



## **Connecting MI Health Link Beneficiaries with Veteran's Services**

In an effort to connect eligible MI Health Link beneficiaries with Veterans services, we have been asked to share information about the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency and the Michigan Veteran Connector Program. This program recognizes health systems and community partners that are committed to supporting the needs of:

- Service members
- Veterans
- Military-connected families

Information about the Michigan Veteran Connector program can be found on the attached. There is also a flyer—*Have you Served*— that you can share with your HAP Empowered MI Health Link patients

# BECOME A MICHIGAN VETERAN CONNECTOR

## Enhance Services to Those Who Have Served

You can help to better serve the veterans and their families in your organization by asking whether they served in the military and informing them about the **Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency (MVAA)**. They may qualify for health and other benefits and MVAA can help get them connected with these and other resources.



### HOW TO IDENTIFY VETERANS

It isn't always obvious when someone is a veteran and those who don't publicly display their veteran status are less likely to be connected to veteran benefits and resources. Some of these people may not even consider themselves a veteran. It's important to ask the following question:

**"Have you or a member of your household served in the military?"**

If they answer yes, offer them one of MVAA's cards so they can learn more about the benefits and resources that may be available for them.



Governor's Challenge to  
Prevent Suicide Among SMVF

Michigan



### HOW TO REQUEST MATERIALS FROM MVAA AND TAKE THE PLEDGE

To request informational cards and other materials, please contact us at [mvaastrategy@michigan.gov](mailto:mvaastrategy@michigan.gov). To show your support for Michigan veterans, take the pledge to ask your clients if they served. Visit [Michigan.gov/MVAA](http://Michigan.gov/MVAA) to learn more and to become a Michigan Veteran Connector. MVAA is a state agency; all services are provided at no cost.

**1-800-MICH-VET (1-800-642-4838)**

[Linkedin.com/company/MIVeteran](https://www.linkedin.com/company/MIVeteran)  
[Facebook.com/MIVeterans](https://www.facebook.com/MIVeterans)  
[Twitter.com/MIVeteran](https://twitter.com/MIVeteran)



# Michigan Veteran Connector Designation

Please see attached website banner and poster. Organizations electing to implement either of these materials or those who contact Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency (MVAA) for a free consultation on other methods to identify and connect service members, veterans, and their families to earned benefits will receive a "Veteran Connector Designation" from MVAA.

Our community organizations within Michigan can greatly improve access to veteran centric resources by the simple act of displaying how to connect to their earned benefits. As many are not aware, the more connected we can get our 550,000 Michigan veterans to benefits, the lower their rate for self harming behaviors such as suicide or opioid overdoses. In addition, these veterans may be eligible for potential VA disability compensation, financial assistance with long term care expenses, or other veteran centric resources.

The **Michigan Veteran Connector** designation will symbolize your organization's ongoing efforts to proactively support and connect service members, veterans, and their families to earned benefits.

Those who receive this designation will also be eligible for the below items:

- "Michigan Veteran Connector" badge to display on website and/or email signature block.
- Logo displayed on MVAA website as a "Michigan Veteran Connector".
- Access to the Michigan Governor's Challenge Psych Armor Portal which contains free veteran centric training and resources.
- Introductions to the local contact for the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity Veteran Employment Services Manager & Workforce Development.
- Introductions to the MVAA Employment Analyst and MVAA Education Analyst.
- Introductions to the MVAA manager for the Buddy-to-Buddy Veteran Mentorship & Community Engagement and Regional Engagement Initiative.
- Free veteran centric materials including but not limited to printed materials, business cards, and resource guides.
- Ongoing support from the MVAA Health & Welfare Analyst and MVAA Partnership Coordinator.

To request more information on the **Veteran Connector Program**; email our Health and Welfare Analyst at [mvaastrategy@michigan.gov](mailto:mvaastrategy@michigan.gov) or contact our call center at 1-800-MICH-VET and request a "Michigan Veteran Connector" Consultation. ***All materials and training are free and at no charge to the organization electing to implement the process.*** The program has flexibility allowing our "Veteran Connectors" to determine which ways best suit their needs.



## Michigan's Veteran Connector Designation for Health Systems and Community Partners

The Michigan Veteran Connector recognizes health systems and community partners that are committed to supporting the needs of service members, veterans, and military-connected families.

These organizations are awarded this designation based on their veteran and family centric services and programs. Any health system, medical office, long-term care facility, or community partner in Michigan can apply for this designation.

### Michigan Veteran Connector Program Criteria (must meet at least 4 criteria to be designated):

1. Established process for identification of service members, veterans, and immediate family members within the Electronic Medical Record and/or intake process. \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No
2. Veteran-specific webpage with links to resources and supports and/or placement of "Have you served" banner on website. \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No
3. Designation as a Veteran Friendly Employer at any level; see [MVAA - BECOME A VETERAN-FRIENDLY EMPLOYER \(michigan.gov\)](#). \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No
4. Utilization of MI Governor's Challenge Psych Armor training portal that contains both suicide and veteran centric training. Evidence by at least one registration from organization (register at [Governor's Challenge Portal — Psycharmor](#)). \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No
5. Dedicated space within high trafficked areas (such as lobbies) to display veteran friendly banners such as "She is a Veteran ([MVAA - Women Veterans \(michigan.gov\)](#))", "Have You Served", or a dedicated Veteran Information Center. \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No
6. Order and utilize the MI Veteran Toolkits within organization. Organizations must designate a point of contact for program updates, resource sharing, and biannual email and/or phone touch bases. \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

Organization's point of contact for the MI Veteran Connector is:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please review and check the boxes above. Completed forms can be sent to [MVAAStrategy@michigan.gov](mailto:MVAAStrategy@michigan.gov).



