



# Idaho Division of Veterans Services

Caring for America's Heroes





# VETERANS OUTREACH & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

# Our Services



## STATE VETERANS CEMETERIES

located in Boise and Blackfoot



## STATE VETERANS HOMES

located in Boise, Pocatello, Lewiston & Post Falls



## OFFICE OF VETERANS ADVOCACY

located in Boise, Pocatello, Lewiston, Post Falls, Caldwell & Twin Falls



## EDUCATION



## VETERAN OUTREACH & COMMUNITY SUPPORT





# V.O.C.S. MISSION

Never turn away a veteran in need.

**Build relationships with community partners and support to help veterans whose needs may fall between the cracks of traditional benefits.**

**Encourage Veterans to connect with a VSO to make sure they are making the most of their benefits and educated on the latest programs.**

# GOALS

**Educate the public on the value of identifying veterans in their community and connecting the veteran to VSO's.**

**Facilitate connectedness and teamwork in existing community programs to help veterans establish ongoing support.**

**Help Veterans in urgent need through existing programs, grants, and community partners.**

# ASK THE QUESTION

A Toolkit for Idaho Service Providers



## ASK THE QUESTION:

### HAVE YOU OR A LOVED ONE SERVED IN THE US MILITARY?



because one question  
can make all the difference  
in saving a life

 **Veterans  
Crisis Line**  
DIAL 988 then **PRESS 1**



## HOW TO JOIN THE CHALLENGE

To reduce suicide among  
Service Members, Veterans, and their Families.

This toolkit is provided to community partners to help answer the three main questions required to fully complete the Ask the Question Campaign:

1. When/how will you Ask the Question?
2. What is your action plan for yes answers?
3. What are you doing to screen for suicide?

You may want to use options provided here or may already use some strategies of your own. This campaign not only meets the veteran where ever they are at, but the service providers as well while ensuring you have the tools and resources you need to better serve our SMVF.

## Ask The Question HAVE YOU OR A LOVED ONE EVER SERVED IN THE U.S. MILITARY?

If yes, use the questions and information below to screen for risks that may require additional support and programs.

### Getting Started

- When did you serve, which branch, and what did you do?
- Were you ever deployed or in combative situations?
- Were you wounded, injured, or hospitalized?
- Were you exposed to noise, chemicals, gases, demolition of munitions, pesticides, or other hazardous substances?

### Military Exposures

- **Airborne Hazards & Burn Pit Exposures** (Iraq, Afghanistan)
- **Agent Orange Exposure** (Vietnam)
- **Camp Lejeune Water Contamination** (Jacksonville, NC from 1957 to 1987)
- **Gulf War Syndrome** (Gulf Wars, August 1990 to present)
- **Noise Exposure** (All Eras)

For a complete list of toxic exposures, please visit [www.va.gov/PACT](http://www.va.gov/PACT)

### Military Trauma

- **Blast Concussions/Traumatic Brain Injury:** Do you experience memory loss, have trouble sleeping or have frequent headaches?
- **Post-Traumatic Stress:** Do you experience extreme sadness, startle, anxiety, guilt, high alertness or difficulty with personal relationships?
- **Military Sexual Trauma:** During military service did you receive unwanted sexual attention like touching, pressure for sexual favors or remarks?

If an exposure or risk is identified, use this information on the backside of the card for next steps



## GET CONNECTED

### Veteran Service Officers

#### What is a Veteran Service Officer?

VA accredited Veteran Services Officers (VSO) assist veterans and their families with connecting to benefits, submitting claims, and filing appeals for denied claims for FREE.

Visit the Idaho Veterans Guide listed below to find and contact your nearest VSO.

Enter your zip code then type in a search for "Veterans Advocacy"

to find all available VSO's in your area

Or call IDVS Office of Veterans Advocacy (208) 780-1380 to schedule with a State Veteran Service Officer.

### Find Resources & Programs

For additional resources at low or no cost such as Food, Housing, Transportation, Legal, Education, Community and Camaraderie, and more, please visit

[www.IdahoVeteransGuide.org](http://www.IdahoVeteransGuide.org)



or scan the QR code above.

The search is secure and anonymous. If you need help accessing the guide, contact Idaho Division of Veterans Services (208) 780-1300



For confidential crisis support for Veterans and their loved ones:

**Call 988 and press 1**

For VA Caregiver Support Programs, visit: [www.caregiver.va.gov](http://www.caregiver.va.gov)



Join the Challenge,



# **ASK THE QUESTION: HAVE YOU OR A LOVED ONE SERVED IN THE US MILITARY?**

because one question can make all the difference.



