



The Guardian

The monthly newsletter of the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services

October 2026

• Website: www.dvs.nm.gov

• Facebook: [nmdvshealthcare2015](https://www.facebook.com/nmdvshealthcare2015)

• Instagram: [newmexicoveterans](https://www.instagram.com/newmexicoveterans)

New Mexico Honors 50 Forgotten Heroes

New Mexico honored 50 unclaimed military Veterans, 48 men and two women, during the annual Forgotten Heroes Burial Ceremony, laying them to rest at Santa Fe National Cemetery with the dignity and respect they earned through their service to our country.

The day of remembrance began at Legacy Church in Albuquerque, where community members gathered to honor Veterans who passed away without family members to claim their remains. Sgt. 1st Class Rebekah Delgado opened the service by singing the National Anthem.

Following the memorial service, law enforcement agencies, Veterans service organizations and the New Mexico American Legion Riders escorted the Veterans' cremated remains from Albuquerque to Santa Fe National Cemetery, where the American Legion Riders also served as pallbearers.

At the cemetery, the New Mexico National Guard Military Funeral Honors Team rendered military honors. Sgt. Lidia Chavez opened the ceremony with the National Anthem, followed by a eulogy from New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services Cabinet Secretary Jamison Herrera. Col. Angela A. Black, New Mexico Air National Guard wing commander, led the roll call of the 50 Veterans as Gold Star Mothers rang a bell in remembrance. The Air Force Honor Guard Team conducted the firing salute, and Russ McDuffie of Bugles Across America concluded the tribute with the playing of Taps.

During the flag ceremony, State Representative Art De La Cruz, one of the Forgotten Heroes Funeral Program's first supporters, and Belen Mayor Robert Noblin each received one of two flags presented in recognition of the Veterans laid to rest.

Members of the public served as family for the Veterans, joining fellow Veterans, state leaders, community members and participating organizations in offering a final salute and ensuring they did not make their final journey alone.



The Forgotten Heroes Funeral Program brings together the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services, Bernalillo County Unclaimed/Indigent Cremation Program, Director's Choice Funeral Home, New Mexico National Guard, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and Santa Fe National Cemetery, with support from the Albuquerque Police Department, Rio Rancho Police Department, Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office and Bernalillo County Fire Department.

Through this partnership, honorably discharged Veterans who pass away without family members to claim them receive a proper burial that recognizes their service and sacrifice, carrying forward the program's commitment that no Veteran is forgotten.

New Mexico Honors 50 Forgotten Heroes



Upcoming NMDVS Veterans' Benefits Outreach Visits

The New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) is scheduled to make the following outreach visits at the locations listed below. Veterans and/or their eligible dependents are encouraged to stop by to file for or inquire about VA disability ratings, VA medical or mental health care, retiree pensions, military burials, and other VA benefits.

Staff can also help with applying for state Veterans' benefits such as discounted fishing and hunting licenses, Veterans' license plates, property tax exemptions, state park passes, and many more state Veterans' benefits.

Please bring a copy of your DD-214, NA 13038, NOAA 56-16, PHS 1867, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, which are necessary for filing all Veterans' benefits claims. In addition, your VA award letter showing percentage of disability, NM Driver's License, ID, voter Registration card, and Widow/Widower copy of marriage and death certificates if applicable. NMDVS can help Veterans file for lost or misplaced DD 214s.

Albuquerque	10/19	NM Veterans Memorial, 1100 Louisiana Blvd. SE	9am-11am
Albuquerque	10/23	Goodwill Center, 5000 San Mateo Blvd. NE	1pm-4pm
Artesia	10/21, 11/18, 12/16	United Veterans Hall, 402 W. Hermosa Dr.	9am-4pm
Carlsbad	10/14, 10/28, 11/10	VFW Post 8703, 1919 San Jose Blvd.	10am-3pm
Cannon AFB	10/20, 10/27, 11/17	AP Seminar, MFRC, 1554 Spear Loop	11am-12pm
Capitan	12/2	Capitan Public Library, 101 E 2nd St.	10am-3pm
Deming	10/28, 11/25, 12/23	Luna County Senior Center, 800 Granite St.	10am-12:30pm
Gallup	10/13, 11/10, 12/8	Vets Helping Vets, 908 E. Buena Vista Ave.	10am-11am
Holloman AFB	10/14, 10/28, 11/25	TAP Seminar, MFRC, W NM Ave., Bldg. 788	8:30am-10am
Las Cruces	10/16	VFW Post 10124, 709 South Valley Drive	7:30am-12pm
Las Vegas	10/29	VFW Post 1547, 148 Mills Ave.	5:30pm-7pm
Raton	10/21, 11/18	Raton VA Clinic 1493 Whittier St.	10am-2pm
Ruidoso	11/4	Ruidoso Community Ctr/501 Sudderth Dr.	10am-3pm
Santa Rosa	10/14, 12/9, 12/16	Guadalupe County Veterans Ctr, 720 Lake Dr.	10am-2pm
Socorro/Belen	10/13, 11/10, 12/8	Forget Me Not Veteran Ctr. 705 N. California St.	9am-1pm

The following are weekly outreach visits:

T or C Vet Home	Wednesdays	State Veterans' Home, 922 S. Broadway	9am-3pm
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Veterans and their eligible dependents may contact any of the NMDVS field offices statewide listed on the last two pages of this newsletter. Each office is staffed by nationally accredited Veteran Service Officers (VSO's), who can also offer assistance by phone or email.

If you know of or are hosting a Veteran or community event that would benefit from having NM on site to help answer questions on benefits available, please contact NMDVS at DVS.PIO@dvs.nm.gov or visit our website at <https://www.dvs.nm.gov/>

New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services



Mobile Outreach Vehicle Coming to Your Community!

Veterans – Get the Benefits You Earned!



**The NMDVS Mobile Outreach Team will be on-site to help you access both
Federal and State Veterans' benefits.**

What We Provide:

- Assistance with VA and State of New Mexico benefit applications
- Guidance on healthcare, compensation, pension, and education benefits
- Information on State programs and services for veterans and families

What to Bring:

- DD-214 or proof of military service
- Photo ID
- Relevant medical, financial, or service documents to support your application
- VA Letters

Tue, Oct. 6	Clayton VFW Post 3271, 201 S. 1 st St., Clayton, NM 88415	9am-3pm
Wed, Oct. 7	Roy Motor Co. Lot, 350 Richelieu St., Roy, NM 87743	10am-2pm
Tue, Oct. 13	Forget Me Not Vet Center, 702 N. California St., Socorro, NM 87801	9am-1pm
Wed, Oct. 14	Catron County Senior Center, 29 Lopez St., Quemado, NM 87829	9am-2pm
Wed, Oct. 21	Carlsbad VFW Post 8703, 1916 San Jose Blvd., Carlsbad, NM 88220	12pm-4pm
Thu, Oct. 22	Lovington Senior Citizen Center, 18 W. Ave. F., Lovington, NM 88260	9am-1pm

**Don't miss this opportunity to meet with a Veteran Service Officer in
person and get help with your benefits.**

For more information and mobile outreach vehicle schedule updates, contact:

📞 NMDVS Central Office: (866) 433-8387

🌐 <https://www.dvs.nm.gov/>

*The New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services is here to help Veterans
and their families obtain state and federal benefits.*



Calling All Veterans and Family Members!
Community Veterans Outreach
Albuquerque, New Mexico
Monday, October 19, 2026

9:00am to 11:00am

New Mexico Veterans Memorial

1100 Louisiana Blvd. SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108

**Join the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services
for our Community Veterans Outreach Meeting.**

**Meet with NMDVS leadership, hear important updates, ask questions,
and share what matters to Veterans in your community.**

NMDVS benefits personnel will assist eligible Veterans and family members applying for property tax waivers, exemptions, and lifetime park passes. Certified Veteran Service Officers will be on-site to assist with VA benefits claims, health care eligibility, disability compensation, and other state benefits.

Documents needed to verify eligibility:

- A copy of DD-214, NA 13038, NOAA Form 56-16, or PHS Form 1867
 - VA award letter showing the percentage of disability
 - NM Driver's License, ID, voter registration card
or the most recent NM personal income tax return
- Surviving spouses—copy of marriage and death certificates

Claim the benefits you have earned and join us for this free event.

**To find an office near you, call NMDVS at 1-866-433-8387
or visit our website: dvs.nm.gov**



GOVERNOR'S VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL QUARTERLY MEETING

Las Vegas, New Mexico

Thursday, Oct. 29, 2026

5:30pm to 7:00pm

VFW Post 1547

148 Mills Ave., Las Vegas, NM 87701

Join the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services for the Governor's Veterans Advisory Council quarterly meeting. Veterans, family members and community members can share concerns and priorities with the council, while NMDVS staff will be available to provide benefits assistance.

NMDVS benefits personnel will assist eligible Veterans and family members applications for property tax waivers, exemptions, and lifetime park passes. Certified Veteran Service Officers will be on-site to assist with VA benefits claims, health care eligibility, disability compensation, and other state benefits.

Documents needed to verify eligibility:

- A copy of DD-214, NA 13038, NOAA Form 56-16, or PHS Form 1867
 - VA Award Letter showing the percentage of disability
 - NM Driver's License, ID, voter registration card or the most recent NM Personal Income Tax Return
 - Surviving spouses—copy of marriage and death certificates

Claim the benefits you have earned and join us for this free event.

To find an office near you, call NMDVS at 1-866-433-8387
or visit our website: dvs.nm.gov

Lifetime Veteran Park Passes and Property Tax Exemptions



Veterans: Apply for your property tax exemption and your New Mexico State Park Lifetime Veterans Pass through the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) State Benefits Division.

Property Tax Exemptions:

The standard Veteran property tax exemption is \$10,000 and will adjust annually for inflation. Additionally, the Disabled Veteran Exemption allows eligible Veterans or their unmarried surviving spouses to apply for a tax exemption equal to the Veteran's federal disability rating. Applications must be submitted to NMDVS and filed with your County Assessor.

New Mexico State Park Lifetime Veterans Pass:

Eligible New Mexico Veterans can apply for a free lifetime pass providing unlimited access to all NM state parks, including day-use and overnight camping. Standard entry and camping fees are waived; however, reservation and special facility fees still apply.

