

The NYC Department of Veterans' Services

*Who we are,
what we do,
and how we help.*



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Quotes



- “Service is the rent we pay for the privilege of living on this earth.”
- Shirley Chisholm
- “The man who moves a mountain begins by carrying away small stones.”
- Confucius
- “When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left, and could say I used everything you gave me.”
- Erma Bombeck

About DVS

Culturally

- Mission

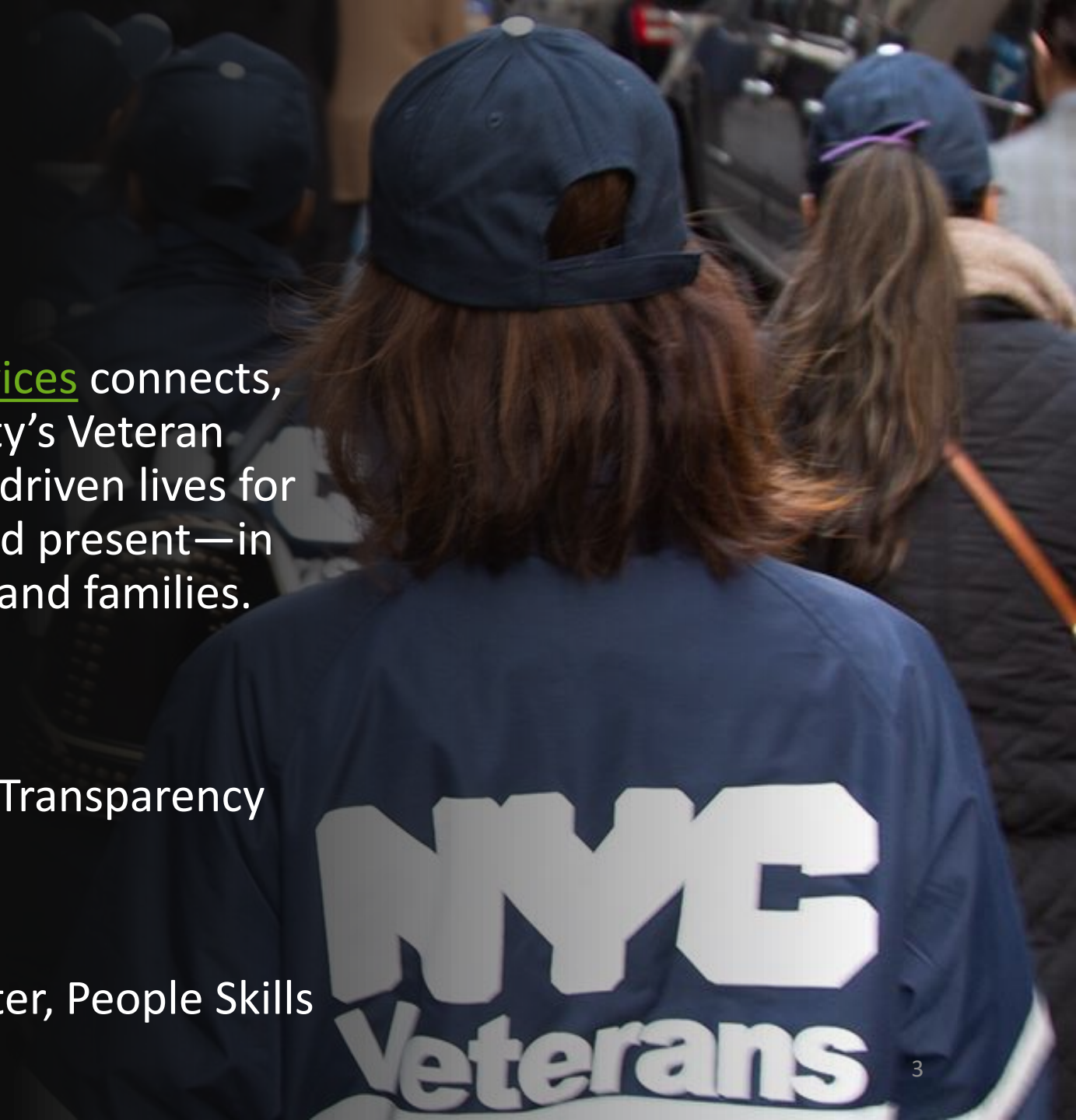
The NYC Department of Veterans' Services connects, mobilizes, and empowers New York City's Veteran community in order to foster purpose-driven lives for US Military Service Members—past and present—in addition to their caregivers, survivors, and families.

