

**KENTUCKY  
RESOURCE  
GUIDEBOOK  
FOR  
INCARCERATED  
AND NEWLY  
RELEASED  
VETERANS**

# Forward

**This guide is created to serve as a resource for incarcerated or recently released veterans and their families.** The guide can be an important tool for helping you find housing, employment, and other services. Review all of the resources thoroughly to understand the opportunities available. Proper use of these materials will help to minimize the pressures and difficulties often encountered when returning to the community. State laws vary, so be sure to adhere to your state laws and regulations when using this guide.

This resource guidebook was developed using many resources. We would like to acknowledge: 1) the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans which provided basic concepts and core information for this guide through its “Planning for Your Release” guide funded by the U.S. Department of Labor; 2) the Veterans Incarcerated Workgroup of Walla Walla, Washington, for the concept of state-specific information in its “Guidebook for Incarcerated Veterans” and for allowing the use of its guide as a template for this publication; 3) Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. for developing the first incarcerated veterans guidebook, which has inspired and informed subsequent efforts; and 4) any public domain and agency resources included in the guidebook. Thank you also to James H. Quillen VAMC Homeless Veterans Program in Mountain Home, TN for their assistance and to the vast array of service providers represented here.

Agency staff names and addresses, phone numbers and website addresses change. If you attempt to contact one of the resources in this guidebook and it is not current, do your best to obtain the current information through phone information or a Google web search. To perpetuate the value of this document, we respectfully request that if you discover any incorrect, conflicting, or out-of-date information in this Guidebook please send the discrepancies, and updated information if you have it, to:

**Kathy Vasquez**  
**Health Care for Re-entry Veterans Specialist**  
[Kathy.Vasquez2@va.gov](mailto:Kathy.Vasquez2@va.gov)  
1101 Veterans Dr.  
Lexington, KY 40502  
(859)233-4511 ext. 3177

**Last date revised:** March, 2009

## Table of Contents

SECTION I: USING THE GUIDE AND SEEKING HELP	4-5
SECTION II: HELP FOR VETERANS	6
Toll-Free Numbers	6
Where to Start	7
Directory of Homeless & Housing Advocacy Coalitions	8-10
Finding & Keeping a Job	11
VA Health Care	12-15
Mental Health Services & Substance Abuse Treatment & Counseling	15-16
Financial Help	16
Legal Help	17-25
Women Veterans	25
SECTION III: SEEKING FEDERAL BENEFITS	26-31
Benefits Payments While Incarcerated	27
Apportionment	28
Help Seeking Benefits	30
CHECKLIST	32
SECTION IV: RESOURCE ADDRESSES / WEBSITES & SUPPORT GROUPS	33
SUPPORT GROUPS & MAINSTREAM SERVICE CONTACTS	34-36
ADDITIONAL GUIDEBOOK RESOURCE LIST	37-38

## SECTION I

### USING THIS GUIDE AND SEEKING HELP:

This guide is for you to use to plan for your release and to keep as a reference after your release. It includes addresses, phone numbers, and web sites that you can use to find out about programs and other assistance after your release. You may want to ask a friend or family member to help you find the information you need if you don't have a phone or internet access.

Keep in mind that **this guide does not include all of the services available**. What is available in one area may be different from what is available in another, so be sure to check with local resources to learn about services in your area.

While you are in prison, find out which unit in your facility can help you plan for your release (often the education or transfer unit). Classes may be offered so you can work on skills development and prepare for life after release. **You don't want to risk homelessness once you are released, so take advantage of the opportunities available to you now.**

Begin thinking about what specifically you will need upon release. Ask yourself these kinds of questions: Will I need housing? Will I need medical, substance abuse, or mental health care? Do I need to learn a job skill? Do I have any other legal issues, such as child support? How do I restart my VA checks or Supplemental Security Income (SSI)?

Make a list of your needs. Remember that this is just a tool to help you get organized.

**A sample list might look like this: check all that apply to your situation.**

I need a place to live.

I need a job.

I need clothing to wear to work.

I need to find out what benefits I can get as a veteran.

I want to get addictions treatment.

I owe child support.

Think about your list as you read through this guide. Who do you think can help you with each of your needs? Is there one organization that may be able to work with you on many different things, or do you need to contact several agencies? Keep track of the steps you take, including the dates and names of people you contact for information or assistance. Although this guide provides national and state addresses for many organizations, we recommend you **check your phone book for local, county, and state agencies that know what help is available in your area.**

When writing a letter to request information, **be clear.** Keep your letter short, to the point, and write legibly. Include the following information:

Your name and contact information.

A brief statement about your current situation.

Your specific request.

What you have done so far (Example: I have written to \_\_\_\_\_ organization and they suggested I contact you).

Any restrictions for mailings (Example: Mail with staples or paper clips will not be accepted by my prison facility).

When contacting an agency for help by mail, email or phone, **be persistent and polite** in order to get results. Ask questions if information is not clear to you. Remember that many organizations are staffed by volunteers who are eager to help, but may not have the answers you are looking for. **If someone cannot help you, ask who can.**

The internet can also be helpful to find information about VA benefits and community resources in your area. This guide includes web addresses, when available. If computer access is not available at your facility, you can visit the public library after release. Computer access may also be provided at WorkSource and WorkSource Affiliate sites, WorkForce Development Council member locations, and Employment Security Department Offices (referred to as Job Service Centers or Unemployment Offices).

## SECTION II

### HELP FOR VETERANS:

This section includes resources that can help you get back on your feet. Remember to check the phone book for local, county, and state agencies that know what services are available in the area to assist you. Some organizations may have waiting lists, require an interview, or have specific rules about whom they serve. It is best if you **start asking about services and requirements now**, so that you will be prepared when you are released. You may even ask if your name can be put on a waiting list when you get closer to your release date.

### TOLL-FREE NUMBERS:

Crisis and other toll-free numbers are often listed in the front cover or first few pages of the phone book. You may also want to check under "Social Services" in the blue or yellow pages for hotlines and local numbers.

- \* **US Department of Veterans Affairs** – [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)  
VA Benefits: 1-800-827-1000  
**Health Benefits:** 1-877-222-8387, or [www.med.va.gov](http://www.med.va.gov)  
Education Benefits: 1-888-442-4551  
**Survivors Call Center and Veteran Special Issues Helpline:**  
1-800-749-8387  
**Telecommunication Device for the Deaf (TDD)** 1-800-829-4833
- \* **Focus On Recovery Helpline** – A 24-hour national alcohol and drug abuse addiction and treatment hotline: 1-800-888-9383
- \* **National AIDS Hotline** – Talk to someone who knows about HIV / AIDS and can tell you about AIDS services in your city or state: 1-800-822-7422
- \* **National Coalition for Homeless Veterans** – [www.nchv.org](http://www.nchv.org), 1-800-838-4357
- \* **National Suicide Prevention Hotline** – 1-800-273-TALK (8255)

## WHERE TO START:

Check the local phone book yellow pages under "Homeless" or "Social Service Organizations" for a list of many local organizations that offer a variety of services that may include clothing, public transportation tokens, emergency shelter, and more. You may need to contact several agencies to find all the services you need. Services provided by government agencies are listed in the blue pages in the phone book. Check with your local Public Assistance Office to find out what programs are available and what their guidelines are. We have included some guidance below, but your local organizations are your best resources. **Remember, it never hurts to ask!**

\* Each **VA Medical Center** has a Health Care for **Homeless Veterans (HCHV) Coordinator** who is responsible for helping homeless veterans access VA and community-based care to end homelessness among veterans. The HCHV program provides outreach, clinical assessments and referrals for medical and mental health care, long-term transitional residential assistance, case management and employment assistance with linkage to permanent housing. To locate your nearest HCHV Coordinator call 1-877-222-8387 or go to <http://www1.va.gov/homeless> and click on the link at the end of the paragraph to look at the Homeless Veteran Coordinator Listing by State.

