

VETERANS RESOURCE GUIDE

Region 5 – Mid-State Health Network 2018



Your Guide to Community Veteran Resources

Table of Contents

MID STATE HEALTH NETWORK

Our Mission 2

Veteran Navigator 3

Federal and State Veterans Benefits

Veteran Service Officers 4

Housing/Financial Services

Support Services 6

State Resources 9

Veteran Employment

Veteran Career Advisors 10

Peer to Peer/Family Support

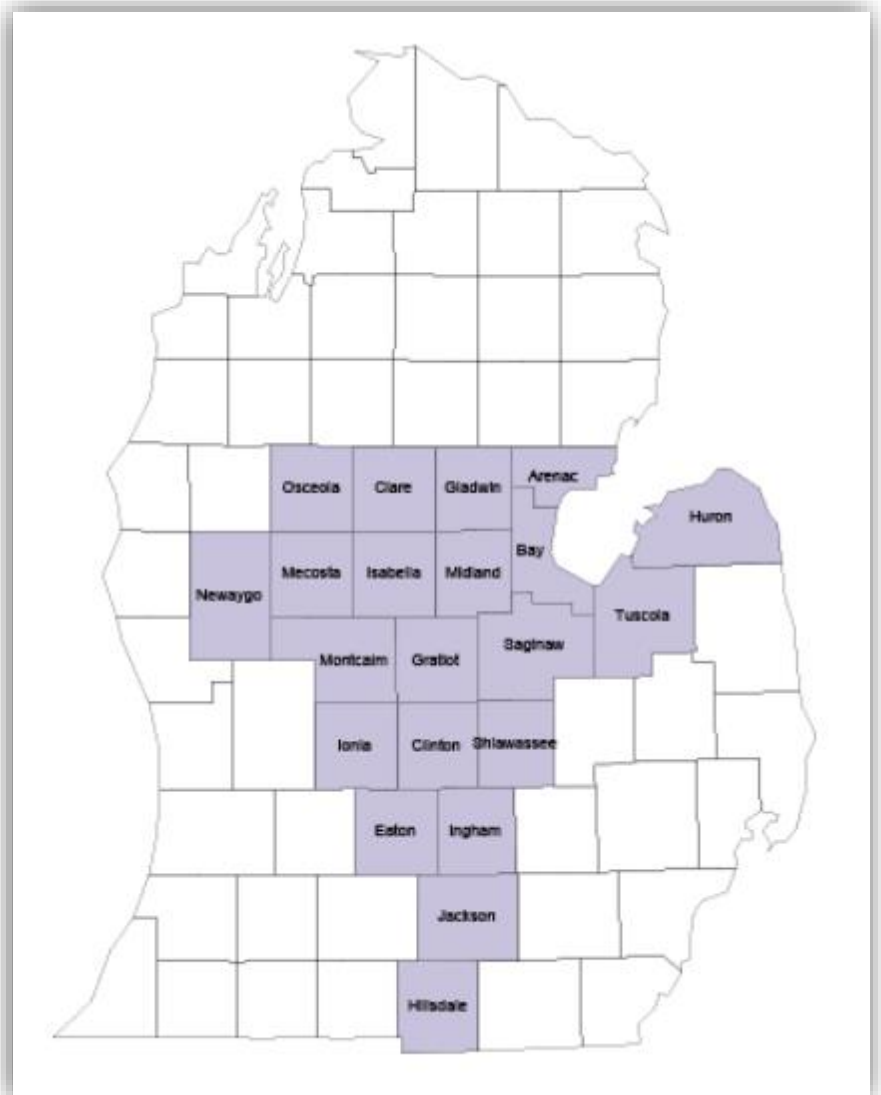
Nongovernment Programs 11

Federal/State Programs 13



Mid-State Health Network

The mission of Mid-State Health Network is to ensure access to high-quality, locally-delivered, effective and accountable public behavioral health and substance use disorder services provided by its participating members in the 21 counties of Region 5.



Mid-State Health Network is committed to ensuring that our veterans, service members, and military families gain increased awareness and access to behavioral health and SUD services through cultural sensitivity and support services provided by our Veteran Navigator.

