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This is a project of the Montgomery County Commission on Veterans Affairs. To submit an update, add or remove a listing, or request an alternative format, please contact: MCCVA@montgomerycountymd.gov, 240-777-1246 (V), MD Relay 711.

See also Respite Care and Adult Day Services

### VA Aid and Attendance Benefits and Housebound Allowance

| Department of Veterans Affairs | 1-800-827-1000 (Toll Free) |
| Pension Intake Center | 1-844-655-1604 (Fax) |
| Attn: Philadelphia VA Pension Management Center | |
| P.O. Box 5206 | |
| Janesville, WI 53547 | |

(Serves Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, the Philippines, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia)

www.va.gov/pension/aid-attendance-housebound

VA Aid and Attendance or Housebound benefits provide monthly payments added to the amount of a monthly VA pension for qualified Veterans and survivors.

#### VA Aid and Attendance Eligibility

You may be eligible for this benefit if you get a VA pension and you meet at least one of the requirements listed below. At least one of these must be true:

- You need another person to help you perform daily activities, like bathing, feeding, and dressing, or
- You have to stay in bed—or spend a large portion of the day in bed—because of illness, or
- You are a patient in a nursing home due to the loss of mental or physical abilities related to a disability, or
- Your eyesight is limited (even with glasses or contact lenses you have only 5/200 or less in both eyes; or concentric contraction of the visual field to 5 degrees or less)

#### Housebound Benefits Eligibility

You may be eligible for this benefit if you get a VA pension and you spend most of your time in your home because of a permanent disability (a disability that doesn’t go away).

Note: You can’t get Aid and Attendance benefits and Housebound benefits at the same time.

#### Applying for Benefits

Fill out VA Form 21-2680 (Examination for Housebound Status or Permanent Need for Regular Aid and Attendance) and mail it to the PMC for your state. You can have your doctor fill out the examination information section. Download VA Form 21-2680 (PDF)

You can also include with your VA form:

- Other evidence, like a doctor’s report, that shows you need Aid and Attendance or Housebound care
- Details about what you normally do during the day and how you get to places
- Details that help show what kind of illness, injury, or mental or physical disability affects your ability to do things, like take a bath, on your own

If you’re in a nursing home, you’ll also need to fill out a Request for Nursing Home Information in Connection with Claim for Aid and Attendance (VA Form 21-0779). Download VA Form 21-0779 (PDF)

You may apply for Aid and Attendance or Housebound benefits by writing to the Pension Management Center (PMC) that serves your state (listed above). You may also visit your local regional benefit office to file your request. You can locate your local regional benefit office using the VA Facility Locator.

You can ask VA to help you fill out the form by contacting a regional office or call center. Mail or take your application to the closest VA regional office. For current rates, visit www.benefits.va.gov/pension/rates.asp.
VA In-Home and Support Services – VA Caregiver Support

VA Maryland Healthcare System
Baltimore VA Medical Center
10 N. Greene Street
Baltimore, MD 21201
www.caregiver.va.gov/care_veterans.asp

410-605-7000 ext. 54143 (Caregiver Support Coordinator)
1-855-260-3274 (Caregiver Support Line)

Caregiver Support Line Hours:
Monday through Friday 8am to 10pm
Saturday 8am to 5pm

The Department of Veterans Affairs has published the interim final rule for implementing the Family Caregiver Program of the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act 2010. This new rule will provide additional support to eligible post-9/11 Veterans who choose to receive their care in a home setting from a primary Family Caregiver. Eligible primary Family Caregivers can receive a stipend, training, mental health services, and access to health insurance if they are not already under a health care plan.

• **Adult Day Health Care Centers (ADHC):** ADHC Centers are a safe and active environment with constant supervision designed for Veterans to get out of the home and participate in activities. It is a time for the Veteran you care for to socialize with other Veterans while you, the Family Caregiver, get some time for yourself. ADHC Centers employ caring professionals who will assess a Veteran's rehabilitation needs and help a Veteran accomplish various tasks so he or she can maintain or regain personal independence and dignity. The Veteran you care for will participate in rehabilitation based on his or her specific health assessment during the day (ADHC centers are generally open Monday through Friday during normal business hours). The ADHC Centers emphasize a partnership with you, the Veteran you care for and Centers' staffs.

