



**2022-23**

# **Veterans and Military Families RESOURCE DIRECTORY**

A COMPILATION OF PROGRAMS AND SERVICES



## Eau Claire County Veterans

Dear Eau Claire County Veterans and Families, we are pleased to present the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of the Eau Claire County Veterans Resource Guide. This book assists you in learning about and accessing the wide variety of services and benefits available to Eau Claire County veterans and family members. Our goal is to provide information about the programs offered, plus how to find out if you qualify, who to contact, and how to apply. Whether you're interested in getting a veteran designation on your driver license, getting a county parks pass, or if you need assistance with the big concerns such as education, health care, disability benefits, employment, and housing this resource will help. We encourage you to take advantage of these benefits and services – if you served, you earned.

When you come into the County Veterans Services Office you will be referred to a service officer for assistance. The County Veterans Service Officer has a compassionate understanding of the problems, which confront veterans, widows, widowers, and children. The County Veterans Service Officer will apply specialized knowledge in the best way suited to the needs of every individual veteran or other beneficiary who comes to the office for assistance.

If you want assistance or need help in obtaining benefits, contact us at **715-839-4744** and we will do our best to answer your questions or help you.

Sincerely,

Eau Claire County  
Veterans Service Office

## Healthcare and Mental Health

### **Chippewa Valley VA Clinic**

**475 Chippewa Mall Drive Suite 418, Chippewa Falls, WI**

**Phone 715-720-3780 Mental Health Clinic 612-467-4010 Website: <http://www.va.gov>**

Outpatient clinic provides primary care and specialty health services, including mental health care, radiology, women's health care, and more. For enrollment assistance contact the Eau Claire County Veteran Service office.

### **Minneapolis VA Medical Center**

**One Veterans Drive, Minneapolis, MN 55417**

**Phone: 612-725-2000 Mental Health Clinic 612-467-4010 Website: <http://www.va.gov>**

Provides primary care and specialty health services, including surgery, psychiatry, neurology, cancer treatment (oncology), dentistry, and more. For enrollment assistance contact the Eau Claire County Veteran Service office.

### **Chippewa Valley Free Clinic**

**1030 Oak Ridge Drive, Eau Claire, WI 54701**

**Phone: 715-839-8477 Website: [cvfreeclinic.org](http://cvfreeclinic.org)**

The mission of the Chippewa Valley Free Clinic is to provide quality health care, dental, vision, mental health care, and advocacy for individuals of the Chippewa Valley who have no reasonable health care alternative.

### **VET Center (Mental Health Counseling)**

**20 Copeland Avenue, La Crosse, WI 54603**

**Phone: 608-782-4403 Website: [www.va.gov/find-locations](http://www.va.gov/find-locations)**

Provides individual, group, couples, and family counseling. Services are available at no cost, regardless of discharge character, and without the need to enroll in VA healthcare or have a service-connected disability. Services are also offered in-person, through Mobile Vet Centers, and with virtual appointments.

### **St. Cloud VA Medical Center (Mental Health and Substance Abuse)**

**4801 Veterans Dr, Saint Cloud, MN 56303**

**Phone Intake: 320-255-6340 or 320-252-1670 Website: [www.va.gov/st-cloud-health-care/](http://www.va.gov/st-cloud-health-care/)**

Mental Health and substance abuse treatment in both inpatient and outpatient settings. Acute Inpatient Treatment – a 15-bed unit provides a safe, supportive learning environment for Veterans who require hospitalization during an acute phase of their illness. For enrollment assistance contact the Eau Claire County Veteran Service office.

### **Veterans Crisis Line (Emergency Mental Health – Crisis Support)** 24/7, confidential crisis

supports for Veterans, current service members, National Guard and Reserve and their loved ones. You do not have to be enrolled in VA benefits or healthcare to connect. The Veterans Crisis Line's new number—**988 then Press 1**.