If you have identified a client who has served in the military or is a family member of someone who has served, please contact our Veteran Navigator at michael.scott@midstatehealthnetwork.org or call 517-483-2742.



VETERAN NAVIGATOR

Michael J. Scott, MHRLR
U.S. Army (9 years)
(517) 483-2742

michael.scott@midstatehealthnetwork.org

The Veteran Navigator at MSHN has a vast network of service providers, government agencies, veteran organizations, and community partners that have additional resources and support that may be available to veterans in your area. The goal of the Veteran Navigator is to be a resource for providers and to serve as a key support for the veterans, service members, and military families in our region. Through this support the Veteran Navigator aims to increase outreach and access for of our military families and those who have served while improving overall quality of life.

It takes **COURAGE** to answer the nation's call!



As Veterans, we are taught to be resilient, self-sacrificing, and to put the needs of others before our own. Many grateful people often thank us for our service, but fellow Veterans understand how difficult the transition from military to civilian life can be. The stress of my first deployment left me feeling very isolated. I was struggling to find meaningful employment, and I was having a difficult time readjusting to civilian life. I felt like I did not fit in, I was angry, I was not living the life that I had envisioned for myself, and I certainly did not feel like a hero.

It was a fellow veteran that took an interest in me and helped me to change the path I was on, to become the husband and the father that I wanted to be, and to live my personal values so that I could feel the pride that I once felt when I was in uniform.

COURAGE is "the ability to do something that frightens you". I personally understand how difficult it is to admit that you are struggling and to ask for help. I made a pledge a long time ago to never leave anyone behind; please call me if you need to talk to someone who understands what you are going through.



VETERAN BENEFITS

ARENAC

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

Seth Janisse, Veteran Service Officer

Phone: 989-846-2111

Email: Sandra.malac@va.gov

BAY

COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Mark Kaczmarek

Phone: 989-895-4190

Email: kaczmarekm@baycounty.net

CLARE

COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Renee Haley, Accredited, Director

Phone: 989-539-3273

Email: haleyr@clareco.net

CLINTON

COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Natrenah Blackstock, Accredited, Director

Phone: 517-887-4395

Email: nblackstock@ingham.org

EATON

COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

John Taylor, Accredited

Phone: 517-887-4386

Email: taylorj@ingham.org

GLADWIN

VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICE

Director

Phone: 989-426-4891

Email: vadirector@gladwincounty-mi.gov

GRATIOT

COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Rodolfo Diaz-Pons, Accredited, Director

Phone: 989-875-5258

Email: veterans@gratiotmi.com

HILLSDALE

COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Renae Shircliff, Accredited, Director

Phone: 517-437-3630

Email: rls1265@yahoo.com

Navigating veteran benefits can be confusing and frustrating. Accredited representatives have undergone formal training processes and are recognized by VA as being capable of assisting claimants with their affairs. Most accredited representatives work for veteran service organizations (VSOs).

HURON

COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Stephen R. Young, Accredited, Director

Phone: 989-269-8911

Email: youngs@co.huron.mi.us

INGHAM

COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Amy Pocan, Accredited

Phone: 517-887-4387

Email: va_pocan@ingham.org

IONIA

COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

Thomas Kaiser, Accredited

Phone: 616-775-1002

ISABELLA

COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Ian Welch, Accredited, Director

Phone: 989-317-4093

Email: veterans@isabellacounty.org

JACKSON

COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

David Welihan, Accredited

Phone: 517-788-4425

Email: dwelihan@co.jackson.mi.us

MECOSTA

COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Paul MacKersie

Phone: 231-592-0124

Email: veterans@co.mecosta.mi.us

MIDLAND

COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Ross Ahlich, Accredited

Phone: 989-832-6843

Email: rahlich@co.midland.mi.us

VETERAN BENEFITS

MONTCALM

COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Michael Blouch, Accredited
Phone: 989-831-7437
Email: mbouch@montcalm.us