Documents needed to verify eligibility for the benefits:

- A copy of DD-214, NA 13038, NOAA Form 56-16, or PHS Form 1867
- Proof of New Mexico residency (driver's license, voter registration, or state tax return)
- VA Award Letter showing percentage of disability (only for tax exemption)
- Marriage certificate and the Veteran's death certificate for surviving spouses

Applications for the New Mexico State Park Lifetime Veterans Pass and Tax Exemptions are accepted and issued on-site to qualified Veterans. Information and assistance on federal and state benefits, local Veterans' programs, and referral services are available at any of our field office locations, visit <https://www.dvs.nm.gov/>, or call 1-866-433-8387 for more details and property tax exemption or park pass applications.

VSO Corner: The Benefit Many Veterans Miss

Many Veterans understand that injuries and illnesses directly caused by military service may be compensable. However, fewer realize that the VA may also compensate for conditions that develop as a result of an already service-connected disability.

This concept is known as secondary service connection. For example, a Veteran with service-connected knee injuries may later develop hip or back problems due to an altered gait. A Veteran with service-connected diabetes may develop neuropathy, kidney disease, or vision problems. Likewise, mental health conditions may contribute to sleep disorders, headaches, or cardiovascular issues.

Secondary conditions can significantly increase a Veteran's overall disability evaluation and better reflect the true impact of service-connected disabilities. Unfortunately, many Veterans never realize these conditions may be compensable and therefore never file a claim. If you have developed additional medical problems related to an existing service-connected disability, speak with a Veteran Service Officer about whether secondary service connection may apply.

To meet with a VSO near you, contact NMDVS to schedule an appointment. Office locations are listed at the end of this newsletter or online at www.dvs.nm.gov/field-services/.

United States Navy Celebrates 251 Years

On October 13, 1775, the Continental Congress established the United States Navy, beginning a legacy of service, sacrifice, and defense that has now spanned 251 years. From a small fleet of converted merchant ships during the Revolutionary War to today's advanced global naval force, the Navy has continued to safeguard the freedom and security of the United States.

New Mexico shares a proud connection to this history. Two Navy vessels have carried the state's name: the World War II-era battleship USS New Mexico (BB-40) and the nuclear-powered fast-attack submarine USS New Mexico (SSN-779). Commissioned in 2010, the Virginia-class submarine continues the tradition of carrying New Mexico's name while supporting the Navy's undersea mission.

New Mexico's connection to the Navy extends even further. More than 95 U.S. Navy ships have been named in honor of people, places, and history associated with New Mexico, reflecting the state's enduring place in the nation's naval heritage.

As the United States Navy celebrates its 251st birthday, the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services honors the generations of Sailors who have served with courage, dedication, and pride. From the high seas to beneath the waves, their service has helped defend our nation and protect the freedoms Americans hold dear.

Happy 251st Birthday to the United States Navy.



Take Your First Step Toward Entrepreneurship



Offered through the New Mexico Veterans Business Outreach Center (VBOC), Boots to Business is a free, two-day foundational entrepreneurship course designed for transitioning service members, veterans, National Guard and Reserve members, and military spouses interested in starting or growing a small business.

Participants will gain essential knowledge on the core principles of business ownership, including how to evaluate the feasibility of a business idea and how to develop a strategic business plan—an indispensable tool for any new or expanding venture. The curriculum also covers key topics such as securing start-up or growth capital, accessing technical assistance, and exploring federal contracting opportunities.

Join us for one of our dynamic, full-day sessions, typically held from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please note that on-base access is required for classes held at military installations.

Whether you're just beginning your entrepreneurial journey or looking to expand your business, we're here to help guide your next steps. For more information about the Boots to Business program or to register, please contact VBOC Advisor **Christina Stover** at christina.stover@dvs.nm.gov or call **(505) 469-8501**.

Check the VBOC training calendar for upcoming classes and events: <https://sba-vboc.ecenterdirect.com/events?>

City	Dates		Location
Virtural	Oct. 22-23	Military Spouse Business	Virtural registraion HERE
*Clovis, NM	Nov. 5	Boots to Business Training	Cannon AFB M&FR Center
* Alamogordo, NM	Nov. 12	Boots to Business Training	Holloman AFB M&FR Center
* Albuquerque, NM	Dec. 3	Boots to Business Training	Kirtland AFB Support Center

* *Participants will require base access*

· *Funded in part through a Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration.*

VETERANS BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTER (VBOC)

Helping Veterans and Military Families Start, Grow, and Succeed in Business

WHY CHOOSE VBOC?

✓ No Cost Business Mentoring ✓ Strengthening Veteran Businesses ✓ Veteran-Focused Expertise ✓ Statewide Support ✓ Military Spouse Assistance

LEARN

Boots to Business Training

- Entrepreneurship Education
- Business Planning Assistance
- Government Contracting Guidance
- Financial Readiness Training
- Military Spouse Pathway to Business Training

GROW

One-on-One Business Counseling

- Access to Capital Resources
- Marketing & Growth Strategies
- Business Expansion Support
- Strategic Planning Assistance

CONNECT

Lender Introductions

- SBA Resource Partners
- Veteran Business Networks
- Procurement Opportunities
- Community Partnerships
- Quarterly Lender Expo

SUCCEED

Veteran-Owned Small Business Certification Guidance

- Federal, State & Local Resource Navigation
- Long-Term Business Advising
- Veteran Surplus Program
- Sustainable Business Growth

Serving Veterans • Transitioning Service Members • National Guard • Reservists • Military Spouses

New Mexico Veterans Business Outreach Center | www.dvs.nm.gov/vboc | Johnny Martinez 505-220-9832 | Christina Stover 505-469-8501



Women Veterans Corner

“Connecting Women Veterans — One Story at a Time.”
Amberly Viner, Women Veteran Program Manager

Did you know:

In October 2023, the VA History Office published a feature marking the 100-year history of health care for women Veterans. The milestone dates back to 1923, when the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers accepted women Veterans of World War I for medical care and hospitalization for the first time.

Topic of the Month: “Stronger Together: The power of Community for Women Veterans”

Military service teaches us the importance of teamwork, camaraderie, and looking out for one another. But when the uniform comes off, those connections can sometimes become harder to maintain.

For women Veterans, having a strong community can make a meaningful difference. Whether it is another woman Veteran who understands your experiences, a Veteran Service Officer who can help navigate benefits, a community organization that provides local resources, or a trusted friend who simply knows when to check in—connection matters.

No woman Veteran should have to navigate life after service alone.

Across New Mexico, women Veterans live in urban communities, rural towns, tribal communities, and frontier areas. Each community has unique strengths, resources, and challenges. By building stronger connections among women Veterans, Veteran organizations, government agencies, healthcare providers, community organizations, and other partners, we can help ensure that women Veterans know where to turn when they need support.

Soon we will launch the New Mexico Women Veterans Community Partner Network—bringing people and organizations together to share information, collaborate on events, connect women Veterans with resources, and strengthen the support network available throughout our state.

A simple reminder this month: You don’t have to do it alone.

Reach out. Reconnect. Ask questions. Share information. Attend an event. Introduce another woman veteran to a resource. And if you are an organization serving Veterans or your community, consider becoming part of the network.

Together, we can build stronger communities and ensure women Veterans across New Mexico are seen, supported, connected, and empowered.

“Service may end, but the connection to your Veteran community doesn’t have to.”

If you are a woman Veteran seeking assistance, guidance, or connection to resources, the Women Veterans Program is here to help. The Women Veterans Program Manager serves as the primary point of contact for all women Veteran-related matters across New Mexico. The program’s mission is to deliver high-quality service and advocacy of women Veterans and their families. To learn more about the services and support available to you visit: <https://www.dvs.nm.gov/>

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, an important reminder for all Veterans to know their risk and take an active role in their breast health. One in eight women will have breast cancer in their lifetime, and while breast cancer occurs most often in women, it can also affect men. Early detection through testing and preventive care can save lives.

Breast Health Care Through VA

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) follows the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) breast cancer screening guidelines and recommends that women begin getting yearly mammograms by age 40 and continue screening every other year through age 74. VA provides breast cancer screenings, genetic counseling and testing, cancer diagnosis and treatment, and care coordination. Eligible women Veterans can schedule routine testing and breast health services through their VA provider.

Veterans who may have been exposed to toxic substances, such as open burn pits, should discuss breast cancer screening with their provider. The Dr. Kate Hendricks Thomas Supporting Expanded Review for Veterans In Combat Environments (SERVICE) Act, signed into law on June 7, 2022, expands toxic-exposure eligibility for Veterans who served overseas. The law honors Dr. Kate Hendricks Thomas, a Marine Corps Veteran and Veterans' advocate who died from breast cancer in 2022 and advocated for Veterans exposed to burn pits during military service.

VA currently recognizes female breast cancer as a presumptive condition, along with cancer of the paraurethral glands, cervical cancer, ovarian cancer, uterine cancer, vaginal cancer, and vulvar cancer. Veterans should talk with their health care provider about preventive screenings and their individual health needs.

Learn more about VA resources for women Veterans through the New Mexico VA Health Care System Women Veteran Care program website by clicking [here](#).



Strive for 500: Preserving the Legacy of Women Veterans



For more than 30 years, the Military Women's Memorial has collected names, photographs, service records, and personal experiences of women who answered the call to serve. Today, the Memorial's National Register preserves and shares the stories of more than 341,000 women. This one-of-a-kind permanent archive ensures "HERstory" remains an essential part of America's story.

The NMDVS "Strive for 500" Campaign continues to gain momentum as we work toward our goal of registering 500 women Veterans with the Military Women's Memorial. We need more women Veterans to add their names and receive recognition for their military service.

Registration is free and easy. If you are a woman who has served, add your story to the Military Women's National Digital Repository. Sharing your experience highlights the contributions of women in uniform and inspires future generations of New Mexicans.

You don't have to be a Veteran to help preserve this history. Family members and friends can create a Friend account and register a woman who served, whether she is a mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, daughter, friend, or another important woman in your life. Add her photograph and details about her military experience to give her story a permanent place in America's history.