### **Northwest Connection (Emergency Mental Health - Crisis Services)**

**Phone: 888-552-6642 or Text Hope to 741741**

A coordinated system of mental health services which provides 24-Hour Telephone Service as an immediate response to assist a person experiencing a mental health crisis and provide information, support, counseling, intervention, and emergency service coordination

## Healthcare and Mental Health Cont...

### **Trinity Equestrian Center (Equine Assisted Psychotherapy)** **S5300 WI-37 Eau Claire, WI 54701**

**Phone: 715-835-4530 Website: <https://www.trinity-ec.com/>**

Therapeutic riding and Veteran wellness. All sessions take place with a WI licensed mental health professional, an equine specialist and one or more hand-picked horses. Most sessions take place on the ground, so no horse experience is necessary.

### **Eau Claire County – Outpatient Behavioral Health clinic**

**Government Center, Human Services, 721 Oxford Ave., Ste 1001, Eau Claire, WI 54703**

**Phone: 715-839-7118 Email: [humanservices@co.eau-claire.wi.us](mailto:humanservices@co.eau-claire.wi.us)**

The Eau Claire County Behavioral Health Clinic offers outpatient counseling for folks with mental health and/or substance abuse concerns. If you're a resident of Eau Claire County, their team of experienced and compassionate therapists and staff are ready to help you.

### **AMVETS (Veterans Wellness Program)**

**1419 Lynn Ave, Altoona, WI 54720**

**Phone: 715-883-0654 option 3 Website: <https://www.amvets.org/>**

AMVETS is open to and fighting for all who honorably served in the United States military, including the Reserve and Guard. AMVETS meets on the first Monday of the month at the Altoona VFW. [Veterans Wellness group](#) meets at the Oasis Church in Eau Claire.

## Housing

### **Veterans Housing & Recovery Program (VHRP) (Klein Hall)**

**2820 East Park Ave., Bldg. 128, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729**

**Phone: 715-726-2541 Website: [WisVets.com](http://WisVets.com)**

Offers secure and safe housing to veterans while they receive training and services to become stably housed. VHRP staff will work with residents on: Permanent Housing, Employment Assistance, Education & Job Training, Healthcare & Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse Recovery Support, Claims & Benefits Assistance, Veterans may stay at a VHRP for up to 24 months, however many complete the program in 6 to 10 months.

### **Veterans Outreach & Recovery Program (VORP)**

**2820 East Park Ave., Bldg. 128, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729**

**Phone: 715-381-1525 Website: [WisVets.com](http://WisVets.com)**

VORP staff work with community partners and professionals to provide assistance and connection to: • Mental Health Services • Substance Use Treatment • Financial Assistance • Housing and Utilities • Claims and Benefits Assistance • Employment and Education

### **Center for Veterans Issues (CVI)**

**800 Wisconsin Street, Bldg. 2, Suite 208, Mailbox 34, Eau Claire, WI 54703**

**Phone: 715-559-9392 Email: [info@cvivet.org](mailto:info@cvivet.org)**

Provide housing and supportive services to help improve the quality of life for ALL Veterans, their families, and the communities in which they live and serve. CVI strives to be the premier Veteran Resource Organization that helps end homelessness across Wisconsin and the United States.

## Housing Cont...

### **Western Dairyland's (Housing First Program)**

**418 Wisconsin Street, Eau Claire, WI 54703**

**Phone: 715-836-7511 Website: [www.westerndairyland.org/](http://www.westerndairyland.org/)**

Provides long-term housing and ongoing support for chronically homeless individuals and families in Eau Claire and Altoona. Clients are given an assessment by a case manager, and those who are deemed most vulnerable are placed directly into apartments.

### **Eau Claire County Housing Authority**

**227 1st Street West, Altoona, Wisconsin 54720**

**Phone: 715-839-6240 Website: [www.co.eau-claire.wi.us](http://www.co.eau-claire.wi.us)**

Provides safe, sanitary, and accessible dwelling accommodations for people of low and moderate incomes at rents and prices they can afford. Manages Voucher Program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, administered locally to provide rental assistance for eligible families.

