

# ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



## OHIO NATIONAL GUARD

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### Veterans Resource Fair attracts nearly 500 attendees

Story and photos by **Bill Pierce**  
Ohio Adjutant General Public Affairs

WILMINGTON, Ohio — Several State of Ohio agencies joined together to hold a Veterans Resource Fair, Feb. 24 at Wilmington Air Park.

The event was jointly sponsored by the Ohio National Guard, Ohio Department of Veterans Services and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. Several Veteran service organizations and prospective employers were also on hand to talk to the nearly 500 Veterans who attended the fair, seeking employment opportunities and learning about the benefits they've earned.

Bright New Leaders for Ohio Schools is a one-year fellowship program that works closely with the Ohio Department of Education, Ohio Board of Regents and Ohio Business Roundtable, as well as Ohio's three largest school districts — Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati — to recruit, train and place committed new leaders to head high-poverty public schools across the state.

"We are basically creating school building leaders who are high achievers in other areas of life," said Idin Pirasteh, Bright operations coordinator. "We find some of these leaders in business, in the military and the Veteran community, and that is why we are here today."

As part of the fellowship, each participant is fully immersed in a school for an entire academic year as an assistant principal, Pirasteh said. Bright fellows concurrently earn a master's degree in business administration from The Ohio State University Fisher College of Business, through once-a-month, intensive, three day on-campus degree program classes. At the conclusion of the program, each participant will be fully certified and licensed by the Ohio Department of Education and be deployed to a high-poverty, low-performing school building in one of the districts that participate in the program.

Several people interviewed said they were impressed with the information made available to them and felt that it was a good opportunity for Veterans to get answers about possible benefits and employment.

Bradley Harrison, a former munitions specialist and motor transport operator who served for three years in the Army, attended the fair looking for possible employment and to find out what benefits he may qualify for as a Veteran.

"I didn't really know that much about Veterans benefits when I got out in 1986," Harrison said. "I just figured I didn't qualify for anything since I was only in the military a short time."

Added Mike Magnusson, Ohio National Guard transition assistance advisor: "We had many Veterans come through and I feel that most, if not all, of them either found answers to their questions or we were able to at least direct them to the proper agency that could assist them."

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Tech. Sgt. Tyler Ogden (left), a recruiter for the 178th Wing, speaks with one of about 500 Veterans who attended the Veterans Resource Fair Feb. 24, 2015, at Wilmington Air Park in Wilmington, Ohio. Ogden said most Veterans stopped by to share stories with him and some had questions about the Ohio Air National Guard. The event was jointly sponsored by the Ohio National Guard, Ohio Department of Veterans Services and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. (Ohio National Guard photo by Bill Pierce)



Bradley Harrison, an active-duty Army Veteran, looks over the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services display while visiting the Veterans Resource Fair Feb. 24, 2015, at Wilmington Air Park in Wilmington, Ohio. Harrison was one of about 500 Veterans who attended the fair, seeking employment opportunities and learning about the benefits he may qualify for as a Veteran. (Ohio National Guard photo by Bill Pierce)

## Health Benefits are different for each Veteran

Your comprehensive Veterans Affairs Health Benefits include all the necessary inpatient hospital care and outpatient services to promote, preserve or restore your health. Veterans Health Administration medical facilities provide a wide range of services including traditional hospital-based services such as surgery, critical care, mental health, orthopedics, pharmacy, radiology and physical therapy.

In addition, most of the medical facilities offer additional medical and surgical specialty services including audiology and speech pathology, dermatology, dental, geriatrics, neurology, oncology, podiatry, prosthetics, urology and vision care. Some medical centers also offer advanced services such as organ transplants and plastic surgery.

While all enrolled Veterans enjoy access to VA's comprehensive medical benefits package, certain benefits (for example, dental care) may vary from individual to individual, depending on each Veteran's unique eligibility status.