\* **Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs (KDVA)** provides assistance with Veterans benefits & entitlements information, VA claims process, representation and advocacy, Trauma (PTSD) counseling, Veterans Homes for those in need of nursing care, and employment assistance through federal funded reintegration projects. [www.kdva.net](http://www.kdva.net)

\* **National Coalition for the Homeless** has a directory of shelters and homeless assistance programs online. This does not list every program in the country, so be sure to check your phone book for local programs.

**Contact:** 333 ½ Pennsylvania Avenue, SE, Washington, DC  
20003-1148 Toll-Free: 800-VET-HELP Fax: (202) 246-2063, Toll-Free Fax: (888) 233-8582, E-mail: [nchv@nchv.org](mailto:nchv@nchv.org), Web address: [www.nchv.org](http://www.nchv.org)

## **Directory of Homeless & Housing Advocacy Coalitions:**

The following is a list of Homeless and Housing Advocacy Coalitions for the State of Kentucky. Not all of these coalitions provide direct services, but they may be able to tell you about local programs or services.

### **The Coalition for the Homeless, Inc.**

**1115 S. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Third Floor**

**Louisville, Kentucky 40203**

**(502) 589-0190**

### **Volunteers of America**

**Incarcerated Veterans Project**

**Homeless Veteran Reintegration**

**Project**

**1400 North Forbes Road, Suite D**

**Lexington, Kentucky 40503**

**(859) 254-3469**

### **Northern Kentucky Housing and Homeless Coalition**

**186 B Dell St.**

**Elsmere, Kentucky 41018**

**(859) 727-0926**

**(859) 727-0674 (fax)**

### **Homeless & Housing Coalition of Kentucky**

**101 Burch Ct.**

**Frankfort, Kentucky 40601**

**(502) 223-1834**

### **Gateway Homeless Coalition, Inc.**

**P.O. Box 326**

**Morehead, Ky. 40351**

**(606)784-2668**

**(606)780-7628 (fax)**



## **Emergency and Transitional Housing:**

To find out if there are homeless veteran service providers in your area, call 1-800-VET-HELP, write to: **NCHV, 333 ½ Pennsylvania Ave. SE Washington, DC 20003-1148**, or go to [www.nchv.org](http://www.nchv.org).

Look in the phone book **yellow pages** under "Social service Organizations" for local shelters or organizations that may be able to help.

Look in the phone book **blue pages** under local, city, or county government Department of Social Services or "Human Services" or call the County Commissioner's Office for information about local low-income housing coalitions or homeless advocacy groups who may know what is available.

To find a list of emergency shelters for men, women and families in every state, check the **Department of Housing and Urban Development** online at [www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov).

## **HOUSING:**

It is important to know that you have a place to go when released. The first step in returning to the community is finding a place to stay. This section includes ways to locate emergency shelter, transitional programs, and permanent housing assistance. Transitional or temporary housing can serve as a step toward full independence upon your release. However, there are often waiting lists for housing assistance programs, so you should ask about applying as soon as possible. If you are released and find yourself homeless, emergency assistance is available state-wide.

VA Grant & Per-Diem Transitional Housing, see the HCHV Coordinator at VA Medical Centers or the VA Homeless Program website:  
<http://www1.va.gov/homeless/>

## **Directory of Local Homeless Service Organizations**

Contact the Local Housing Authority for subsidized housing or consult your local telephone directory yellow pages for the Salvation Army, Local Homeless Shelters and other housing assistance, such as the Neighborhood Service Centers.

Local churches and faith-based organizations, such as Catholic charities, Salvation Army, and Volunteers of America, may have a variety of programs to assist you. Find these organizations by calling your county or city Department of Social Services. Check the blue pages of the phone book for the number, and the Saturday newspaper for a list of churches and service times.

Long-term or Permanent Housing:

Public housing waiting lists can be long, but the length of time can vary from place to place. Even if you are not sure where you want to live yet, apply to get on the waiting list so that you have as many options as possible. To learn how to apply, contact the Local Housing Authority listed in the phone book blue pages under "Local Government, Public Housing Authority".

## **FINDING & KEEPING A JOB:**

Finding a job may be hard and can seem overwhelming, but it is possible and very important! When released, you may find that you are starting over. You should ask for job counseling and training while incarcerated so you are prepared to work when released. **DON'T WAIT** until you get out to start thinking about what you will do. **START PLANNING NOW!**

Local Veterans Employment Representatives (LVER) and Disabled Veterans Outreach Program (DVOP) specialist assigned by the State Employment Security Department are resources that help veterans find and keep jobs. LVER's are located with the local WorkSource site or affiliate Job Service Centers (JSC). DVOP Specialists work under the supervision of the LVER to develop job and training opportunities for veterans with service-connected disabilities, linking veterans with employers and making sure follow-up services are provided. To find a LVER or DVOP near you, visit your state employment service office listed in the phone book blue pages under "State government, Employment Security Department".

\* Through its **Veterans Industries and Compensated Work Therapy programs**, the VA offers structured work opportunities and supervised therapeutic housing for at-risk and homeless veterans with physical, mental health and addictions problems. VA contracts with private industry and the public sector for work for veterans, who learn job skills, practice successful work habits, and regain a sense of self-esteem. Veterans are paid for their work and given assistance with employment in the community.

\* The State of Kentucky has a Vocational Rehabilitation program that helps people with disabilities find and keep jobs. Apply for these services immediately after your release. Look in the phone book blue pages under "Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)," then "Vocational Rehabilitation," or search the internet for "Vocational Rehabilitation" in your state.

\* The Department of Employment Services has staff who work specifically with Veterans. Contact them at the Office of Employment and Training, 275 E. Main St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Frankfort, Ky. 40601, (502)564-7456

## **VA HEALTH CARE:**

### **If eligible for veterans' benefits:**

- \* We encourage you to enroll in the VA Health Care System as soon as you are released. Every VA Medical Center has a Health Care for Homeless Veterans Coordinator who helps veterans and their families find resources inside and outside the VA Health Care system. Call 1-877-222-8387 or go to [www.med.va.gov](http://www.med.va.gov), to find the medical center nearest you.