**Veterans  
Crisis Line**  
DIAL 988 then **PRESS 1**



GOVERNOR'S CHALLENGE TO  
**PREVENT SUICIDE**

Among Service Members,  
Veterans  
& Their Families



# ANSWERING THESE 3 QUESTIONS

1  Ask

Are you asking the question to identify Veterans in your client population?

2  Action

When Veterans are identified, what are you doing to connect them to resources?

3  Safety

How are you identifying suicide risks and/or preparing for a crisis situation?

# IDAHO VETERANS GUIDE

QUICKLY FIND VETERAN RESOURCES NEAR YOU



**Where Idaho  
Veterans & their  
Families Can:**

- Find trusted organizations in your area
- Search anonymously from anywhere
- Customize search options to find all low or no cost local available resources

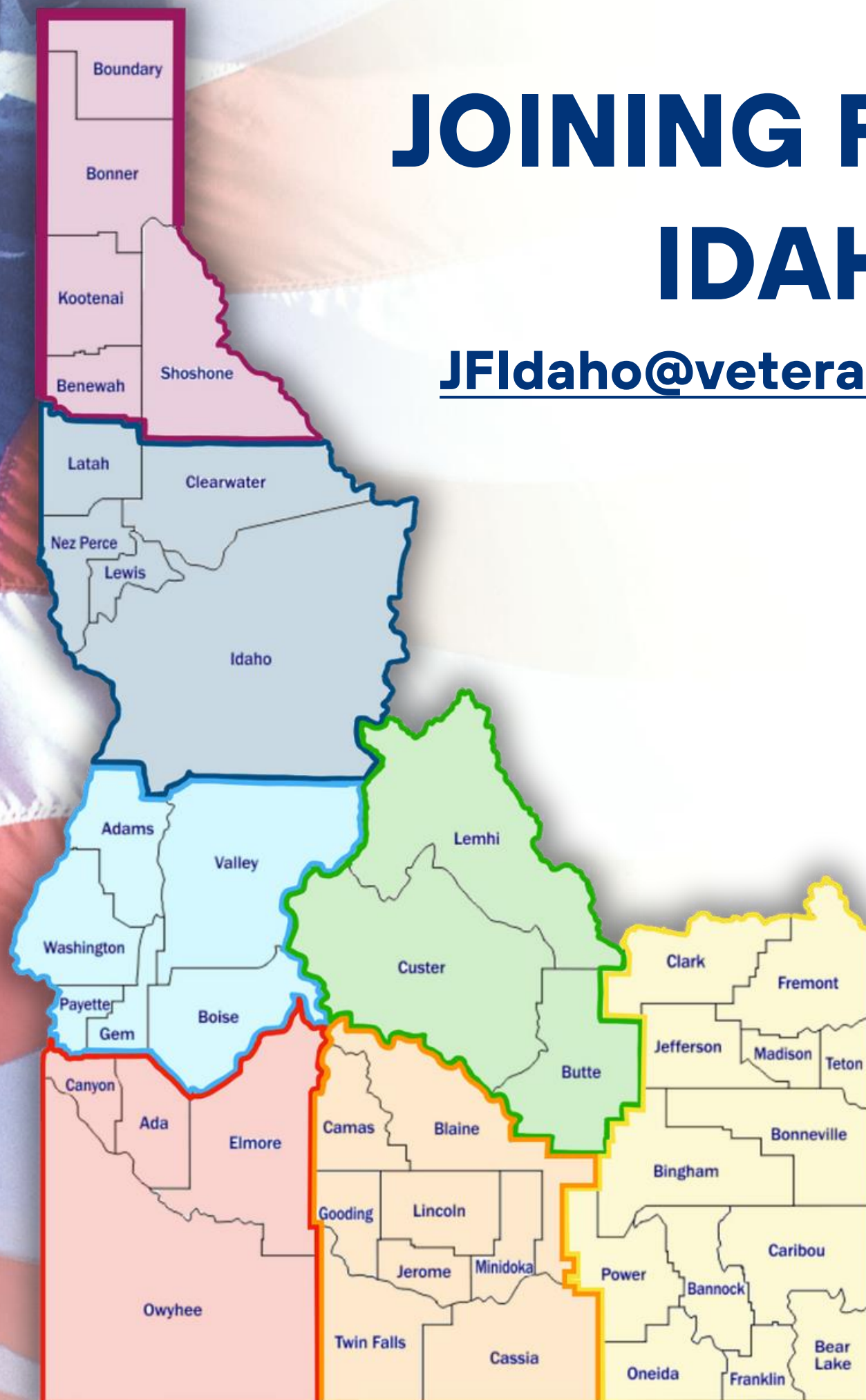


**WWW.IDAHOVETERANSGUIDE.ORG**

**Find the Nearest Veterans Service Officer by  
searching "Veterans Advocacy"**

# JOINING FORCES IDAHO

[JFIdaho@veterans.idaho.gov](mailto:JFIdaho@veterans.idaho.gov)