This includes treating illnesses and injuries, preventing future health problems, improving functional abilities and enhancing quality of life. We provide a full spectrum of medically necessary services, based on the judgment of your VA primary care provider and in accordance with generally accepted standards of clinical practice. These services include:

### Preventive Care Services

Health benefits include important preventive care services:

- ◆ Periodic medical exams (including gender-specific exams)
- ◆ Health education, including nutrition education
- ◆ Immunization against infectious disease
- ◆ Counseling on inheritance of genetically determined disease

### Inpatient Care Services

VA inpatient care includes a full spectrum of treatment services:

- ◆ Medical
- ◆ Surgical
- ◆ Mental Health Care
- ◆ Dialysis
- ◆ Acute Care

Inpatient care also includes access to VA's specialized care units:

- ◆ Intensive Care Units (medical, surgical, mental health, cardiac)
- ◆ Transplant Services,
- ◆ Spinal Cord Injury Centers
- ◆ Traumatic Brain Injury
- ◆ PolyTrauma Centers

### Health Promotion and Disease Prevention

You receive health promotion and disease prevention services from your primary care providers.

### Ancillary Services

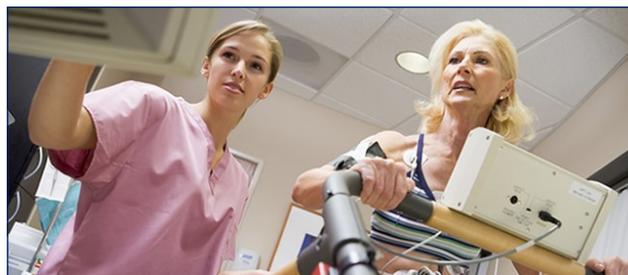
VA's health care providers may employ ancillary services to help diagnose or treat medical conditions.

### Specialty Care Services

Through VA's specialty care services, there is access to expert knowledge that optimizes treatment in unique or complicated courses of care. Our specialty care providers focus on particular areas of care.

### Emergency Care

A medical emergency is generally defined as a condition of such a nature that a prudent layperson would reasonably expect that delay in seeking immediate medical attention would be hazardous to life or health.



**DID YOU KNOW?**

The four major wars in which American women served after World War II can be split into two pairs. Korea and Vietnam were conflicts fought in Asian countries divided by the politics of the Cold War. The Persian Gulf War and the conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq were fought in the Middle East and grew out of tensions over aggression in that region and, in the 9/11 attacks.

For women, the first two wars signaled few advances in their roles in military service, but in the two recent wars, the areas of women's participation expanded immensely, with potentially more dire consequences.

**CEREMONIES & DINING OUTS****MARCH 7**

**Headquarters and Headquarters Company,  
216th Engineer Battalion  
Change of Responsibility**  
2154 Narrows Road  
Chillicothe, Ohio  
Time: 11:00 a.m.  
Outgoing: First Sgt. Robert Blackburn  
Incoming: First Sgt. John Botts

**216th Engineer Battalion  
Change of Command**  
2154 Narrows Road  
Chillicothe, Ohio  
Time: 3:00 p.m.  
Outgoing: Lt. Col. Jennifer Mitchell  
Incoming: Lt. Col. Andrew Stone

**MARCH 8**

**Support Company, 112th Engineer Battalion  
Change of Command**  
6225 Engle Road  
Brook Park, Ohio  
Time: 2:00 p.m.  
Outgoing: Capt. Garland Fleming  
Incoming: Capt. Brandon Anuszkiewicz

**MARCH 14**

**737th Support Company (FSC)  
Change of Command**  
4630 Allen Road  
Stow, Ohio  
Time: 3:30 p.m.  
Outgoing: Capt. Michael Staff  
Incoming: Capt. James Wilkins

**MARCH 31**

**ONGA/ONGEA Spring Events Weekend  
Registration Deadline**  
April 23-25  
Columbus, Ohio  
Online registration and secure payment are available at:  
<https://eventgrid.com/Events/14576/>