### **I. Major Medical Centers:**

VA Medical Center  
800 Zorn Avenue  
Louisville, KY 40206  
(502) 287-4000

VA Medical Center  
1101 Veterans Drive  
Lexington, KY 40502  
(859) 233-4511

### **II. Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC) are available in the following areas:**

Bellevue Community Based Outpatient Clinic  
103 Landmark Dr., Suite 300  
Bellevue, KY 41073  
(859) 392-3840

Fort Knox PCC  
821 Ireland Loop  
Fort Knox, KY 40121  
(502) 624-9396

Berea CBOC  
209 Pauline Dr.  
Berea, KY 40403  
(859)986-1259

VA Healthcare Center, Carrollton  
1911 Highway 227  
Carrollton, KY 41008  
(502)287-6060

Bowling Green Clinic  
1110 Wilkinson Trace Circle  
Hartland Medical Center  
Bowling Green, KY 42103  
(270)796-3590

VA Healthcare Center, Grayson  
619 W. Main St.  
Clarkson, KY 42726  
(866)653-8232

Florence Clinic  
7711 Ewing  
Florence, KY 41042  
(859)282-4480

Hanson CBOC  
926 Veterans Dr.  
Hanson, KY 42413  
(270)322-8019

Fort Campbell Clinic  
Desert Storm Ave. Bldg.39  
Fort Campbell, KY 42223  
(270) 798-4118

Hazard CBOC  
210 Black Gold Blvd  
Hazard, KY 41701  
(606)436-2350

VA Healthcare Center, Newburg  
3430 Newburg Rd.  
Louisville, KY  
(502)287-6223

Mayfield CBOC  
1253 Paris Rd., Suite A  
Mayfield, KY 42066  
(866)287-3300

Prestonburg Clinic  
5230 Ky Rte 321, Suite 8  
Prestonburg, KY 41653  
(606) 886-1970

Owensboro CBOC  
3400 New Hartford Rd.  
Owensboro, KY 42301  
(270)684-5034

Paducah CBOC  
2620 Perkins Creek Dr..  
Paducah, KY 42001  
(270) 444-8465

VA Healthcare Center, Dupont  
4010 Dupont Circle  
Louisville, KY 40207  
(502)287-6187

VA Healthcare Center, Shively  
3934 North Dixie Hwy  
Suite 210  
Louisville, KY 40216  
(502)287-6000

Morehead CBOC  
333 Beacon Hill  
Morehead, KY 40351  
(888)824-3577

Somerset Clinic  
104 Hardin Lane  
Somerset, KY 42501  
(606) 676-0786

VA Healthcare Center  
TRICARE Family Practice  
Air National Guard Complex  
1101 Grade Lane  
Louisville, KY 40213  
(502)413-4635

### **III. Vet Center Listing:**

Lexington Vet Center  
301 E. Vine St., Suite C  
Lexington, KY 40507  
(859) 253-0717

Louisville Vet Center  
1347 S. Third St.  
Louisville, KY 40208  
(502) 634-1916

VA's Gulf War/Agent Orange Helpline: National Toll-Free Number (800) 749-8387

#### IV. National Cemetery Administration:

Camp Nelson National Cemetery  
Cemetery  
6980 Danville Rd.  
Nicholasville, KY 40356  
(859) 885-5727

Lebanon National  
20 Hwy. 208  
Lebanon, KY 40033  
(270)692-3390

Cave Hill National Cemetery  
Cemetery  
701 Baxter Ave.  
Louisville, KY 40204  
(502) 893-3852

Lexington National  
833 W. Main St.  
Lexington, KY 40508  
(859) 885-5727

Danville National Cemetery  
Cemetery  
277 N. First St.  
Danville, KY 40442  
(859) 885-5727

Mill Springs National  
9044 West Hwy. 80  
Nancy, KY 42544  
(859) 885-5727

Zachary Taylor National Cemetery  
4701 Brownsboro RD.  
Louisville, KY 40207  
(502) 893-3852

**If ineligible for veterans' benefits, free or low-cost health care may be available from the following sources:**

- \* **Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)** can tell you where to find health care facilities for the homeless. Check the phone book blue pages under local, city, or county government for the number.
- \* **National Health Care for the Homeless Council** has a list of health care providers working with homeless people across the nation. For a list of providers in your state, go to [www.nhchc.org](http://www.nhchc.org).
- \* **Free clinics** are run by many local organizations and communities. Look in the phone book blue pages under "Public Health" to contact local government office for clinics in your area.

### **Special Health Information for Veterans:**

- \* If you think you may be at risk for AIDS and HIV infection after your release, contact the nearest VA Medical Center to get tested, and seek counseling. Veterans, homeless, and incarcerated people are at high risk for **Hepatitis C** (HCV), a serious disease that can cause cirrhosis (scarring of the liver) and liver cancer. If you think you are at risk after your release, contact the nearest VA Medical Center to get tested and seek "HCV treatment and counseling".

### **MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES:**

#### **If eligible for veterans' benefits:**

- \* Contact the Homeless Veteran Services Coordinator at the local **VA Medical Center** or **Vet Center**. Call 1-877-222-8387 or go to [www.med.va.gov](http://www.med.va.gov), to find the medical center nearest you.

**If not eligible for veterans' benefits**, the following sources may be able to tell you where you can go to get help:

- \* **National Alliance for the Mentally Ill** lists community mental health services providers at: [www.nami.org](http://www.nami.org) or call: 1-800-950-NAMI
- \* **National Mental Health Association** offers support groups, rehabilitation, socialization, and housing services through approximately 340 community organizations located across the country. Call 1-800-969-NMHA, or find a local office online at [www.nmha.org](http://www.nmha.org).

### **SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT:**

#### **If eligible for veterans' benefits:**

- \* Contact the addictions Treatment Center at the local **VA Medical Center**. Call 1-877-222-8387 or go to [www.med.va.gov](http://www.med.va.gov), to find the medical center nearest you.

**If not eligible for veterans' benefits**, the following sources may be able to tell you where you can go to get help:

- \* **The Department of Health and Human Services Drug and Alcohol Treatment Referral Routing Service** can refer you to local programs. Call 1-800-662-4357.
- \* Focus On Recovery Helpline – A 24 hour national alcohol and drug abuse addiction and treatment hotline: 1-800-888-9383.
- \* To find a treatment centers near you, you can visit:  
[www.findtreatment.samhsa.gov](http://www.findtreatment.samhsa.gov)

## **FINANCIAL HELP:**

- \* The American Legion provides Temporary Financial Assistance, (TFA) from its national headquarters to help maintain a stable environment for **children of veterans**. To obtain an application, look in the phone book to contact a local post, or contact the Department (State) Headquarters at (502)587-1414 to find the post nearest you or visit the website at: [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org).
- \* If you are unemployed with little or no income, you may be able to get **food stamps**. A person may normally qualify for \$85 to \$100 worth of food stamps per month. Call the toll-free information number at 1-800-221-5689, or find a list of food stamp hotlines for each state at [www.fns.usda.gov/fsp](http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp). You can also contact the local Department of Human Services, many drop-in shelters, or legal aid services to ask for an application.
- \* **Supplemental Security Income (SSI)** benefits can be applied for **before** your release, even though you won't receive the benefits until after you are released. Food Stamps can be applied for together with SSI. Normally, it takes about three months to review an application, so apply well before your release date. It is best to get help filling out the application. For detailed information or assistance contact your local social security



administration office listed in the phone book blue pages or visit [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov).

