

Year-Round Services for Veterans in Solano County

The North Bay Stand Down is a three-day encampment for homeless and/or at-risk veterans and has been serving veterans since 2002. This year's event will be hosted on Oct. 13, 14 and 15, 2015 at the Dixon May Fair grounds, located at 655 S 1st Street in Dixon.

Sponsored by Solano County's Health and Social Services Department, the event has served more than 2,400 vets, connecting them with local resources, including assistance with more than 1,900 court cases, the issue of more than 485 DMV ID cards, 21,000 hot meals and distribution of 26,000 pieces of clothing and bedding. Drawing vets from neighboring Yolo, Lake, Mendocino, Alameda, Contra Costa, Sacramento and San Francisco Counties, it takes an army of 6,500 volunteers help make this annual event a success.

Although veterans are provided with medical, dental, vision, housing, employment, recovery and other social services at the North Bay Stand Down event, it is important to note that veterans in Solano County have access to these services all year-round.

The Solano County Veterans Service office provides veterans and their families with a variety of programs and services relative to federal, state and local benefit programs based on military service. In addition to the services provided in our office, we connect veterans to other County services, including:

Child Support Services

Veterans who need assistance with child support services, including requesting child support and medical orders from the court, enforcing child support orders, modifying child support orders and enforcing spousal support orders in conjunction with child support are encouraged to visit www.solanocounty.com/dcsc or call (866) 901-3212.

Court Services – Veterans Treatment Services

The Solano County Courts Veterans Treatment Court is a hybrid drug and mental health court system specifically for Veterans. The court uses a drug court model to best serve the veteran population, connecting them with the drug, alcohol and rehabilitation programs they may need. Please call or visit the VA office for more information at (707) 784-6590.

Health Insurance, Food and Cash Assistance

Solano County's Health and Social Services Department administers various federal, state, and local government programs designed to provide health insurance, food assistance, and cash assistance for eligible low-income Solano County veterans. To apply for these programs visit www.solanocounty.com/depts/hss/ees or call (707) 784-8050.

Medical and Dental Screenings

The County's Family Health Services provides no and low cost health services to Solano County residents and veterans who are uninsured or have Medi-Cal coverage. More information is available by calling (707) 469-4640.

Women's and Children's Services

Veterans looking for information about services serving women and children in Solano County are encouraged to call the Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health toll free line at (877) 680-2229.

Veteran Housing Information

The Solano County Community Action North Bay (CAN-B) offers three veteran specific housing programs throughout the County, including:

The Dixon VETS Housing Program provides transitional housing and supportive services for 12 homeless male Veterans for up to 18 months. Contact Lisa Hoff at (707) 427-1148 Ext. 134 or Lisa@canbinc.org

The Suisun VETS Housing Program provides permanent supportive housing and supportive services for 4 male Veterans. Contact Keetra Welling at (707) 427-1148 Ext. 131 or Keetra@canbinc.org

Mission Solano Veterans Transitional Housing Program (Bridge to Life Program) provides transitional housing to Veterans and Veterans families. There are also 10 emergency beds for Veterans who are VHA eligible – This is a 90 day program. The facility is located at 310 Beck Ave. in Fairfield. Call (707) 425-3663 for more information.

Social Security Information

Veterans are encouraged to connect with one of the local Social Security Administration offices to determine any eligibility and pay benefits to which you may be entitled. The Fairfield office is located at 2500 Hilborn Road. The Vallejo office is located at 106 Plaza Drive, Ste. A. Both offices can be reached by calling (800) 772-1213.

Getting Involved at the Stand Down Event

If you are a veteran and would like more information on any of the year-round programs and services Solano County offers, please visit the Veterans Services office during regular business hours, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. for assistance (closed between noon and 1 p.m.). You can also give us a call at (707) 784-6590 or visit our website at www.solanocounty.com/veterans. We look forward to serving you.

For more information on the North Bay Stand Down, how to get involved and/or make a donation, please visit the event's website at www.nbstanddown.org or email Patrick Stasio, Co-Chair of the North Bay Stand Down at pstasio@solanocounty.com or Pat Sheehan at p_sheehan@att.net.

Ted Puntillo is Director of Veteran's Services for Solano County. Reach him at (707) 784-6590 or tepuntillo@SolanoCounty.com. The Solano County Veteran's Services Office, 675 Texas St. in Fairfield, is open from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

#