Whether she served generations ago or serves today, you can help preserve her contributions for future generations.

Your service matters. Your story inspires. Your legacy deserves to be remembered.

Visit <https://womensmemorial.org/make-herstory/> to register and help preserve the history of women Veterans.

Annual Memorial Brick Installation Honors Veterans



Veterans, families, friends and volunteers gathered September 5 at the Angel Fire Vietnam Veterans Memorial for the annual Veterans Memorial Walkway brick installation, adding hundreds of new tributes to those who served.

The David Westphall Veterans Foundation (DWVF) hosted the event with support from the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS), New Mexico National Guard (NMNG), the Angel Fire State Veterans Cemetery and Memorial team, Run For The Wall Riders and the community. Together, they continued an annual tradition centered on remembrance and service.

NMDVS Cabinet Secretary Jamison A. Herrera welcomed Veterans, families and volunteers and spoke about the importance of preserving the stories and legacies represented along the Memorial Walkway.

Following the opening ceremony, volunteers and family members placed 500 red commemorative bricks along the walkway. Each engraved brick represents a Veteran or service member and gives families a permanent place to recognize a loved one's service. The installation also included a special Medal of Honor brick dedicated to James Elliott Williams, a U.S. Navy Veteran who received the Medal of Honor for his actions during the Vietnam War. Participants read his Medal of Honor citation, followed by the sounding of Taps.

For many families, the annual brick installation carries deeply personal meaning. Secretary Herrera met with Veterans, Veteran Service Organizations and families throughout the event. During one visit, he presented a challenge coin to Chris King in memory of King's father, Vietnam Veteran Tommy Highnote. King laid a brick in honor of his father's service, adding his name to those preserved along the walkway.

Run For The Wall Riders play an essential role in the annual installation, donating their time and labor to prepare the landscape, walk bricks and lay them at their designated locations when family is not available.



NMDVS manages the Angel Fire Vietnam Veterans Memorial in partnership with the David Westphall Veterans Foundation. Its museum, library, visitor center and exhibits share the experiences of Veterans and provide visitors with a deeper understanding of military service.

The Memorial also features a half-scale replica of the National Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall bearing more than 58,000 names, including 400 New Mexicans, and overlooks the Angel Fire State Veterans Cemetery. The Veterans Memorial Walkway gives families a permanent place to recognize their loved ones. Together, these features preserve the names, stories and service of Veterans for future generations.

For more information about the Angel Fire Vietnam Veterans Memorial, visit the NMDVS website: <https://www.dvs.nm.gov/nm-memorials/>

Annual Memorial Brick Installation Honors Veterans



A Century of Service: Celebrating WW II Veteran Lester Speiser



One hundred years of life carries countless stories. For World War II Veteran Lester B. Speiser, those stories include caring for wounded Soldiers in Europe, building a family, educating generations of students and sharing his creativity through poetry and writing.

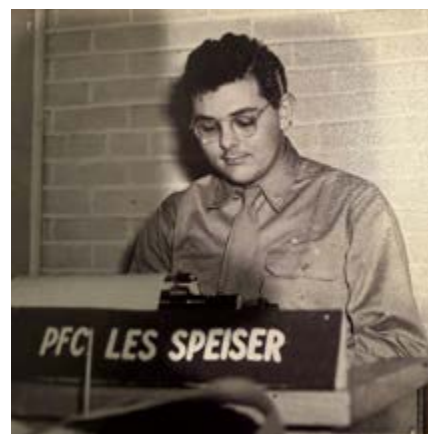
On Sept. 8, New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services Cabinet Secretary Jamison A. Herrera visited Lester at the Santa Fe Care Center to honor his service and celebrate his 100th birthday, which he marked on Aug. 26. Lester's son Steve, friends, fellow Veterans, residents, and staff joined the celebration.

Lester's story of service began when he entered the U.S. Army in November 1944. As a medical technician with the 79th Field Hospital, he traveled with his unit through Belgium, France and Germany, caring for and stabilizing wounded Soldiers before they received further treatment.

After serving in Europe, Lester was sent to join the war against Japan. While he was en route, the war ended and his ship turned around—a change in course that would eventually lead him to his future wife.

Lester completed his Army service at Mayo General Hospital in Galesburg, Illinois, where he cared for patients and worked as a public relations officer. During an assignment to meet a group of Women's Army Air Corps members touring the hospital, he met Vivyan. They went on to share 75 years of marriage and build a family together.

Lester continued serving others after leaving the Army. He attended Brooklyn College and devoted 30 years to education, eventually becoming principal of Bayside High School in Queens, New York. During a period of significant change in American education, he helped guide students and the school community through school integration. He also pursued his creative interests as a poet, performer and writer.



During the visit, Secretary Herrera presented Lester with a plaque and a Secretary's Challenge Coin in recognition of his military service and milestone birthday.

For NMDVS, visits like this are an opportunity to honor our Veterans while preserving the experiences they carry. As the number of World War II Veterans continues to decline, sharing their stories helps ensure future generations understand their service and sacrifice.



Lester's remarkable century reflects a lifetime devoted to service, family, education and creativity. NMDVS proudly congratulates him on his 100th birthday and thanks him for his service to our nation.



Military & Veterans Day at the State Fair

The New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS), in collaboration with the New Mexico National Guard (NMNG), welcomed Veterans, service members, military families, and community partners to Military & Veterans Day at the New Mexico State Fair on September 15 at Expo New Mexico in Albuquerque.

The annual event provided an opportunity to recognize New Mexico's military and Veteran community while bringing together state and federal agencies, Veteran service organizations, and community groups that support Veterans and their families.

Throughout the day, NMDVS staff connected with Veterans and shared information about benefits, programs, and resources available across the department. Representatives from the Women Veterans Program, Healthcare Coordination, Tribal Liaison, State Benefits, and other NMDVS programs were available to answer questions and help attendees learn more about the assistance available to New Mexico Veterans.



Fairgoers also had the opportunity to tour the NMDVS Mobile Outreach Unit and see how the department brings resources directly to communities statewide. Veterans visiting the unit could meet with NMDVS Veteran Service Officers to ask questions about VA benefits and compensation claims, property tax benefits, the New Mexico State Parks Lifetime Veteran Pass, and other state and federal programs.

Military & Veterans Day also featured a special ceremony at the Pavilion Stage. NMDVS Cabinet Secretary Jamison Herrera joined Maj. Gen. Miguel Aguilar, Adjutant General of NMNG; Col. Justin Secrest, commander of the 377th Air Base Wing at Kirtland Air Force Base; New Mexico Gold Star Mother Shirley Tetreault; and other speakers in recognizing the contributions of New Mexico's military and Veteran community.

The Dukes of Albuquerque American Legion Band provided music during the program, adding to a day centered on recognition, community, and connection.

NMDVS thanks NMNG, the New Mexico State Fair, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Veteran service organizations, community partners, and everyone who helped make Military & Veterans Day possible.

Most importantly, NMDVS thanks New Mexico's Veterans, service members, and military families who joined us at the State Fair. Events like Military & Veterans Day give the department an opportunity to strengthen connections with the people we serve.



A Final Tribute to Sgt. Melvin E. Jones



More than eight decades after making the ultimate sacrifice during World War II, Sgt. Melvin E. Jones returned home. The New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) and the New Mexico National Guard (NMNG) joined the Jones family to honor his service, sacrifice, and long-awaited return.

Jones was laid to rest September 15 at Portales Cemetery with full military honors. NMDVS Deputy Cabinet Secretary Eric James presented a New Mexico state flag to the Jones family in recognition of Jones' service to his state and nation. NMNG Guardsmen rendered final military honors, and NMNG Deputy Adjutant General Brig. Gen. Nathaniel Carper presented the folded American flag to the family on behalf of a grateful nation.

Born Oct. 17, 1919, in Clayton, New Mexico, Jones served with Battery E of the NMNG's 200th Coast Artillery Regiment. The regiment deployed to the Philippines in 1941. Following the Japanese invasion in December, Jones and his fellow Guardsmen fought in defense of the Philippines before being ordered to the Bataan Peninsula. After months of combat under increasingly desperate conditions, U.S. forces on Bataan surrendered April 9, 1942. Jones became a prisoner of war, survived the Bataan Death March and was later held at Cabanatuan Prison Camp, where prisoners endured severe overcrowding, malnutrition, and disease.

Jones died of malaria on July 28, 1942, at just 22 years old and was buried with other prisoners in a communal grave. His remains could not be identified following the war, and his name was memorialized on the Walls of the Missing at the Manila American Cemetery. In 2018, remains from the grave were exhumed for laboratory analysis, and advances in forensic science ultimately helped identify Jones. He was officially accounted for Sept. 23, 2025, and his burial in Portales brought an 84-year journey to an end, returning a New Mexico Soldier home at last.

NMDVS was honored to join the Jones family and NMNG in paying tribute to a New Mexico Veteran who gave his life in service to his country. Jones' homecoming also recognized the family that carried his memory forward for generations.



Final First Pitch Honors Army Veteran Justin Luna



The New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) joined the Albuquerque Isotopes on Sept. 18 to honor Army Veteran Justin Luna with the final NMDVS ceremonial first pitch of the season at Isotopes Park.

Inspired by his grandfather, father and uncles who served in the Armed Forces, Luna enlisted at age 17. He served as a military police officer with the Arizona Army National Guard from 2006 to 2013 and was honorably discharged at the rank of sergeant.

Luna volunteered to deploy to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom with Task Force Prowler, where he participated in combat operations and earned the Army Commendation Medal.

After leaving the military, Luna made New Mexico his home and continued his commitment to public service. He now serves as an administrative officer with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Before Luna took the field, NMDVS Cabinet Secretary Jamison Herrera presented him with a challenge coin recognizing his service to New Mexico and the nation. NMDVS Director of Field Services Rob Miller joined Herrera and Luna's friends to cheer him on.

The recognition also coincided with National POW/MIA Recognition Day. Throughout the season, NMDVS sponsored the POW/MIA Chair of Honor at Isotopes Park, ensuring prisoners of war and service members who remain missing are remembered at every game. The empty chair serves as a solemn reminder that they are not forgotten.