- \* **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)** has a program called Emergency Food and Shelter Program to help prevent homelessness. Contact the local Office of the Mayor or United Way to ask who awards this money in your area and what the rules are.

## LEGAL HELP:

### Veteran status issues:

- \* You should talk to a **Veterans Advocate Service Officer** for help with discharge upgrades, seeking benefits, and filing a VA claim. Check with your county court house for the office of the Veterans Service Officer.

### Other Legal Issues:

Most law is state-specific. Most common legal problems are governed by the law in the state where you live or where the problem occurred. When looking for legal help, make sure that information you find applies to your state, or that the lawyer or other service provider is qualified to work in your state.

Free or low-cost legal resources, both in civil and criminal law, are helpful to individuals with criminal histories in learning about relevant state laws governing the expungement or sealing of criminal histories or addressing other legal issues resulting from having a criminal history.

- \* **The American Bar Association** has a web site with guidelines about free legal services and links to directories of legal aid offices and pro-bono programs. Go to: [www.abanet.org](http://www.abanet.org).
- \* **Legal Services or Legal Aid Offices** have staff lawyers to provide free legal help to poor clients. The lawyers are usually experts in the types of problems that poor clients often have. Listed below are some of the local legal aid offices in Kentucky

### State Public Defender

#### Contact:

#### Kentucky Department of Public Advocacy

100 Fair Oaks Lane, Suite 302

Frankfort, KY 40601

502-564-8006

502-564-7890 fax

Web Site: [www.dpa.state.ky.us/](http://www.dpa.state.ky.us/)

## Legal Services

### Contact:

#### AppalRed

120 North Front Ave.  
Prestonsburg, KY 41653  
[www.ardfky.org](http://www.ardfky.org)

New clients please call the Centralized Intake Office at 1-866-529-9482.

Offices located in Barbourville, Booneville, Columbia, Harlan, Hazard, Jackson, Pikeville, Prestonsburg, Richmond, and Somerset.

### Contact:

#### Legal Aid of the Bluegrass

104 East 7<sup>th</sup> St.  
Covington, KY 41011  
1-800-888-8189

Branch offices:      498 Georgetown St., Lexington, KY 40508,  
                                 320 E. Main St., Morehead, KY 40351, (1-800-274-5863)  
                                 3417 Blackburn Ave., Unit 1, Ashland, KY 41101 (1-877-295-4137)

### Contact:

#### Kentucky Legal Aid

Web Site: [www.klaid.org](http://www.klaid.org)  
First time callers in need of legal assistance are asked to call 1-866-452-9243

Offices located in:

Bowling Green  
1700 Destiny Lane  
Bowling Green, KY 42104  
Local: (270)782-1924  
Toll Free: (800)782-1924

Madisonville  
100 South Railroad St.  
Madisonville, KY 42431  
Local: (270)825-3801  
Toll Free (800)467-2193

Paducah  
1122 Jefferson St.  
Paducah, KY 42001  
Local: (270)442-5518  
Toll Free: (800)467-2218

Owensboro  
117 West 2<sup>nd</sup> St.  
Owensboro, KY 42303  
Local: (270)683-4585  
Toll Free (800)467-2260

Hopkinsville  
Satellite Office  
1411 South Main St.  
Hopkinsville, KY 42240

Glasgow  
Satellite Office  
123 East Washington St.  
Glasgow, KY 42141

**Contact:**

**Legal Aid Society, Inc.**

416 W. Muhammad Ali Blvd.  
Louisville, KY 40202  
502-584-1254 or 1-800-292-1862  
Web Site: [www.laslou.org](http://www.laslou.org)

**Contact:**

**Northern Kentucky Legal Aid Society**

302 Greenup St.  
Covington, KY 41011  
859-431-8200

This office has access to a group of private attorneys that represent eligible clients at no cost to the client.

Counties Served: Boone, Campbell, Carroll, Gallatin, Grant, Kenton, Owen, and Pendleton

**Local Service Providers**

Community agencies are available to assist individuals with criminal records find employment. This information will inform individuals with criminal records about government agencies and community-based organizations that assist with employment, education or vocational training. Researchers and policy makers may find this information useful in identifying agencies and service providers in order to evaluate the effectiveness of these programs.

Lawyers in private practice sometimes volunteer in "pro-bono" programs to take cases for poor clients free of charge. Check the yellow pages to contact your **Local Bar Association** to learn if there is a pro-bono program in your community, or go to: [www.abanet.org/barserv/stlobar.html](http://www.abanet.org/barserv/stlobar.html). or [www.kybar.org](http://www.kybar.org) or [www.kylawhelp.org](http://www.kylawhelp.org)

Persons can also call **Legal Helpline** at 1-800-200-3633.

**Criminal Record Repository**

This is the agency individuals may contact to obtain a copy of their state rap sheet and learn about the process of sealing, expunging or cleaning it up. The criminal record repository can also tell the individual who else is legally entitled to have access to his or her record.

Individuals must submit a written request explaining why they need a copy of their criminal history (i.e. employment, licensing, etc.) along with a check or money order for \$20. The search will take two to three weeks to be processed.

**Contact:**

**Kentucky State Police  
Records Branch**

1250 Louisville Rd.  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
502-227-8700

**State Attorney General**

Employers and service providers may obtain information from the state attorney general regarding occupational bars, the licensing of individuals with criminal records in certain jobs, and whether the state has laws that limit what employers may ask job applicants or protections against employment discrimination based on a criminal record.

**Contact:**

Jack Conway  
Office of the Kentucky Attorney General  
700 Capitol Ave., Suite 118  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
502-696-5300  
502-564-2894 fax  
Web Site: [www. ag.ky.gov](http://www.ag.ky.gov)

## **Employment and Training Resources**

### **National H.I.R.E. Network:**

Established by the Legal Action Center, the National **H**elping **I**ndividuals with criminal records **R**e-enter through **E**mployment Network is both a national clearinghouse for information and an advocate for policy change. The goal of the **National H.I.R.E. Network** is to increase the number and quality of job opportunities available to people with criminal records by changing public policies, employment practices and public opinion. The National H.I.R.E. Network also provides training and technical assistance to agencies working to improve the employment prospects for people with criminal records. The National H.I.R.E. Network is generously supported by the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, the Joyce Foundation, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the Public Welfare Foundation, and the J.P. Morgan Chase Foundation.

[www.hirenetwork.org](http://www.hirenetwork.org)

## **KENTUCKY**

### **Kentucky Department for Workforce Development**

#### **Contact:**

Helen W. Mountjoy, Secretary  
Education and Workforce Development Cabinet  
500 Mero St.  
Capital Plaza Tower, 3rd Floor  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
502-564-0372  
502-564-7967 fax 502-564-8989  
Web Site: [www.workforce.ky.gov](http://www.workforce.ky.gov)

Information about State Department of Labor resources may be of interest to:

- potential employers looking for incentives to hire individuals with criminal histories;
- service providers and individuals with criminal histories who are looking for assistance in finding employment; and
- researchers and policy makers looking at current programs to ascertain what programs are effective and serve their intended purpose.

