

Who Should Apply?

Qualified applicants for positions as counselors and therapists in the Women Veterans Program will be psychologists, social workers, psychiatric nurse clinical specialists, and counselors who have earned a masters degree or above and who have had specific education, training, and experience in providing therapy to sexually traumatized women veterans. Knowledge of related issues such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, outreach techniques, and women in the military, as well as women as veterans, is desirable.

Veterans have preference when otherwise qualified. Women veterans are strongly encouraged to apply.

For additional information, please contact:

* **Sheila Spicer, RN, M.S.C.**
*Readjustment Counseling Service
National Women Veterans
Program Coordinator
909 North Main Street
Providence, RI 02904
(401) 528-5271.*

You may also call the Women Veterans Program Regional Coordinator located at the nearest Regional Manager's Office listed on the back of this brochure.

Regional Manager's Office
Region 1A (10B/RC1A)
909 North Main Street
Providence, RI 02904
(401) 528-5271

Regional Manager's Office
Region 1B (10B/RC1B)
White Marsh Professional Center
7939 Honeygo Blvd., Suite 221
Baltimore, MD 21236
(410) 931-7111

Regional Manager's Office
Region 2 (10B/RC2)
Hines VA Medical Center
Building 50, Room 223
Hines, IL 60141
(708) 216-2054

Regional Manager's Office
Region 3A (10B/RC3A)
VA Medical Center
Building 11
Bay Pines, FL 33504
(813) 398-9343

Regional Manager's Office
Region 3B (10B/RC3B)
4500 South Lancaster Road
Building 69
Dallas, TX 75216
(214) 372-7968

Regional Manager's Office
Region 4A (10B/RC4A)
789 Sherman Street
Suite 570
Denver, CO 80203
(303) 393-2897

Regional Manager's Office
Region 4B (10B/RC4B)
555 First Street
Suite 200
Benicia, CA 94510
(707) 747-9772



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

READJUSTMENT COUNSELING

SERVICE

Women Veterans Sexual Trauma Counseling Program



**Department of
Veterans Affairs**

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Readjustment Counseling Service

Readjustment Counseling Service (RCS) Vet Centers are a network of 201 community based counseling centers established to meet the special readjustment needs of veterans who served during:

- * *Vietnam (era)*
- * *Lebanon*
- * *Panama*
- * *Grenada*
- * *Persian Gulf*

Women's History of Service

Women have voluntarily served during times of peace and war since the American Revolution. They have served in combat zones and elsewhere around the world in ever expanding roles. They currently comprise 12% of the military force. The 1990 census reports that there are now 1,195,000 women veterans.

Women Veterans Health Program Act of 1992

Legislation now mandates *RCS* to implement a new outreach effort specifically for women veterans of

- * *All wars*
- * *All conflicts*
- * *All eras*

To meet the new mandate, *RCS* will provide special services to women veterans who have experienced any of the following while on active military duty.

- * *Sexual harassment*
- * *Sexual assault*
- * *Rape*
- * *Other acts of sexual violence*

Outreach and Treatment

Research tells us that a significant amount of sexual trauma is never reported. Many women veterans have never discussed their trauma with anyone and have never sought treatment. Cultural stereotypes and misinformation about women who have been sexually assaulted are common. Many women find it embarrassing, anxiety provoking, and frightening to seek assistance.

Women veterans have always required extra effort in terms of outreach. Sexually traumatized women veterans will be a challenging population to reach and will require ongoing and creative efforts on the part of the new *Women Veterans Program* counseling therapists.



**Readjustment Counseling Service
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**

Therapists treating women veterans who have been sexually traumatized will be providing:

- * *Assessment*
- * *Individual Therapy*
- * *Group Therapy*
- * *Family Therapy*
- * *Follow up*
- * *Referrals*

Join the Team

Vet Centers function as teams in the community and are located in areas where large numbers of veterans and their families live and work. Each Vet Center has the support of and works closely with a V.A. Medical Center. Of special significance to the team is liaison and consultation with Mental Health and Medical services at VAMC's

Each team has a team leader, counselors, and administrative staff. Team members represent various disciplines including psychology, social work, and nursing. Emphasis is placed on:

- * *Readjustment Counseling*
- * *Outreach*
- * *Community education*
- * *Community involvement*
- * *Networking*
- * *Comprehensive referral service*

Team members are encouraged in efforts to upgrade their knowledge and skills through annual training and assistance with continuing education courses.