# Michigan Veteran Resource Service Center

The MVAA has a 24/7 call center to help veterans and their families with benefit and resource connectivity, in all areas of life.

We are available 365 days of the year.

☐ **1-800-MICH-VET**  
(1-800-642-4838)





# State Benefits: Quality of Life

- MDHHS & Veteran Navigators
  - ▣ Connection to federal, state and local resources
  - ▣ Mental Health
  - ▣ Substance Abuse
  - ▣ Housing and other common issues





# Referral process

The referral process to Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency is quick and user-friendly.

- ❑ **Check on MIVet:**

Anyone can request a benefits consultation for military-connected by visiting [Michigan.gov/MVAA](https://Michigan.gov/MVAA) and clicking the **Check on MIVet** link at the top of the site.

- ❑ Provide individual with our 24/7 call center number: **1-800-MICH-VET**. We have free business cards, post cards, resource toolkits, and other materials available.

**Check **  
**on MIVet**





# Governor's Challenge Online Training Portal

- ❑ Michigan now has a Psych Armor Institute **Governor's Challenge Training Portal.**
- ❑ **Link:** [Governor's Challenge Portal – PsychArmor](#)

A screenshot of the PsychArmor website's registration page. The page has a light gray background. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the text "PSYCH/ARMOR®" on the left, a green button labeled "EXPLORE COURSES" next to a search bar, and links for "My Learning", "Log In", and "Register" on the right. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column features a large graphic with two overlapping stars (one blue, one red) and the text "Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans, and their Families". Below this, there is a welcome message and instructions for new and existing users. The right column has a large red star graphic and the text "ORGANIZATION DETAILS". Below this, there is a "LOG IN" section with fields for "Username" and "Password". At the bottom left, there is a "Chat now" button.





# Current Training Menu

10 Trainings Available*	
VA S.A.V.E	Crisis Response Plan for Health Care Providers – Introduction and Assessment
Connecting with the VA	Crisis Response Plan for Health Care Providers – Intervention
15 Things Veterans Want You to Know for Health Care Providers	Postvention
Suicide in Military Members and Veterans	Women Who Serve
Inner Conflict and Survivor's Guilt	Substance Use Disorder in Military and Veteran Populations

\*Michigan is current working with SAMHSA, the VHA, the Michigan Chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, and the National Shooting Sports Foundation to incorporate additional trainings for Firearms and Suicide Prevention.

**Free CEU- Open to  
all office staff!!**



# Veteran resources available right now:

- ❑ **Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency** is home to **1-800-MICH-VET (1-800-642-4838)** that serves as a 24/7 call center connecting veterans to state programs, federal benefits, and local resources. MVAA houses the emergency financial assistance program, Food4Vets food voucher program along with the Buddy-to-Buddy Program. All services offered are free of charge, <https://www.michigan.gov/mvaa>.
- ❑ **Veterans Crisis Line.** If you are having thoughts of suicide, call <1-800-273-8255>, then PRESS 1 or visit [veteranscrisisline.net/](https://veteranscrisisline.net/). For emergency mental health care, you can also go directly to [your local VA medical center](#) 24/7 regardless of your discharge status or enrollment in other VA health care.
- ❑ **Vet Centers.** Discuss how you feel with other veterans in these community-based counseling centers. *70 percent of Vet Center staff are veterans.* Call <1-877-927-8387> or find one [near you](#).
- ❑ [VA Mental Health Services Guide](#). This guide will help you sign up and access mental health services.
- ❑ [MakeTheConnection.net](https://www.maketheconnection.net/). Visit for information, resources, and veteran to veteran videos for challenging life events and experiences with mental health issues.



# Veteran resources available right now:

- ❑ **RallyPoint.** Talk to other veterans online. Discuss: [What are your feelings as the Taliban reclaim Afghanistan after 20 years of U.S. involvement?](#)
- ❑ **Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS).** [Request a Peer Mentor.](#)
- ❑ **VA Women Veterans Call Center.** Call or text [1-855-829-6636](#) (M-F 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Eastern).
- ❑ **VA Caregiver Support Line.** Call [1-855-260-3274](#) (M-F 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern).
- ❑ **Together We Served.** [Find your battle buddies](#) through unit pages.
- ❑ **George W. Bush Institute.** Need help or want to talk? [Check In](#) or call [1-630-522-4904](#) or email [checkin@veteranwellnessalliance.org](mailto:checkin@veteranwellnessalliance.org).
- ❑ **Elizabeth Dole Foundation Hidden Heroes.** [Join the Community](#)
- ❑ **American Red Cross Military Veteran Caregiver Network.** [Peer Support and Mentoring](#)
- ❑ **Team Red, White & Blue.** Hundreds of events weekly. [Find a chapter](#) in your area.
- ❑ **Student Veterans of America.** Find a [campus chapter](#) to connect with.
- ❑ **Team Rubicon.** Find a [local support](#) squad.
- ❑ **Michigan Veteran Navigator Program,** [MDHHS - Veteran Navigators \(michigan.gov\).](#)



# Have you or a member of your household served in the military?

**There may be benefits and resources available to help you through your current situation.**

The **Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency** (MVAA) can connect you to benefits and resources in all areas of life, including education, employment and health care. Let us review what options are available.

All services are free and confidential. It starts by calling **1-800-MICH-VET** (1-800-642-4838) or by scanning your smartphone camera on our QR code to visit our website, **Michigan.gov/MVAA**.

**Lean on us to connect you to benefits and resources, including:**

- Emergency financial assistance
- Housing and rental assistance
- Legal aid
- Food programs
- Employment, including connection to our Veteran-Friendly Employers
- Disability compensation
- Retrieval of DD214s
- Health care and mental health resources
- Education assistance