**APRIL 11**

**147th Regiment (RTI)  
Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC)  
Accreditation Ceremony**  
3990 East Broad Street, DSSC Bldg. 1  
Columbus, Ohio  
Time: 11:00 a.m.  
*Please R.S.V.P. to Maj. Bob Lytton at 614-336-4550 or robert.e.lytton@mail.mil no later than Apr. 1.*

**Annual OCS Dining Out &  
147th Regimental (RTI) Ball**  
5462 Center Street, Hilliard, Ohio.  
Social Hour: 6 p.m.  
Dinner: 8 p.m.  
RSVP: OC Derek Moore at 614-542-7889 or [derekmoore105@gmail.com](mailto:derekmoore105@gmail.com)

## Mental Health Care

VA provides specialty inpatient and outpatient mental health services at its medical centers and community-based outpatient clinics (in addition, readjustment counseling services may be available at Vet Centers across the nation). The goal is to support recovery and enable Veterans who experience mental health problems to live meaningful lives in their communities while achieving their full potential.

VA provides cost-free (no VA copayments) military sexual trauma counseling and referral. This includes appropriate care and services to overcome psychological trauma resulting from a physical assault or battery of a sexual nature or from sexual harassment that occurred while the Veteran was on active duty or was on Active Duty for Training (ADUTRA). More information concerning Mental Health Care can be found at: [https://www.va.gov/HEALTHBENEFITS/access/mental\\_health\\_care.asp](https://www.va.gov/HEALTHBENEFITS/access/mental_health_care.asp)

### Additional VA Health Care Services

Foreign Medical Program  
Geriatrics and Extended Care Services

- ◆ Domiciliary
- ◆ Hospice
- ◆ Respite

Home Health Care  
Home Telehealth  
Homeless Services  
Non-VA Care



### Non-Medical Veteran Services

**VA offers a number of services to Veterans to maximize their access to VA health care:**

- ◆ Beneficiary Travel
- ◆ Caregivers
- ◆ My HealtheVet
- ◆ Rural Health
- ◆ Transplant Services
- ◆ VA Point of Service (VPS)
- ◆ Veterans Canteen Service
- ◆ Veteran Health Identification Card (VHIC)
- ◆ Veteran Transportation Services

There are also Medical Benefits Package exclusions. Several health care services are not included in your VA Medical Benefits Package. To review the excluded services, please go to: [https://www.va.gov/HEALTHBENEFITS/access/medical\\_benefits\\_package.asp](https://www.va.gov/HEALTHBENEFITS/access/medical_benefits_package.asp) and look at the bottom right-hand corner of the page to find out more about excluded services from your VA Medical Benefits Package.

Source: [https://www.va.gov/HEALTHBENEFITS/access/medical\\_benefits\\_package.asp](https://www.va.gov/HEALTHBENEFITS/access/medical_benefits_package.asp)

## H.E.R.O.E.S. CARE

**Do you know clergy who might be interested in providing comprehensive support to troops and their families? Check out the H.E.R.O.E.S. Care Hometown Support Program on page 5.**



Maj. Gen. Mark E. Bartman (left), interim Ohio adjutant general, presents an eagle statuette to the Rev. Dr. Johannes J. Christian following his address as part of an African-American/Black History Month program Feb. 26, 2015, at the Maj. Gen. Robert S. Beightler Armory in Columbus, Ohio. Christian, who was severely injured following an incident in 2001 when a teenager threw a rock off a highway overpass that went through the windshield of Christian's car, spoke about the power of forgiveness and turning adverse situations into positive outcomes as keys to a successful life. (Todd Cramer, ONG)

## Retirement Packets

If you are an Ohio Air Guard/Reserve or an Ohio Army Guard/Reserve retiree, contact Sgt. 1st Class Richard Wright at 614-336-7277 for assistance in submitting your retirement packet **nine months before your 60th birthday**, or at whatever age you become eligible to begin receiving non-regular retired pay. If you find you are missing any documents for your packet, contact Ms. Jeanette Carter at 614-336-7038 (ONG HQs). Once you complete your packet, mail it to the following address for processing:

