

Veterans of Foreign Wars Lt. Marion C. Cranefield Post 1318 February Service Officer Report

Introduction

For the first half of 2021, my focus will be on our Post digital outreach to provide information for the membership in Dane County with the help of Madison College, VetsCAN, The American Legion, DAV, Post 1318 membership, The Beacon, Tellurian, VA social workers, UW Whitewater, and WDVA to explore and collaborate ways of being effective on social media. The campaign school project is called "Operation: Greenspace" and is my class project for the Madison College Center for Entrepreneurship. We are researching vouchers, grants, community services and organizational information to provide Post members who meet at-risk or at-large veterans who need help. The goal is to build a community safety net through blogs and social media. You can visit my virtual office at www.outpost422.com where helpful information can be located.

Vet Center February Feature

This month's feature centrally focuses on the opportunities at the Vet Center. The Vet Center helps with reintegration and transition. A phone call, a Facebook post or email containing the following information to friends or family newly transitioning, facing job loss, or crisis connects individuals with available resources without the pressure of openly facing transitional defeat. Even if Post members may not experience hardship right now, having the information ready will save a life.

VA Vet Center You Tube Link: <https://youtu.be/3HBs7lcdWII>

Overview

Vet Centers across America provide services for veterans in need of reintegration. The following information offers a basic overview of services provided. If you or someone you know could benefit, please share information.

Vet Center Services offered:

- Individual readjustment counseling
- Marital and family counseling
- Referral for benefits assistance
- Job referral

Reach out to the Vet Center by calling 1-877-927-8387 for their call center. The Madison VA Hospital provides information by clicking on the link here:

[About the Madison Veterans Center - William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital \(va.gov\).](#)

The Madison Vet Center is located at:

1291 Sherman Avenue

Madison, WI 53704

(608) 264-5342

(608) 256-1901 Ext. 16950

VFW Updates/VA News

The following links listed note new items happening in 2021:

[Two Former VFW Staff Members Named to New VA Administration - VFW](#)

[Latest Releases - VFW](#)

[Vet Centers \(Readjustment Counseling\) Home \(va.gov\)](#)

[Statement by Acting Secretary of Veterans Affairs Dat P. Tran on VA easing economic hardships for Veterans, their families, survivors and caregivers](#)

[VA expands access to telehealth services during COVID-19 pandemic for older, rural and homeless Veterans](#)

Conclusion

Services offered to veterans outlined in this month's report will offer a steppingstone for all who are at-risk of homelessness or in financial trouble. The National Homeless Veteran Hotline is 1-877-4-AID-VET. Homeless veterans in Dane County call the hotline to receive free services. The Vet Center assists those who are eligible from listed campaigns. Some Humanitarian Service Medal Awarded vets may be eligible. Reach out to the numbers listed to learn more. The VA hopes to continue to host public outings when COVID-19 subsides who is working remotely to assist veterans. The Madison VA social workers can provide referrals to patients in crisis. Vet Centers offer community support ranging from mental health counseling, group counseling, trauma counseling, family therapy, and post-military adjustment to civilian life. Reach out anytime by either contacting the local office direct or the National Call Center. The National Call Center is available 24 hours per day and seven days per week.