OSCEOLA

COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Wayne Stevens, Accredited
Phone: 231-791-7082
Email: veteransservices@osceolacountymi.com

SHIAWASSEE

COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Martha Wilber, Accredited
Phone: 989-743-2637
Email: mwilber@shiawassee.net

NEWAYGO

COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Steven Cain, Accredited
Phone: 231-689-7218 Ext. 7030
Email: stevec@co.newaygo.mi.us

SAGINAW

AMERICAN LEGION

Tommy Simpkins, Veterans Service Officer
Phone: 989-497-2500, ext. 13387
Email: al.vbadet@va.gov

TUSCOLA

COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Ana Farris, Accredited
Phone: 989-673-8148
Email: afarris@tchd.us

STATEWIDE RESOURCES AND ACCESS TO VETERAN BENEFITS CAN ALSO BE FOUND AT



222 North Washington Square, 5th Floor
Lansing, MI 48933
Phone: 800-MICH-VET (800-642-4838)

MVAA - VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Cynthia Engler, Accredited
Email: englerc@michigan.gov

Go to <http://www.usacaresmichigan.org/>



HOME ABOUT US GET INVOLVED EVENTS BLOG SPONSORS GALLERIES CONTACT [DONATE NOW](#)



BENEFITING US MILITARY VETERANS

Our Michigan Vets need your help. Learn about the many ways you can get involved to lend a helping hand.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Our military families need help and YOU can make a difference in their lives.

[DONATE NOW](#)

OUR MISSION

USA CARES PROVIDES GRANTS TO SOLVE PROBLEMS, NOT LOANS TO PROLONG THEM

USA Cares Michigan Chapter was founded in 2011 to help post 9/11 Vets and their families. We help bear the burdens of service by providing post-9/11 military families with financial and advocacy support in their time of need. We do this by organizing and hosting charity events such as the Comedy for a Cause night, Golf Outing and Charity Motorcycle Ride & Classic Car Show.

POST 9/11 VETS, APPLY FOR ASSISTANCE HERE: www.usacares.org

Assistance is focused on four main areas:



POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS & BRAIN INJURY TREATMENT

Financial assistance for treatment for Post-Traumatic Stress and Traumatic Brain Injury. This program is saving the lives of veterans and restoring families.



HELP WITH SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT

Removing the financial barriers that prevents post-9/11 veterans veterans from securing sustainable employment.



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE DUE TO REDUCTION IN PAY

Providing emergency financial assistance to veterans and active duty service members who sustain a significant reduction in pay because of their service.



EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

Providing emergency financial assistance to veterans and active duty service members who sustain a significant reduction in pay because of their service.

<http://www.usacaresmichigan.org/> offers multiple financial services for Veterans in treatment for PTSD or TBI, finding employment, and emergency financial services for service members who sustain a significant reduction in pay because of their service.

Contact information is USA Cares Michigan P.O. Box #551 Royal Oak, MI 48068

PHONE: 248-270-8398

E-MAIL: usacaresmi@gmail.com

Go to <http://www.supportmiveterans.org/Veteran-Request-Form.html>



The screenshot shows the Michigan Bikers Helping Veterans website. At the top is a navigation bar with buttons for Home, Our Mission, Veteran Help Form, Who Your Donations Help, Donate, MBHV Events, MBHV Store, Members Forum, Contact Us, and Photos. Below the navigation bar is a central text area with the following content:

If you are seeking help from the MBHV

Please download and print the MBHV Application. Fill it out COMPLETELY leaving no spaces empty. If it is not applicable to you please put a N/A in the blank. Failure to do this will cause unnecessary delays.

Also include:

- * A clear copy of your Honorable DD214. We cannot accept phone/camera pics of documentation. If you are still on active duty, provide a form 23 or a signed Letter of Character from your Command.
- * A letter of hardship explaining the circumstances that caused your hardship, and your plan to financially recover after any help.
- * All current or overdue bills, estimates, and documentation to show your need.
- * A copy of your Michigan Driver's License or State of Michigan ID.