**U.S. Army Human Resources  
Center of Excellence - Fort Knox  
ATTN: AHRC-PDR-TR  
1600 Spearhead Division Ave.  
Dept. 420  
Fort Knox, KY 40122-56402  
1-888-276-9472**

### **April 2015 Regional Inter-Service Family Assistance Committee Meetings:**

*Region 1 - 23rd  
Region 2 - 15th  
Region 3 - 21st  
Region 4 - 28th  
Region 5 - 14th  
Region 6 - 8th*

For questions regarding the time or place of RISFAC meetings, contact Lt Col Kathy Lowrey at (614) 336-7002.



A KC-135 Stratotanker sits in a hanger at the 121st Air Refueling Wing, located on Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base in Columbus, Ohio, in this Feb. 3, 2015, photo. The 121st ARW provides aerial refueling and airlift capabilities in support of combat and humanitarian missions worldwide. (Master Sgt. Ralph Branson, ONG)



## HOMETOWN SUPPORT PROGRAM

WORKING TOGETHER TO  
CARE FOR MILITARY  
FAMILIES IN THE  
COMMUNITIES WHERE  
THEY LIVE

A program of H.E.R.O.E.S. Care, Inc.

The H.E.R.O.E.S. Care Hometown Support Program is a community-based strategy designed to meet the needs of service members (active duty, guardsman, reservist, veterans), their spouses/significant others, and their families right where they are, with the goal of preventing and mitigating many of the psychological, moral, and spiritual injuries that often accompany military service by combining the resources of several partner organizations.



H.E.R.O.E.S. Care  
[www.heroescare.org](http://www.heroescare.org)  
1-888-799-1470

Serving since 2003

## HOW DO I REGISTER FOR THE H.E.R.O.E.S. CARE PROGRAM?

If you would like to apply for the Hometown Support Program:

- 1) log onto [www.heroescare.org](http://www.heroescare.org), and click on the "Register for a Hometown Support Volunteer" button
- 2) Fill out and submit the online application
- 3) An Outpost Leader will contact you within 24 - 48 hours and ask preliminary questions
- 4) You will be contacted by your assigned Hometown Support Volunteer (HSV)

**All qualified service members (active duty, guardsman, reservist or post 9/11 veterans) who register themselves and/or their families into the Hometown Support Program will have direct access to:**

- ★ Specially trained, background screened volunteers that are assigned to each registered participant as needed who will:
  - Be in regular contact with the military service member, their spouses/significant others, or other adult family members
  - Listen confidentially to the needs of those who are registered
  - Make appropriate referrals to H.E.R.O.E.S. Care partner agencies for additional support
- ★ Free and confidential mental health services for service members and their families
- ★ Financial assistance along with a wide variety of services to help alleviate the burden of unexpected emergency situations for families struggling with reintegration difficulties or injury recovery
- ★ Employment referral and job placement solutions for service members, military spouses, and their care givers
- ★ All services provided continue at the discretion of the registered care receiver. There are no contracts to sign and no cost to those who participate

**All services provided are confidential and free of charge**

### Thursday, April 23 PROGRAM UPDATE

Holy Cross Lutheran  
7707 North Market Ave.  
North Canton, OH  
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
\*No Charge

### Saturday, April 25 TRAINING WORKSHOP

Trinity United Methodist  
1581 Cambridge Blvd.  
Columbus, OH  
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
\$40 fee includes breakfast

### Sunday, April 26 PROGRAM PRESENTATION

Church of the Savior United Methodist  
8005 Pfeiffer Rd.  
Cincinnati, OH  
2 p.m. - 4 p.m.  
\*No Charge

To register, please go to: [www.heroescare.org](http://www.heroescare.org)