

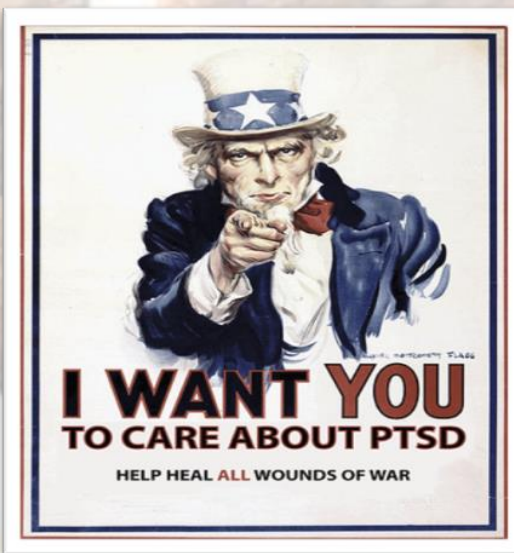
Background of Readjustment Counseling Services

Vet Centers (Readjustment Counseling) were established by Congress in 1979 out of the recognition that a significant number of Vietnam era Vets were still experiencing readjustment problems. Vet Centers are community based and part of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. In April 1991, in response to the Persian Gulf War, Congress extended the eligibility to Veterans who served during other periods of armed hostilities after the Vietnam era. Those other periods are identified as Lebanon, Grenada, Panama, the Persian Gulf, Somalia, and Kosovo/Bosnia. In October 1996, Congress extended the eligibility to include WWII and Korean Combat Veterans. The goal of Vet Centers is to provide a broad range of counseling, outreach, and referral services to eligible Veterans in order to help them make a satisfying post-war readjustment to civilian life. On April 1, 2003, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs extended eligibility for Vet Center services to Veterans of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and on June 25, 2003, Vet Center eligibility was extended to Veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and subsequent operations within the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT). The family members of all Veterans listed above are eligible for Vet Center services as well. On August 5, 2003, then-VA Secretary Anthony J. Principi authorized Vet Centers to furnish bereavement counseling services to surviving parents, spouses, children and siblings of service members who die of any cause while on active duty, to include federally activated Reserve and National Guard personnel.

**We understand, and most of all,
we care.**

Services Provided

- ***Services are 100% free to eligible veterans, active duty personnel and their family members***
- Individual Counseling
- Group Counseling
- Marital/Family Counseling
- Sexual Trauma Counseling (both sexes)
- Bereavement Counseling
- Community Education
- Liaison with VA Facilities



The Vet Center staff respect the privacy of all veterans, active duty personnel and their family members, and hold in strictest confidence all information disclosed during the counseling process. No information will be communicated to any person or agency, without written consent, except in circumstances to avert a crisis. (Privacy Act, 1975).

Who is Eligible?

Any Veteran or Active Duty service member, to include members of the National Guard and Reserve components, who:

- Have served on active military duty in any combat theater or area of hostility *
- Experienced a military sexual trauma while serving on active military duty or inactive training status.
- Provided direct emergent medical care or mortuary services, while serving on active military duty, to the casualties of war
- Served as a member of an unmanned aerial vehicle crew that provided direct support to operations in a combat zone or area of hostility
- Vietnam Era veterans who have accessed care at a Vet Center prior to January 1, 2013
- Vet Center services are also provided to family members of Veterans and Service members for military related issues when it is found to aid in the readjustment of those that have served. This includes bereavement counseling for families who experience an active duty death.

**Service in combat theater or area of hostility to include but not limited to:*

World War II (including American Merchant Marines)
Korean War
Vietnam War
Lebanon
Grenada
Desert Storm/ Desert Shield
Bosnia
Kosovo
Operations in the former Yugoslavia area
Global War on Terrorism
Operation Enduring Freedom
Operation Freedom's Sentinel
Operation Iraqi Freedom
Operation New Dawn



Objectives

The goal of the Vet Center program is to provide a broad range of counseling, outreach, and referral services to eligible veterans in order to help them make a satisfying post-war readjustment to civilian life. In order to meet the goal of the program, Vet Centers have the following objectives:

- Provide a consumer-oriented facility, addressing the social and economical dimensions of post-war needs.
- Outreach to eligible veterans and active duty personnel and engage them in programs that meet their readjustment needs.
- Provide psychological counseling for traumatic military-related experiences, family counseling when needed and other services to eligible veterans, active duty personnel and their family members.
- Refer veterans, active duty personnel and their family members to appropriate community agencies and service providers.
- Serve as liaison between veterans and other VA facilities.
- Provide follow-up to ensure that eligible veterans and active duty personnel receive adequate services.
- Offer community education to inform the public of the needs of veterans and active duty personnel who served in combat or other situations of armed hostilities and the services of the Vet Center.

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Colorado Springs Vet Center
3920 N. Union Blvd. Ste. 310
Colorado Springs, CO 80907
(719) 471-9992

Pueblo Vet Center
1515 Fortino Blvd. Ste. 130
Pueblo, CO 81008
(719) 583-4058

Denver Vet Center
7465 E. 1st Avenue Suite B
Denver, CO 80220
(303) 326-0645

Boulder Vet Center
4999 Pearl E. Cir. #106
Boulder, CO 80301
(303) 440-7306

Ft. Collins Vet Center
702 W. Drake, Bldg. C
Fort Collins, CO 80526
(970) 221-5176

Grand Junction Vet Center
561 25 Rd., Ste. 101
Grand Junction, CO 81505
(970) 245-4156



www.vetcenter.va.gov
1-877-WAR-VETS



READJUSTMENT COUNSELING SERVICES



Vet Centers welcome home and honor those who served, those still serving, and their families by reaching out to them, engaging their communities, and providing them with quality readjustment counseling and timely referral.

Colorado Springs Vet Center

3920 N. Union Blvd., Ste. 310
Colorado Springs, CO 80907

Phone: 719 - 471 - 9992

Hours: Mon. - Fri. 7:30AM - 4:30PM

Extended Hours Tues. , Wed. & Thurs. 4:30PM - 6:30PM

Sat. By Appointment