NMDVS is proud to partner with the Albuquerque Isotopes to recognize Veterans, active-duty service members, prisoners of war, those still missing in action, and the families who have sacrificed alongside them.





The New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) recognizes Christina Stover, Business Advisor and Trainer for the New Mexico Veterans Business Outreach Center (VBOC) based in the Albuquerque Pinetree office. Christina is an important and valued member of the NM VBOC team. As an experienced entrepreneur who has owned and operated multiple businesses, she brings real-world knowledge and a practical understanding of the challenges business owners face. She uses that experience to guide, encourage, and mentor veterans and military spouses as they work toward achieving their entrepreneurial goals. She wears many hats, supports her coworkers, and treats every client with patience, respect, and professionalism.

Johnny Martinez, NM VBOC Director and Christina's direct supervisor, shared: "Christina's experience as an entrepreneur and her commitment to serving others have made a meaningful difference within the NM VBOC. She genuinely cares about the veterans and military spouses we serve and works hard to help each person move closer to their goals. Christina is dependable, knowledgeable, and we are grateful to have her. I truly appreciate everything she contributes to our mission and the veteran community throughout New Mexico."

What brought you to NMDVS and VBOC?

Entrepreneurship has been close to my heart, from helping aspiring insurance agency owners to owning my own businesses. Joining VBOC felt like a natural fit, giving me the opportunity to use my experience and passion to help veteran and spouse-owned businesses succeed.

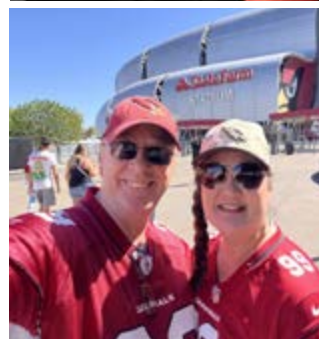


How long have you been with the agency?

I joined the VBOC team in December of 2024, bringing experience in insurance, residential mortgage, and retail sales. I've also owned, operated, or helped operate five of my own business ventures.

What do you enjoy most about your work with NMDVS/VBOC?

I'm passionate about building strong partnerships and a supportive ecosystem that helps veteran and spouse-owned businesses succeed. I'm incredibly grateful to my Director, Johnny Martinez, for his mentorship and support, which have helped me grow personally and professionally. Together, we are committed to strengthening our network and making meaningful differences in the lives of veteran entrepreneurs.



What is your connection to the Veteran community?

My father served in the Navy, and I have two nephews in the Army, one currently in boot camp. Through VBOC, I get to support veterans as they grow their businesses.

Please tell us a little about yourself, your hobbies, and what you enjoy doing in your free time?

I'm a lifelong learner. When I'm not working or growing my businesses, I enjoy camping, traveling, and mentoring. My faith and family are at the heart of everything I do. My husband and I are celebrating 14 years of marriage this month!

Three words to describe you?

Faith-Driven, Purposeful, Resourceful

NMDVS is hiring! View new job postings here: <https://www.spo.state.nm.us/>





News from the U.S. Department of **Veterans Affairs**

Fraud Alert: Watch out for Phishing Scams



The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs is urging Veterans, their families and advocates to stay alert for phishing scams designed to steal benefits, health care information and other personal information.

Phishing scams often involve fraudulent emails that appear to come from VA, government agencies or other trusted organizations. Scammers may even use official-looking logos or seals. These attacks are no longer limited to email. Criminals may use phone calls, text messages, QR codes and fake public Wi-Fi networks to trick people into revealing sensitive information or visiting malicious websites.

Watch for these warning signs:

- Suspicious senders or links: Look closely for misspellings, extra characters or unfamiliar domain names.
- Requests for personal information: Be cautious of messages asking for passwords, Social Security numbers, credit card information or other sensitive information.
- Urgent or threatening language: Scammers may claim your account will be locked, your information has been compromised or you owe money and must act immediately.
- Unusual wording: Poor grammar, misspellings, awkward punctuation or generic greetings such as "Dear Customer" can signal a scam.
- Unexpected QR codes or attachments: Avoid scanning codes, opening attachments or following links unless you have verified the sender and request.

VA recommends pausing before clicking links or responding to unexpected messages. Verify the sender through a trusted source, keep passwords and other credentials private, use multi-factor authentication when available and regularly monitor online accounts for suspicious activity. When using public Wi-Fi, also pay close attention to the network name. Fraudsters can create fake networks that look nearly identical to legitimate ones and use them to intercept logins and other personal information.

If you receive a questionable email or message, use your email provider's phishing, spam or junk reporting feature. If you are unsure whether a communication is legitimate, contact the organization directly using contact information you know is authentic rather than information provided in the suspicious message.

Veterans who miss a VA benefits payment, notice a discrepancy or suspect suspicious activity involving direct deposit should contact VA at 1-800-827-1000.

Those who believe they have experienced fraud can report it through [VSAFE.gov](https://vsa.gov) or call 1-833-38V-SAFE.

For additional information about phishing, cyberattacks and ways to protect your personal information, visit VA's full article here: <https://news.va.gov/149788/fraud-alert-watch-out-phishing-scams/>

Suicide Prevention Doesn't Have an Age Limit



Distress later in life can sometimes hide behind the words, “I’m just getting old.” Older Veterans may face the loss of a spouse or friends, declining health, chronic pain, retirement and increased isolation. These changes can take an emotional toll, especially when several happen at once. Suicide prevention has no age limit, and it is never too late to reach out for support.

Changes that seem like a normal part of aging may sometimes signal that a Veteran is struggling. Trouble sleeping, losing interest in favorite activities, withdrawing from family and friends, drinking more or feeling like a burden are signs worth paying attention to—particularly after a loss, new health diagnosis or major life change. For Veterans experiencing post-traumatic stress disorder, difficult memories may also resurface after retirement or during other significant changes later in life.

Staying connected can make an important difference. Regular phone calls, shared meals, visits with friends, volunteering, attending a place of worship or simply helping a Veteran stay involved in the community can strengthen a sense of belonging. Purpose matters, too. Mentoring younger Veterans, volunteering, spending time with grandchildren or sharing personal experiences can help bring meaning and structure to everyday life.

Veterans do not have to face difficult times alone. The Veterans Crisis Line provides confidential support 24 hours a day, seven days a week, regardless of whether a Veteran is enrolled in or eligible for VA health care. Veterans and their loved ones can dial 988 and Press 1, text 838255 or use the Veterans Crisis Line online chat to connect with a trained responder. Visit the Crisis Line here: <https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/>

Learn more about recognizing the signs of crisis, staying connected, creating a safety plan and finding suicide prevention resources for Veterans, families and caregivers. For more resources visit: <https://news.va.gov/149762/suicide-prevention-doesnt-have-an-age-limit/>

VA Home Loan Benefit Can Be Used More Than Once

Many Veterans and surviving spouses may not realize the VA-guaranteed home loan is a lifetime benefit, not a one-time benefit. Eligible Veterans may use the benefit more than once and, in some cases, have more than one active VA-backed home loan.

Veterans with enough remaining or restored entitlement may qualify to use the benefit again while keeping their current home. They must meet lender and VA occupancy requirements. VA loans cannot be used for vacation homes or properties intended solely as investments.



Four things to check before using your benefit again:

- **Remaining entitlement:** An existing VA loan does not automatically prevent you from getting another. Your remaining entitlement may determine whether you need a down payment.
- **Occupancy:** You generally must intend to make the new property your residence.
- **Funding fee:** Using the benefit again may result in a higher VA funding fee unless you qualify for an exemption.
- **Your budget:** Consider additional mortgage payments, taxes, insurance, maintenance, and other ownership costs.

Veterans who have paid off a previous VA loan may be able to restore their entitlement. Review your Certificate of Eligibility, speak with a VA-approved lender, or call 877-827-3702 for help understanding your options.

Learn more: Visit the VA website for more information about using your VA-guaranteed home loan benefit more than once here: <https://news.va.gov/149487/veterans-can-use-their-va-guaranteed-home-loan-benefit-more-than-once/>

Be Aware of Identity Theft Risks

Protect your personal information, like your Social Security Number and bank account, from criminals. Recently, VA employee identity theft reports have increased. Protect yourself and report identity theft.

Steps to protect yourself:

- **Only provide information to trusted sources:**
 - Don't give personal information during an unsolicited phone call.
 - Don't click on links or reply to suspicious texts from unfamiliar contacts.
 - Don't reply to unknown emails or open attachments from unknown sources.
 - Keep your computer updated to keep IT security current.
- **Check your financial statements:** Look for unusual financial activity such as new loans, bank accounts, or purchases.
- **Examine your health care bills:** Check that you received the medical procedures and items billed.



If you suspect identify theft, act quickly!

- Contact the local police.
- Contact your bank and creditors and stop all payments.
- Contact the three credit reporting agencies to **freeze your credit**.
- If you suspect your VA employee information is comprised, contact your VA **Privacy Officer** and your local **Integrity and Compliance Officer (ICO)**.

Watch for Signs of Identify Theft

Social Security Number Theft:

- New bank accounts, credit card or loans you don't recognize, or unexplained mail coming to your house.
- Learn more about identity theft prevention from the **Social Security Administration**.

Medical Identity Theft:

- Receiving bills for services not provided.
- Learn more about medical identity theft from the **Federal Trade Commission**.

Cyber Security Scams:

- Check for unusual activity on your computer, like your browsing history showing websites you didn't visit.
- For VA computers, use the Security Incident Reporting on **yourIT service portal**
- Learn more about cyber scams at the **VA Cyber Security Spot** and **VA Privacy Hub**

For more information, go to www.usa.gov/identity-theft

VA



**U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs**

Veterans Health
Administration



The following pages feature events and informational flyers provided to the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services (NMDVS) by Veterans and community service agencies. These flyers are published for the convenience of New Mexico's Veteran community. Inclusion in The Guardian does not constitute endorsement by NMDVS of the organization, content, products, or services contained therein.

NMDVS invites government agencies and nonprofit service organizations to submit flyers for publication in The Guardian to announce an upcoming or ongoing Veteran-related event. NMDVS will run these flyers as a public service courtesy to the Veteran community.