### **Sofas for Service**

**Altoona, WI**

**Phone: 715-309-9663 Website: <http://Sofasforservice.org/>**

Provides home furnishing free of charge to Veterans in need. The warehouse is in Altoona. Volunteers are there to accept donations on Wed and Sat morning (0930-1130 a.m.). Please call in advance to arrange a drop-off or pickup.

### **The Sojourner House**

**618 South Barstow Street, Eau Claire, WI 54701**

**Phone: 715-514-5556 Hrs. Mon-Sun 7 pm - 8 am Check-In Hours: Mon-Sun 7 pm - 9 pm**

Services: Overnight sleeping for up to 32 men and 16 women, separate bathrooms and showers, guest laundry facilities, an evening snack and daily breakfast.

### **Hope Gospel Mission**

**Administrative Office and Resident Intake 2650 Mercantile Dr. Eau Claire, WI 54703**

**Phone: 715-552-5566 Website: [www.hopegospelmission.org](http://www.hopegospelmission.org)**

Hope Gospel Mission accepts single male and female residents to its facilities who are of the age of majority (18 years or older). Residents must be drug and alcohol free at time of intake.

### **Beacon House**

**309 E. Lake Street, Eau Claire, WI 54701**

**Phone: 715-834-4357 Website: [www.christchurcheauclaire.com](http://www.christchurcheauclaire.com)**

Beacon House is a shelter that is part of the ministry of the Eau Claire Interfaith Hospitality Network. It serves families and pregnant women who are temporarily homeless or at risk of homelessness.

### **Bolton Refuge House**

**PO Box 482. Eau Claire, WI 54702-0482**

**Phone: 715-834-9578 Website: [www.boltonrefuge.org](http://www.boltonrefuge.org)**

Bolton Refuge House offers a variety of services to assist people who have been affected by domestic violence, intimate partner violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking.

**Salvation Army****2211 S. Hastings Way, Eau Claire, WI 54701****Phone: 715-834-1224 Website: [www.centralusa.salvationarmy.org/chippewavalley/](http://www.centralusa.salvationarmy.org/chippewavalley/)**

Individuals or families meet with a staff person in a quiet, confidential setting and determine what type and how much assistance can be provided (e.g., housing services and energy assistance, gas vouchers and bus tokens, houseware needs, infant care items, etc...)

<b>Retirement / Nursing Homes / Independent Living</b>
--

The state of WI Veterans Homes provides cost free care to veterans with a permanent service-connected disability rating of 70% or higher.

**WI Veterans Home at Chippewa Falls****2175 East Park Ave., Chippewa Falls, WI 54729****Phone: 715-720-6775 Website: [www.WisVets.com](http://www.WisVets.com)**

A 72-bed facility that provides compassionate and professional long-term, skilled nursing care to veterans and spouses who cannot be cared for in their homes.

Note: The following facilities have a contract with the Dept. of Veterans Affairs for cost free care for veterans with a disability rating of 70% or higher.

**Dove Health Care Center**

1405 Truax Blvd., Eau Claire, WI 54703

Phone: 715-552-1030

**Cornell Health Services**320 North 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Cornell, WI 54732

Phone: 715-239-6288

**Oakwood Health Services**

2512 New Pine Drive, Altoona WI, 54720

Phone: 715-833-0400

**The Neighbors**

2901 Forbes Ave., Menomonie, WI 54751

Phone: 715-232-2661

**Wissota Health**

2815 County Hwy I, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

**Phone: 715-723-9341****Center for Independent Living – Western Wisconsin****2920 Schneider Ave SE, Menomonie, WI 54751****Phone: 715-233-1070 Website: [www.cilww.com](http://www.cilww.com)**

The Center for Independent Living is part of a network of Wisconsin Independent Living Centers that are non-residential, private, non-profit, consumer-controlled, community-based organizations providing services and advocacy by and for persons with all types of disabilities. Their goal is to assist individuals with disabilities to achieve their maximum potential within their families and communities.

