

# VETERANS ADVOCATE

**JANUARY 2019**

## **A MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY**

### **VA Not Affected in the Event of Partial Government Shutdown**

**WASHINGTON** – In light of the possibility of a partial government shutdown. Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary Robert Wilkie released the following statement:

“Thanks to the leadership of President Trump and Congress, VA is fully funded for fiscal year 2019, and in the event of a partial government shutdown, all VA operations will continue unimpeded.

“We thank the president and Congress for their commitment to our nation’s heroes in funding VA, and stand ready to provide all of the VA benefits and services our Veterans have earned.”

# CHANGE MANAGEMENT MESSAGE FROM OLMSTED COUNTY VETERAN SERVICES:



## DAV TRANSPORTATION TAKES OVER 2 JANUARY 2019

A special thank you to the Olmsted County Veterans van transportation program drivers **Jeff Pischke**, **Brett Maronde** and **Rick Lilla** for their service and dedication on transporting Olmsted County Veterans and family members over these many years. This is a final message on veteran's transportation for Olmsted County Veterans. On Wednesday January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) will assume transportation duty for veterans of Olmsted County and SE Minnesota as the DAV creates the SE Minnesota veteran transportation corridor. If you need a ride to the Minneapolis VA medical center, please contact Kati Carpenter 507-703-1169 to schedule your next ride.





Note: This clinic is on a Thursday & not the second Tuesday of the month.

*Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans, in partnership with the law firm of Fredrikson & Byron, P.A., invites you to participate in a:*

# FREE DROP-IN LEGAL CLINIC FOR VETERANS

**HOUSING, EMPLOYMENT, BENEFITS, EXPUNGEMENT, WILLS, DEBT COLLECTION, FAMILY LAW INCLUDING CHILD SUPPORT**

Thursday, January 10, 2019\* (NOT USUAL DAY!) 9am - 2pm | VA Medical Center Flag Atrium Balcony Room 25 114 (ask information desk for directions)  
1 Veterans Drive | Minneapolis, MN | FREE Parking at the VA Medical Center

**Attorneys, MACV staff, County Veterans Service Officers, and child support officers will be available throughout the day to assist veterans with questions, legal forms, and counsel.**

**For more information contact: Vetlaw Program – MACV | 651-200-4750**

Disclaimer: VA assumes no responsibility for the attorneys providing services at this clinic. This referral does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement by VA.

# Project Community Connect

NEW  
LOCATION

**When:** Friday, January 25, 2019

10 am - 2 pm

**Where:** RCTC Sports Center

851 - 30<sup>th</sup> AVE SE

Rochester

**Questions:** Call 507-421-9051

NEW  
LOCATION

Sponsored by the Homeless Community Network of Olmsted County

## Services:

- FREE lunch
- FREE haircuts
- Medical services
- Flu shots & immunizations
- FREE HIV testing
- MNSure Certified Navigators
- Legal services
- Education resources
- Employment assistance
- Services for Veterans
- Photo ID's
- Tax appointment information
- Shoe Bus
- Interpreters

## Los Servicios:

- Almuerzo es **GRATIS**
- **GRATIS** cortes de pelo
- Servicios médicos
- Vacunas contra gripe y inmunizaciones
- **GRATIS** la prueba de la SIDA
- MNSure Navigators
- Servicios legales
- Recursos educativos
- Ayuda para encontrar empleo
- Ayuda para Veteranos
- Tarjetas de identificación con fotografía
- Información en de impuestos
- Autobus con Zapatos
- Intérpretes

Autobus 3 & 3D a RCTC Sports Center es **GRATIS**. Digale al conductor que quiere ir a Project Community Connect.

## Howlaha:

- Qado **BILAASH** ah
- Caawimaad xagga sharciga
- Caafimaadka
- Talaalka hergabka iyo teetanada
- Ilaha waxbarashada
- Baaritaan HIV oo **BILAASH** ah
- MNSure Navigators
- Shaqooyinka
- Timajarid lacag **LA'AANA**
- U adeegid dadka ciidanki hore
- Helitaan sawir aqoonsi
- Caawimaad balamaha canshuurta
- Baska Kabaha
- Gargaar turjubaan

Baska degmada jidka 3 & 3D oo

**BILAASH** ah hadi aad usocotid kana soo noqoneysid RCTC Sports Center. Usheeg darawalka inaad usocotid Project Community Connect.

