



COVER to COVER

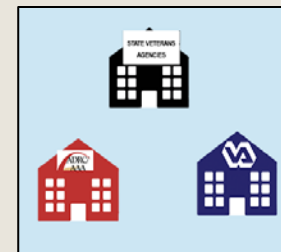
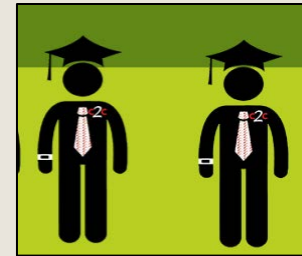
“Connecting Older Veterans (Especially Rural) to
Community Or Veteran Eligible Resources”

Funded: February 1, 2013 – September 2017
Serving 3,816 Veterans

*Collaborative project between the Utah Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC) and
VA Office of Rural Health:*

COVER to COVER Objectives

- Train community agency staff in VA Benefits and Services
- Build relationships between community agencies, State Veteran Agencies and the VA
- Create a New Access point for Veterans within their communities



Understanding Veterans Benefits

2010 VA Report – Only 41% of Veterans stated they understood their VA Benefits “a lot” or “some”

Many Veterans have misperceptions about VA Benefits:

- ❑ Believe income is too high for any assistance
- ❑ Aren't eligible because they didn't serve in combat
- ❑ Other Veterans are more deserving
- ❑ Distrust of the VA

Thus, many Veterans do not seek benefit help from the VA or the State Department of Military Affairs

Instead, they turn to community agencies...

Where are we now?

In 2020, Partnership with the UDOH Office of Primary Care and Rural Health funds COVER to COVER (HRSA funding)

- Bear River (Box Elder, Rich, Cache Counties)*
- Five County (Beaver, Garfield, Iron, Kane, Washington Counties)*
- Ability First (Sanpete County)

*Have a designated agency staff accredited as a Veteran Service Officer in partnership with the Utah Department of Veteran and Military Affairs

Serving Rural Veterans and their Caregivers

January 1, 2020-July 30, 2022

Veterans Served – 681

- VA Benefits Counseling and Navigation, helping fill out forms, and follow up
- Providing outreach to rural clinics and hospitals, providing community trainings on VA Healthcare benefits

Great News!!

- FY23 the Office of Primary Care and Rural Health received on-going state legislative funding to continue our work!!

Veterans Day - November 11

Please encourage those you know that have served in the military to learn about their benefits!

They have Earned & Deserve it!

Five County area: Janeil Esplin (435) 673-3548

Bear River area: Deborah Crowther (435) 713-1467

Sanpete County: Wendy Hansen (435) 283-4949

Utah Department of Veteran and Military Affairs Office (UDVMA): (801) 326-2372

VA Healthcare Enrollment: (801)-582-1565

Thank you for your Service

An American flag with 50 stars is waving on a black flagpole against a clear blue sky. The flag is the central focus of the image, with its red and white stripes and blue canton with white stars clearly visible.

COVER to COVER Information

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<https://ucoa.utah.edu/cover2cover>