexual trauma?

Yes. All VA Medical Centers and all Vet Centers have trained therapists who deal with these types of issues.

Is there a position similar to the Women Veterans Program Manager in the Veterans Benefits Regional Offices?

Yes. Each VA Regional Office is supposed to have a Women Veterans Coordinator who can be requested to help women veterans with claims.

Does my state have a women veterans advocate?

Each state department, division, or office of veterans' affairs is unique in its advocacy. Most states now have a Women Veterans Coordinator. Contact information for your state agency is available at www.nasdva.us.

RESOURCES

VA Women Veterans Call Center
1-855-VA-WOMEN

VA Center for Women Veterans
202-461-6193
www.va.gov/womenvet

VA Women Veterans Health Care
www.womenshealth.va.gov

VA Benefits
www.benefits.va.gov/benefits

VA Locations
www.va.gov/directory

VA National Center for PTSD
www.ncptsd.va.gov

VA Crisis Line
1-800-273-8255, press 1

Domestic Violence Hotline
800-799-SAFE (7233)
www.thehotline.org

Office on Violence Against Women,
U.S. Department of Justice
www.usdoj.gov/ovw

Service Women's Action Network
(SWAN) 646-569-5200
www.servicewomen.org

Women's Research &
Education Institute
www.wrei.org/militarywomen.htm

Women's Bureau, U.S. Dept. of Labor
www.dol.gov/wb

Dept. of Health & Human Services
Office on Women's Health
www.womenshealth.gov

Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services
<http://dacowits.defense.gov>

Women in Military Service for America
www.womensmemorial.org