Please note:

Flyers must have the name of a point-of-contact from the organization, along with the contact's phone number or email address. Flyers without this information will not be published.

NMDVS is not responsible for the accuracy of the content, products, or services in these flyers.

Views expressed in these flyers are the independent views of the authors/owners of the third-party entity that created the flyer and do not necessarily reflect the views of NMDVS.

To the maximum extent permitted by law, NMDVS expressly denies liability for any losses suffered by any persons or organizations who, in their independent discretion and reliance, either directly or indirectly rely on content, products, services, or information offered by these independent third-party organizations.

NMDVS reserves the right to edit or decline to publish any flyer.

Please send your submissions to DVS.PIO@dvs.nm.gov



FREE CLASSES FOR THE COMMUNITY!

OCTOBER 2026



GoodSkills
Goodwill Industries of New Mexico Training

LOCATIONS	SUN	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
SAN MATEO 5000 SAN MATEO BLVD NE		Career Growth: Discover@ 10:30 am-11:45 am	Career Growth: Apply@ 1:00 pm-2:15 pm Thinking Critically 2:30 pm-3:30 pm	Career Growth: Interview@ 1:00 pm-2:15 pm Time Management 2:30 pm-3:30 pm	Career Growth: Succeed@ 9:30 am-10:45 am First Impressions 11:00 am-12:00 pm		
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
SAN MATEO 5000 SAN MATEO BLVD NE		Excel 100 1:30 pm-2:45 pm Resiliency@ 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm	Excel 200 1:00 pm-2:15 pm Resiliency Workshop@ 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm	Excel 300 1:00 pm-2:15 pm Intro to Coding@ 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	Excel PivotTables 1:00 pm-2:15 pm Coding Workshop@ 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm		
LOMAS 6001 LOMAS BLVD NE				Resume 101 9:30 am-10:30 am Interview Skills@ 11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Internet Basics 9:30 am-10:30 am Microsoft Explorer 11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Communication Skills 9:30 am-10:30 am Microsoft Outlook 11:00 am - 12:00 pm	
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
SAN MATEO 5000 SAN MATEO BLVD NE			Intro to Google 12:30 pm-1:30 pm Google Gmail 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Google Drive 9:30 am-10:30 am Google Docs 11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Google Sheets 9:30 am-10:30 am Google Slides 11:00 am - 12:00 pm		
LOMAS 6001 LOMAS BLVD NE		First Impressions 1:00 pm-2:00 pm Soft Skills@ 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	Discovering Data 9:30 am-10:30 am Microsoft PowerPoint 11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Excel 100 1:00 pm-2:15 pm Excel 200 2:30 pm - 3:45 pm	Excel 300 1:00 pm-2:15 pm Typing 101 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm		
BLUEWATER 270 98TH STR NW		Resume 101 9:30 am-10:45 am Interview Skills@ 11:00 am - 12:00 pm				Excel 100 9:30 am-10:45 am Time Management 11:00 am - 12:00 pm	
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
SAN MATEO 5000 SAN MATEO BLVD NE				Computer Basics 9:30 am-10:30 am Money Management@ 11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Cybersecurity 9:30 am-10:30 am Stress Management@ 11:00 am - 12:30 pm	Internet Basics 9:30 am-10:30 am Stress Management Workshop@ 11:00 am - 12:30 pm	
LOMAS 6001 LOMAS BLVD NE		Career Growth: Discover@ 1:00 pm-2:15 pm Excel 100 2:30 pm - 3:45 pm	Career Growth: Apply@ 1:00 pm-2:15 pm Excel 200 2:30 pm - 3:45 pm	Career Growth: Interview@ 1:00 pm-2:15 pm Public Speaking Intro 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm	Career Growth: Succeed@ 1:00 pm-2:15 pm Time Management 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm		

INSTRUCTORS: MIKAYLA MARTINEZ: 505.314.1875 mimartinez@goodwillnm.org
KYLE PAUL: 505.881.6401 X1903 kpaul@goodwillnm.org

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS & HOW TO REGISTER ON THE BACK...

GOODWILL INDUSTRIES OF NEW MEXICO ©

TO REGISTER FOR
FREE CLASSES:
SCAN QR CODE ...



OR... GO ONLINE TO
goodwillnm.org/events

OR.. CALL OR EMAIL

MIKAYLA MARTINEZ: 505.314.1875

mimartinez@goodwillnm.org

KYLE PAUL: 505.881.6401 X1903

kpaul@goodwillnm.org

DigitalSkills

TYPING 101: Learn where to place your fingers on a keyboard, what each key does & basic mouse use.

COMPUTER BASICS: Learn basic parts of computer: buttons, ports, hardware, software, Operating System, etc.

INTERNET BASICS: Learn about the internet, search engines, browsers, online safety & using email.

CYBERSECURITY: Learn to identify cyber threats, phishing, scams & protect your digital assets.

EXCEL 100: Intro to review spreadsheet features & application layout. Build your first basic spreadsheet.

EXCEL 200: Learn basic formulas (+, -, X, /) how to use auto fill, and how to sort and filter data on spreadsheet.

EXCEL 300: Learn to create dropdowns, charts, tables and how to freeze panes, add backgrounds & more.

EXCEL PIVOTTABLES: How to create PivotTable & insert a slicer. Includes intro to VLOOKUP and SUMIF functions.

INTRO TO GOOGLE: Overview of online tools within Google Workspace-collaborate, create, communicate in one place

GOOGLE DRIVE: Learn the basics of this cloud-based integrated storage & file sharing service

GOOGLE DOCS: Learn the basics of web-based word processing. Create and edit docs online.

GOOGLE SLIDES: Learn the basics of a cloud-based presentation software. Create & share slideshows.

GOOGLE SHEETS: Learn the basics of a cloud-based data driven document. Create, edit & share spreadsheets.

GOOGLE GMAIL: Basics of Google email service: Learn to create & send messages, organize & search inbox

ANDROID BASICS: Learn the basics about using your android phone. The home screen, settings, apps etc.

IPHONE BASICS: Learn the basics about using your iPhone. The home screen, settings, apps etc.

LEARN.
GROW.
SUCCEED.
INSPIRE.

YOU DONATE ITEMS TO
GOODWILL



DONATIONS SOLD IN
GOODWILL STORES



REVENUE FUNDS OUR
FREE PROGRAMS &
SERVICES



DigitalSkills

MICROSOFT WORD: Format, save and spellcheck documents. Insert images/shapes. Design layout'

MICROSOFT POWERPOINT: Learn to design, animate slides and play/save presentations..

MICROSOFT EXPLORER: Learn how to download, save, organize, find files and navigate Windows OS.

MICROSOFT OUTLOOK: Learn to navigate Outlook interface, to compose/sort email & use calendar.

INTRO TO CODING@ Programming overview of JavaScript, Python & web development.

CODING WORKSHOP@ Fun coding games to build coding skills in JavaScript & Python.

APP DEVELOPMENT@ Intro to app coding, a look at IOS & Android with interactive learning exercises.

GAME DEVELOPMENT@ Intro to creating video games and using game engines thru interactive exercises.

VIRTUAL OPTION CLASSES:

You can choose to attend some of our **FREE** classes online from home (look for the @ after the class name)...or come and attend in-person.

EmploymentSkills

RESUME 101 Learn best practices for resume writing, with hands on creation, proofing and editing support .

FIRST IMPRESSIONS Using time management, words, appearance & body language to make good impression.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS@ Learn practical people skills and communication styles

INTERVIEW SKILLS @ Build interview confidence by learning question strategy, practice mock interviews.

SOFT SKILLS@ Learn the people skills that support success at work and in everyday life

OFFICE HOURS: One on one support from an instructor for anything you need help with on the computer

EmploymentSkills

Career Growth Employment Skills Series:

DISCOVER@ Explore career interests: identify strengths & skills ...find jobs that match your personal qualities.

APPLY@ Create/improve resume and learn how to apply to jobs online and increase your chances of call-backs.

INTERVIEW @ Best practices in interviews, professional communication and the three modes of persuasion.

SUCCEED@ Building relationships, good attitude and the knowledge & behavior skills for success at work.

PUBLIC SPEAKING INTRO: Know, manage & influence the audience. Basics followed by practice.

PUBLIC SPEAKING PRESENTATION: Plan and deliver a short PowerPoint presentation.

LifeSkills

MONEY MANAGEMENT@ Financial literacy class on paychecks, budgets, expenses & credit

THINKING CRITICALLY@ Become better thinkers. Build analytical skills, learn to determine the validity of info.

TIME MANAGEMENT: Time management strategies to improve work efficiency. Create SMART goals for success.

RESILIENCY@ An in-depth look at how to withstand & recover from the difficulties of life.

RESILIENCY WORKSHOP@ Discover tools to help you develop a plan to strengthen your resiliency skills

Wellness Skills

STRESS MANAGEMENT @ A detailed look at the cause of stress & some strategies to manage daily stressors.

STRESS MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP@ Discover some meditative practices & other options to relieve stress

NEW MEXICANS FIND
JOBS!



LEARN.
GROW.
SUCCEED.
INSPIRE.

COMMUNITY
CAREER FAIR
10/8/26 & 10/22/26
1-3 pm
Meet company hiring
managers.. job leads!
5000 SAN MATEO

Google Play Store

Apple App Store



GOODWILL HAS A FREE APP!
LEARN DIGITAL SKILLS
FIND LOCAL RESOURCES & EVENTS
DOWNLOAD NOW!
GOOD FOR LEARNING NEW SKILLS!

GoodSkills
Goodwill Industries of New Mexico Training



Radiation Exposure Compensation Act

What can Downwinders get from RECA?



If you qualify, you can get a one-time payment of \$100,000.



If the person has died, their survivors can apply for equal shares of that single payment.



Currently, according to the federal government, the money is tax-free, and you do not report it on your taxes.



Learn more at
reca.doh.nm.gov

"HARVESTING HEALTHY HOMES, GROWING STRONG COMMUNITIES"

HOUSING - HEALTH & WELLNESS - HOME SAFETY-
FINANCIAL WELLNESS - COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Door Prizes!

Everyone
welcome!



