

Veterans Services – What is available?

A typical phone inquiry

- Good morning, I am currently working with a female veteran....

Women's Health Services

- Women who have served in the Armed Forces are eligible for a variety of veterans benefits. The VA actively encourages women to utilize the benefits due them.

Women's Health Services, cont'

- **Health Screening/Disease Prevention**
 - Clinical Breast Exam
 - Pelvic Exam
 - Mammography
 - Colorectal Cancer
 - Skin Cancer
 - Hypertension
 - Diabetes
 - Cholesterol

Women's Health Services, cont'

- **Patient Education**
 - Self Breast Exam
 - Nutrition and Weight Issues
 - Menopause
 - Osteoporosis
 - Sexual Assault
 - Premenstrual Syndrome
 - Family Planning
 - Pregnancy Options Counseling

Women's Health Services, cont'

- **Treatment**
 - Breast Diseases
 - Vaginitis
 - Sexually Transmitted Infections
 - Pelvic Infections
 - Menstrual Disorders
 - Menopause
 - Osteoporosis
 - Sexual Trauma Counseling
 - Contraception
 - Other Primary Care Problems

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- Who is legally blind,

VIST

- If a veteran requires the assistance of another person or exhibits any of the following functional deficits, a referral to VIST may be indicated
 - Difficulty reading mail, newspaper, medication labels or other standard size print while using conventional glasses.
 - Difficulty performing activities of daily living, such as managing their medications, grooming, cooking, using the phone, telling time, etc., as a result of their visual impairment
 - Diabetic veterans who have difficulty seeing to measure their insulin or seeing to check their blood sugar
 - Veteran's who have difficulty ambulating safely and independently as a result of blindness or visual impairment



VIST continued

- To identify all legally blind and severely visually impaired veterans residing within the "Service Area" of the VA Medical Center:
- To assess for unmet needs related to vision loss.
- To develop and implement a treatment plan which will address the unmet needs that have been identified
- To make appropriate referrals.
- To educate the veteran on available benefits and services, both VA and community.
- Provide ongoing follow-up to the veteran as needed.

VIST, Referral Services

- Referrals for services may include, but are not limited to:
- VA Blind Rehabilitation Training Programs
- Community-Based Training Programs.
- Computer training programs which are adapted for use by blind or visually impaired persons.
- Low Vision Examination by a Low Vision Optometrist at the Philadelphia or Lebanon VA facilities.
- Library of Congress Talking Book Program.
- Issuance of Blind or Low Vision Aids.

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- Who is in need of hearing aids

Audiology

- Consultation
- Hearing Aid fittings and adjustments
- Ongoing monitoring of hearing status

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- ... who is in chronic pain,

Pain Management

- Formal Pain management program
 - Assesses levels of pain
 - Evaluates treatment options
 - Monitors pain management
 - Recommends treatment options

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- With a brain injury

Traumatic Brain Injury Services

- On staff Neuropsychologist
- TBI team evaluates and monitors veterans for ongoing care and intervention

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- Who has no teeth

Dentistry

- Routine check ups
- Dentures
- Referrals for oral surgery



... and has both legs amputated below the knee and is wheelchair bound

Physical Medicine and Rehab

- Prosthetic fittings and adjustments
- Aquatic Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy

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- And they are struggling with an active alcohol and cocaine addiction

Substance Abuse Programs

- SATU – 21 day inpatient substance abuse program
- SUD outpatient treatment programs
- Buprenorphine treatment program
- Dual diagnosis treatment programs

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- And she has been recently diagnosed with a Bipolar disorder

Mental Health Treatment Programs

- Acute inpatient psychiatry unit for stabilization of immediate crisis
- Outpatient psychotherapy
- Outpatient psychiatry and medication management
- Mental Health Intensive Case Management



... Who is recently homeless

Homelessness Services

- Hugely successful HUD/VASH program
- Homeless outreach in all areas
- Grant and Per Diem programs for longer term housing stability
- Domiciliary programs for short term intervention around homelessness
- SMI Grant and Per Diem program

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- ... who needs job skills development

Vocational Rehabilitation

- CWT (Compensated Work Therapy) programs available.
- Vocational assessments and job skills training

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- And, she has chronic suicidal ideation.

Suicide Prevention Services

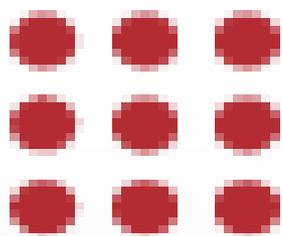
- All campuses have suicide prevention programs that track and case manage individuals who are identified as being at high risk for completing suicide.

In summary....

- If you are working with a female veteran who is hearing impaired, legally blind, who needs dental work and has chronic pain as well as a traumatic brain injury plus a need for prosthetics and physical rehab while they work on maintaining their sobriety as they move toward mental health recovery and the development of job skills all while she is attempting to find stable housing in the midst of a suicidal crisis

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- THEN THE VA HAS
A PROGRAM THAT
CAN HELP!

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- WWW.COATESVILLE.VA.GOV
 - WWW.PHILADELPHIA.VA.GOV
 - WWW.VETERANSCRISISLINE.NET



**Veterans
Crisis Line**

1-800-273-8255 **PRESS 1**