**Eau Claire County – Aging Disability Resource Center****Government Center, 721 Oxford Ave., Eau Claire, WI 54703****Phone: 715-839-4735 Email: [adrc@co.eau-claire.wi.us](mailto:adrc@co.eau-claire.wi.us)**

There are no income requirements to utilize the services of the ADRC. ADRC's assist anyone age 60 and over as well as adults aged 18-59 with disabilities. ADRC services are also available to family members, friends, caregivers, and professionals working with these populations.

## Food Pantries

### **St. Francis Food Pantry**

**1221 Truax Blvd, Eau Claire, WI 54703**

**Phone: 715-839-7706 Website: [www.stfrancisfoodpantry.org](http://www.stfrancisfoodpantry.org)**

Distributes food to those in need multiples times a month. Check website for distribution schedule. Note: Must be an Eau Claire County resident and have a valid photo ID.

### **Feed My People – Food Bank**

**2610 Alpine Rd • Eau Claire, WI 54703**

**Phone: 715-835-9415 Website: [info@fmpfoodbank.org](mailto:info@fmpfoodbank.org)**

Food makes it possible for kids to learn, for adults to focus better at work, and for seniors to stay healthy and active. With your support, we are providing food for anyone facing food insecurity so that together, we build stronger, healthier communities.

### **Ruby's Pantry (Hosted by: Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd)**

**1120 Cedar St, Eau Claire, WI 54703**

**Phone: 651.674.0009 Website: [www.rubyspantry.org](http://www.rubyspantry.org)**

Ruby's Pantry is for ANYONE that eats! There is no income or residency requirement, and Ruby's Pantry is for anyone looking to extend their monthly grocery budget. Each guest donates a \$25 donation and receives an abundance of grocery items.

### **Community Table**

**320 Putnam St., P.O. Box 1903, Eau Claire, WI 54703**

**Phone: 715-835-4977 ext. 6 Website: [www.communitytable.org](http://www.communitytable.org)**

Since 1993, The Community Table has been nourishing hungry bodies and spirits in the Eau Claire Community by serving one meal each day, 365 days a year on a no-questions asked basis. Anyone can join our table during mealtime.

### **Meals on Wheels**

**Eau Claire County – Aging Disability Resource Center**

**Government Center, 721 Oxford Ave., Eau Claire, WI 54703**

**Phone: 715-839-4735 Email: [adrc@co.eau-claire.wi.us](mailto:adrc@co.eau-claire.wi.us)**

Meals on Wheels are offered throughout Eau Claire County. Call the ADRC to get started and to determine eligibility. A follow up home visit will be scheduled and if eligible, arrangements will be made as soon as possible. Eligibility criteria: Must be 60 years old or older, homebound due to health reasons, unable to prepare a nutritious meal on their own.

### **Salvation Army**

**2211 S. Hastings Way, Eau Claire, WI 54701**

**Phone: 715-834-1224 Website: [www.centralusa.salvationarmy.org/chippewavalley/](http://www.centralusa.salvationarmy.org/chippewavalley/)**

**The Salvation Army is dedicated to eliminating food insecurity.**

As defined in 2017 USDA study, “food insecurity” is “a disruption to food intake or eating patterns due to lack of money or other resources.” With more than 48 million Americans facing this threat daily, we work to cure hunger by providing nutritious meals to anyone in need via food pantries and meal assistance.

## Employment Assistance

### **Job Center – Dept of Workforce Development (Office of Veteran Services)**

**221 W. Madison St., Eau Claire, WI 54703**

**Phone: 715-836-4101 Website: <http://jobcenterofwisconsin.com>**

The Department of Workforce Development is honored to deliver critical services that help veterans achieve their employment goals and is committed to providing local businesses with highly skilled, job-ready veteran employees.