#### **Federal Bonding Program**

The Federal Bonding Program provides fidelity bonding insurance coverage to individuals with criminal histories and other high-risk job applicants who are qualified, but fail to get jobs because regular commercial bonding is denied due to their backgrounds.

**Tax Credits**

The Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) is a federal tax credit to reduce the federal tax liability of private for profit employers to be used as an incentive for employers to hire individuals from eight different targeted groups: TANF recipients, veterans, ex-felons, high risk youth, summer youth, Food Stamp recipients, SSI recipients, and vocational rehabilitation referrals.

**Contact:**

Barbara Gilley, WOTC Coordinator  
Cabinet for Workforce Development  
Department for Employment Services  
Division of Field Services  
275 E. Main St., 2W  
Frankfort, KY 40621  
502-564-7456  
502-564-7459 fax  
E-Mail: [BarbaraA.Gilley@ky.gov](mailto:BarbaraA.Gilley@ky.gov)

**C. Unemployment Insurance Office**

Unemployment compensation is a social insurance program designed to provide benefits to most individuals out of work, generally through no fault of their own, for periods between jobs. In order to be eligible for benefits, jobless workers must demonstrate that they have worked, usually measured by amount of wages and/or weeks of work, and must be able and available for work.

The unemployment compensation program is based upon federal law, but administered by states under state law.

**Contact:**

**Cabinet for Workforce Development**  
**Office of Employment and Training**  
275 E. Main St, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor.  
Frankfort, KY 40621  
502-564-7456  
Web Site: [www.oet.ky.gov](http://www.oet.ky.gov)

**State Department of Corrections****Prison Industries Program**

Kentucky's Division of Correctional Industries is a division of the Department of Corrections that employs approximately 800 inmates in the production of goods and services in 23 operations throughout the prison system. Products manufactured include office furniture, custom wood furniture, cabinets, shelves, lockers, cleaning supplies, mattresses, signage, clothing and embroidery/silk

screening. Services offered include data entry, furniture refurbishing/reupholstry, bulk mailing, recycling and GIS mapping.

**Contact:**

Tom Cannady, Director  
Kentucky Correctional Industries  
1041 Leestown Rd.  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
502-573-1040  
502-573-1045 fax  
Web Site: [www.kcitoday.com](http://www.kcitoday.com)

**Work Release Program**

Under the Community Center program, inmates who are near their parole eligibility dates are housed close to their hometowns in halfway houses under contract to the Kentucky Department of Corrections. Approximately 500 inmates participate in this reintegration program. The program assists inmates in becoming reacquainted with their families and community, and gives them a head start in seeking employment. In addition, many inmates are enrolled in vocational school and college programs. The centers also provide counseling services and employment assistance.

**Contact:**

Community Services  
Kentucky Department of Corrections  
2349 Lawrenceburg Rd.  
P.O. Box 2400  
Frankenfort, KY 40602  
502-564-7023  
502-564-5229 fax  
Web Site: <http://corrections.ky.gov>

## **Kentucky Department of Corrections**

The Department of Corrections, in conjunction with the Kentucky Community & Technical College System (KCTCS), provides an extensive education program that includes a literacy program, adult basic education and GED preparatory classes and testing in all 12 correctional institutions. The Department also offers a variety of vocational training opportunities in 45 different technical training programs. Approximately 54% of the inmate population is involved in some type of educational or vocational training program.

### **Contact:**

#### **Kentucky Department of Corrections**

2349 Lawrenceburg Rd.

Frankfort, KY 40602

502-564-4795

502-564-5887 fax

Web Site: [www.cor.state.ky.us](http://www.cor.state.ky.us)

## **Division of Probation and Parole**

The primary function of the Division of Probation & Parole is to supervise offenders who have been placed on probation or parole. Parole officers provide rehabilitation services to parolees and assistance in employment and home placement. The counties are organized into 13 supervisory districts. Parolees are referred to halfway houses if they do not have a place to live upon release, do not have a job, or both. Parolees placed in one of 11 houses under contract with the state are assisted by house staff and the local probation and parole officers in seeking employment.

### **Contact:**

Lelia Lee VanHoose, Director

Division of Probation and Parole

Kentucky Department of Corrections

2349 Lawrenceburg Rd.

Frankfort, KY 40602

502-564-4221

502-564-5783 fax

Web Site: <http://corrections.ky.gov>



## **One-Stop Service Centers**

One-Stop Service Centers in Kentucky are administered by the Kentucky Department for Training and ReEmployment within the Cabinet for Workforce Development. There are three levels of services that eligible adults and dislocated workers can access at a One-Stop center. Core services include outreach, intake, eligibility determination, orientation to services, initial assessment of skills, aptitudes and support service needs, career counseling, job search and placement assistance. Intensive services include comprehensive and specialized assessment, development of an individual employment plan with group counseling and case management. Training services include occupational skills training, skill upgrading and retraining, adult education and literacy activities.

### **Contact:**

Kentucky Department for Training and ReEmployment  
209 St. Clair St., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
502-564-5360  
502-564-8974 fax  
Web Site: [www.dtr.ky.gov](http://www.dtr.ky.gov)

Free or low-cost legal resources, both in civil and criminal law, are helpful to individuals with criminal histories in learning about relevant state laws governing the expungement or sealing of criminal histories or addressing other legal issues resulting from having a criminal history.

## **WOMEN VETERANS:**

\* Most VA **Medical Centers** and readjustment offices have a designated Women Veterans Coordinator to assist women veterans in accessing VA benefit programs and healthcare services. Call 1-877-222-8387.

\* The Center for Women Veterans  
810 Vermont Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20420  
1-800-827-1000  
<http://www1.va.gov/womenvet/>

## **SECTION III SEEKING FEDERAL BENEFITS:**

The Department of Veterans Affairs publishes a booklet called "Federal Benefits for Veterans and Their Dependents" that describes the types of benefits available and lists the addresses and phone numbers for VA facilities nationwide. Write the VA Regional Office (VARO) to request a copy at:

VA Regional Office  
321 West Main St., Suite 390  
Louisville, KY 40202  
Call toll free 1-800-827-1000  
Contact the VA

- Kentucky Department of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Kentucky Dept. of Employment Security

For a list of all VA Regional Offices go to: [www.vba.va.gov/VBA](http://www.vba.va.gov/VBA)

### **U.S. Dept of Veterans Affairs – Regional Office**

Call 1-800-827-1000 or find information about benefits at [www.vba.va.gov](http://www.vba.va.gov).

**VA Medical Care** is not provided to veterans in prison, but VA health facilities may provide care to you after your release. Contact 1-877-222-8387 or go to [www.med.va.gov](http://www.med.va.gov) to find the medical center nearest you.