Submit the required scanned documents to
mbhvrequests@gmail.com and jimmykmbhv@hotmail.com

NOTICE:
 We do not pay directly to any individual.
 WE PAY BILLS. ALL PAYMENTS GO TO LANDLORDS, UTILITY COMPANIES, REPAIR FACILITIES, ETC.

We offer a hand up. NOT a handout.
 All requests, when accepted, will be reviewed by the Allocation Committee for validity and need. They may then request further information or documentation so please watch your email. They will then pass it on to the Board of Directors along with their recommendations. The Board of Directors will discuss the request and then vote to approve or deny based on the info provided and if it fits our criteria.

We take helping the Michigan Veterans in need very seriously.
 We can only help a limited number of those applying for help.

Only the best candidates for recovery after the assistance will be approved.
 We are a small non-profit organization with limited funds so we have a limit on what we can pay.
 Please submit your documentation as soon as possible. Good luck and thank you for your service!



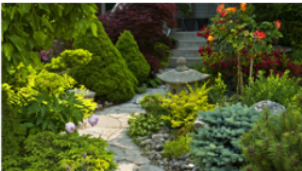
[Click here to download the form](#)
 Opens in new window for easy printing.

Copyright © 2015 Michigan Bikers Helping Veterans

Michigan Bikers Helping Veterans provides veterans assistance with paying bills. The veteran must have a DD 214 or a service member must be on active duty.

Contact is made by filling out the form online at <http://www.supportmiveterans.org/Veteran-Request-Form.html>

Go to <http://ttiinc.org/>

Follow Us: [f](#) [t](#)

[ABOUT](#) [CONSUMER INFO](#) [LOCATIONS](#) [TTI PROGRAMS](#) [SUPPORT SERVICES](#) [EMPLOYMENT](#) [TRAINING](#) [CLINIC](#)

Supportive Services for Veteran Families

TTI is proud to offer the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program. Originally made possible through a grant TTI received from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the program has been in place for two years.

The SSVF program is specifically designed to help better serve homeless veterans. It includes:

- Outreach services – Veterans can choose from a variety of locations in which to meet with case managers to find out if they're eligible for the program; they can also contact TTI directly to facilitate a phone screening.
- Case management services – Case managers will assist veterans with linking to housing subsidy lists, landlord mediation, housing counseling, housing classes, referrals and more.
- Assistance in obtaining VA benefits – Case managers will help coordinate VA benefits including vocational and educational assistance, job training, and enrollment in the VA health care system.
- Assistance obtaining and coordinating other public benefits provided by federal, state or local agencies – Case managers will work with other agencies to coordinate benefits including health care, daily supports, financial planning, transportation, child care and more.
- Temporary financial assistance – Temporary assistance is available on an as-needed basis to assist veteran families in obtaining and/or sustaining safe, affordable, permanent housing.

These supportive services will help enhance the housing stability and independent living skills of very low income veteran families occupying permanent housing in the TTI service area. Services will also help rapidly re-house or prevent homelessness among these same families.

SSVF is available to veteran families who meet criteria in Genesee, Jackson, Lapeer, Macomb, Oakland and Saginaw counties.

The SSVF program is now CARF-accredited. This accreditation will extend through April 2017.

Call (866) 787-6734 for more information on SSVF.

Training and Treatment Innovations provides housing assistance for homeless veterans. Veterans and military families in danger of losing housing may qualify for up to \$1,500 in general housing stability assistance. Emergency housing assistance is available for families with children under 18. This program is most active in Hillsdale, Jackson, and Saginaw counties within Region 5 (other areas are serviced based on available funding).

