

FAVA has a number of **Educational Outreach Programs** including:

FAVA's Battle Buddy Program – FAVA has Service dogs that are used to educate about Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and mobility as well as service dog access. Educators use the service dogs as Spokes dogs while in training for two years.

Military families – FAVA speaks to military families about signs and symptoms of PTSD, TBI, anxiety and depression while also providing information about suicide prevention, disability benefits and connecting families to resources, including County Veteran Affairs Directors.

Communities – FAVA educates communities about the difficulties that veterans may have in reintegrating into civilian life and what they, as a community, can do to help. This includes educating on the injuries that our veterans are returning home with and providing information about service dog access and FAVA's Battle Buddy program while also sharing about the incentives for hiring veterans and veterans are great employees!

Judicial –FAVA is working on a program that provides information about Crisis Intervention Training (CIT), Veteran specific, to law enforcement as well as First Responder training, Veteran specific, to law enforcement, Ambulance and Fire Departments. FAVA is also working to provide information to attorneys and judges regarding veterans returning from war including issues resulting from injuries.

Colleges/Technical Schools – FAVA connects with veteran representatives, disability coordinators and risk management representatives, as well as other staff, educating about returning veterans and the barriers to their educational success. FAVA also works with colleges to provide internships to students.

Businesses/Corporations – FAVA shares incentives for hiring veterans and reasons why veterans are the best employees by educating and sharing about services that FAVA provides to veterans and family members.

FAVA's cutting-edge website and the help that FAVA provides were recognized in Congressional Record by Iowa Congressman Tom Latham Nov. 18, 2011.

Veteran Statistics

- **50.4%** of veterans are married but have the greatest number of divorces with a 42% increase in divorce. Single veterans as well as divorced veterans are returning to family units.
- **Over 2 million** have served in the latest war with a high percentage serving multiple tours. Iraq & Afghanistan veterans are returning with an avg. of 11-14 disabilities, Vietnam veterans had an average of 4 and under and WWII & Korea veterans averaged 2 disabilities. The increase of injuries OIF/OEF/OND are due to multiple deployments, better medical care and military equipment. These veterans are not being killed – they are living with some long term and sometimes a lifetime of care for injuries sustained from war.
- **Guesstimates are that 65%** of veterans will return with some kind of injury. The signature wounds are Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and Chronic pain.
- **80%** of TBI from war will also have PTSD.
- **22 veterans** per day on average commit suicide. Suicide rates for Iraq veterans are 35% higher than for the general population.
- **In 2010**, Active duty – 468 committed suicide, 466 died in combat.
- **More than 5000** Iraq veterans have died by their own hands.

FAVA is funded by grants, business sponsorships, fund raising events and individual's generous donations.

Donations can be sent to:
Family Alliance for Veterans of America
100 North Clark Street
Forest City, Iowa 50436

For a sponsorship appointment, to book our education center/facility or tour our facility,
Call 641-243-4103 or 641-585-5995

FAVA is a subsidiary of WestCare
www.fava.westcare.com www.westcare.com
www.facebook.com/FAVAOrg

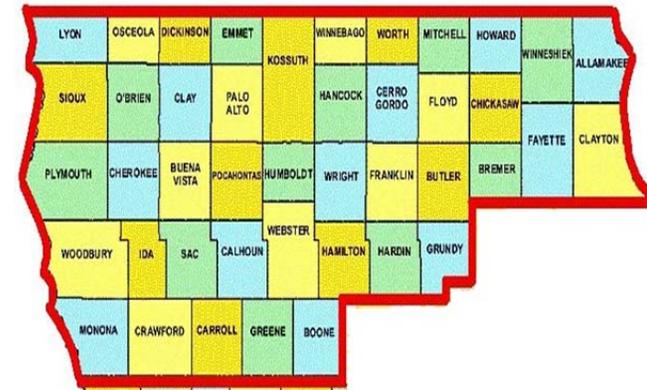


FAMILY ALLIANCE FOR VETERANS OF AMERICA (FAVA)

SSVF

Supportive Services for Veteran Families

Covering 43 counties in North Iowa



100 North Clark Street
Forest City, Iowa 50436
www.fava.westcare.com
641-243-4103 641-585-5995

FAVA's mission is to provide information, education, advocacy and support to families of veterans and veterans.