Lunch Provided!

Information
and resource
booths!

OCTOBER 7, 2026

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Pueblo of Zia Tribal Office
Parking Lot

135 Capitol Square Drive, Zia Pueblo,
NM 87053

Organized by: Pueblo of Zia Housing Services, Social Services,
CHR Program, Zia Diabetes/Health & Wellness

Questions: Please contact (505) 337-2143 or linda.gachupin@ziapueblo.org

FUNDING. CONNECTIONS. OPPORTUNITY.



NEW MEXICO SMALL BUSINESS LENDER EXPO

ACCESS CAPITAL. GROW YOUR BUSINESS. >>



DATE
FRIDAY
OCTOBER 9, 2026



TIME
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM



LOCATION
DREAM SPRING
2000 Zearing Ave NW
Albuquerque, NM 87104



WHAT TO EXPECT:



MEET LENDERS

Connect with local, regional, and national lenders.



EXPLORE FINANCING

Discover loan programs and funding options.



BUILD CONNECTIONS

Network with resource providers and community partners.



GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Gain the capital and knowledge to move forward.



Your business. *Our future.* New Mexico.

PRESENTED BY: NM VBOC

HOSTED BY: DREAM SPRING

INFO

RESOURCES

RELATIONSHIPS

RESULTS

VFAST



GOLF TOURNAMENT

benefiting veterans and their families in need.



**FRIDAY,
OCTOBER 9TH, 2026**



RED HAWK GOLF CLUB



NETWORK
with Industry
Leaders



ENJOY
a Premier Golf
Experience



COMPETE
for Great Prizes
& Bragging Rights



SUPPORT
Our Mission and
Community

FOR MORE INFORMATION:



Felipe Rodriguez



575-640-4751



vfastgolf@gmail.com

SAN JUAN COUNTY STAND DOWN 2026

Serving homeless Veterans & their families

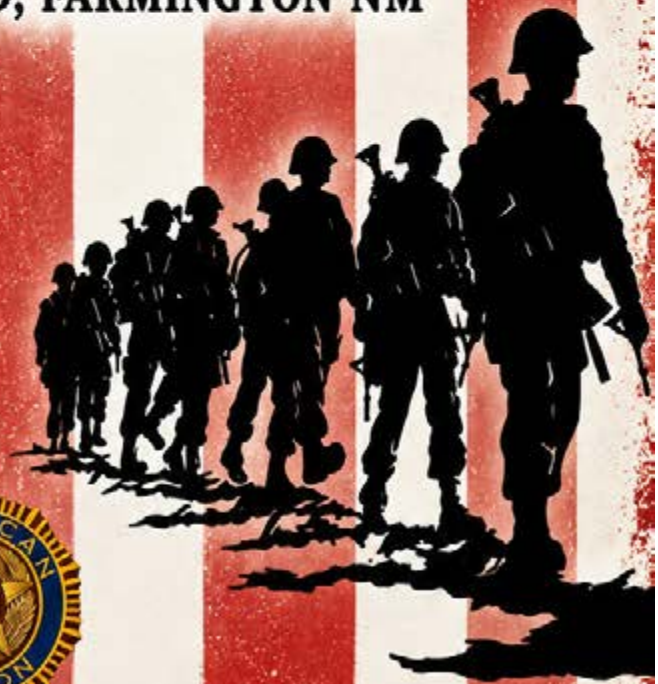
This annual event brings together a network of compassionate professionals and volunteers, all committed to honoring the sacrifices made by those who served our country.

Please join us for the 2026 Farmington Stand Down event where you can gain access to a variety of helpful resources...

OCTOBER 9TH 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

**AT THE SAN JUAN COLLEGE HEALTH
HUMAN PERFORMANCE CENTER,
4601 COLLEGE BLVD, FARMINGTON NM**

- ★ MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
- ★ HOUSING ASSISTANCE
- ★ VETERAN'S BENEFITS
- ★ JOB ASSISTANCE
- ★ DENTAL SERVICES
- ★ BASIC MEDICAL ATTENTION
- ★ TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE
- ★ ACCESS TO JOB TRAINING AND EDUCATION
- ★ CLOTHING
- ★ PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS
- ★ WARM MEALS, AND MORE!



A HAND UP, NOT A HAND OUT

Albuquerque FISHER HOUSE

7th Anniversary

OPEN HOUSE



KITCHEN



SUITE



LIVING ROOM

CELEBRATION DETAILS

Date: Wednesday October 14, 2026

Time: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Food and beverages will be served

No parking will be available in Fisher House lot
Please park in the North Visitors Lot



Home AWAY FROM *Home*

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
New Mexico VA Health Care System

***A "STAND DOWN" IS A COMMUNITY
EVENT WHERE AT-RISK VETERANS
CAN RECEIVE HELP IN A SAFE,
WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT.***



ALBUQUERQUE VETERANS STAND DOWN

16 OCT 2026
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

@THE ROCK AT NOONDAY
2400 2 ST NW, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87102

**HOUSING ASSISTANCE, EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT, HEALTHCARE, MEALS,
COUNSELING, HAIR CUTS, HYGIENE ITEMS, AND CLOTHING.**



**JOIN THE VIC
IN SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS**

- ★ Register as a Service Provider
- ★ Corporate Sponsorships Available
- ★ Provide Support Through Donations

INFO@NMVIC.US | WWW.NMVIC.ORG | (505) 296-0800



New Mexico Veterans and Families
Foundation



LAS CRUCES
VETERANS
HELPING HANDS
Stand Down

Housing services, haircuts,
Veteran Service Officers,
VA Disability Services, Social
Security assistance, and more
resources available onsite!



VFW POST 10124
709 South Valley Drive, Las Cruces



FRIDAY, 16 OCT 2026

7:30AM - 12 NOON

BREAKFAST STARTS AT 7AM

Van Service to be arranged
For more info, call Len Hampton, 575-405-9001.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

44th Annual Alamo Indian Day Celebration

"Honoring our Heroes"

October 16 and 17, 2026

Alamo Navajo Reservation NM 29 miles north of Magdalena on Hwy 169

Arts and crafts vendors, food vendors and much more. . .

Friday Oct. 16

- Song and dance
- 11:00 am Walk and run @ Alamo Wellness Center
- 12:00 noon Elderly Day luncheon @ Walter's park
- 12:00 pm Kids chainsaw contest, contact Neal Apachito via messenger
- 1:00 pm Fitness challenge @ Alamo Wellness Center
- 2:00 pm registration, 3:00 pm Women chainsaw contest and men stock. Contact Lonnie Ganadonegro via messenger
- 5:00 pm Kids costume contest
- 6:00 pm 3D archery shoot Northside of Walter's park, contact Rodman Apache via messenger
- 7:30 pm - 11:00 pm Country dance (Apache Spirit) @ Walter's park free event. 9:00 pm Halftime Adult costume contest

Saturday Oct. 17

- Song and dance
- 8:00 am Line up. Roads will be block off at 9:50 am.
- 10:00 am Parade
- 12:00 noon chainsaw contest, 11:30 registration. Contact Embro Apache via messenger
- 12:00 pm Volleyball tournament on the Eastside of Walter's park, contact Daz Chito via messenger
- 12:00 pm MUDD BOGG on the Northside of Walter's park, contact Siy Ganadonegro (575)842-8193
- 2:00 pm Morgan Family Dancers
- 3:00 pm Apache Crown Dancers
- 5:30 pm - 7:?? pm Gospel Jam @ Walter's park, Contact Clayton Monte. All gospel singers are welcome

**For more information contact
Nigel Secatero (505)220-7296
or Alamo Chapter House
(575)854-2686**

**Alamo Indian Day Committee will not be
responsible for any accidents or any stolen items**





NM Military Museum

Voices from the Amory

Fall 2026 Lecture Series brought to you by



CHRISTUS
Health.

CENTURY
BANK

SEPTEMBER 17

5:00PM

TOM CHAVEZ

Historian

**The American Revolution, Spain and
the World War that won the
independence of the United States**

OCTOBER 17

2:00PM

BILL BARLEY

Chief of Interpretation

Fort Union National Monument

***"Of Smoke & Powder" The evolution
of frontier firearms during the 40-
year history of Fort Union***

NOVEMBER 17

2:00PM

OLIVER HORN

Regional Manager Lincoln and Fort
Stanton Historic Sites, NM Historic Sites

History of Fort Stanton

DECEMBER 12

2:00PM

RICHARD MELZER

Historian, Author

"A History of New Mexico in 100 Objects"

1050 Old Pecos Trail, Santa Fe New Mexico 87505

WNMU REMEMBRANCE MARCH

"WALK FOR THE HEROES"



Vietnam Veterans Chapter 358

XVII

Where: Fort Bayard New Mexico Bataan Memorial Park 3 mile Honor March around the Fort Bayard Veterans National Cemetery and the Historical Landmark

When: Saturday 17 October 2026

Time: 8:00 AM to 9:30 AM Registration & Information, 10:00 AM start walking

Cost: \$25 Registration fee made payable to Veteran Resource Agency

Registered walkers will receive a T-shirt & Commemorative Coin

Picture of Veteran and headstone- need to be registered.

Deadline to submit picture and headstone 18 Sept 2026

If you have honored a Veteran previously, we will still honor them but will not provide another plaque, picture on banner or name on t-shirt.

If you would like an extra plaque (cost of \$40) please let us know.

Presentation of plaques for Honored Veterans after walk.

FREE Food and Drinks!!

For more information contact:

Liz Lopez at (575)-574-2964

egarcia3264@gmail.com or

Sylvia Sierra at (575)-538-6871/(575) 654-5413

sylvia.sierra@wnmu.edu





HOMELESS VETERANS REINTEGRATION PROGRAM (HVRP)

VETERAN & COMMUNITY RESOURCE EVENT *and* JOB FAIR



FRIDAY
OCTOBER 23, 2026



1:00 PM – 4:00 PM



GOODWILL
OPPORTUNITY CENTER
5000 San Mateo Blvd NE
Albuquerque, NM 87109



RESOURCES. OPPORTUNITIES. CONNECTIONS.
BUILDING STRONGER FUTURES TOGETHER.



