



WVI NEWSLETTER

Feb
2024

Thought of the Day

“Minds are like parachutes, they only function when open.”
Thomas Dewar

2023: A Year of Impact and Connection

Many of you might not know that WVI offers more than just a summer picnic, holiday party and monthly newsletter. The following is a summary of our actions regarding resources and referral but first you should know we now have 296 members.

WVI has represented women veterans at a variety of committees, such as the Military Affairs Committee, ODVS Advisory Committee for Women Veterans, Toledo Soldier Memorial Committee and the VA Summit on the Effects of Isolation to Physical and Mental Health.

To increase the awareness of women veterans and their needs, there have been multiple military focused presentations to the following organizations: senior centers, senior living facilities, the Exchange Clubs of Maumee and Perrysburg, Unity Church of Toledo, University of Toledo, Philanthropic Education Organization and the Daughters of the American Revolution. The offerings are free to organizations within the community. Not only has the awareness of women veterans increased but this has also resulted in multiple donations.

January:

- Resources provided: pots and pans, dishes, and auto repair.
- Food was proved to 2 veterans and their families for a total of 10 people.
- Follow up phone calls and home visits.

February:

- Assisted with move.
- Toured HOOVES with veteran.
- Food was proved to 2 veterans and their families for a total of 10 people.
- Home visits.

Flag City Honor Flight 2024

Flag City Honor flight is now accepting applications for the following 2024 dates: April 23, June 11, October 10 and November 12.

Vietnam veterans may apply. The application can be found on the Flag City Honor Flight website.

Task Force 20

Task Force 20 would like you to save the date for their 4th Annual Operation Stronger Together 5K and Gaven A. Smith Resource Fair. The event will be held Saturday, June 22, 2024, in Whitehouse, Ohio. Additional information will be forwarded when available. WVI is planning to participate in the 5K but as a walking team so get your walking shoes on (when the temperature is warmer) and join this good cause.

cont. 2023

March:

- Resources provided: auto repair, gas, and pet care.

April:

- Welcome Home to a WVI member that participated in Flag City Honor Flight.
- Home visits.

May:

- Donated funding to Operation Clean Duds.
- Home visits and transportation.
- Resources provided: food, auto repair and a new tire.
- Eight women veterans marched in the Lucas County Memorial Parade and presented a wreath to recognize women who served in the Armed Forces.
- WVI information table at the Armed Forces Day Picnic sponsored by the Veteran Service Commission. (3 women veterans participated)

June:

- Members attended the Veteran Appreciation Night in Whitehouse.
- 3 women veterans participated in the Task Force 20 Operation Stronger Together 5K and Resource Fair.
- Resources provided: Paid phone bill and rent.

July:

- Resources provided: food and auto repair for 2 veterans.
- 3 women veterans attended the Little Blessings Veteran Outreach fundraiser thanks to J. Paxton generous offer of tickets.
- Assisted with the registration of an Air Force veteran into the Military Women's Memorial and certificate presentation at her Celebration of Life
- WVI joined the Maumee Chamber of Commerce. This is a terrific way to network and to spread the word about women veterans.
- 22 women veterans attended the annual summer picnic sponsored by United States Vets, Inc.
- WVI held their annual clothing and household item giveaway for women veterans and their family member. Eleven women veterans plus family attended this free event. Due to the large number of items, the giveaway also became a fundraiser that the community could attend. The remaining items were donated to other nonprofit organizations.

August:

- Women veterans attended the Operation Clean Duds fundraiser.
- WVI Coordinator attended the Military Women's Memorial presentation at the 180 th . WVI is encouraging women veterans to become registered and to tell their stories.

September:

- Resources provided: food, gas gift cards, transportation and paid phone bill.
- 4 women veterans attended the Little Blessings Veteran Outreach fundraiser thanks to J. Paxton generous offer of tickets.
- Home visits
- Information table at Genesis Village event.

October:

- Transported women veteran to the Little Blessings open house.
- Resources provided: food, tire, bed, and U Haul rental. Veterans assisted with the move.