- Values

Tenacity, Empowerment, Selflessness, Transparency

- Team member traits

Drive, Competence, Discipline, Character, People Skills



About DVS

Legally (per [Chapter 75](#) of the New York City Charter)

- Meta-tasks
 - Assist
 - Inform
- Programmatic efforts
 - Benefits & privileges
 - Health & mental health
 - Employment
 - Education
 - Housing
 - Other*

(*NOTE: heritage-supporting initiatives currently fall in the “other” category)



Long-term challenges

- A larger proportion of Veterans must self-identify and become active members of the Veteran community.
- We must compete against other municipalities and states in order to attract new generations of Veterans to live, learn, and work in the City of New York.



Strategy

- What we do
 - Uplift & empower the NYC Veteran community's past, present, and future
 - Animate our community such that its entire bell curve shifts to the right
- How we do it
 - Connect Veterans to opportunities
 - Facilitate situations where opportunity is realized
 - When needed, provide the service directly ourselves



Sampling of offerings


Uplifting the past

- [Funeral Honors Program](#)
 - Enables eligible Veterans to have dignified burials at a national cemetery
- [Veteran Voices Project](#)
 - An oral history initiative designed to preserve the stories of NYC's Veterans
- [Discharge Upgrade Assistance](#)
 - Assisting Veterans who challenge their discharge status
- [VA Claims](#)
 - Helping Veterans and their families submit claims for benefits from the VA
- [Cultural milestones](#)
 - Recognizing key people, places, and events in Veteran history

VETERAN VOICES PROJECT

Visit the DVS oral history library to hear veteran stories across generations

NYC Veterans NYC DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES



Sampling of offerings

Empowering the present

- Food
 - Facilitating [food access](#) for NYC Veterans
- Housing
 - [Helping housing-insecure Veterans](#) obtain and maintain housing
 - [Informing Veterans](#) about housing-related programs and opportunities
- Healthcare
 - Helping Veteran families enroll in [New York State's Healthcare Marketplace](#) and / or the [VA Healthcare System](#)
 - Coordinating [buddy check wellness calls](#) to the NYC Veteran community
- Employment
 - Connecting Veterans to [workforce development](#) and [entrepreneurial support](#) programs



Sampling of offerings

Pioneering the future

- Attracting Active Duty Service Members to work in NYC through the [DoD Skillbridge Program](#)
- Encouraging Active Duty Service Members to attend [remote courses](#) offered by the [City University of New York](#)
- Matching transitioning Service Members with NYC Veteran community members through the [ETS Sponsorship Program](#)



Concluding thoughts

- Take advantage of all that we and our partners have to offer
 - www.nyc.gov/vets | 1-212-416-5250 | connect@veterans.nyc.gov | @nycveterans
 - www.nyc.gov/vetconnect | 1-833-838-7692
 - www.nyc.gov/vetconnectpro
 - www.empirevets.com
 - www.veterans.ny.gov | 1-888-VETSNYS (838-7697) | DVSinfo@veterans.ny.gov
 - www.va.gov | 1-800-698-2411
 - www.veteranscrisisline.net | 1-800-273-8255 (Press 1) | Text 838255
 - www.nyc.gov/nycwell | 1-888-NYC-WELL (692-9355) | Text "WELL" to 65173
- Tell someone about what you have learned
- Thank you for your service!



QUESTIONS?