CONNECT
with Veteran
Service
Organizations



EXPLORE
Community
Resources &
Support Services



MEET
Local Employers
Hiring Veterans
Like You



GET HELP
with Resumes,
Applications &
Job Readiness



BUILD
Connections.
Strengthen
Your Future.

RAFFLE FOR PRIZES INCLUDING:



FREE BOWLING
AT SANTA ANA STAR



FREE DAY PASSES TO
STONE AGE CLIMBING GYM



TOPGOLF

\$50 TOP GOLF
GAME PASSES

and so much more!



HONORING SERVICE.
SUPPORTING SUCCESS.

QUESTIONS?

Contact HVRP Program Manager
Adriana Dodson
505-881-6401 ext 1941
Adodson@goodwillnm.org

Goodwill Industries of New Mexico
Serving Veterans. Strengthening Communities.
goodwillnm.org



JOIN US FOR AN UNFORGETTABLE EVENING

HEROES *Masquerade*

★ AN ELEGANT EVENING HONORING THOSE WHO SERVE ★

GAMES OF CHANCE

DELICIOUS FOOD
BY SHOTGUN WILLIES

LIBATIONS
BY RED RIVER BREWERY

SILENT AUCTION

COSTUME CONTEST

★ SATURDAY ★
10.24.26
6-9 PM

DOORS OPEN AT 5:30PM

Whatville

30 Trujillo Rd
Angel Fire, NM 87710

★ TICKETS ★
\$50 PER PERSON
INCLUDES
DINNER + \$100
IN PLAY MONEY!

★ 21+ ONLY ★

SCAN TO
GET YOUR TICKETS!



An elegant evening
in support of our
veterans, first responders,
their families and partners,
and the programs that the
National Veterans
Wellness & Healing
Center provides.

★ NVWHC ★

505-501-8337

veteranswellnessandhealing.org

EVERY MASK WORN. EVERY GAME PLAYED. EVERY DOLLAR GIVEN.

★ IN HONOR OF THOSE WHO SERVE. ★

VETERAN OR FIRST RESPONDER SEEKING GUIDANCE?

Enjoy a complimentary week filled with mindful education, body rejuvenation, and uplifting camaraderie alongside fellow veterans, first responders and their partners in the beautiful mountains of New Mexico. Discover valuable therapeutic and holistic tools while embracing Post Traumatic Growth.

NATIONAL VETERANS WELLNESS & HEALING CENTER



APPLY

YOU ARE
NOT
ALONE!



DONATE

Retreats offer complimentary lodging, meals, and a variety of activities such as education, counseling, massage therapy, acupuncture, yoga, horseback riding, and much more!

www.veteranswellnessandhealing.org



NVWHC, a 501 c (3) non-profit,
serving veterans and their families
since 2009.

EIN # 27-1330398

CFC #72189

! SAVE THE DATE !

End all Suicide Coalition 2026 Veteran Stand Down

**The Rock Christian Fellowship
919 N Riverside Drive, Espanola, NM**

Time: 1000 - 1400

Date: October 24, 2026

**Are you a veteran experiencing homelessness or
housing instability?**

**Join us to connect with free resources and support,
including housing assistance, food, clothing,
healthcare screenings, employment services, VA and
community resources, Social Security benefits,
and much more.**

You served our country. Let our community serve you.

INTERESTED IN RECEIVING THESE SERVICES OR PROVIDING SERVICES?

CONTACT FOR QUESTION OR INQUIRIES:

valentina.livingston@nnmc.edu

505-747-5499



— 4th Annual —
VETERANS
— BENEFITS & HEALTH FAIR —



OCTOBER 24, 2026



10AM – 1PM

RECEIVE ASSISTANCE WITH FILING FOR OR INFORMATION ABOUT:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| ✓ VA Health Care Benefits for all Veterans | ✓ Employment Assistance |
| ✓ VA Disability Compensation & Pension Claims | ✓ NM State Benefits |
| ✓ Death Benefits | ✓ Community Partners Assistance |
| ✓ Veteran Cemetery Burials | ✓ and much more! |
| ✓ Education Benefits | |



BRING YOUR DD-214 AND ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS!



**WE
SERVE
THOSE WHO
SERVED**
★★★★★

— ★ *The American Legion* ★ —
DEAN LUCAS POST 25

2400 W. 7th Street • Clovis, NM 88101



Questions contact Dale Movius 505-273-0086



Come Join the New Mexico Veterans' Art Group a 501c3 nonprofit

At the Pleased to Present Gallery downtown Albuquerque

(510 Central Avenue SW, Albuquerque NM 87102)

Show runs from 4 November through 27 November 2026. Gallery Hours: **Wed-Sun:12-6pm**,
Fridays: 12-8pm (Admission is free)



Paintings, Photography, Sculpture, Pottery, Rattles, Jewelry and a Mercado on the 27th of November from Noon to 5:00pm. Something for Everyone and it's tax free!



For more information on New Mexico Veterans Art and upcoming Events visit:

<https://nmveteransart.com/>

VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

NOVEMBER 11, 2026 11AM

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

Join the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Angel Fire as we honor the brave men and women who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Keynote Speaker:

**Colonel Sara Breckenridge-Sproat, U.S. Army (Retired),
a 30-year Army Nurse Corps veteran and
Vice President of Women Veterans of New Mexico.**

**Musical performance by the award-winning
Cimarron High School Band**

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Angel Fire was the first memorial in the United States dedicated to Vietnam Veterans. It was established by Dr. Victor "Doc" Westphall in honor of his son, David, and all who served.

**Angel Fire Vietnam Veterans Memorial
34 Country Club Rd.
Angel Fire, NM 87710
575-377-3223**





You are cordially invited to the

2026

VETERANS DAY



When:
NOVEMBER 11, 2026



Where:
CUBA, NM

PARADE STARTS AT 11AM

★ 1ST - 4TH PLACE AWARDS ★



HONORING ALL WHO
SERVED
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SACRIFICE



FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:

★★ *Veronica Jackson-Sandoval* ★★
505.274.8725

Join Us!
Honoring All Who Served
VETERANS DAY

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2026, 11 AM

★ ★ ★ DANIEL D. FERNANDEZ MEMORIAL PARK ★ ★ ★

1103 US 314 S

LOS LUNAS, NM 87031

FELLOWSHIP & FOOD

HOSTED BY



Your Community's Big Possibilities

**VILLAGE
OF
LOS LUNAS**

RAKS
BUILDING SUPPLY



LIVE, INC.



**VALENCIA
COUNTY**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
JOIN US AS WE HONOR OUR NATION'S HEROES

VETERANS DAY

★ ★ NOVEMBER 11, 2026 ★ ★



*Together, we strengthen the bonds that support,
empower, and uplift those who have served*



WEDNESDAY

NOVEMBER 11, 2026



START TIME

10:30 AM



LOCATION

NM Veterans Memorial Park
1100 Louisiana Blvd SE
Albuquerque, NM 87108



FREE EVENT

Open to the public



City of Albuquerque VETERANS DAY PARADE

Wednesday, November 11th, 2026

- 9:00 AM - Start @ USS Bullhead Memorial Park**
1606 San Pedro Dr SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108
- 10:00 AM - Finish @ NM Veterans Memorial Park**
1100 Louisiana Blvd SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108



For more information or to participate:
ttozier@cabq.gov
(505) 553-5865

HONOR ★ SERVICE ★ SACRIFICE

— Celebrating —
AMERICA'S

★ **250TH** ★

★ **BIRTHDAY** ★

1776 ★ 2026

We the People



VETERANS

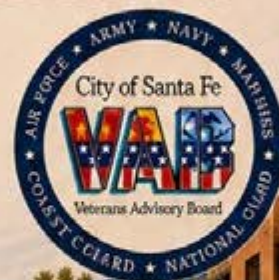
★ **DAY** ★
Parade

★ **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2026** ★

— **SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO** —



★ ★ ★
HONORING
THOSE WHO SERVED.
CELEBRATING THEIR COURAGE.
INSPIRING OUR COMMUNITY.



PARADE BEGINS FROM
PERA PARKING LOT
9:30 A.M.

CEREMONY AFTER PARADE
AT ST. FRANCIS AUDITORIUM
11:00 A.M.

LUNCHEON AFTER PARADE CEREMONY
VFW
307 MONTEZUMA AVENUE
12:30 P.M.



2026 VET★BIZ



VETERAN BUSINESS SUMMIT & GALA



NOVEMBER 11–13, 2026



ALBUQUERQUE CONVENTION CENTER

For veteran entrepreneurs, military spouses,
transitioning service members, and military
and community partners



WHAT YOU'LL GAIN ★



Education: practical business knowledge and resources



Connections: build relationships with veteran and community leaders



Resources: discover support for growth, strategy, leadership, and success



Business Opportunities: find partnerships, referrals, and pathways to growth



SCAN TO REGISTER ★



qr.codes/WlRmp2



WWW.NMVCC.COM/VETBIZ-2026





2026 VETBIZ GALA

A LEGACY OF SERVICE BEYOND THE UNIFORM

HONORING THE FOUNDERS. CELEBRATING THE JOURNEY. BUILDING THE FUTURE.



NOVEMBER 13, 2026
6 P.M. TO 10 P.M.



ALBUQUERQUE
CONVENTION CENTER



ALBUQUERQUE,
NEW MEXICO



BLACK TIE
EVENT



TICKETS ON SALE NOW



REGISTER AT WWW.NMVCC.COM/VETBIZ-2026

New Mexico Saint Barbara's Day Banquet 2026

Reignite and celebrate the historical lineage of Air Defense Artillery within the State of New Mexico. Keep the Legacy of Honor Alive.

 **Saturday, December 5, 2026**

 **5:30 PM – 10:00 PM**

Mountain View Club, Kirkland AFB

22000 SE Club Road • Albuquerque, NM 87123

Formal Dress Attire

Scan below to Register:



[Firsttofire.net/events](https://firsttofire.net/events)





MILITARY CHILD OF THE YEAR®



**Help us find
Operation
Homefront's next
award recipients!**



For more information,
scan the QR code or visit
operationhomefront.org/mcoy

WHAT

Operation Homefront's Military Child of the Year Awards celebrate and recognize the tremendous achievements of outstanding military children.