Call 866-787-6734 or A.C. Giles at 248-464-4809. Email acgiles@ttiinc.org

- 5. EAST CENTRAL MICHIGAN REGION
- 7. SOUTH CENTRAL MICHIGAN REGION
- 8. SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN REGION

STEPHANIE OLES
 Email: oless@michigan.gov
 Office: 517-241-8591

- 4. WEST MICHIGAN REGION

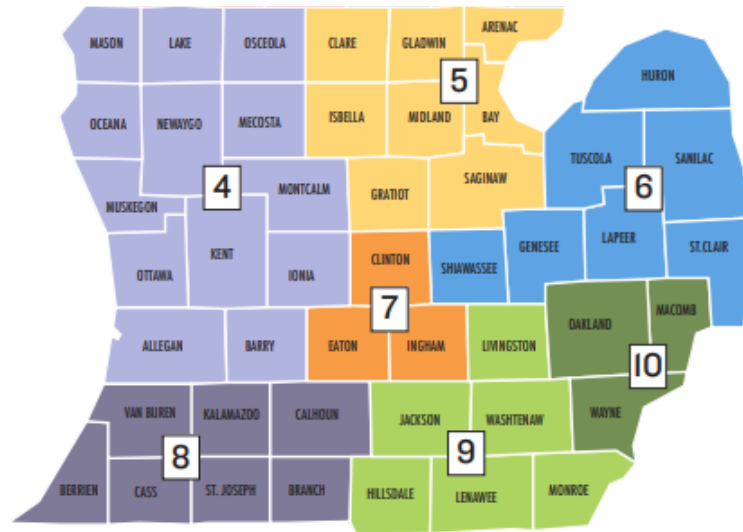
- 9. SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN REGION

NICOLE SCHALOW
 Email: schalown@michigan.gov
 Office: 517-335-1852

- 6. EAST MICHIGAN REGION

- 10. DETROIT METRO REGION

MICHELLE EDWARDS
 Email: edwardsm6@michigan.gov
 Office: 517-241-1156



Becky Search
 Michigan State Housing Development Authority
 Campaign to End Homelessness Coordinator
 Email: searchb@michigan.gov
 Office: 517-335-4722

There are a multitude of resources to help veterans and families that are looking for housing, struggling to pay their bills, facing eviction, or in need of emergency assistance. Veterans eligible for VA benefits should contact their local VSO (pg. 2-3). MSHDA also has Homeless Assistance Specialists who are listed to the left. Michigan 2-1-1 is another great resource for finding programs that provide assistance and temporary housing. Dial 211 or go to

<http://www.mi211.org/housing-and-homelessness/homeless-services>



VETERAN EMPLOYMENT



Veteran Employment Specialists from Michigan's Talent Investment Agency are located at many regional Michigan Works locations and work directly with organizations who are seeking to hire veterans. This is a great resource for veterans who are seeking employment.

City	MWorks Representative	Title	Address	Phone Number	Email
Adrian	Michael Albig Jr.	Veterans Career Advisor	1040 S Winter Street Suite 1014	517-266-5600 Extension 63232	albigm@michigan.gov
Battle Creek	Maurilio Arellano	Veterans Career Advisor	200 W Van Buren Street	269-660-1425	arellanol@michigan.gov
Cadillac	Dale Ginzel	Veterans Career Advisor	401 N Lake St #700	231-876-1614	ginzeld@michigan.gov
Flint	Rayetta Wyatt	Veterans Career Advisor	711 N Saginaw Street Suite 112	810-235-8904	wyattr1@michigan.gov
Grand Rapids	James Grose	Veterans Employment Representative	215 Straight Avenue NW	517-582-1382	grosej1@michigan.gov
Lansing	Michael West	Veterans Career Advisor	2110 S Cedar Street	517-492-5567	westm@michigan.gov
Lapeer	Ingrid Gagnon	Veterans Career Advisor	550 Lake Drive	810-664-1680 Extension 622	gagnoni@michigan.gov
Mt. Pleasant	Deborah Hardeman	Veterans Career Advisor	5889 E Broadway	989-772-5304 Extension 111	hardemand@michigan.gov
Muskegon	Chad Wilson	Veterans Career Advisor	316 Morris Avenue	231-332-3955	wilsonc18@michigan.gov
Saginaw	David Jackson	Veterans Career Advisor	312 E Genesee Avenue	989-752-3145 Extension 149	jacksond8@michigan.gov