## Eligibility for VA Benefits During Incarceration

Veterans incarcerated and incarcerated dependents may apply for the same compensation, dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC) – service connected death benefits – and pension benefits as veterans who are not incarcerated. However, Congress restricts the amount of benefits that may be paid to a veteran or dependent while he or she is incarcerated. These benefits are institutionalized as part of law: 38 U.S.C Sec 5313 (a), 38 C.F.R., Sec. 3.665 (a), (d), which reads as follows:

***If a veteran is incarcerated as the result of a “felony” conviction as defined by law: “Any offense punishable by death or imprisonment for a term exceeding one year, unless specifically categorized as a misdemeanor under the law of the prosecuting jurisdiction.”***

***Then, the amount paid to a veteran incarcerated for a service-connected disability is generally limited by law to the 10 percent disability rate, or half the amount of the ten percent rate if the veteran’s disability rating is 10 percent. (If the veteran is rated before incarceration as 20 percent disabled or higher, he will receive only the amount payable to a 10 percent disabled veteran.) Incarcerated DIC recipients will receive one-half the amount paid to a veteran receiving compensation payments for a 10 percent-rated disability.***

***A veteran may not receive non-service connected VA pension benefits, or any portion of these benefits, while incarcerated for a felony or misdemeanor. However, his family may receive an apportionment of such benefits under the procedure described above. (See 38 C.F.R. Sec.3.666)***

One important requirement for eligibility for VA benefits is that the veteran has to have been issued either an honorable or general discharge, or would have received one if not for re-enlisting. If a veteran had two periods of service, one honorable and the other less than honorable, he may still be eligible for VA benefits based on the honorable period of service.

*VA Medical Care can not be provided to veterans in prison, but VA health facilities may provide care to you after your release. Contact 1-877-222-8387 to find the medical center nearest you.*

## Benefits Payments While Incarcerated

There is a 60-day "grace period" following a conviction when you may still receive full benefits. To avoid an overpayment, it is important that you notify the VARO immediately when you go to prison if you are receiving payments. If you do not notify the VA and receive overpayment, you and your family will lose all financial payments until the debt is paid.

*For example, Joe is a veteran who receives a VA pension. He commits a crime, is convicted, and is incarcerated, but doesn't tell the VA right away and keeps getting paid for 6 months. After serving his sentence of 18 months, he is released and applies to the VA to have his pension restarted. He will have an overpayment which must be recovered from the restarted benefits. Until the overpayment is recovered, Joe will have to go without that income.*

Your award for compensation or pension benefits should resume from the date you are released, as long as the VA receives notice of release within one year. Form 21-4193, Notice to Department of Veterans Affairs of Veteran or Beneficiary Incarcerated in Penal Institution, available through your counselors should be completed before release, signed by a prison official and submitted to VA Benefits Administration.

### **Apportionment**

Although legally, the veteran can only receive a portion of the full amount payable for his or her disability rating, the remaining balance may be “apportioned to the individual’s dependent family”. To apply for apportionment, the veteran must send a letter that identifies the veteran and the apportionment claimant and makes it clear they are requesting an apportionment of his VA benefits to the VA Regional Office (VARO) that has jurisdiction over the veteran’s case. VA regulations clearly specify this apportionment amount will only go to family members if they can show financial need for such amount. This applies to the spouse, children, or dependent parents who are involved in the application.

In deciding whether any apportionment is appropriate, the amount of the apportionment, and to whom it will go, the following factors are considered:

- The family member’s income and living expenses;
- The amount of compensation available to be apportioned;
- The needs and living expenses of other family members; and
- Special needs of any of the family members.

*For example: a veteran incarcerated rated as 80 percent disability can only receive the amount he or she would get if he or she were 10 percent disabled. However, his or her family may be apportioned up to 70 percent, the difference of the 80 percent rating. (DIC may also be apportioned with similar restrictions.)*

There is a 60-day “grace period” following conviction where the veteran, or Dependency or Indemnity Compensation (DIC) recipient, may still receive full benefits. If the veteran continues to receive benefits after the 60-day period, it will result in an “overpayment”. The VA considers it to be the recipient’s responsibility and fault if this occurs because the recipient failed to notify the VA of his or her incarceration. Attempts to obtain a waiver in these situations of overpayment are often unsuccessful. As a rule, the veteran loses most, if not all, financial benefits until the VA recovers the entire overpayment. It has also been a standard procedure that the family will not be entitled to receive an apportionment until the debt is completely recovered.

For more information concerning VA debt collection rules that may affect the veteran incarcerated, telephone: 1-800-827-1000 and request a Veterans Service Organization representative or, write to a Veterans Service Organization.

One other relevant restriction on veteran’s incarcerated eligibility for service connected disability compensation is that: “No total disability rating based on un-employability, may be assigned to an incarcerated veteran”.

It is important to remember that most VA decisions, including those on apportionment, can be appealed to the Board of Veterans Appeals and, if need be, to the Court of Appeal for Veterans Affairs.

### **Re-starting Benefits at Release**

It is important that each disabled veteran receiving compensation or DIC payments promptly notify the VARO. Regular full benefit payments should begin upon release, providing the VA is notified of the veteran’s release, including placement within a community treatment center or halfway house in the community, within one year of release. VARO needs formal notification from the prison of your release in order to re-start benefits: The sooner that document is provided to VARO, the sooner VARO can begin to process your request.

### **Seeking Help After Release**

If you would like to get benefits or think you have a pending claim before the VA, it is best to get professional help to assist you.

Many Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs) have trained staff who can help you with your VA claim, and can legally represent your claim before the VA. Some also help homeless and at-risk veterans find the support services they need. You can contact any VSO listed in the Guidebook to learn an office near you.

### **Seeking Benefits On Your Own**

Although we encourage you to seek the aid of a service representative, you may choose to apply for VA benefits on your own. Write your local VA Regional Office or find the forms online at: [www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms1.htm](http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms1.htm). You can also apply for certain benefits online at: <http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp>.

## HELP SEEKING BENEFITS:

If you would like to get benefits or think you have a pending claim before the VA, it is best to get professional help to assist you.

- \* Many Veterans Service Organizations have trained staff who can help you with your VA claim, and can legally represent your claim before the VA. Some also help homeless and at-risk veterans find the support services they need. You can contact any VSO listed below to see if there is a service representative near you.
- \* The American Legion 1-800-433-3318
- \* American Red Cross 1-502-540-7000
- \* Disabled American Veterans 1-877-426-2838 or (859) 441-7300
- \* Paralyzed Veterans of America 1-800-424-8200
- \* Veterans of Foreign Wars 1-800-VFW-1899
- \* Vietnam Veterans of America 1-800-882-1316
- \* Volunteers of America—Incarcerated Veterans Project 1-859-254-3469
- \* Although we encourage you to seek the aid of a service representative, you may choose to apply for VA benefits on your own. Write the VA Regional Office (VARO) at:

VA Regional Office  
321 West Main St., Suite 390  
Louisville, KY 40202  
Call toll free 1-800-827-1000  
Contact the VA

Call toll-free: 1-800-827-1000 or find the forms online at: <http://www.va.gov/vaforms/>

Below are brief descriptions of forms needed to file for certain VA benefits. Be sure you use a return address where mail will get to you as quickly as possible. Make photocopies of all forms for your records before sending your packet to the VARO nearest you.

