

## How to Know If a Veteran is Eligible for VA Services?

Ask: "Have you ever served in the United States Armed Forces or military?" Do not ask: "Are you a Veteran?" since many Veterans think this applies only to Veterans who served in combat.

### To Register or Enroll for Health Care:

**In Person:** Registration, First Floor, Blue Area

**By mail:** call 1-877-222-8387 for a registration packet. **On-line:**

<https://www.1010ez.med.va.gov/sec/vha/1010ez/>

Website:eBenefits

Hotline:1-800-827-1000

***Refer to VJO Specialist if assistance is needed***

Eligibility determination is based on each individual's service. We encourage all Veterans to apply for VA services

### Available health care services may include:

- Medical, Surgical, Psychiatric, Inpatient and Outpatient Care.
- Mental Health Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Programs (Homeless Veterans Program, PTSD Program, Coping Skills Program, and Substance Use Disorder Program)
- Homeless Programs
- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Treatment
- Military Sexual Trauma Treatment
- Rehabilitative Care
- Women's Health Clinic

## Contact Information

### VJO Coordinators

**Nanette Colling, LMSW, ACSW**  
1-313-258-9821

**Daniel Cuschieri, LMSW**  
1-313-848-8324

### National Call Center for Homeless Veterans:

1-877-4AID VET (877-424-3838)

### Veterans Crisis Line

1-800-273-TALK (8255)



### John D Dingell VA Medical Center

4646 John R

Detroit, MI 48201

Main Phone: (313)-576-1000

## Veterans Justice Outreach Program



Choose **VA**

## Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO) Initiative

“The purpose of the VJO [Veterans Justice Outreach] initiative is to avoid unnecessary criminalization of mental illness and extended incarceration among Veterans by ensuring that eligible Veterans in contact with the criminal justice system have access to VHA mental health and substance abuse services when clinically indicated, and other VA services and benefits as appropriate.”

*Source: Department of Veterans Affairs, April 30, 2009, Under Secretary for Health's Information Letter*

The Veterans Justice Outreach Program works with Justice-Involved Veterans. A Justice-Involved Veteran is any Veteran who has contact with the judicial system, law enforcement, or jail system.



### What is Veterans Justice Outreach?

VJO is a VA outreach program designed to collaborate with local justice system partners to identify Veterans that enter the criminal justice system and are in need of treatment services rather than incarceration.

The VJO Specialist will:

- Provide direct outreach, assessment, and case management for justice-involved Veterans in local courts and jails.
- Assist with eligibility determination, enrollment, and referral to both VA and non-VA services upon release.
- Provide training to local law enforcement on Veterans' issues and give strategies to help work with Veterans.
- Provide information and education to courts and attorneys about Veterans' issues and services available.
- Collaborate with judges and specialty courts to connect Veterans to VA treatment services and homeless programs.



### What Veterans Justice Outreach Can Do

- Reach out to law enforcement, jails, and courts

- Refer and link Veterans to comprehensive health care services
- Communicate essentials (attendance, progress, treatment testing, discharge plan, etc.) with Veteran consent
- Serve Veterans of all eras
- Function as a court team member
- Assess Veteran's needs and identify appropriate VA and non-VA services

#### **VJO is limited from doing the following:**

- Perform forensic evaluations for the court.
- Accept custody of Veteran
- Guarantee program acceptance
- Write lengthy court reports or complete diversion paperwork
- Advocate for legislation