With FAVA, "You are not alone!"

Family Alliance for Veterans of America, (FAVA) headquarters are located in the heart of downtown Forest City, Iowa providing resources and services to military of all eras across the nation.

FAVA staff and volunteers are veterans and family members who understand the military mindset, the issues veterans may have returning to civilian life and the concerns that veterans and their family members are dealing with daily.

FAVA with the SSVF (Supportive Services for Veteran Families) program provide help with the prevention of veteran homelessness and assist homeless veterans in attaining stable housing.

FAVA provides temporary financial aid in the following areas to veterans who meet the eligibility criteria and follow participant agreements:

- *Security Deposit and/or Utility Deposit
- *Rental Assistance
- *Utility Assistance
- *Moving Costs
- *General Housing Stability Assistance
- *Emergency Housing Assistance
- *Transportation Assistance
- *Childcare Assistance

To meet the criteria for SSVF: low income veterans and families must complete a needs assessment and intake, do release of information and provide needed documentation of DD214 and other identification; veterans must also complete eligibility paperwork for SSVF.

Veterans must complete a participant agreement prior to acceptance into the program and follow the program and agreement with their veteran advocate.

FAVA supportive services provide workshops and classes for veterans in SSVF program in a number of areas including Stress Management, Money Management, Financial Planning, Anger Management, Health & Wellness as well as others.

FAVA's education center offers video conferencing that allows FAVA to broadcast the supportive services workshops and seminars as webinars or to Skype with veterans on trainings and workshops. FAVA holds seminars, collaborating with other organizations and programs that focus on veterans. FAVA welcomes others to use the FAVA facility and education center for workshops and events. Community partnerships are important to FAVA.

FAVA has sub-contracted with Iowa Legal Aid to help veterans and families in SSVF program with legal issues that may be contributing to their potential imminent homelessness or why they are homeless.

FAVA Veteran Advocates work with:

- landlords, housing authorities and other rental entities to meet the housing needs of our veterans.
- VA staff at CBOCs, Hospitals and Vet Centers for medical and mental health services.
- Veterans at the FAVA facility. Advocates travel to other areas/counties where veterans are, working with them to help with unmet needs to get them stably housed and employed, helping them to reintegrate into civilian life.

- Many resources including County Veteran Affairs Directors for benefits. FAVA collaborates with a number of other services, organizations and entities to assist veterans, including Iowa Workforce, who have provided FAVA with two point-of-access computers in the computer center that is located within the FAVA headquarters. The computer center includes a number of computers for veterans and family members to use to access resources, to do educational studies/online classes or use for recreational purposes.

FAVA is a repository of information and resources from across the United States. Veterans and families have access to these resources through a veteran advocate-resource facilitator by phone, email or at the FAVA headquarters. FAVA has compiled specific resources and formed many collaborations to help in the 43 county area covered by the SSVF grant, which include: Allamakee, Boone, Bremer, Buena Vista, Butler, Calhoun, Carroll, Cerro Gordo, Cherokee, Chickasaw, Clay, Clayton, Crawford, Dickinson, Emmet, Fayette, Floyd, Franklin, Greene, Grundy, Hamilton, Hancock, Hardin, Howard, Humboldt, Ida, Kossuth, Lyon, Mitchell, Monona, O'Brien, Osceola, Palo Alto, Plymouth, Pocahontas, Sac, Sioux, Webster, Winnebago, Winneshiek, Woodbury, Worth & Wright.

FAVA veteran advocates will connect veterans to those local resources that meet with unmet needs they may have.