

Building Better Lives for America's Disabled Veterans and their Families



Gidget Rizzo

National Service Officer (NSO) Supervisor of the DAV National Service Office in Roanoke, Virginia



- 1.2 million members, all wartime disabled
- 100,000 Auxiliary members
- 260 DAV National Service Officers across the country NSOs assist veterans in filing claims for disability compensation and other earned VA benefits
- DAV National Appeals Officers provide representation at VA's Board of Veterans' Appeals
- All services provided free of charge to all veterans
- Rigorous 16-month training program
- Women veterans serve in all levels of the National organization
- DAV National Women Veterans Advisory Committee



- DAV Transition Service Officer program serves active duty soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines who are transitioning back into civilian life
- NSOs provide outreach through Veterans Informational Seminars
- DAV Mobile Service Offices provide outreach to veterans throughout the country including rural areas
- National Legislative Program includes resolutions related to women veterans

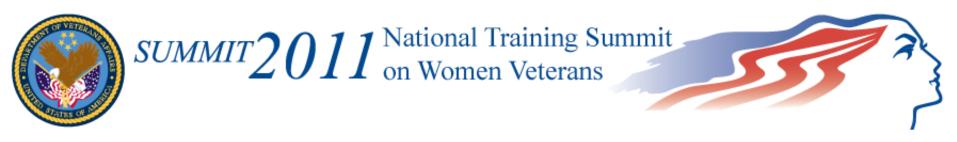


- DAVs Transportation Network provides rides to thousands of veterans to and from VA hospital appointments each year
- DAV Hospital Service Coordinators at nearly all VA medical centers – program now in its 25th year
- Mary Bencivenga, DAV National 2nd Junior Vice
 Commander, in line to become DAV's first female National
 Commander
- Stand Up for Women Veterans campaign generates greater public awareness and support for strengthening federal policies to provide comprehensive services to women veterans





DAV serves our veterans with pride, and honors all generations of service



"Honoring the dead by helping the living"



Dawn M. Jirak

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TROOP SUPPORT/FAMILY ASSISTANCE

- >Unmet Needs Program
- **≻Operation Uplink**
- > Military Assistance Program

TRANSITIONING

- > Benefits Delivery at Discharge
- **≻Quick Start**
- > Education
- > Job Assistance





POST MILITARY ASSISTANCE

>VA Claims & Benefits

COMMUNITY

≻Voice of Democracy

NATIONAL HOME

NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE SERVICE

WOMEN VETERANS COMMITTEE







SUMMIT 2011



American Veterans working for a better America and for you

Crystal Dickerson

National Service Officer (NSO) Office Manager in Roanoke, Virginia





- **≻**Serving Veterans
- > Helping communities
 - >Supporting youth
- Promoting patriotism
 That's a promise.

SCHOLARSHIPS
HEALING HEROES
CAREER CENTERS/EMPLOYMENT
NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICERS





- AMVETS ADOPTED RESOLUTION 11-12 WHICH SUPPORTS FOR DATA TRACKING RELATED TO WOMEN VETERANS AS THEY TRANSITION FROM ACTIVE MILITARY TO VETERAN STATUS. WE BELIEVE THIS IS NOT CURRENTLY COLLECTED BY DOD OR VA BEYOND THE BASIC GENDER DIFFERENCE DATA.
- PRIVATE SECTOR AGENCY'S ALIKE IN THEIR ATTEMPT TO ENSURE A PROACTIVE RESPONSE THAT MEETS WOMEN'S NEEDS IS ESTABLISHED BEFORE THE INCREASED NEEDS ARISES.
 - >THE COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT WOMEN VETERANS EQUAL TO THEIR MALE COUNTERPARTS HAS BEEN EXPOUNDED BY MANY AT THE VA VIA THE CENTER FOR WOMEN VETERANS, THE CONGRESS AND VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS.
 - AMVETS BELIEVES THAT WHEN OUR WOUNDED WARRIORS RETURN FROM THE BATTLEFIELD THEY SHOULD HAVE ACCESTO THE HIGHEST QUALITY OF CARE POSSIBLE AND ENTITLEMENTS



VA Claims Requirements

In order to be successful with a VA claim for benefits, the following three conditions must be met:

You must have a current diagnosis of a chronic condition due to DISEASE, INJURY or AGGRAVATION of a pre-existing condition; and there must be a complaint of and /or evidence of occurrence in-service; and there must be a nexus or link between your current disability and your military service.

NOTE: The VA will not grant service connection for symptoms such as:

Pain
Leg Cramps
Abnormal PAP
Blood in urine
Low Platelets
Positive PPD test
Certain Lab Results
Also did you know:

Women account for 20% of the United States Military Approx. 250,000





Thank you!