

# Web Sitings

## VA's VOW to Unemployed Veterans

Users of the <http://www.benefits.va.gov/VOW/> website can access information on employment assistance for unemployed veterans aged 35 to 60 years. Eligible unemployed veterans can sign up to receive personalized e-mails from the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program. The resources area includes links such as “VetSuccess,” “VA for Vets,” “Veterans Job Bank,” “Hiring Heroes USA,” and “Paving Access for Veteran Employment.” The “Voc Rehabilitation” link gives eligible veterans information on up to 1 year of additional vocational, rehabilitation, and employment benefits for service-connected disabled veterans.

Employers can learn about the Work Opportunity Tax Credit available to private-sector businesses and certain nonprofit organizations for hiring certain individuals, including veterans, who have consistently faced significant barriers to employment. Site users can access the VOW Fact Sheet, the Special Employer Incentive Fact Sheet, and the Hire Veterans and Earn Tax Credits Fact Sheet. The “Seamless Transition” link provides information on adjusting to civilian life after active duty as well as links to other resources for job seekers. The “My Next Move” resource link leads to a website dedicated to veterans looking for work on returning to civilian life.

## NAMI Talking Points for 2012 Candidates

The video on the website, <http://www.nami.org/elections>, of National Alliance of Mental Illness (NAMI) presents President Kevin Sullivan making an appeal to those involved with



<http://www.benefits.va.gov/VOW>

NAMI to reach out to the presidential candidates and make their voices heard, since “candidates do listen when voters talk to them about the issues that are important.” The “Ask a Question” link leads to a page with several sample questions to ask the candidates. NAMI asserts that the majority of children and adults who need mental health care services do not receive treatment.

NAMI is nonpartisan and does not endorse any specific candidate. The “Make a Statement” link provides talking points for use when contacting candidates about the importance of mental health care, such as “Mental illness doesn’t go away in bad economic times—neither should funding for mental health care,” and “One veteran dies by suicide approximately every 80 minutes. Veterans’ mental health should be a top priority for America.” NAMI suggests posting comments on candidates’ websites, Facebook pages, or Twitter accounts. For instruction on personalizing contact with 2012 candidates, users learn what to do at the “Meet With Candidates” link.

## Health Monitoring

At <http://www.nclaves.net>, users can monitor health at home, track personal nutrition, watch for medication compliance, keep in touch and coordinate with family members from any distance via audio/video chat, improve brain health, plan events with calendars, and securely store and share documents. This site also includes games designed to improve mental agility.

At the “Personal Health” section users can configure all their devices to keep track of health-specific measurements, such as weight and blood pressure. Users can enter specific data boundaries that can be used to trigger alerts when measurements fall outside those parameters. Site administrators suggest that you think of your enclave as a virtual family room.

The site can also be a useful tool to assist a family member’s recovery after surgery or an accident, an ongoing chronic illness, or childbirth. At the nutrition section users can enter healthful recipes, use the meal scheduler, and receive a nutrition review. ●