



National Association of American **Veterans**™

*Serving Our Nation's Service Members and Veterans with Honor and Respect*

#85065



# HAPPY NEW YEAR 2020

JAN-MAR 2020 EDITION



*U.S. Marine Corps Veterans Volunteers at AFRH-W*

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*Evidenced by their happy faces and warm greetings, AFRH-W residents welcomed the visit and applauded NAAV's outreach effort.*

Story and photos by Robert W. Mitchell | AFRH-W Volunteer Coordinator

## **U.S. Marine Corps Veterans and Community Outreach Event at the AFRH in Washington, D.C.**

The visit, on October 23, 2019 was part of a veterans' service day which included a volunteer piano performance from the National Association of American Veterans (NAAV), a Veteran caregivers organization founded by long time AFRH volunteer Constance A. Burns.



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“This was a great, meaningful event, a way to show our appreciation for our military Veterans,” Burns said.

Eighteen volunteers, all who served in the U.S. Marine Corps at some point within the past 25 years, escorted healthcare Veterans to and from the performance in the Community Center, handed out athletic shirts (donated by the 2019 Marine Corps Marathon organizers) and supported Recreation Therapy’s ice cream social at AFRH-Washington.





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[Subscribe Now](#)

Story and photos by: Robert W. Mitchell,  
AFRH-W Volunteer Coordinator

### **First Military Sorority Sigma Phi Psi Sorority, Inc, stopped by the AFRH in Washington, D.C.**

On September 23, 2019, decked out in their signature red sports jersey tee-shirts, the women of Sigma Phi Psi Sorority, Inc., the first military sorority, stopped by the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Washington, D.C. for a brief social visit with military Veterans.



“We enjoy giving back to our military service members,” said Loneshia Shelton, Beta Beta Chapter President of Sigma Phi Psi, founded in 2000. “It is good for them (the residents) to see that people still care and appreciate what they’ve done for this country.”

Residents in the Scott Lounge and Coffee Canteen welcomed the sorority sisters and had a blast trading military stories and experiences over coffee and water. The visit to AFRH-W was part of a larger outreach effort to engage the local community, Shelton said.





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Story and photos by: Robert W. Mitchell,  
AFRH-W Volunteer Coordinator

### **Central Union Mission Clothing Donation.**

On Friday, November 1, 2019, the **National Association of American Veterans, Inc.** (NAAV) president, chief executive officer and veterans' service officer Constance A. Burns presented clothing donations to the Central Union Mission at 65 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. The clothing items included one hundred (100) shirts, twenty (20) pants, four (4) belts, four (4) sport coats; one (1) sweater; one (1) pair of shoes; and five (5) pair of socks for the homeless residents residing at the Shelter. NAAV received five (5) large boxes of donated clothing on October 3, 2019 from the Charles Tyrwhitt of Jermyn London Men's Store located in Tyson's Corner, Virginia. Charles Tyrwhitt has 25 stores worldwide, of which 12 stores are in the United States. The five boxes of clothing have a market value of \$4,255.00.

The **Central Union Mission** was established 135 years ago. The heart of the Mission "is serving the hidden homeless and hungry in our city-one life at a time." Testimonies... "Thank you NAAV for your continued financial support on behalf of our homeless in the greater Washington metropolitan area. Your support is greatly appreciated." – Administrative Staff, Central Union Mission ... "Thanks again NAAV for the beautiful shirts and ties donated to our residents at the Central Union Mission. We are all very grateful for this wonderful donation." - Floyd Majette and Brandon Jackson, Central Union Mission, Washington, DC



**Special thanks** to **James O'Keeffe**, Assistant Store Manager at Charles Tyrwhitt, Inc. Tyson's Corner, Virginia for sponsoring NAAV clothing donation at the Central Union Mission including Veterans and their families most in need residing in Indianapolis, IN; St. Louis, MO; Virginia, West Helena, AR and Maryland. Our sincere appreciation to **Nick Wheeler**, the Founder of Charles Tyrwhitt for his "33 years of overseeing the company and watching it grow little by little."

For more information, please contact Shirley Johnson, Social Worker at [sjohnson@missiondc.org](mailto:sjohnson@missiondc.org) and Deborah Chambers at [dchambers@missiondc.org](mailto:dchambers@missiondc.org) or call 202.827.3078 for details.



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## VA Dental Care Benefits: Am I Eligible? Dr. Greg Grillo (dentably.com)



*Dr. Greg Grillo has two decades expertise as a dental practitioner including serving as a dental officer in the Navy. His combined passion for dental marketing and knowledge of dental software, makes him a valuable asset to our team.*

### Printable PDF Resources:

[Veterans Dental Care Resources](#)

[Important Questions to ask your Dentist](#)

[Dentably Dental Care Resources for Veterans](#)

Everyone deserves access to affordable dental care, especially because it is so crucial to your body's overall well-being and health. Unfortunately, a lot of the population is severely underserved when it comes to dental

care and often finds it nearly impossible to find care that they can afford with their coverage.

