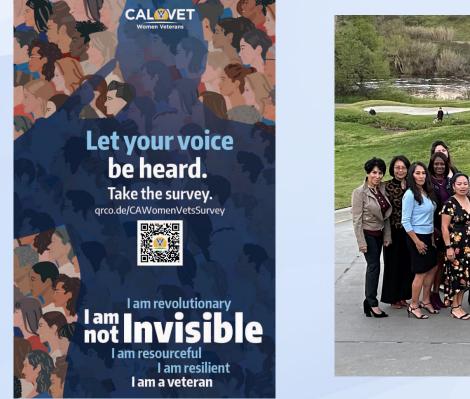


#### **Women Veterans Affairs**

Adriana Griffin Women Veterans Affairs Division Manager February 25, 2025

#### **CalVet Women Veterans Affairs Provides:**

# Information, advocacy, outreach, and support to Women Veterans and their families.









#### **Demographics of Women Veterans**

In California, women are:

- 160,000 or 10% of all veterans
- 32,000 servicewomen (Active, Guard, Reserve) or 20% of all servicemembers

Nationwide, women are:

- 10% of all veterans
- 17% of all active duty military
- 21% of all National Guard and Reserves
- Women veterans are the fastest growing cohort of veterans



\*Military One Source, 2020

#### **Challenges: Health**

Higher Chronic Disease:

• Arthritis, cancer, cardiovascular, COPD, and functional impairment.

Generally, reproductive health has been inadequate:

- CDC reports 12% of US women have "reduced fertility"
  - Women Veterans: 33%
  - Active Duty Women: 37%

More Mental Health Challenges:

- Increased reporting of mental illness in the past year.
- The rate of suicide among women veterans was 2.2 times the rate among non-veteran women



#### Unique Challenges Due to Military Service

- Physical demands of service
- Effects of military job duties/equipment
- Exposure to traumatic events
- Rigorous deployment/PCS schedules
- Gender norms/attitudes
- Military culture/attitudes
- Military transition
- Lack of recognition



## **Supporting Women Veterans**

- Always assume she's a veteran
- Never assume she's the spouse or caregiver
- Ask her if she served vs is she a veteran
- Education and understanding are key
- Get familiar with available resources
  - CalVet Women Veterans Affairs
  - Local non-profits
- Representation matters



#### **CalVet Women Veterans Affairs:**

- Develops, organizes, and delivers training specific to women veterans.
- Assists with outreach via email, social media, and inperson events to women veterans throughout California.
- Guides the development of women veteran-specific events, outreach materials, and information.
- Helps create a comprehensive list of community organizations that assist women veterans in your area.



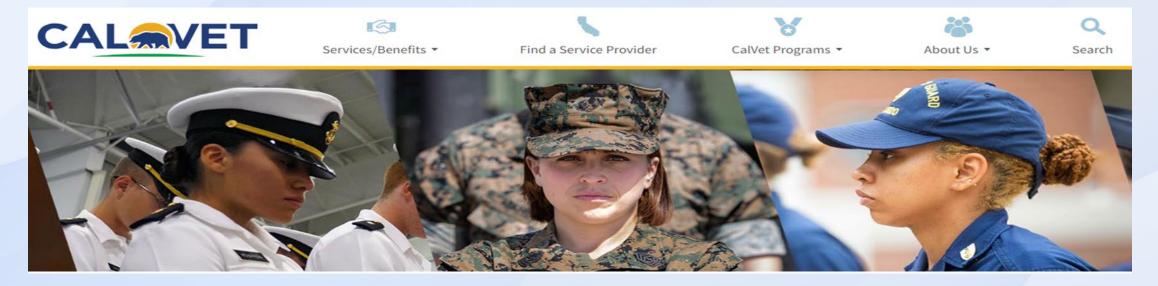
### **Upcoming/Ongoing Events**

- March the third Week is proclaimed Women's Military History Week
- June 12<sup>th</sup> proclaimed Women Veterans Recognition Day
- CalVet Trailblazer Nomination Period
- CalVet Women Veterans Reception
  - Trailblazer Award Ceremony
- CalVet WVD Resource Event
- CalVet Women Veterans Survey
  - Report and Toolkit



#### Find us Online at:

https://www.calvet.ca.gov/calvet-programs/women-veterans



#### Services

<u>Resources</u>	Women Veterans Roster	Women Veterans Reception
Women Veterans Event Archive	Women Veterans Leadership Council	Women Veterans Survey

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#### Women Veterans Roster

- Receive updated information about benefits, programs, services, and resources throughout California.
- Since its launch in December 2013 over 18,000 women veterans have joined.

Sign up for our roster today! https://bit.ly/34CdCca



#### Women Veterans Roster

If you are a woman who served in the U.S. Armed Forces, please complete this form to be added to the CalVet Women Veterans Roster. As part of the roster, you will receive updated information about benefits, programs, services, and resources throughout California. Your information will remain confidential and will not be shared with other entities.

(Fields marked with an asterisk '\*' are required \* First Name \* Last Name Age Select one \* Current Mailing Address Apt# \* City \* State Select one \* Zip Code \* County Select one **Telephone Number** ### - ### - #### \* E-Mail Address \* Did you serve in the Select one military? \* Branch of Service **Date Entered Service** mm/dd/yyyy **Date Separated/Retired** mm/dd/yyyy \* How did you hear about the Select one roster? \* Ethnicity Select one Submit Form



### Questions

Contact us:

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Womenveterans@calvet.ca.gov (916) 653-1402





