

We believe veterans and their families should never have to fight alone in the battle for home.

# OUR MISSION: SUPPORTING VETERANS IN THEIR JOURNEY HOME

Oklahoma Veteran Alliance is a statewide advocacy network committed to building stronger communities in support of veterans.

Oklahoma Veteran Alliance (OKVA) is Oklahoma's veteran advocacy network that exists to forge **PATHWAYS** across Oklahoma where **PROVIDERS** can serve and **PARTWERS** can support. We bring veteran service providers, advocates and champions together across the state to identify methods to help veterans transition into civilian life and access resources and healthy social connections. Emphasizing both the need for relationships and resources is a research-based best practice that empowers veterans and reduces rates of veteran suicide. Join Oklahoma's alliance of veteran partners and providers, and help create pathways to bring hope to veterans.

Veterans are changed forever by and through their military service to the United States of America. While service members receive best-in-class training, the transitional journey from active duty to veteran can be deeply challenging for some. This journey home is a cultural shift that often occurs with internal, invisible wounds. Together these challenges can make veterans' journey home its own storm of war. We, as Oklahomans, need to ensure our own veterans and their families never have to fight alone in the battle for home.



# **ALLIANCES, ADVOCACY & ACTION**

By joining or donating to the Oklahoma Veteran Alliance, you are supporting these key, innovative initiatives that OKVA has recently launched throughout Oklahoma to change lives. To learn more about these efforts, please visit **CSCTULSA.ORG/OKVA.** 

### 🗲 STRENGTHENING RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN VETERANS

To build stronger communities in support of veterans, we launched Operation Connect in 2021. This initiative partners with existing veteran service organizations to focus on key areas that can eliminate barriers to veterans' success, such as access to housing, healthcare, education, employment and legal.



## ★ CONNECTING VETERANS TO THE RIGHT PROVIDERS FOR HELP

OKVA serves as a bridge to help veterans. In 2017, we launched Unite Oklahoma (formerly Oklahoma Veteran Connections), a closed loop referral system using cutting-edge technology that quickly connects veterans to qualified providers and tracks the progress of care received.

W UNITE OKLAHOMA W UNITE US

#### LAUNCHING VALOR: ONLINE VETERAN RESOURCE LOCATOR

In 2020, OKVA created the Veterans Assistance Locator (VALOR), a web application that utilizes map-based tools for connecting veterans with community resources across the state of Oklahoma.



#### CHAMPIONING VETERAN-FOCUSED EMPLOYERS

Since 2018, we have led the Veteran Employer Network in collaboration with Oklahoma employers to recognize and provide training for veteran-ready businesses across Oklahoma. This effort includes sharing best practices on hiring, retaining and supporting veteran employees.



#### BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS TO PREVENT VETERAN SUICIDE

We actively collaborate with leadership from the Oklahoma Governor's Challenge, led by the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs, along with Mayor's Challenges and other statewide agencies to create action steps to reduce veteran suicide.

#### **SUPPORTING INCARCERATED** & JUSTICE-INVOLVED VETERANS

OKVA played a critical role in developing the Veteran Avoidance Recovery Redeployment Program, a statewide initiative to ensure incarcerated veterans pending release have housing, employment and other vital resources secured. We also work with Tulsa County Veterans Treatment Court to help justice-involved veterans avoid prison through a therapeutic alternative to incarceration.

## What to know about Oklahoma veterans

#### 296,891

Number of veterans in Oklahoma in 2021.

7.5%

Percent of Oklahoma residents who are veterans in 2021.

303

Number of homeless veterans in Oklahoma in 2019.

95,261

Number of Oklahoma veterans with a disability in 2019.

22,432

Number of Oklahoma veterans earning below the poverty level in 2019.

klahoma City

awton

# Where we focus

The Oklahoma Veteran Corridor:





## **CSCTULSA.ORG/OKVA** TO DONATE: Text GIVECSC to 898-211

The Community Service Council is a nonprofit human services agency based in Tulsa that serves as the backbone organization providing oversight for the Oklahoma Veteran Alliance.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CSCTULSA.ORG/OKVA | OKVA@CSCTULSA.ORG @OKVETERANALLIANCE | SCAN THIS QR CODE ►



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June 2021