Veterans are an example of a group of people who find it exceptionally difficult to seek out dental care. Their benefits are pretty confusing and can get extremely complicated, so it's hard for them to get the help they deserve after serving our country.

I served as a dental officer in the Navy, and have been working within my own practice for over 20 years now. Because of my background, I have a passion for helping Veterans understand their benefits, especially with regards to dental care.

It is my goal to help educate them on their dental rights and how to obtain the oral care they deserve. This overview is going to point out the different eligibilities and options that Veterans have, even if they discover that they are ineligible for dental care benefits.

### Dental Care Eligibility

One of the reasons determining dental eligibility can be so difficult is because there are 9 different classes for eligibility that will determine where a Veteran falls with regards to their dental care benefits. It can be very difficult to navigate these health care claims and benefits, but I have tried to make these classes easy to help you determine whether or not you qualify for one of them.

#### Class I

If you have a condition or dental disability that is compensated through a connected service, then you are eligible for the necessary dental care.

#### Class IIC

If you have ever been a prisoner of war, then you are eligible for any necessary dental care.



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## Class IV

If you received a disability during your time of service that rates 100% on the disabling scale, then you are eligible for any necessary dental care. If you are unemployed and unpaid due to this same disability, you are also eligible.

## Class II

If you have not received a full dental examination with appropriate treatment upon your discharge, and your DD214 Certificate of Discharge confirms this, then you are eligible for one-time dental care.

## Class IIA

If you have a non-compensable dental condition or resulting disability from your time in service, and can provide and maintain a dentition that is fully maintained (such as a Dental Trauma Rating 10-564-D), then you are eligible for necessary dental care, which will be determined by the VA Regional Office Rating Decision.

## Class V

If you are actively participating in a 38 USC Chapter 31 vocational rehabilitation program and can meet all the criteria within your program, then you are eligible for any needed dental care.

## Class VI

If you are scheduled for or currently receiving any form of inpatient care, and have an oral condition that complicates your current medical condition or treatment plan, then a VA dental professional will classify you as eligible for the necessary dental care to treat that complication.

## Class IIB

If you are enrolled as a homeless or care-receiving Veteran under VHA Directive 2007-039, then you may be eligible for a one time course of care if medically necessary for the

purpose of relieving pain, assisting you in gaining employment, or treating moderate to severe gum conditions.

**Discounts for Veterans Who Don't Qualify**  
If you are ineligible for dental care benefits based on these classes, it can be very disheartening. I completely understand how frustrating that can be. You do still have some options, though, so don't think that you can't find the care you deserve.

The National VA Dental Insurance Program provides dental insurance at a drastically lowered price through MetLife or Delta Dental. Just apply for the Civilian Health and Medical Program. This program will charge co-pay and a monthly premium at affordable rates, and in return you will be eligible to receive endodontics, preventative and restorative, emergency, and surgical treatments as necessary.

## Alternative Options for Dental Care

If you are ineligible to receive dental care through the VA, and unable to afford them through the Civilian Health and Medical Program, there may still be options for you to receive dental care. A lot of dentists like myself empathize with the issue and have begun taking it upon ourselves to offer free or highly discounted services to Veterans in desperate need of care.

Aspen Dental is a great place to start your search. They have over 500 offices throughout the country and a specific set of services offered only to Veterans. Their offices are open on weekends, too. They have a partnership with Got Your 6, a non-profit organization that works to support Veterans and mobilize dentists to give them adequate care.



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## **NAAV Thanksgiving and Christmas Message**

Dear NAAV Supporters, Partners, Sponsors, and Caring Friends:


This is the season of the year that we emphasize being thankful for our many blessings. During this month of Thanksgiving and Christmas, even the secular world encourages us to take time out to be thankful for all the good things that the Lord our God have provided in our lives. But being thankful is not just for the holidays. I would ask you to be especially thankful each new day for the blessings the Lord our God has given us as born-again servants of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.


The Bible says, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." (Philippians 4:6) NKJV


NAAV is thankful to the Lord for...

-  Giving blessings every day.
-  Family and supporters.
-  Good health and Divine Healing
-  Work given to NAAV in support of Service members and Veterans most in need and their families nationwide
-  Prayer warriors who pray for NAAV daily.
-  Those who encourage and inspire NAAV.

## **NAAV Testimonies for November and December 2019**

 "Our groceries were just delivered a few minutes ago. I cannot thank you and NAAV enough for taking care of Thanksgiving dinner for my family. You have made sure Thanksgiving and Christmas will be a success and have alleviated so much stress. We are forever thankful!!" – Justin and Christy of St. Mary's, GA

 "I would like to say thank you from the bottom of my heart and on behalf of my family for helping us with our car payments. It is for our one and only vehicle that I desperately need to get my husband to and from his various medical appointments. Without the help of you and your organization I do not know what we would have done. I know how busy you are and the fact that you took the time out of your day to speak with me and the finance company means so much. If there is something we can do, to help you out in any way, please let me know. Thank you so much!" – Justin and Christy of St. Mary's, GA

 "Thank you NAAV for your legal pro bono support and prayers you provided over the last several years. The Lord has answered my prayer regarding my financial hardship." Thanks again for praying for me and my family." - Princess, Raleigh, NC





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🙏 NAAV and I are so thankful for our partners, supporters, advisors, sponsors and board members who provide their continued financial support to thousands every day. Your help is a true example of God's love for the world. This year we are asking you to make a generous "gift of thanksgiving" to NAAV to help those who served and are serving in the U.S. Armed Forces of God's love.



