SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS

VETERAN SERVICES

Service members and veterans often find themselves having difficulty connecting to brain injury services upon returning home due to stigma. Common causes of brain injury in the military are training exercises, blast injuries, car collisions, violence, or falls. Individuals with discharges ranging from honorable to other than honorable may not even have a brain injury diagnosis despite experiencing lasting symptoms. Veterans may be more at risk for challenges with mental health, suicide, substance use, homelessness, and unemployment. Connecting to services and others as soon as possible can help to prevent negative outcomes.

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
The Department of Veterans Affairs is a federal program that provides benefits to eligible veterans (with an honorable or general discharge). Veterans may receive acute rehabilitation, housing assistance, outpatient treatment, dental treatment, alcohol and drug treatment, prosthetic devices or mental health services. North Carolina also offers a resource guide with local VA locations offering assistance with education and employment. Caregiver and family programs are also available.

NC Serves
NCServes is a coordinated network of organizations serving veterans and their families, utilizing a common technology platform to formalize coordination to resources. Get involved with "Community Connections" and "Reset" Programs. Call 1-866-249-6656 to connect.

Vet Centers
Vet Centers are mobile or community-based counseling centers that provide a wide range of social & psychological services, including readjustment counseling to eligible veterans, service members, and their families.

Elizabeth Dole Foundation
The Foundation’s programs provide military and veteran caregivers the support they need as well as engage individuals, organizations, and communities to get involved.
Defense & Veterans Brain Injury Center (DVBIC)

The Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center (DVBIC) is a part of the U.S. Military Health System as the traumatic brain injury (TBI) center of excellence for the Defense Health Agency. DVBIC has centers in North Carolina to support, train, and monitor service members, veterans, family members and providers who have been, or care for those who are, affected by TBI.

NC4ME

North Carolina for Military Employment (NC4ME) is a coalition of organizations working together to implement a unique, employer-centric approach to military hiring. NC4ME offers hiring events statewide and one-on-one support for veterans. Visit www.nc4me.org for more.

NC Coalition to End Homelessness

The mission of the North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness (NCCEH) is to end homelessness by creating alliances, encouraging public dialogue, securing resources, and advocating for systemic change related to homelessness (including specific initiatives for veterans). Visit www.ncceh.org for more information.

Veterans Crisis Line

For veterans, crises can be heightened by their experiences during military service. Connect with the free Veterans Crisis Line via call, chat, or text to reach caring, qualified responders with the Department of Veterans Affairs. Call 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1.

RESOURCES & REFERENCES

- Make the Connection: make-the-connection.net
- Operation We Are Here: www.operationwearehere.com
- NC Department of Veterans Affairs: www.milvets.nc.gov
- Defense & Veterans Brain Injury Center: dvbic.dcoe.mil
- Veterans Crisis Line: www.veteranscrisisline.net
- NC4ME: www.nc4me.org
- Elizabeth Dole Foundation: www.elizabethdolefoundation.org
- NC Serves: northcarolina.uso.org
- Brainline: brainline.org
- NC Coalition to End Homelessness: www.ncceh.org
- Veterans Families United: veteransfamiliesunited.org
- NC Governor's Working Group on Veterans: ncgwg.org
- Vet Centers: www.vetcenter.va.gov
- NC State Independent Living Council: www.ncsilc.org/veterans-resources