- VA Form 21-526 - Application for Compensation or Pension- must be filed to apply for compensation or pension. Mail your DD-214 and the following forms to the VARO nearest your release destination 30 to 45 days before your release.
- VA Form 21-4138 - Statement in Support of Claim - lets you explain why you deserve the benefits you are asking for because of your disability or disorder. It is best to have an experienced service representative help you complete the form.
- VA Form 21-4142 - Authorization for Release of Information - If you have received medical or mental health care, that may be relevant to your claim, from anyone other than a VA Medical Facility, you need to fill out a VAF 21-4142 giving permission for release of medical records to the VA.
- VA Form 10-10EZ - Enrollment for Medical Benefits - is used by the VA to determine if you can receive medical benefits. Complete the form and bring it with you to the VA medical facility where you will seek evaluation for treatment.
- VA Form 28-1900 - Vocational Rehabilitation for Disabled Veterans - is needed to apply for the vocational rehabilitation program to help veterans who were disabled during their service reach maximum independence in daily living, to learn the skills needed to get a job, and to find and keep a job. Send Form 28-1900 to the VARO in your area 10 to 15 days before your release.

## **CHECKLIST:**

### **Using This Guide:**

- ↑ Ask about classes or resources to help you plan for your release.
- ↑ Make a list of your needs.
- ↑ Make a list of who may be able to help you.
- ↑ Write letters and/or contact organizations by phone or email.
- ↑ Write down the steps you take so that you do not repeat them.

### **Just for Veterans:**

- ↑ Know where to call toll-free for help.
  - ↑ Contact organizations about what services they have to offer.
  - ↑ Think about your housing needs and gather information about what is available locally.
  - ↑ Learn about job resources and create a plan to find a job.
  - ↑ Learn about health issues and what services are available.
  - ↑ Learn about the resources available for substance abuse and mental health treatment in your area.
  - ↑ Learn about your options to get financial help.
  - ↑ Begin to take care of other legal issues.
  - ↑ Learn about homeless veterans services.
  - ↑ Learn about resources for women veterans.
- If you are not currently receiving benefits, find out if you can or should be.
- ↑ If you are receiving benefits, notify the VA when you go to prison to avoid an overpayment.
  - ↑ Contact a veteran service representative to represent you and help you file a claim.
  - ↑ Apply for apportionment so that some of the money withheld may be given to eligible family members.



## SECTION IV

### RESOURCE ADDRESSES/WEBSITES & SUPPORT GROUPS:

#### RESOURCE ADDRESSES/WEBSITES:

Veterans who encounter difficulties at a VA medical center – contact the "Patient Advocate" or "Patient Representative" at that facility for assistance in resolving the problem.

**US Dept of Veterans Affairs (USDVA)** [www.va.gov/](http://www.va.gov/)

**Veterans Health Administration-VISN9** <http://vawww.visn9.va.gov>

**Social Security Administration** – [www.ssa.gov/](http://www.ssa.gov/)

**National Coalition for Homeless Veterans** – [www.nchv.org/index.cfm](http://www.nchv.org/index.cfm)

**Active Duty Benefits Information** – [www.military.com](http://www.military.com)

**Department of Labor** – [www.dol.gov](http://www.dol.gov)

**Department of Veteran's Affairs** – [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov) or

**VA Health Benefits Center (877) 222-VETS (toll-free)**

**Disabled American Veterans** – [www.dav.org](http://www.dav.org)

**Gulf War benefits Information** – [www.gulfweb.org](http://www.gulfweb.org)

**Military Record Information** – [www.vetfriends.com](http://www.vetfriends.com)

**Veterans of Foreign Wars** – [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org)

**Gulf War/Agent Orange** – [www.va.gov/gulfwar](http://www.va.gov/gulfwar) or [www.va.gov/agentorange](http://www.va.gov/agentorange)

**The Urban Institute (202) 833-7200** or [www.urban.org](http://www.urban.org)

**The US Department of Labor (866) 4-USA-DOL** or [www.dol.gov](http://www.dol.gov)

**The Federal Bonding Program (800) 233-2258** or [www.bonds4jobs.com](http://www.bonds4jobs.com)

**The Welfare to Work Partnership (888) USA-JOB1** or [www.welfaretowork.org](http://www.welfaretowork.org)

**United Way** – provides a variety of services through local organizations. Check the phone book for a local post or locate local organizations online at [www.unitedway.org](http://www.unitedway.org).

## **Support Groups & Mainstream Service Contacts:**

### **Alcoholics Anonymous (24 Hour Hotlines)**

#### **Websites:**

#### Alano Clubs in Kentucky - Contact and Location Information

Part of a United States listing of Alano alcohol recovery clubhouses, including addresses and phone numbers. From [www.AlanoClubs.com](http://www.AlanoClubs.com)

#### Alano Club of Lexington Kentucky

A recovery clubhouse that hosts numerous AA meetings. [Lexington](#), KY

#### Alcoholics Victorious Meetings in Kentucky

AV is a support group of recovering people who recognize Jesus Christ as their "Higher Power".

#### Kentucky Alcoholics Anonymous Central Offices and Intergroups

Contact information from the main [Alcoholics Anonymous World Services Site](#).

#### Kentucky Area 26 - Alcoholics Anonymous

Official statewide site. [www.area26.net](http://www.area26.net)

Greater Metro Louisville >> Districts [1](#), [10](#), [11](#), [12](#), [13](#), [19](#), [21](#), [22](#), [24](#), and [29](#).

#### Northern Kentucky - Alcoholic Anonymous

Area includes Augusta, Butler, Carrollton, Cold Springs, Covington, Dayton, Ewing, Flemingsburg, Florence, Independence, Lakeside Park, Latonia, Maysville, Melbourne, Newport, and Williamstown in Kentucky.

#### Phone Numbers of AA Intergroups and Central Offices in Kentucky

Unofficial listing provided by [The Anonymous Press \(www.anonpress.org\)](http://www.anonpress.org).

Association for Retarded Citizens (ARC): <http://www.thearctn.org/>

National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI): for Families & Consumers

Narcotics Anonymous: (800) 677-1462

Call for more information on location and meeting date & time.