WHO

Each year, hundreds of military teens (ages 13–18) are nominated by a parent, teacher, mentor or guardian. Candidates for the Military Child of the Year Awards demonstrate resilience, strength of character, and the ability to thrive in the face of the challenges of military life.

WHEN

The Awards Gala will be held in Washington, D.C. in April 2027 during the Month of the Military Child.

RECIPIENTS

Military Child of the Year Award recipients receive a \$10,000 cash award, a laptop, and are flown with a parent or guardian for a 3-night stay in Washington, D.C.

**Nominations accepted
September 2 to
December 1, 2026**



WE ARE HIRING

WHAT WE PAY

- ✓ Fire Recruit
 - \$65,170 First Year Pay
- ✓ Recruitment Incentive Pay - Hiring Bonus
 - Fire Recruit - \$10,000
 - Fire Recruit Paramedic - \$15,000
- ✓ 5% Salary Increase After First Year
- ✓ Longevity Pay After 2 Years
- ✓ 25yr PERA Retirement
- ✓ CBA Incentive Pay (\$1.50 - \$3.75 per hour)
- ✓ Los Alamos County Pension Plan (401a)
- ✓ GI Bill Benefits



+505-662-8311



www.losalamosfd.org

NEW MEXICO STATE POLICE

Benefits:

- Health and Dental Insurance
- Life Insurance
- Annual Leave
- Sick Leave
- 2 Personal Days/Year
- Holiday Pay: Hourly Rate x 2.5
- Overtime opportunities
- Longevity pay incentives
- Retirement benefits up to 100%

Shift Differential:

The New Mexico State Police offers shift differential pay. Additional \$.90/hr on top of the hourly rate.

APPLY TODAY AT:
JOINNMSP.COM
 or scan our QR code



Law Enforcement and Military Incentives:

Waiver of 60 college credit hour requirement with 2+ years of military or 2 years of experience as a State Certified Police Officer.

HOURLY PAY RATES

RANK

Step	1	2	3	4	5	6
Patrolman	\$38.86	\$40.41	\$41.83	\$43.29	\$44.81	\$46.38
Sergeant	\$51.94	\$54.54	\$57.27	\$58.99		
Lieutenant	\$65.77	\$69.06				
Captain	\$74.58					

Equal Opportunity Employer



**Ready to serve again, this
time on public lands?**

WE'RE RECRUITING!



2027 Veterans Fire Corps Crew

Location: Las Cruces, New Mexico

Contact: gtucker@conservationlegacy.org

Start date: **January 2027** End Date: **May 2027**

Group Psilocybin-Assisted Therapy Study

Open to New Mexico residents
who are Veterans or first
responders with
post-traumatic stress disorder
(PTSD)



Psilocybin-assisted therapy involves sessions
with trained professionals in a safe, supportive
environment.

The purpose of the study is to determine if group
psilocybin therapy is safe and helpful for people
who have post-traumatic stress disorder.



SCHOOL OF
MEDICINE

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY
& COMMUNITY MEDICINE

Participants are
compensated for their time

HRRC# 25-570 V.12 4-20-28

To learn more or apply, scan the
QR code, or check out
goto.unm.edu/gpat
or email GPAT@salud.unm.edu





NMDVS FIELD OFFICES IN NEW MEXICO

NMDVS has field offices throughout the state that are staffed with nationally accredited veterans service officers (VSOs) dedicated to helping Veterans with filing VA claims, applying for state Veterans benefits, or with anything else a Veteran or their family needs.

Office hours are Monday-Friday from 8am-5pm, (excluding holidays). Though this service is free, appointments are required and can be made by contacting the VSOs below. **Please note: VSOs can also provide help by phone or email for any Veteran or eligible dependent anywhere in New Mexico.**

Alamogordo/Southeast NM

David Henley

411 10th Street #107

575-937-5620

david.henley@dvs.nm.gov

Alamogordo/Southeast NM

Matthew Quinn

411 10th Street #107

(575) 546-8367

matthew.quinn@dvs.nm.gov

Albuquerque Metro Area

May Chavez (ABQ Metro Supervisor)

Pinetree Corporate Center/Bldg. 2

4801 Indian School Rd. NE/2nd Floor

(505) 527-2302

helen.chavez@dvs.nm.gov

Albuquerque Metro Area

Phillip Hernandez (Tu. Wed. Fri. only)

Good Will Office

5000 San Mateo Blvd. NE

(505) 537-9339

phillip.hernandez@dvs.nm.gov

Albuquerque Metro Area

La Sondra Menchego

Pinetree Corporate Center/Bldg. 2

4801 Indian School Rd. NE/2nd Floor

(505) 525-3331

lasondra.menchego@dvs.nm.gov

Albuquerque Metro Area

Calvin James

Pinetree Corporate Center/Bldg. 2

4801 Indian School Rd. NE/2nd Floor

(505) 681-0499

calvin.james@dvs.nm.gov

Albuquerque Metro Area

Adam Calderon

Pinetree Corporate Center/Bldg. 2

4801 Indian School Rd. NE/2nd Floor

(505) 274-0393

adam.calderon@dvs.nm.gov

Albuquerque Metro Area

Joann Valdez

Pinetree Corporate Center/Bldg. 2

4801 Indian School Rd. NE/2nd Floor

(505) 584-2153

joann.valdez@dvs.nm.gov

Albuquerque (VARO)

Eric Ballheimer

Dennis Chavez Federal Bldg.

500 Gold Ave. SW/3rd Floor

(505) 479-0672

eric.ballheimer@dvs.nm.gov

Albuquerque (VA Hospital)

James Brandon

Raymond G. Murphy VA Medical Ctr.

1501 San Pedro Dr. SE

(505) 623-1729

james.brandon@dvs.nm.gov

Albuquerque/Mobile Unit

Joel Hebert

Pinetree Corporate Center/Bldg. 2

4801 Indian School Rd. NE/2nd Floor

(505) 470-7503

joel.hebert@dvs.nm.gov

Albuquerque/Mobile Unit

Jason Liddell

Pinetree Corporate Center/Bldg. 2

4801 Indian School Rd. NE/2nd Floor

(505) 490-7532

jason.liddell@dvs.nm.gov

Belen/ABQ Metro & Central NM

VSO Staff/Call for Appointment

Belen Business Center

719 South Main St.

(505) 537-9339

phillip.hernandez@dvs.nm.gov

Clovis/Southeast NM

Matt Barela (SE Supervisor)

904 W. Sixth St.

(505) 825-9602

matthew.barela@dvs.nm.gov

Clovis/Southeast NM

Ben Padilla

904 W. Sixth St.

(505) 537-1445

ben.padilla@dvs.nm.gov

Farmington/Northwest NM**Ambrose Oliver**

1800 East 30th St.

(505) 916-4835

ambrose.oliver@dvs.nm.gov**Farmington/Northwest NM****Jenny Iser**

1800 East 30th St.

(505) 327-2861

jenny.iser@dvs.nm.gov**Gallup/Northwest NM****John Livingston** (NW Supervisor)

908 E. Buena Vista Ave/Room 1A

505-389-8731

john.livingston@dvs.nm.gov**Grants/Northwest NM****Alex Fontaine**

551 Washington Ave.

(505) 521-8132

carl.fontaine@dvs.nm.gov**Hobbs/Southeast NM****Vacant**

2120 North Alto St.

(575) 241-0714

matthew.barela@dvs.nm.gov**Las Cruces/Southwest NM****Miguel Martinez** (SW Supervisor)

1125 N. Solano Drive, Suite 1125

(575) 644-6869

miguel.martinez@dvs.nm.gov**Las Cruces/Southwest NM****Vincent Tellez**

1125 N. Solano Drive, Suite 1125

(505) 361-5298

vincent.tellez@dvs.nm.gov**Las Cruces/Southwest NM****Clint Anderson**

1125 N. Solano Drive, Suite 1125

(505) 216-8782

clint.anderson@dvs.nm.gov**Las Vegas/Northeast NM****Arturo Marlow** (NE Supervisor)

917 Douglas Ave.

(505) 331-8838

arturo.marlow@dvs.nm.gov**Las Vegas/Northeast NM****Melissa Herrera**

917 Douglas Ave.

(575) 520-5079

melissa.herrera@dvs.nm.gov**Las Vegas/Northeast NM****Wayne Minkler**

917 Douglas Ave.

(575) 781-0614

wayne.minkler@dvs.nm.gov**Rio Rancho/Northeast NM****Dustin Newsom**

Sandoval County Admin. Bldg.

1500 Idalia Rd./Bldg. D/Room 2041

(505) 221-7190

dustin.newsom@dvs.nm.gov**Roswell/Southeast NM****Ben Mendoza**

1600 SE Main Street/Suite A

(575) 988-5900

benjamin.mendoza@dvs.nm.gov**Roswell/Southeast NM****Danielle Andrade**

1600 SE Main Street/Suite A

(575) 416-2284

danielle.andrade@dvs.nm.gov**Santa Fe/Northeast NM****Veronica Griego**

Bataan Memorial Bldg.

407 Galisteo St./1st Floor, Room 134

(505) 218-3125

veronica.griego@dvs.nm.gov**Silver City/Southwest NM****Clarissa Sierra**

Western New Mexico University

1000 West College Ave.

Juan Chacon Bldg./Room 138A

(575) 313-5627

clarissa.sierra@dvs.nm.gov**Taos/Northeast NM****Leticia "Lety" Cano**

Health and Human Services Bldg.

145 Roy Rd.

(505)-709-5263

leticia.cano@dvs.nm.gov**State Veterans Home/T or C NM****VSO Staff/Every Wednesday**

922 South Broadway St.

Truth or Consequences, NM

Woman Veterans Program**Amberly Viner** (Program Manager)

Pinetree Corporate Center/Bldg. 2

4801 Indian School Rd. NE/2nd floor

(505) 372-9106

amberly.viner@dvs.nm.gov**Tribal Liaison****Beverly Charley**

San Juan College Veterans Center

4601 College Blvd./Room 1715-B

(575) 241-3322

beverly.charley@dvs.nm.gov