Many veterans will now have the option to receive non-VA health care rather than waiting for a VA appointment or traveling to a VA facility. Veterans are eligible for this temporary program if any of these situations apply to you:

- You have been told by your local VA medical facility that you will need to wait more than 30 days from your preferred date or the date medically determined by your physician.
- Your current residence is more than 40 miles from the closest VA health care facility.
- You need to travel by plane or boat to the VA medical facility closest to your home.
- You face a geographic challenge, such as extensive distances around water or other geologic formations, such as mountains, which presents a significant travel hardship.

Included in this section are links to the Veterans Choice Overview Facts, and additional eligibility information through TriWest Healthcare Alliance that answers frequently asked questions pertaining to this program. These links also contains the full documents Choice Act and various details how to get approval to utilize the veterans choice card.


The Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Program provides grants and technical assistance to community-based or nonprofit organizations to help veterans and their families. SSVF will assist very low-income veteran families residing in or transitioning to permanent housing. Grantees will provide a range of supportive services to eligible veteran families that are designed to promote housing stability. For example, http://okgoodwill.org/uploads/SSVF%20BROCHURE.pdf, http://www.kibois.org/ssvf.html, and the BRXX4Vets matthew.engelbach@tulsavtc.com are four of many community based SSVF programs that are located across our state.

Together we can end veteran homelessness.

Veteran Housing Programs

There are many great programs for housing veterans in Oklahoma that deliver quality services for America's heroes. The two programs of interest per this section, the Homeless and Urban Development VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program and the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program, which are two national agendas that partner with communities throughout our state. As a focal point to these programs distinctions and reflective admissible criteria will be generally explained.

The HUD-VASH program is a long term intensive case management program for homeless veterans. HUD-VASH is a united agreement amongst the Department of Housing and Urban Development and VA. HUD provides housing assistance through its Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8) that allows homeless veterans to rent privately owned housing. The VA offers eligible homeless veterans clinical and supportive services through its health care system. There are two VA Homeless programs that service Oklahoma; the OKC-VAMC http://www.oklahoma.va.gov/services/homeless/ & the Homeless Alliance, and the Oklahoma Northeastern regional partners http://mhaok.org/what-we-do/housing/housing-options/ etc. & VA facilities (see attachments & catchment region– Blue represents region OKC VAMC/ White represents the Tulsa VA & Jack C. Montgomery catchment region). Click this link for eligibility criteria http://www.va.gov/homeless/hud-vash_eligibility.asp or call 1-877-424-3838.

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Vet Centers

Vet Centers mission “to serve veterans and their families by providing a continuum of quality care, which adds value for veterans, families and communities. Care includes professional readjustment counseling, community education, outreach to special populations, the brokering of services with community agencies, and providing a key access link between the veterans and other services in the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs”.

Services that are provided by Vet Centers are specific to combat veterans and include: Individual Readjustment, counseling Group Meetings & Counseling, Military Sexual Trauma Counseling, Bereavement Counseling, Marital & Family Counseling, Employment Counseling & Guidance, Benefits Assistance & Referral, Substance Abuse Information & Referral, Community Education, Liaison with Community Agencies.

There are four locations in Oklahoma.

**Oklahoma City Vet Center**
1024 N.W. 47th St. Suite B OKC, 73118
(405) 456-5184

**Tulsa Vet Center**
14002 E. 21st St. Suite 200 Tulsa, OK 74134
(918) 628-2760

**Cherokee Nation Vet Center**
Tahlequah, OK 74465
(918) 453-3977

**Lawton/Red River Vet Center**
1016 S.W. C Street Lawton, OK 73501
(580) 585-5880

Each location accept walk ins or appointments. Business hours are listed in links. Evening appointments are available.

Did you know: Members who participated are also war zone eligible veterans:
- **Merchant Marines**: Dec. 1941 to Aug. 1945, Lebanon – Aug. 1982 to Feb. 1984,
- **Grenada**: Oct. 1983 to Nov. 1983,
- **Panama**: Dec. 1989 to Jan. 1990,
- **Persian Gulf**: Aug. 1990 to..., Somalia

Vet Centers are great alternative treatment for combat veterans who are seeking services outside of the U.S. Veteran Affairs Medical Centers.
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
OKLAHOMA RESOURCES

oklahoma.va.gov
Homelessness is an adverse consequence of varied life struggles. The Jack C. Montgomery VA Homeless Program team can help guide you to live the life you desire.

The VA Wants to End Homelessness Among Our Veterans

"Caring for Veterans is a calling, and our first commitment is to provide them and their families the timely, quality care and benefits they have earned and deserve through their service to our Nation."

Robert A. McDonald
Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs

"We’re not going to be satisfied until every Veteran who has fought for America has a home in America."

Barack Obama
44th President of the United States of America
The HUD-VASH Program is a cooperative effort between the Housing and Urban Department and the Department of Veterans Affairs aimed at providing supportive housing assistance to homeless Veterans and their families. To be eligible for this program, the Veteran must be currently homeless or imminently homeless (documented as being homeless within 14 days), meet financial eligibility guidelines established by HUD for the region, have a case management need and be willing to participate in on-going case management services.

This innovative project promotes a team approach to ending homelessness: the Veteran works with their public housing authority case worker and their VA case manager to actively address the issues that impaired his/her ability to maintain stable housing. In turn, the VA offers case management support and community resources to actively address those issues and the public housing authority offers rental assistance in the selected, eligible unit chosen by the Veteran. The encompassing goal is to help the Veteran obtain AND maintain stable housing for his/her household.

Yale Apartments
Located in Tulsa, Yale Apartments provide transitional living for Veterans who have a mental health diagnosis. Veterans can reside at Yale Apartments for 30-90 days.

Bryce House (Grant and Per Diem)
Located in Tulsa, Bryce House is a 31-bed residential treatment center for male Veterans recovering from substance abuse. Supportive services are provided at the facility. Veterans can reside up to 24 months.

Liberty House (Grant and Per Diem)
Located in Tulsa, Liberty House is a transitional living facility for homeless male Veterans who are coming out of the prison system, in recovery from alcohol and drug use, and have a desire for recovery. Individualized supportive programs are offered.

12 & 12, Inc.
Located in Tulsa, 12 & 12 Inc. is one of the largest and most comprehensive substance use disorder treatment centers in northeastern Oklahoma. 30-90 days of housing and support are offered to female Veterans and men if beds are available.

Eligibility Criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yale Apartments</th>
<th>Bryce House</th>
<th>Liberty House</th>
<th>12 &amp; 12, Inc.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male only</td>
<td>■</td>
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<tr>
<td>Female only</td>
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<tr>
<td>Be able to work, volunteer or attend school</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not be awaiting other housing placement</td>
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<td>Will be subject to program fees</td>
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<td>Mandatory savings account program</td>
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<td>Mental health diagnosis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Substance Use Disorder or Co-Occurring Diagnosis</td>
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<td>Willing to reside in a sober living environment</td>
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<td>Have 30 days of sobriety</td>
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<td>Be in recovery or have a desire for recovery</td>
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<td>Be stable if on psychotropic medications</td>
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<td>Willing to participate in case management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agree to participate in the SNAP Program *</td>
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<tr>
<td>Must not be a danger to themselves or others</td>
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* If ineligible for SNAP Program, agree to pay up to $200.00 per month to assist with food costs.