



Georgia Department of Veterans Service

Cultivating community connections
– empowering Georgia’s veterans
and their families to flourish.

October 2025

CONNECTING VETERANS TO HOPE AND HELP: GDVS STAFF SUPPORT VETERANS AND FAMILIES AT OUTREACH EVENTS

The Georgia Department of Veterans Service (GDVS) staff spent time meeting veterans and participating in two major outreach events in October: the We CARE Veteran Resource Fair in Marietta and a homeless stand down in Athens.

At the We CARE Fair, GDVS Veteran Service Officers (VSOs) joined dozens of organizations to connect veterans and their families with critical resources, including healthcare, housing assistance, employment services, and benefits counseling. Over 185 veterans and their family members were able to meet one-on-one with VSOs to discuss their questions, file their claims, and access their benefits.

In Athens, GDVS staff took part in a homeless stand down for veterans experiencing housing instability. GDVS representatives played a vital role in helping attendees navigate benefit applications and connect with local and long-term support programs.

The GDVS is committed to advocating for Georgia’s military service members, veterans, and their families, caretakers, and survivors. With help from our community partners, the GDVS continues to make a meaningful impact in communities across the state and ensuring no veteran is left without access to vital resources.



WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA RETURNS IN DECEMBER

Mark your calendars! The GDVS Wreaths Across America ceremonies will be held on December 13, 2025, in Milledgeville and Glennville.

Every December, we honor the service and memory of Georgia’s departed veterans and their families with public wreath laying ceremonies. Volunteers are invited to join us at our state veteran memorial cemeteries in Milledgeville and Glennville to help lay a wreath on the headstone of every interred veteran.

Interested in sponsoring a wreath?

You can donate online to [GVMC-Milledgeville](#) or [GVMC-Glennville](#). If you would like to donate a wreath with a different payment option, please contact GVMC-Milledgeville at 478-445-3363 or GVMC-Glennville at 912-654-5398.

GUARDING YOUR SIX: CYBERSECURITY TIPS FOR VETERANS

Veterans are a lucrative target for fraudsters, online scammers, and con artists – and the holiday season increases scam activity.

Scams can range from benefit payment redirection fraud and identity theft to fraudsters impersonating VA personnel in emails, texts, and even in person.

GDVS and VA staff will **NEVER** ask you to pay for services or for your banking information. They will also never ask you to provide personal information through email or texts.

Stay aware of current scams and find details on how to keep yourself safe with updates from VA’s Cybersecurity Spot: <https://digital.va.gov/cyber/>.



BRIDGING THE GAP: WORKSOURCE GEORGIA JOINS FORCES TO AID FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

The Georgia Department of Labor (GDOL) is teaming up with WorkSource Georgia and the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) to mobilize statewide resources to support federal workers.

GDOL’s Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) program offers personalized career counseling, labor market insights, and training access to accelerate job placement.

The WorkSource Georgia Portal provides résumé assistance, education programs, and access to over 1,600 job listings across high-demand sectors such as logistics, healthcare, and IT.

Georgians can also find help through TCSG’s Rapid Response program. Rapid Response provides immediate assistance to businesses and workers in the event of a layoff or closure. Workers can get help with retraining, résumé assistance, job search support, and help navigating unemployment insurance.

For more information and resources, visit dol.georgia.gov or the [WorkSource Georgia Portal](#).

TUNNELS TO TOWERS OPENS DOORS FOR VETERANS

In August, the Tunnel to Towers Foundation (T2T) opened the doors to the Atlanta Veteran Village—a housing and supportive services initiative for homeless veterans—in Mableton.

The Tunnel to Towers Foundation (T2T), in partnership with The Home Depot Foundation, transformed a former hotel into an 88-unit apartment complex to provide permanent housing for homeless veterans.

Veteran residents will receive supportive services, including a resource center for counseling, job training, and assistance with benefits.



DEDICATION AND SERVICE: KRISTI JONES SELECTED AS EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER



Cartersville Veteran Service Officer Kristi Jones was selected as the GDVS Employee of the Quarter for Q3 2025. Kristi’s compassion and attentiveness as a Veteran Service Officer have made her a key resource for connecting veterans with mental and behavioral health support.

A Minnesota native, Jones joined the United States Air Force when she was 17.

Since joining GDVS in January 2022, Kristi has become a trusted advocate for veterans in Bartow County as part of the Cartersville team. Her commitment to tracking claims ensures veterans stay informed and on course throughout the benefits process, even when navigating the complexities of the veterans

benefits system. Her strong ties with both local and state organizations have led to impactful partnerships, including with Friends of Disabled Adults and Children and Children’s Hospital of Atlanta, to provide free medical equipment to disabled veterans. She’s also collaborated with the Shepherd Center and the Vietnam Veterans of Bartow County to distribute mobility aids like wheelchairs, scooters, and canes.

MENTAL HEALTH, ONE TAP AWAY

HereNOW Help is available at no charge to Georgia’s veterans.

HereNOW Help is a free, confidential, mobile mental and behavioral health app for your phone.

Support is available 24/7.

Download the app by scanning the QR code and use access code **241442** to join!



SCAN ME