



COVER to COVER

“Connecting Older Veterans (Especially Rural) to Community or Veteran Eligible Resources”

Project Summary

Nearly 9,000,000 veterans in the United States are 65 years of age or older. Though many are eligible for benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), a majority of veterans do not know about their VA benefits. For veterans in scattered rural communities, learning about their VA benefits can be especially challenging.

Utah Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC) provide information and referral and specialize in options counseling to assist older adults and persons with disabilities to plan for their long-term services and support needs.

In 2013, Utah ADRCs kicked off an innovative project funded by the VHA Office of Rural Health expanding ADRC staff knowledge in VA Benefits. ADRC staff attended on-going intensive trainings to expand their knowledge in VA Programs and now veterans and their families have a new **Access Point** within their community.

Utah ADRC sites have an Options Counselor who can assist veteran clients:

- Information on VA Benefits, Public and Private Programs
- Education on required Documents needed to apply
- Support in navigating the VA Benefit enrollment process
- Assistance with filling out VA applications or Public Programs
- Follow-up ensuring services were received

Making A Difference

Who do we serve?
Veterans, Caregivers, Surviving Spouses

April 1, 2013 –December 31, 2015
Agency Veteran Client Served: 1487

For more information about the program contact Jennifer Morgan
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