• **Home-Based Primary Care:** This program delivers routine health care in your home when medical issues make it challenging for a Veteran to travel. Some of their services are primary care and nursing, managing medication, and helping plan and put together nutritious and tasty meals. This service can also include physical rehabilitation, mental health care for your Veteran, social work and referrals to VA and community services.

• **Home Hospice Care:** During the advanced stages of a terminal disease, Home Hospice Care can offer comfort and supportive services for you and the Veteran you care for in your own home. An interdisciplinary team of health care providers and volunteers from a local community hospice agency is there for you 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Grief counseling is also available for you and other immediate family members.

• **Homemaker and Home Health Aide:** Assist veterans with personal care needs, such as eating and bathing, which can be very stressful and time consuming. Homemaker Home Health Aides work for an organization that has a contract with VA. A Homemaker or Home Health Aide can be used as a part of an alternative to nursing home care, and as a way to get Respite Care at home for Veterans and their family caregiver. The services of a Homemaker or Home Health Aide can help Veterans remain living in their own home and can serve Veterans of any age.

• **Home Telehealth:** Designed for Veterans who live at a distance from a VA medical center, the Home Telehealth program connects them with a care coordinator through technology (e.g., telephone, computers). These services may also include education and training or online and telephone-based support groups.

• **Remote Monitoring Care:** A service that allows the Veteran's physician or nurse to monitor the Veteran's medical condition remotely using home monitoring equipment.

• **Respite Care:** As a Family Caregiver, it can be hard to find time for a much-needed break from your daily routine and care responsibilities so that you have some time for yourself. Respite is time for relaxing and renewing your own energy, and respite care can provide you with the time to do that. If a Veteran requires a Caregiver, you are eligible to receive up to 30 days of respite care per year. The care can be offered in a variety of settings including at your home or through temporary placement of a Veteran at a VA Community Living Center, a VA-contracted Community Residential Care Facility, or an Adult Day Health Care Center. Respite care may also be provided in response to a Family Caregiver's unexpected hospitalization, a need to go out of town, or a family emergency. Staying strong for your Veteran means staying strong yourself. By taking an opportunity to be refreshed through respite care, you may be amazed at how your fresh outlook will help you and your Veteran.

• **Skilled Home Care:** Short-term health care services that can be provided to Veterans if they are homebound or live far away from VA. The care is delivered by a community-based home health agency that has a contract with VA. Services include nursing care (such as wound care or catheter care); therapy visits for physical, occupational or speech therapy; patient education (about managing your medicines or illness); a home safety evaluation; and social work support.
VA National Caregiver Support Line

www.caregiver.va.gov/help_landing.asp  410-605-7000 ext. 54143 (Baltimore VA Medical Center - Caregiver Support Coordinator)
1-855-260-3274 (Caregiver Support Line)

Caregiver Support Line Hours:
Monday through Friday 8am to 10pm, Saturday 8am to 5pm

Serves as a primary resource/referral center to assist caregivers, Veterans, and others seeking caregiver information. VA's Caregiver Support Line has licensed caring professionals standing by. Whether you're in need of immediate assistance or have questions about what services you may be eligible for, the caring licensed professionals who answer the Caregiver Support Line can: yell you about the assistance available from VA; help you access services; connect you with the Caregiver Support Coordinator at a VA Medical Center near you; or just listen, if that's what you need right now. If you're just getting started with VA, calling the Caregiver Support Line is a great first step to take to learn more about the support that's available to you. For direct services, call the Baltimore VA Medical Center and ask for the Caregiver Support Coordinator in the Social Work Department.