## **Improving Access to Mainstream Services for People Experiencing Chronic Homelessness**

### **Kentucky**

Volunteers of America of Kentucky, Inc.  
933 Goss Avenue  
Louisville, KY 40204  
Phone: (502) 636-0771  
Fax: (502) 637-8111

Prodigal Ministries  
425 South Second Street  
Suite 012  
Louisville, KY 40202  
Phone: (502) 568-1770  
Fax: (502) 568-1772

Kentucky Housing Corporation  
Commonwealth of Kentucky  
1231 Louisville Road  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
Phone: (502) 564-7630  
Fax: (502) 564-9866

Homeless and Housing Coalition of Kentucky  
101 Burch Ct.  
Suite 105  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
Phone: (502) 223-1834  
Fax: (502) 226-4968

Health Care for the Homeless Program  
Family Health Center  
2215 Portland Ave.  
Louisville, KY 40212  
Phone: (502) 774-8631

The Coalition for the Homeless, Inc.  
1115 South Fourth Street  
Third Floor  
Louisville, KY 40203  
Phone: (502) 589-0190  
Fax: (502) 589-4187

**Dr. Pat McKiernam**

Homeless Veteran's Outreach Coordinator

Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs

545 South Third Street

Room 123

Louisville, KY 40202

Phone: (502) 595-4447

## Additional Guidebook Resource List

Resource:	National/state/local	Telephone:	Website and Notes:
1. Dept. of Veterans Affairs	National-web	<b>TOLL-FREE NUMBERS:</b>	<a href="http://www.va.gov">www.va.gov</a>
2. Benefits and online Applications	National	1-800-827-1000	<a href="http://www.vba.va.gov">www.vba.va.gov</a> <a href="http://vabenefits.vab.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp">http://vabenefits.vab.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp</a>
3. Medical Centers	National	1-877-222-8387	<a href="http://www.med.va.gov">www.med.va.gov</a>
4. Persian Gulf War Helpline	National	1-800-749-8387	
5. Focus on Recovery Helpline	National	1-800-888-9383	
6. National AIDs hotline	National	1-800-822-7422	
7. National Coalition for Homeless Veterans	National	1-800-838-4357	<a href="http://www.nchv.org">www.nchv.org</a>
8. National Suicide Support Number	National	1-888-784-2433 (1-888-SUICIDE)	
<b>WHERE TO START:</b>			
9. HCHV Coordinator	National	1-877-222-8387	<a href="http://www.va.gov/homeless/page.cfm?pg=21">http://www.va.gov/homeless/page.cfm?pg=21</a>
10. Salvation Army	Kentucky and Tennessee	(502) 583-5391	<a href="http://www.salvationarmysouth.org/kt/">http://www.salvationarmysouth.org/kt/</a> Divisional Headquarters
11. United Way	National-web		<a href="http://www.unitedway.org">www.unitedway.org</a>
12. Local churches and faith-based organizations	Local Saturday newspaper for locations	Local phone book	Call City or County Department of Social Services
<b>HOUSING:</b>			
13. Homeless Veteran Service providers locally	National	1-800-VET-HELP	<a href="http://www.nchv.org">www.nchv.org</a>
14. HUD Local Homeless Assistance	National-web		<a href="http://www.hud.gov/homeless">www.hud.gov/homeless</a>
<b>FINDING AND KEEPING A JOB:</b>			
15. DVOPs/LVERS near you	State-phone book		Call State Government Employment Security Department
16. Homeless Veterans Reintegration Projects (HVRP)	National	1-800-562-2308	
17. VA's Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Services - VARO	National	1-800-827-1000	<a href="http://www.vba.va.gov/VBA/">http://www.vba.va.gov/VBA/</a>
18. Veteran's Industries and Compensated Work Therapy Programs	National-web		<a href="http://www.va.gov">www.va.gov</a>
19. State Voc Rehab	State-web		<a href="http://ovr.ky.gov/">http://ovr.ky.gov/</a>
<b>HEALTH:</b>			
20. VA Medical Center near you	National	1-877-222-8387	<a href="http://vawww.visn9.med.va.gov">http://vawww.visn9.med.va.gov</a>
21. Department of Social and Health Services	Local-phone book		
22. National Health Care for the Homeless Council	National-web		<a href="http://www.nhchc.org">www.nhchc.org</a>
23. Free Clinics			Check phone book under Public Health
<b>SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT:</b>			
24. Drug and Alcohol Treatment Referral Routing Service	National	1-800-662-4357	
25. National Alliance for the	National	1-800-950-	<a href="http://www.nami.org">www.nami.org</a>

Mentally Ill		6264	
26. National Mental Health Association	National	1-800-969-NMHA	<a href="http://www.nmha.org">www.nmha.org</a>
27. Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Admin	National	1-800-662-4357 or 1-800-789-2647	<a href="http://www.samhsa.gov/index.aspx">http://www.samhsa.gov/index.aspx</a>
<b>FINANCIAL HELP:</b>			
28. Food stamps	National	1-800-221-5689	<a href="http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/contact_info/hotlines.htm">www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/contact_info/hotlines.htm</a>
29. FEMA		Local phone book	Contact local Office of the Mayor or United Way
<b>LEGAL HELP:</b>			
30. Veterans Advocate Service Officer	National	1-800-562-2308	
31. American Bar Association	National-web		<a href="http://www.abanet.org">www.abanet.org</a>
32. Legal Services or Legal Aid Offices	Local-phone book	Yellow pages for Legal Aid	
33 Local Bar Association	Local-phone book	Yellow pages	<a href="http://www.abanet.org/barserv/stlobar.html">www.abanet.org/barserv/stlobar.html</a>
<b>WOMEN VETERANS:</b>			
34. Women in Community Service (WICS) – US DOL	National	1-800-442-9427 for Assistance	<a href="http://www.wics.org">http://www.wics.org</a>
36. The Center for Women Veterans	810 Vermont Ave. NW Washington, DC 20420	1-800-827-1000	<a href="http://www1.va.gov/womenvet/">http://www1.va.gov/womenvet/</a>
<b>SEEKING FEDERAL BENEFITS:</b>			
37. AMVETS	State	Phone Book	
38. American Legion	State	1-800-433-3318	<a href="http://www.legion.org">www.legion.org</a>
39. Disabled American Veterans	State	1-877-426-2838	<a href="http://www.va.gov">www.va.gov</a>
40. Paralyzed Veterans of America	State	1-800-424-8200	
41. Vietnam Veterans of America	State	1-800-882-1316	<a href="http://www.vva.org/">www.vva.org/</a>
42. Veterans of Foreign Wars	State	1-800-VFW-1899	<a href="http://www.vfw.org">www.vfw.org</a>
43. Tennessee Department of Veteran Affairs	State		
44. Record of Discharge application	National-web		<a href="http://vetrecs.archives.gov">http://vetrecs.archives.gov</a>
45. Veterans benefits online	National-web		<a href="http://www.vba.va.gov/VBA/">http://www.vba.va.gov/VBA/</a>
<b>RESOURCE ADDRESSES &amp; Web SITES:</b>			
46. Social Security Administration	National-web		<a href="http://www.ssa.gov">www.ssa.gov</a>

## **Reference List:**

The National Coalition of Homeless Veterans (NCHV)

A Guidebook for Incarcerated Veterans by Veterans Incarcerated Workgroup in Walla Walla, Washington (Washington State Guidebook)

Department of Veterans Affairs 2005 Edition Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents

Washington County TN Criminal Justice Resource Guide

Department of Veterans Affairs Web Sites

Smart Solutions: The Welfare to Work Partnership

National (H.I.R.E.) Network: Helping Individuals with criminal records Re-enter through Employment Network.

Local Telephone Directory