

MISSION

Minority Veterans Programs (MVP) will assure that minority veterans:

- Receive benefits and services on par with other veterans.
- Encounter no barriers or impediments in their attempts to access these services.
- Be treated with respect and dignity by VA service providers.
- The Minority Veterans Council will act as a primary advisor to Network 2 on all program issues and initiatives that affect minority veterans.

Who We Serve

The Minority Veterans Council serves all Veterans including:

- ◆ African Americans.
- ◆ Asian Americans.
- ◆ Hispanic Americans.
- ◆ Native Americans, including American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Native Hawaiians.
- ◆ Pacific Island Americans.

Who We Are

The Network 2 Minority Veterans Council is an Advisory Committee to the Network. The Council is made up of Minority Veteran Program Coordinators/ Members, Equal Employment Opportunity Committee Members and Special Emphasis Program Coordinators.

What We Do

- ◆ Help minority veterans in their efforts to access benefits and services offered by VA Healthcare centers in Network 2.
- ◆ Develop and offer culturally focused health education programs for providers and minority veterans.
- ◆ Conduct and analyze demographic studies that focus on the needs of minority veterans within our community.
- ◆ Identify barriers to care.
- ◆ Create a more accessible environment for all veterans.
- ◆ Outreach with other federal, state, and private agencies to build healthy relationships and communities.

Individual Consultation

An important aspect of the Minority Veteran Program is the availability of one-on-one consultation between Minority Veteran Coordinators and/or council members. The program stresses the need for open discussion. The confidentiality of all conversation is ensured.



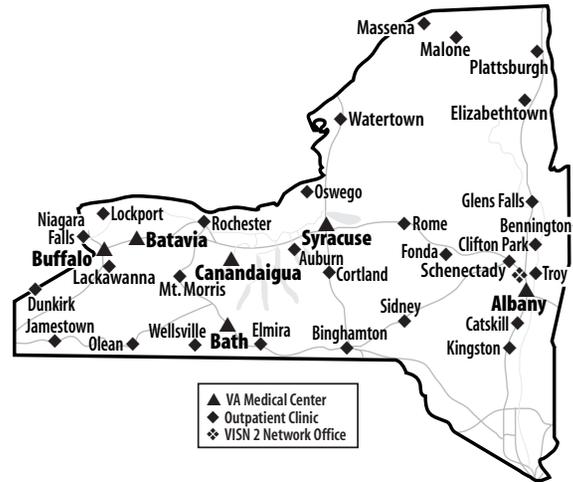
Outreach Activities

Working closely with various organizations throughout the community, council members embark on intense outreach efforts. These outreach efforts are designed to inform veterans of their benefits and enroll them in VA health care.

The Council keeps contact with minority veteran organizations in order to reach a majority of the target population. Members of the Council will also meet periodically with these organizations to present information about benefits and listen to veteran concerns about the access to benefits. Open Forums are held where veterans and their family members can exchange ideas about issues that affect services delivery. Stand downs, community town meetings and focus groups help Council members remain current on issues that affect the provision of services and benefits to veterans.

Visit the minority veterans website at:
www.va.gov/visns/visn02/vet/minority.html

Reaching Us Is Easy



VA Healthcare On The Web

<http://www.va.gov/visns/visn02/>

You'll find more than 1600 pages designed to make it easy for veterans to access accurate, up-to-date information about VA healthcare. You'll also find specific information on VA Women Veterans Health Services.

Upstate New York Veterans ~

Wherever you are, When you need help ...

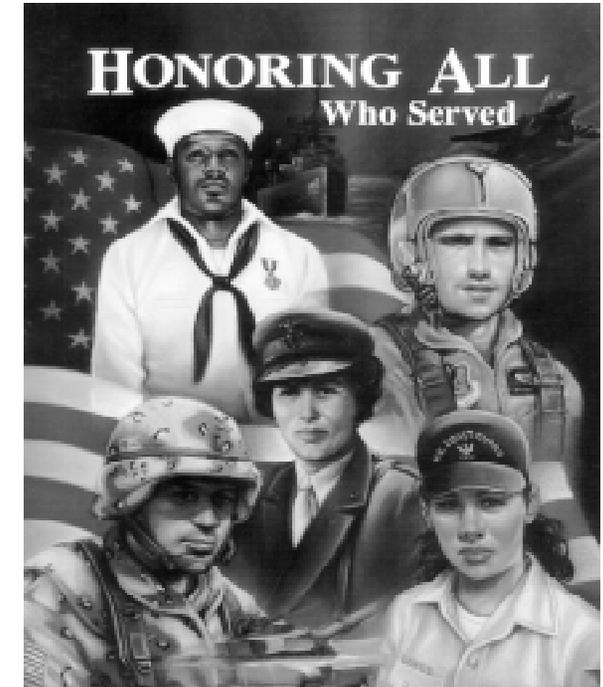
VA TELCARE

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**HONORING ALL
 Who Served**

*Minority Veterans
 Council*