

VHWC DISPATCH

August 2026

FOUNDATION

The VHWC brings together parties to build or expand pathways through which Veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces and their care partners optimize health and wellness outcomes.

CONTACT US

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CORE TEAM UPDATE

As summer continues, the VHWC remains focused on strengthening partnerships that improve the health and well-being of Michigan veterans and their care partners. Collaboration is at the heart of our mission, and we are grateful for the organizations across the state that continue to share their expertise, resources, and commitment to serving those who have served.

This month, our team is expanding outreach to organizations representing our 2026 priority areas: Housing Insecurity, Oral Health, Suicide Prevention, and Transition to learn more about their work and explore opportunities for partnership. We can better connect veterans with programming, services, and resources that support their health and overall well-being by building new relationships and strengthening existing ones.

As always, we invite you to share updates, events, and opportunities with our network. Your engagement continues to bolster support systems for veterans and their families across the state. To stay informed, join our [listserv](#). Contact us at ihp.vhwc@msu.edu if you have questions or suggestions for activities.

SPOTLIGHT:

Veterans Archives

[Veterans Archives](#) is a Michigan-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the personal stories of U.S. military veterans for future generations. Through professionally recorded interviews, veterans have the opportunity to share their experiences in their own words and voice, creating a lasting digital archive that honors their service and preserves their legacy. Participation is provided at no cost to veterans, and each participant receives a presentation box containing their recorded story and a commemorative challenge coin.

By documenting these firsthand accounts, Veterans Archives helps educate the public, inspire future generations, and foster a greater appreciation for the sacrifices made by those who have served. The organization believes that every veteran's story matters and is

committed to ensuring these unique experiences are preserved with authenticity, respect, and care.

If you are a veteran, or know someone who would like to preserve and share their military story, you can [apply here](#).

UPDATES: 2026 PRIORITY AREAS

Let our team know about upcoming events and we will share that information with our network. Organizations needing help for their event should also reach out so we can put those requests in front of others who may be in a position to help.

Housing Insecurity: We continue planning a webinar focused on encouraging landlords to rent to veterans. If you have content or speaker recommendations, please forward names and email addresses to ihp.vhwc@msu.edu.

Oral Health: We welcome ideas for partnering with current dental and hygiene training programs to help expand access to oral health services for veterans. If you have any contacts or suggestions, please send them our way.

Suicide Prevention: We are looking for opportunities to support suicide prevention trainings and educational offerings across Michigan. Let us know of programs, trainings, or webinars that are scheduled.

Transition: We are seeking input on financial literacy offerings that strengthen housing stability, as well as screeners or tools that can better connect transitioning service members and veterans to resources. Please share programs, contacts, or tools that we should explore.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

Webinars:

Webinars can be hosted by VHWC for statewide viewing. Email ihp.vhwc@msu.edu to introduce yourself, your idea(s), or make referrals to subject matter experts. Our staff is available to arrange for technical support.

Events/Programs:

Let us know about your upcoming events for veterans! These are also listed on the [Resources and Events](#) tab of our website to boost engagement.

- 9/11 Service of Remembrance: 25th Anniversary- 9/11/26 from 8:30 am at The War Memorial, 32 Lake Shore Drive, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI. Join family, friends, and community members as The War Memorial commemorates the 25th anniversary of September 11, 2001. The free public ceremony will honor those who lost their lives through moments of silence, reflections, music, and remarks from community leaders. A coffee social will follow the service. [Register here](#)!

- U.P. Together With Veterans Outreach Event- 10/14/26, from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm at Gwinn VFW, 54 N. Mitchell Street, Gwinn, MI. Hosted by U.P. Together With Veterans, the Marquette County Veterans Service Office, and the Gwinn VFW & Auxiliary, this free outreach event is open to anyone who has ever served, their families, caregivers, and the public. Veterans and one guest will receive a complimentary lunch, and attendees can connect with Veteran Service Officers, the Iron Mountain VA enrollment team, and organizations providing information on healthcare, benefits, housing, employment, peer support, the PACT Act, suicide prevention, and other veteran resources. Contact Jim Yates at yatesja1@msu.edu for questions.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

- Subscribe at our website and share with your networks.
- Participate with Advisory Council or subcommittee activities.
- Volunteer your expertise: Whether you have ever served in the military, are a health care professional, community leader, or advocate, your input can make a difference.

“This nation will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave”

Elmer Davis