Go to <http://m-span.org/our-programs/>



Home About M-SPAN Our Programs Conferences Newsroom Research Funders Contact Us

Donate

Our Programs



Buddy-to-Buddy Program

Outreach, support, and linkage to resources for service members and veterans



Peer Advisors for Veteran Education (PAVE)

Outreach, peer support, and linkage to resources for student veterans returning to college on the Post 9-11 GI Bill



Strong Military Families

Parenting skills and support for military and veteran families with young children



HomeFront Strong

Resiliency and positive coping skills for military and veteran spouses and partners



After Her Service

Resiliency skills and professional development for Post-9/11 female veterans

M-SPAN Programs

2025 Traverwood Dr, Suite C • Ann Arbor, MI 48105
m-spanprograms@umich.edu

© 2011-2018 The Regents of the University of Michigan

Military Support Programs and Networks (MSPAN) has 5 programs to help veterans, service members, and military families. Programs like Buddy to Buddy and After Her Service are designed to provide peer support for veterans and service members, adjusting to life after service, and finding available resources. Peer Advisors for Veteran Education (PAVE) can provide support and help veterans and service members navigate education benefits when they decide to enroll in a college, university, or technical program.

Strong Military Families is designed to support families of veterans and service members with young children. Home Front Strong is designed to promote resiliency and coping skills for spouses and partners (including unmarried or same sex couples) of veterans and service members.

Go to <https://operationhorsesandheroes.squarespace.com/>

2018 PROGRAMS

Operation Horses and Heroes, Inc. Equine Resiliency Programs



Equine Assisted Psychotherapy (EAP) incorporates horses experientially and used as tools for mental and behavioral health therapy and personal growth. Because it is experiential in nature, each person who goes thru the program takes away something different.

Operation Horses and Heroes provides a 1-day intensive equine therapy session designed for service members, veterans, and military families who are seeking an alternative to traditional therapies or support groups. Contact is made through the website portal

<https://operationhorsesandheroes.squarespace.com/contact/>

VA offers several peer support programs, as well as, a few family support programs. To access these programs, veterans and service members must be eligible for VA benefits. Veterans, service members, or family members should speak to a VSO (pg. 2-3) to see if they are eligible.

The Michigan National Guard Family Assistance Center is a great resource that provides information, referrals, outreach, and support services to service members, military families, and veterans regardless of military branch of service.

PEER 2 PEER / FAMILY SUPPORT



Michigan National Guard

FAMILY ASSISTANCE CENTERS

Belinda Ireland, Family Assistance Centers Coordinator

3423 N. Martin Luther King JR. Blvd, Building 31, Lansing, MI 48906

Office: (517) 481-9889 Fax: (517) 481-9886 Cell: (517) 974-8844

belinda.r.ireland.ctr@mail.mil

COUNTY	POINT OF CONTACT	LOCATION
Arenac, Bay, Gladwin, Gratiot, Huron, Midland, Saginaw & Tuscola	Melissa Halm melissa.s.halm.ctr@mail.mil	Bay City Armory 2510 Wilder Road Bay City, MI 48706 Office: 517-481-7323 Cell: 989-573-3425
Clare, Isabella, Mecosta, Newaygo & Osceola	Katie Baxter katie.n.baxter.ctr@mail.mil	Big Rapids Armory 15900 190th Avenue Big Rapids, MI 49307 Office: 231-796-6823 Ext. 4 Cell: 517-898-4144
Clinton, Eaton & Ionia	Darnell Holmes darnell.l.holmes3.ctr@mail.mil	Grand Ledge Armory 10600 Eaton Highway Grand Ledge, MI 48837 Office: 517-481-8850 Cell: 517-395-0840
Hillsdale, Ingham, Jackson & Shiawassee	Dawn Lamb dawn.m.lamb2.ctr@mail.mil	Jackson Armory 4850 Cooper Road Jackson, MI 49201 Office: 517-990-1186 Cell: 517-395-0839
Montcalm	Amy Gould amy.s.gould.ctr@mail.mil	Grand Valley Armory 1200 44th Street SW Wyoming, MI 49509 Office: 616-249-2741 Cell: 616-485-8966



<https://www.midstatehealthnetwork.org/>