

How can my organization participate in VA programs?

Apply for a Grant

VA's Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program funds community agencies that provide services to homeless veterans. More information about these competitive grant opportunities is available at <http://www.va.gov/homeless>.

Bid on a Contract

VA awards a variety of contracts to faith-based and other community organizations that provide social services to veterans in the local community. For more information, visit the *VA Business Opportunities* portion of our website at <http://www.va.gov/oamm/busopp/index.htm>.

Be a Volunteer

Members of the VA Volunteer Service work to meet the needs of America's veterans seeking care in VA facilities and in community-based programs. Volunteer opportunities are available throughout VA facilities and cemeteries, and include chaplain service, research, home-based care, and many other ways to aid those who have fought to maintain our country's freedom. Become a volunteer today! To register, visit our website at <http://www.va.gov/volunteer>.



Faith-based and community organizations are cornerstones of community assistance to those in need throughout America.

How is VA increasing partnership opportunities with faith-based and other community organizations?

VA partners with faith-based and other community organizations to create new and innovative pilot and demonstration programs that help provide better service to our veterans in need. We also have partnership opportunities with many existing programs.

Loan Guarantee Program for Multifamily Housing

Through this new initiative, VA can guarantee loans to organizations that construct or rehabilitate multifamily transitional housing for homeless veterans. To qualify for a loan guarantee, the applying organization must also provide support services such as job placement and training to veterans seeking employment; and drug and alcohol addiction counseling to veterans trying to maintain sobriety.

FBCI= VetSuccess Program

VA's Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Service (VR&E) is partnering with faith-based and community organizations (FBCO) to provide service-connected disabled veterans opportunities to seek employment, career advancement, job mobility, family economic well-being, and greater financial security. FBCOs can participate by identifying service-connected disabled veterans within their organization and community that are unemployed or under-employed or may need supportive services and inform them about this initiative and who to contact to obtain additional information. FBCOs are invited to contact VR&E to discuss how they can become involved <http://vetsuccess.gov/>.

Other Opportunities

To find out if your organization has a potential partnering opportunity, or to obtain more information on VA pilot and/or other programs, we encourage you to visit our website at www.va.gov/fbcj.

What other VA organizations offer partnership opportunities?

Numerous organizations within VA partner with faith-based and other community organizations to better veterans' lives. A few of those organizations are listed here below. For links to these organizations, please visit our Center website.

Veterans Benefits Administration

VBA provides benefits and services to our Nation's veterans, servicemembers and their families including compensation and pension, education and training, vocational rehabilitation and employment, home loans, life insurance, and dependents' and survivors' benefits.

Veterans Health Administration

VHA provides primary care, specialized care, and related medical and social support services. It is a comprehensive, integrated healthcare system that offers excellence in healthcare value, superior education and research, and service as defined by our customers.

National Cemetery Administration

NCA provides burial benefits to veterans and eligible dependents, manages over 120 national cemeteries and administers the State Cemetery Grants Program.

Center for Veterans Enterprise

CVE provides valuable information and resources for veterans and service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses.

Center for Women Veterans

CWV acts as the primary advisor to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on all matters related to issues, programs, initiatives and legislation for and affecting women veterans.

Center for Minority Veterans

CMV promotes the use of VA programs, benefits and services for eligible minority veterans.

Vision

Our vision is to be recognized as a public sector leader in the national effort to expand opportunities for faith-based and other community organizations to serve veterans and to strengthen their capacity to better meet veterans' needs.

Purpose

Our purpose is to reach out to faith-based and other community organizations, to remove the barriers that have prevented their participation in existing VA programs, and to develop new and innovative initiatives that will foster effective VA-grassroots partnerships to achieve our common goal – assisting our nation's veterans in need.



"We're grateful for your service to the men and women in uniform and to our nation's veterans. I want to thank you for taking time to visit our wounded and disabled veterans for providing comfort to their families, to give them a word of thanks."

President George W. Bush
Hyatt Regency Dallas
August 3, 2004

How does the VA Center reach out to faith-based and community organizations?

The Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (CFBCI) has staff members that are available to attend conferences or to meet with you individually to tell you more about VA programs and exchange ideas on how to establish partnerships.

To stay in touch with the Center's activities, there is an e-mail subscription link available on the CFBCI website. Your subscription allows CFBCI to be more responsive to your organization's specific needs and provide you with the type of information you want to receive.

To learn more about us, visit our website or contact us directly at:

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Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

*Building community partnerships.
Empowering veterans.*



**"To Care For Him Who Shall Have Borne The Battle
and For His Widow And His Orphan"**

-Abraham Lincoln-