*Donate Today!*

*Remember...it all helps.*

Your partnership through financial support and prayer is critical to the mission of NAAV.

Your gift of \$25; \$50, \$100 or more will enable us to help Veterans and Service Members most in need of emergency assistance and VA Benefits.

To donate online visit [www.naavets.org](http://www.naavets.org) click on DONATE TODAY!

If you are a federal employee or retired federal employee, look up the National Association of American Veterans, Inc. with the Combined Federal Campaign's charity listing **#85065**.

Also, check out the official CFC Website and designate a payroll gift by entering ID **#85065** as the charity code on your CFC Pledge Form on online at: <https://cfcgiving.opm.gov>. Show Some Love.

Thanks in advance for your donation!

With our gratitude,

Constance A. Burns

CEO and Founding President

Chair, Board of Directors

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## NAAV's 2020 Upcoming Events

### January 2020

#### Activities at the Central Union Mission, U.S. Department of

Housing and Urban Development (contact: Veterans Affinity Group at [Walter.A.Elmore@hud.gov](mailto:Walter.A.Elmore@hud.gov))

January 17, 2020 [Senior Fellowship](#)

January 24, 2020 [Hispanic Senior Fellowship](#)

March 14, 2020 [KARIS Challenge at Topgolf Loudoun benefitting Central Union Mission](#)

For more information, please contact Shirley Johnson, Social Worker at [sjohnson@missiondc.org](mailto:sjohnson@missiondc.org) and Deborah Chambers at [dchambers@missiondc.org](mailto:dchambers@missiondc.org) or call 202.827.3078 for details.

#### Women's Congressional Policy Institute in Washington, DC.

Briefing will be held in March, reference <https://www.wcpinst.org/> or call (202)-554-2323

March 4, 2020 [2020 Annual Gala](#)

TBD [STEAM Fair](#)

TBD [Women Veterans' Annual Event](#)

TBD [Take our Daughters to Congress Day](#)

### September 9, 2019 - January 12, 2020

**CFC Open Season:** The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) is a 58-year Federal workplace giving tradition that has raised more than \$8.3 billion to worthy charitable organizations. It is one of the largest, workplace giving campaigns in the world. The funds raised each fall through this campaign help neighbors in need around the corner, across the nation and throughout the world.

Last year, Army raised more than \$1.2 Million, U.S. Army Audit Agency raised \$19,917 of our \$15,000 goal. Participation 20.4%, 22 donors. With this campaign we can make a tremendous difference. Thank you for your generous contributions that reflect greatly upon the Army and the U.S. Army Audit Agency workforce.

This year Army's goal is \$1.2 Million and U.S. Army Audit Agency's portion is \$21,500. I believe together, we can make many things possible.

Designate a payroll gift by entering ID **#85065** as the charity code on your CFC Pledge Form online at: <https://cfcgiving.opm.gov>.





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**January 25, 2020**

**Winter Haven Veteran Stand Down**

When: **Saturday, January 25, 2020** from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Where: Washington DC VA Medical Center, 50 Irving Street, NW, Washington, DC 20422.

Over 70 participating federal, state and community agencies.

Services Offered include support services, general health screenings, nutritional counseling, psychosocial services and bus transportation.

For more information, contact the Homeless Outreach Program at 202-636-7660 or visit: [www.washingtondc.va.gov](http://www.washingtondc.va.gov).

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Suicide Prevention  
**1-800-273-TALK**

National Caregivers  
**1-855-260-3274**

VA Benefits & Claims  
**1-800-837-1000**

Homeless  
**1-877-424-3838**

### **Our Vision and Mission**

Our vision is to serve as a comprehensive nonprofit organization that values the honorable and selfless service of our nation's service members and disabled veterans.

Our mission is to assist service members and disabled veterans and their dependents, particularly severely wounded warriors and single-parent service members and veterans, by helping access their benefits, improving communication and coordination with VA, and collaborating with the VA and other veterans groups, health agencies, medical professional organizations, educational organizations, and the public in support of veterans, their families, and military caregivers.

### **Our Objectives**

Assisting eligible veterans with obtaining due benefits, counseling referrals, single parenting, and emergency assistance referrals.

Empowering service members and disabled veterans by giving them access to information on education, employment, housing, nutritional and spiritual wellness, medical care information, respite care, veteran mobility van assistance, and job training and career coaching.

Serving as an advocate for veteran's rights.

Supporting the timely processing of VA disability claims for all veterans through partnerships with other veterans' groups.

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