

SENIOR INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE

Northwest Regional Council
600 Lakeway Drive, Suite 100
Bellingham, WA 98225
(360) 738-2500
www.nwrcwa.org

Northwest Regional Council
1650 Port Drive
Burlington, WA 98233
(360) 428-1301
www.nwrcwa.org

Resources for Veterans

Counseling

The Vet Center (Department of Veterans Affairs) is located at 3800 Byron Street, #124, Bellingham, (360) 733-9226. The Vet Center offers re-adjustment counseling and has community service officers who can help any veteran obtain discharge papers and access benefits.

Financial Assistance

- **Whatcom County Veterans Assistance (360) 676-6700**
Located at the County Annex, 1000 N. Forest, Bellingham, Rick Hamilton and Daniel McKenzie provide limited financial assistance to veterans and their widows who have been residents in Whatcom County for at least a year.
- **Skagit County Veterans Assistance (360) 416-7585**
Carmina Villalobos at Skagit Community Action Agency, 330 Pacific Place, Mount Vernon
- **American Legion Community Service Officers** assist veterans and their widows to access benefits.
 - Whatcom American Legion Post 7 (360) 734-3110**
1688 W. Bakerview Road, Bellingham
 - Skagit American Legion Post 43 (360) 855-2225**
701 Murdock Street, Sedro-Woolley
- You can also apply for a Veteran's pension by calling 1-800-827-1000 or visiting www.dva.va.gov

Healthcare

- Retired military persons seeking medical care can go to Whidbey Island NAS - Oak Harbor, Everett Naval Air Base, or Madigan Army Hospital, Tacoma.
- Veterans who are NOT currently enrolled in the VA medical system call 1-800-329-8387 or go to www.va.gov and complete VA form 1010EZ. The Vet Center (above) and American Legion Service Officers will help veterans to enroll.
- Currently enrolled veterans can receive care at:
 - VA Medical Center**, 1660 South Columbian Way, Seattle - (206) 764-2547
 - Community-Based Outpatient Clinic**, 307 S 13th Street, Mount Vernon - (360) 848-8500
- DAV Van service: volunteer drivers transport veterans to VA Medical Center in Seattle
 - For van service from Bellingham – (360) 223-2200**
 - For van service from Skagit – (360) 855-2225**Call to reserve a spot at least 72-hours in advance. Vans cannot take wheelchairs.

Caregiver Support – 1-855-260-3274

The National Caregiver Support Line provides information on VA and community caregiver support options for people caring for a veteran. The line is answered by licensed social workers, Monday through Friday, 8am-11pm, and Saturday 10:30am to 6pm, Eastern Time. Please also see the VA's updated caregiver website: www.caregiver.va.gov.

Aid & Attendant Care

This program can pay in-home care expenses for some disabled veterans. To qualify, the veteran must have served 90 consecutive days active duty with at least one day during a period of war, have received an honorable discharge, be 65+ or permanently disabled, and meet income guidelines. To apply call the Vet Center or American Legion (above), or the State Veteran's Affairs office at 1-800-562-2308. You can also go to www.dva.wa.gov.

Assistance for Veterans who are tribal members

Lummi tribe: David Jefferson (360) 384-2283

Nooksack tribe: Jovie Joven (360) 592-5176

Warning: There are several scams in which veterans are being approached with an offer to help them access VA pensions. Ask for their phone number and call back only after you verify their organization.