Caregiver Support Line - Monthly Education Calls
The VA's Caregiver Support Line also facilitates telephone education presentations monthly for caregivers, with a focus on self-care. During these calls, caregivers will receive self-care tips and support on a variety of topics. To participate, the Veteran you are caring for must be enrolled in VA Healthcare. Registration is required. To register or learn more, call the VA Caregiver Support Line (1-855-260-3274).

Armed Forces Retirement Home (AFRH) – Washington, DC Campus

E-mail: admissions@afrh.gov
www.afrh.gov  1-800-422-9988 (Toll Free)

The campus features everything for our residents need for daily living: 400+ private rooms for independent living equipped for cable television and telephones, banks, chapels, convenience store, post office, laundry, barber shop and beauty salon, dining room, and 24-hour security and staff presence. Offer social, recreational and occupational activities for every interest. Veterans are eligible to live in AFRH located in Washington, D.C., if their active duty military service is at least 50 percent enlisted, warrant officer or limited duty officer if they qualify under one of the following categories:

- Are 60 years of age or older; and were discharged or released under honorable conditions after 20 or more years of active service in the Armed Forces.
- Aerved in the Armed Forces (Regular, Reserve, or National Guard) and are eligible for retired pay according to Ch. 1223 of Title 10, USC, including those individuals who have either completed sufficient service in a non-regular component or qualify for an early retirement (TERA/DISABILTY) and are now receiving retired pay and benefits from the Department of Defense.
- Served in a war theater during a time of war declared by Congress or were eligible for hostile fire special pay and were discharged or released under honorable conditions; and are determined to be incapable of earning a livelihood because of injuries, disease or disability.
- Served in a women's component of the armed forces before June 12, 1948; and are determined to be eligible for admission due to compelling personal circumstances.

To apply for acceptance as a resident of a facility of the Retirement Home, a person eligible to be a resident submits to the Administrator of that facility an application in such form and containing information required by the Chief Operating Officer. The Chief Operating Officer has established a system of priorities for the acceptance of residents so that the most deserving applicants will be accepted whenever the number of eligible applicants is greater than the Retirement Home can accommodate. Married couples are welcome, but both must be eligible in their own right. AFRH is an independent federal agency.

Caregiver Resource Directory – U.S. Department of Defense Warrior Care

https://warriorcare.dodlive.mil/caregiver-resources/

Directory includes the most commonly referenced resources, organizations, agencies, and programs that provide support to the caregivers of wounded, ill, or injured Service members. The concept of the Caregiver Resource Directory is to connect communities with caregivers, building public awareness and support for caregivers. Includes contact information on more than 300 supportive government and non-profit organizations.

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Charlotte Hall Veterans Home – Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA)
Sharon L. Murphy, Admissions Director
29449 Charlotte Hall Road
Charlotte Hall, MD 20622
E-mail: admissions@charhall.org
www.charhall.org

Designed to meet the needs of Veterans requiring minimal assistance with everyday activities, and is intended to help maintain their independence. In addition to their room and board, residents receive primary medical care, all home physician prescribed medications, transportation to and from the VA Medical Center in Washington, DC (for those who use to utilize the VA medical system), one free barber/beauty service per month, free local telephone service, free cable TV service, and a separate activities program tailored to a more active lifestyle. Specialized care for men and women suffering from Alzheimer's and other related dementias is provided in the home's two secure 42-bed units. Must meet admission eligibility requirements. The admission of non-Veteran spouses must be at no cost to the State, except for Medicaid.

Nurturing Angels Home Care
10410 Kensington Parkway Suite 113
Kensington, MD 20895
E-mail: administrator@nurturingangelshomecare.com
www.nurturingangelshomecare.com

Services provided include Alzheimer's/dementia care, medication administration, companionship, respite care, personal hygiene and dressing assistance, meal preparation, incidental transportation, light housekeeping, errands and shopping, laundry and linen washing, and recreational activities. 24/7 nurse hotline and scheduling. Approved VA provider.