### **U.S. Dept of Veterans Affairs – Veteran Readiness and Employment**

**1310 W. Clairemont Ave., Eau Claire, WI 54701**

**Phone: 715-834-2154 Website: <https://www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab/index.asp>**

Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E) services help with job training, education, employment accommodations, resume development, and job seeking skills coaching. Other services may be provided to assist Veterans and Service members in starting their own businesses or independent living services for those who are severely disabled and unable to work in traditional employment.

### **Garske's Veteran Services**

**1280 W. Clairemont Ave., Suite 7, Eau Claire, WI 54701**

**Phone: 715-523-2304 Website: <http://garskesveteranservices.com/>**

If you are a veteran and want help getting a job, contact a Wisconsin office nearest you. Garske's Veteran Services (GVS) has offices in Eau Claire and Green Bay. All services are free to qualified veterans!

### **Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR)**

**1730 North Lane, Eau Claire, WI 54703**

**Phone: 715-858-9676 Website: [www.ESGR.mil](http://www.ESGR.mil)**

ESGR, a Department of Defense office, was established in 1972 to promote cooperation and understanding between Reserve Component Service members and their civilian employers and to assist in the resolution of conflicts arising from an employee's military commitment.

### **State of Wisconsin – Veterans Non-Competitive Appointment**

**Wisc.Jobs help is available Monday-Friday, 7:45am – 4:30pm – 608-267-1012 or**

**[wiscjobs@wisconsin.gov](mailto:wiscjobs@wisconsin.gov)**

The State of Wisconsin salutes veterans and is grateful for their service to our country. We are committed to helping veterans find employment and offer a special program for qualified veterans with a 30% or greater service-connected disability. Your application materials will be reviewed for eligibility to be hired into state employment without competing with other applicants through traditional methods.

### **USA Jobs**

**[www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov)**

USAJOBS is the Federal Government's official employment site. If you're a veteran who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces and were separated under honorable conditions, you may be eligible for veterans' preference, as well as other veteran specific hiring options when applying for federal government jobs.



## **Veteran Service Organizations (VSOs) and Military Units**

### **Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) – Post 305**

1300 Starr Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54703  
Phone: 715-552-8438 Website: [www.vfwpost305.org](http://www.vfwpost305.org)

### **Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) – Post 7232**

2900 W Folsom St, Eau Claire, WI 54703  
Phone: 715-832-3528 Website: [www.vfwpost7232.org](http://www.vfwpost7232.org)

### **Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post – 10405**

1419 Lynn Ave, Altoona, WI 54720  
Phone: 715-835-8643 Website: [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org)

### **American Legion – Post 53**

634 Water St, Eau Claire, WI 54703  
Phone: 715-834-4091 Website: [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org)

### **American Legion – Post 545**

1419 Lynn Ave, Altoona, WI 54720  
715-839-7214

### **American Legion – Post 550 (Brackett)**

9150 W Beaver Creek Rd, Fall Creek, WI 54742  
Phone: (862) 824-5225

### **American Legion – Post 291**

S5790 State Road 27, Augusta, WI 54722  
Phone: 862-824-5225 Website: [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org)

### **American Legion – Post 466**

309 N Front St, Fairchild, WI 54741  
Phone: 715-334-4814

### **American Legion – Post 376**

122 E Lincoln Ave, Fall Creek, WI 54742  
Phone: 715-877-2832

### **AMVETS**

1419 Lynn Ave, Altoona, WI 54720  
Phone: 715-883-0654 option 3

### **U.S. Army National Guard - 1-128<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion**

1730 North Lane, Eau Claire, WI 54703  
Phone: 715-839-3819

### **U.S. Army Reserve**

2005 Keith Street, Eau Claire, WI 5470, Phone: 715-834-1543

## **Higher Education Assistance / Programs**

**University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire  
Veterans & Military Services Manager – Miranda Cross-Schindler  
Schofield Hall 20, Eau Claire, WI  
Phone: 715-836-5212**

**Chippewa Valley Technical College  
Veterans Advisor and Certifying Official – Deb Ludwikowski  
620 W. Clairemont Ave., Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Phone: 715-833-6272**