**FREE** city bus Routes 3 & 3D to/from the RCTC Sports Center. Tell the driver you are going to Project Community Connect.

# NO LEFTY – GO LEFTY MOTORCYCLE GIVEAWAY

Starr Cycle is partnering up with Disabled American Veterans of MN and an anonymous local motorcyclist in gifting a 2013 Honda NC700X-DCT street legal motorcycle



Specifically, to an honorably discharged US Veteran that has lost his or her left leg or foot, but still has the desire to ride motorcycle!



Interested and qualified Veterans should submit a self-written application to Starr Cycle by email, post mail or in person - Criteria and application guideline found @ [www.starr-cycle.com/resources/events](http://www.starr-cycle.com/resources/events)



Application cut off is March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019

Giveaway will take place Spring 2019!

Spread the word and help us find the perfect match!



Starr Cycle  
200 Pierce Avenue  
North Mankato, MN 56003



Disabled American Veterans

[sales@starr-cycle.com](mailto:sales@starr-cycle.com) / 507-385-1990 / [www.starr-cycle.com](http://www.starr-cycle.com)

# Rochester VA Red Carpet Event



Would you like to learn how to navigate the VA system? Come join us for an informational meeting for new and established patients.

Some of the topics that will be covered:

- **Primary Care** including chronic disease management, patient education, and health promotion
- **Immunizations**
- **Mental Health Services** with on-site staff and telemedicine capability linked to providers in Minneapolis
- **Tele-Healthcare** with Minneapolis providers
- **Laboratory Services**
- **Minor Procedures**
- **Women's Health Care**
- **Mental Health**
- **Co-Managed Care**
- **Pharmacy Management**

**Thursday, January 17, 2019**

Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month in room 117, at **2:00pm**

At the Rochester VA Clinic

3900 Fairway PL NW

Rochester MN 55901



**Olmsted County Veteran's Services**



SEMCIL, and Olmsted County Veteran Services is offering a support group for Veterans that have been diagnosed with PTSD, or those who have signs and symptoms of PTSD, and their family members. Sometimes the most painful injuries aren't physical. Whether it's PTSD, TBI, combat stress, or any other mental health condition, we're here to help you get through it. The group will be facilitated by Jennifer Shumaker, Veteran and Olmsted County Veterans Service Officer.

**The meeting in 2019 will change to Thursdays, generally will be the last Thursday, but will be some fluctuation of dates with Holidays and other bookings**

**NO Meeting in January!**

**Thursday, February 28, 2019**

**Thursday, March 28, 2019**

**630pm-800pm**

**VFW**

**2775 43rd Street NW**

**Rochester, MN 55901**

**Jennifer Shumaker**

**(507) 328-6324**

## Veterans Health Identification Card



**The VHIC is issued only to Veterans who are enrolled in the VA health care system.**

Purpose of the VHIC: The VHIC is for identification and check-in at VA appointments. It cannot be used as a credit card or an insurance card, and it does not authorize or pay for care at non-VA facilities.

### Veterans ID Cards Available Through Community Based Clinics

Rochester VA Clinic– 3900 Fairway Place NW, Rochester, MN 55901

**Veterans must schedule an appointment through the VA Call Center at 612-467-1100.** Clinics start at 8:30am and the last appointment is at 3:15pm. **DATES, Wednesday's: January 30, March 27, May 29, July 31, September 25, November 27**

