



U.S. Dept. of Veteran Affairs "Vet Center Community Access Center" Coming to Loudoun County!

November 3, 2017

I wanted to share this great news for our local veterans, active duty service men and women, and their families! Many thanks to Congresswoman Comstock, the Dept. of Veteran Affairs, my staff, and County Administrator Tim Hemstreet along with his staff for making this a reality! The "Vet Center" is expected to open in early January at the following address:

751 Miller Drive,
Leesburg, VA 20175

Copy of November 2, 2017 Press Release:

Congresswoman Barbara Comstock (R-VA) and Loudoun County Supervisor Tony Buffington (R-Blue Ridge District) today announced that a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs "Vet Center Community Access Center" will be opening in early 2018 in Loudoun County. The facility will be located in Leesburg and will serve Veterans as well as active duty military personnel and their families.

"The Leesburg Access Center will provide certified counseling services for our Veterans, active duty military, and their families with mental health needs, and I am excited to see this much-needed facility come to Loudoun County," said Congresswoman Barbara Comstock. "Currently, a Veteran would have to travel to either the VA Hospital in Martinsburg, West Virginia or a Vet Center in Alexandria to receive the same type of care that you will be able to find at the Leesburg Vet Center Access Center. This new facility will serve Veterans, active military, and their families in Loudoun County, Clarke County, and Western Fairfax County.

"When we held our Veterans Jobs Fair in June, Dr. Heather West from the VA Vet Center spoke to me about the need for a Vet Center presence in Loudoun County. In less than seven months from that initial conversation we will be opening the Leesburg Vet Center Community Access Center in early 2018. I want to thank Supervisor Tony Buffington and Loudoun County Administrator Tim Hemstreet and their staffs for their collaborative work with the Vet Center in helping make the Vet Center Community Access Center in Loudoun County a reality." said Congresswoman Comstock.

"As a Marine Corps Veteran, having known many in need of assistance, I'm extremely honored to have worked with Congresswoman Comstock, along with Vet Center and County staff, to make these much needed mental health services more accessible to Loudoun, Clarke, and Fairfax County Veterans, active duty service members, and their families," said Supervisor Tony Buffington.

"The Vet Center staff strives to provide the best possible readjustment counseling services to our Veterans and Service member clients. It is an honor and privilege to be able to do this for the Veteran community in Loudoun County." Dr. Heather West, Vet Center Director.

This partnership with Loudoun County will allow veterans along with current military service members and their families, to have local access to Vet Center services without the inconvenience of traveling great distances or being burdened by excessive paperwork. Specifically, the Vet Center offers a certified counselor that helps veterans and their families with any and all mental health needs. This includes PTSD, marriage / family counseling, Military Sexual Trauma, Substance Abuse, Anxiety, and Depression. In addition, these counselors are skilled in assisting with socioeconomic issues that face the veteran community and can help in a multitude of areas to include navigating the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The Vet Center is a Federal Government program connected to the Department of Veterans Affairs; however, it is its own entity and does not report to VA Medical Centers. The Vet Center and its Access Centers are located within the communities. Its mission focuses on veteran needs, being integrated with the community, and being a first rate counseling service tailored to veterans issues.

All my best,



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