cont. 2023

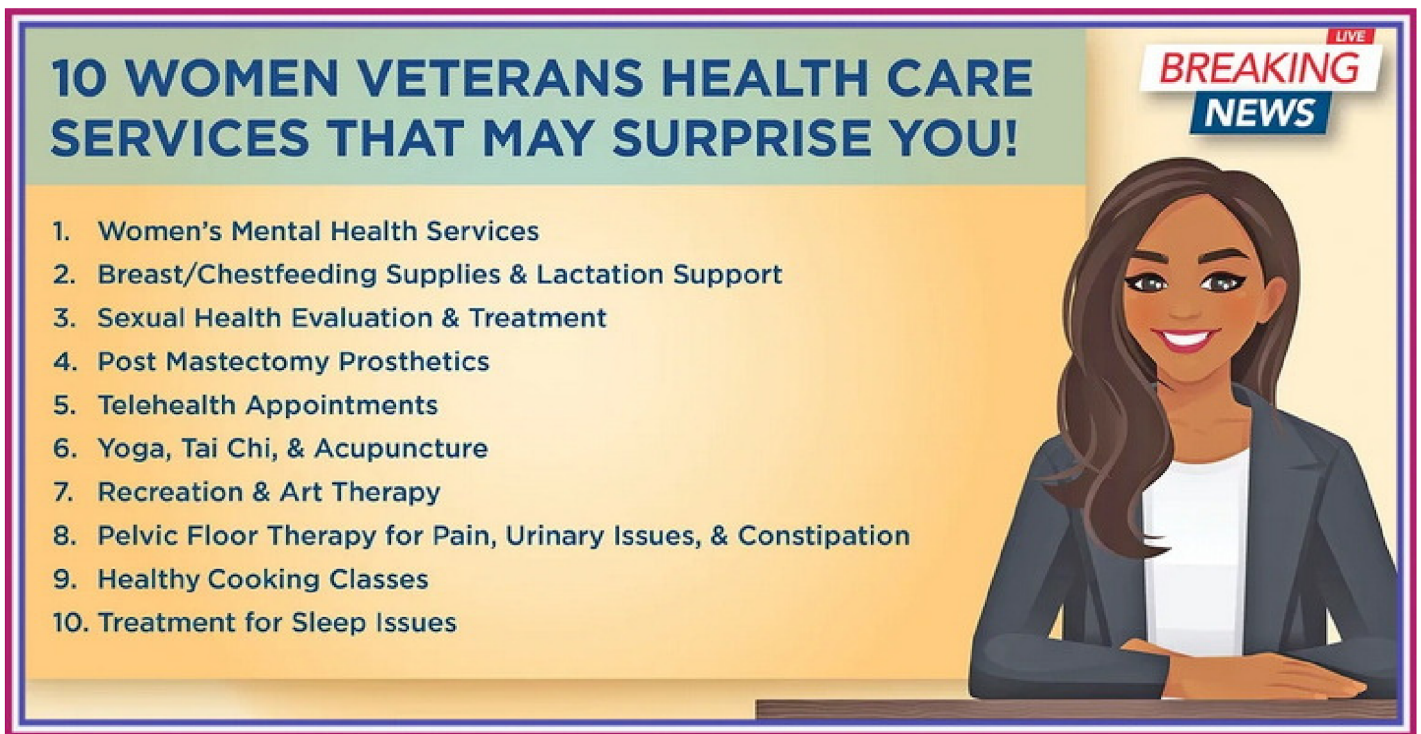
November:

- WVI table at Genesis Village veteran event. Provided raffle items. 2 WVI members participated.
- 2 women veterans entered the Biannual Veteran Art Exhibit held at the Way Public library.
- United States Vets, Inc. and WVI shared a table at the UT Veteran Breakfast and Resource Fair where 13 women veterans joined WVI.
- Resources provided: payment of rent, paid a phone bill, purchased a bed frame and mattress set.
- The WVI Coordinator was the keynote speaker at the McCord Junior High School Military Ball. Her speech focused on women in the military and issues they face.
- 12 veterans and 23 family members (total = 35 people) were the recipients of food and paper products for Thanksgiving.

December:

- Resources provided: food, paper and cleaning supplies, home repair and personal care items.
- The annual holiday party was attended by 21 women veterans and four family members.
- The WVI wrapping team wrapped 70 plus gifts for the holiday party(s) and those families requesting holiday support. Gifts were provided for 12 children.
- Food was provided for 18 women veteran, 12 family members and 12 children (total = 42)
- WVI sponsored a holiday party for the women veterans at the Commons at Garden Lake. Beginning in 2024, WVI will offer monthly programs at “The Commons”.

WVI has had a busy year meeting the emergency needs of the women veterans. We couldn't have done that without the support of United States Vets, Inc., community organizations, veteran supporters and the women veterans themselves. Thank you for your generous support.



10 WOMEN VETERANS HEALTH CARE SERVICES THAT MAY SURPRISE YOU!

BREAKING NEWS

1. Women's Mental Health Services
2. Breast/Chestfeeding Supplies & Lactation Support
3. Sexual Health Evaluation & Treatment
4. Post Mastectomy Prosthetics
5. Telehealth Appointments
6. Yoga, Tai Chi, & Acupuncture
7. Recreation & Art Therapy
8. Pelvic Floor Therapy for Pain, Urinary Issues, & Constipation
9. Healthy Cooking Classes
10. Treatment for Sleep Issues

The graphic features a woman with long dark hair, wearing a dark blazer over a white top, sitting at a desk. The background is a light yellow gradient. The text is in a bold, sans-serif font.



Happy Valentine's Day!