Primary Identification	Secondary Identification
Must present ONE form of Primary Identification	And ONE form of Secondary Identification
State-Issued Driver's License	Social Security Card
United States (U.S.) Passport (unexpired)	Original or certified Birth Certificate
Foreign passport with Form I-94 or Form I-94A (unexpired)	Certificate issued by US Consular Offices documenting the birth of a child on foreign soil to a US citizen. (Form FS-545, Form DS-1350, DS Form)
U.S. Military card	Certification of Report of Birth issued by the Department of State
Military ID Card	Voter's Registration Card
Military dependent's ID card	Native American Tribal Document
Foreign Passport with temporary I-551 stamp	U.S. Citizen ID Card (Form I-197)
Permanent Resident Card or Alien Registration Receipt Card (Form I-551)	Identification Card for Use of Resident Citizen in the United States (Form I-179)
Federal, State or local issued photo ID	Employment Authorization document issued by the Department of
Employment Authorization Document that contains a	Canadian Driver's License
Passport from the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) or the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) with Form I-94 or Form I-94A	
School ID with photograph	
VA Identification Card (VIC) or VHIC*	

**Rochester American Legion Post 92**  
**JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2019 AT THE VFW**  
**2775 43RD St NW**

**3rd Tuesday of each month**  
**7pm**

**Sons of the American Legion**  
**2nd Thursday of each month**  
**6pm**

**Legion Riders**  
**3rd Thursday of each month**  
**7pm**

**Forty et eight at the American Legion**  
**2nd Tuesday of each month**  
**630pm**

**Marine Corps League Auxiliary**  
**2nd Thursday of each month**  
**7pm**

**Rochester, MN 55901**

**Rochester VFW Post Meeting**  
**2nd Tuesday of each Month VFW Post 1215**  
**2775 43rd St. NW**  
**Rochester, MN 55901**  
**7pm**

**Byron American Legion Post 119**  
**3rd Monday of the month**  
**7pm**  
**505 Frontage Road NW, Byron, MN**

**Vietnam Veterans of America**  
**Meets 4th Monday each month**  
**at 7:00pm,**  
**Vietnam Veterans Spouse Support Group**  
**Meets 4th Monday each month**  
**At 7:00pm**  
**Thor Detachment 606 Marine Corp League Meet-**  
**ing**  
**4th Tuesday of the month, 7pm**  
**MOPH**  
**3rd Thursday of the month 6pm**  
**VFW Post 1215**  
**2775 43rd St NW, Rochester, MN 55901**

**Stewartville American Legion Post 164**  
**Meeting 3rd Monday each month, 7:30pm**  
**1100 2nd Ave NW, Stewartville**

**Stewartville VFW Post 8980**  
**Meeting 1st Monday each month, 7pm**  
**1100 2nd Ave NW, Stewartville**

**DAV Meeting**  
**2nd Monday, of each Month Rochester's Elks Lodge**  
**1652 Hwy 52 N, Rochester, MN 55901**  
**5:30pm dinner, meeting at 6:00pm**

**Korean Veterans**  
**Every Monday at Grandmas Kitchen**  
**1514 N Broadway, Rochester, MN 55906**  
**(Silver lake plaza)**  
**8 AM**

**Kasson American Legion Post 333**  
**Third Thursday of the month, 8pm**  
**212 West Main Street , Kasson, MN 55944**

**Chatfield VFW Post 6913**  
**2nd Monday of the month**  
**9- 2nd St SW, Chatfield, MN**

**Gulf War Veterans of America**  
**1st Monday of each month**  
**7pm, at the Rochester American Legion, Post 92**  
**315 First Ave NW**  
**Rochester, MN 55901**

**Eyota American Legion Post 551**  
**2nd Monday each month 6:30pm**  
**11 Madison Ave NW**  
**Eyota, MN 55934**  
**Legion Riders**  
**4th Wednesday each month 7:30pm**

**Pine Island American Legion Post 184**  
**2nd Monday of the month 7PM**  
**108 1st Ave SE**  
**Pine Island, MN**

**Oronoco VFW Post 9647**  
**First Monday of each month 7pm**  
**Auxiliary meeting same time, separate meeting**  
**5 MN Avenue S**  
**Oronoco, MN 55960**



*“To promote the interests and welfare of veterans, their dependents and survivors and to enhance their quality of life through counseling, claims assistance, education, advocacy and special projects.”*



Veterans Services  
2100 Campus Drive  
SE, Suite 200  
Rochester, MN 55904