- **Joining Forces Treasure Valley –**  
[JFTreasureValley@veterans.idaho.gov](mailto:JFTreasureValley@veterans.idaho.gov)  
Ada, Canyon, Elmore, Owyhee
- **Joining Forces Central Idaho –**  
[JFCentralIdaho@veterans.idaho.gov](mailto:JFCentralIdaho@veterans.idaho.gov)  
Butte, Custer, Lemhi
- **Joining Forces Eastern Idaho –**  
[JFEasternIdaho@veterans.idaho.gov](mailto:JFEasternIdaho@veterans.idaho.gov)  
Bannock, Bear Lake, Bingham, Bonneville, Caribou, Clark, Franklin, Fremont, Jefferson, Madison, Oneida, Power, Teton
- **Joining Forces North Central Idaho –**  
[JFNorthCentral@veterans.idaho.gov](mailto:JFNorthCentral@veterans.idaho.gov)  
Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis, Nez Perce
- **Joining Forces Panhandle –**  
[JFPanhandle@veterans.idaho.gov](mailto:JFPanhandle@veterans.idaho.gov)  
Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Kootenai, Shoshone
- **Joining Forces South Central –**  
[JFSouthCentral@veterans.idaho.gov](mailto:JFSouthCentral@veterans.idaho.gov)  
Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka, Twin Falls
- **Joining Forces West Central Idaho –**  
[JFWestCentralIdaho@veterans.idaho.gov](mailto:JFWestCentralIdaho@veterans.idaho.gov)  
Adams, Boise, Gem, Payette, Valley, Washington

# Joining Forces Partners

- Idaho Division of Veteran Services
- Boise VA
- Boise VA Medical Center
- Boise Vet Center
- Idaho Veterans Network
- Boise Rescue Mission
- Wyakin Foundation
- SHIP
- Veterans Upward Bound
- Project Welcome Home Troops
- Ada County Sheriff's Office
- Meridian Police Department
- Nampa Police Department
- Boise Police Department
- Idaho State Police
- Idaho Horse Therapy
- Gold & Blue Star Mothers
- Idaho Health & Welfare
- American Legion
- Veterans of Foreign Wars
- Idaho Air National Guard
- Idaho Army National Guard
- Idaho Department of Corrections
- Ada County Drug Court
- Canyon County Drug Court
- Idaho Department of Labor
- Boise State University Veteran Services
- Gowen Field Family Programs
- ESGR – Employer Support of Guard & Reserve
- Idaho Vocational Rehabilitation
- Idaho Veterans Garden
- Military Order of the Purple Heart
- Guardian Paws Service Dogs
- Beyond The Yellow Ribbon
- Bravehearts Idaho
- Mission 43
- Team Rubicon
- Hire Heroes USA
- Senator Crapo's Office
- Senator Risch's Office
- Representative Fulcher's Office
- Ride For Joy
- NAMI
- American Foundation of Suicide Prevention
- DAV
- Team River Runner
- Vietnam Veterans of America
- Keystone Hospice
- The Jesse Tree of Idaho
- El-Ada Community Action
- CATCH
- VAREP
- 208 Cares
- Legacy Corps
- MHAFB
- Veterans & Patriots Association
- Genesis Service Dogs
- Warhawk Air Museum

**and more!**



# **Veterans Talking to Veterans**

## **Trauma-Informed Coaching**

- **Creates a safe, peer-supported environment for veterans**
- **No pressure to directly discuss traumatic experiences**
- **Conversations unfold naturally through storytelling**
- **Guided questions help veterans reflect and gain insight**
- **Veterans process experiences at their own pace**
- **Builds trust, dignity, and emotional safety within the group**



# Joining Forces

Idaho Conference

## Registration!

Thursday April 9, 2026

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

The Salvation Army Kroc Center, 1765 West Golf Course Rd.

A day of interaction and collaboration with other organizations that serve Veterans to ensure we never turn away an Idaho Veteran or their family in need.

Register by scanning the QR code  
or visit



[www.eventbrite.com/e/3rd-annual-joining-forces-idaho-conference-registration-1979347644086](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/3rd-annual-joining-forces-idaho-conference-registration-1979347644086)

# THANK YOU!

**Together,  
we are making a difference!**



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 208-816-0562



**Office of Veterans Advocacy**

 208-780-1380