

OPERATION **CONNECT-A-VET**

An Initiative of Illinois Joining Forces

Campaign Toolkit

Updated November 7, 2024



How to Use this Toolkit

Content can be used as provided or integrated into your marketing efforts and messaging for Veterans Day.

1. Materials are downloadable.
2. Please do not alter content to change meaning or intent.
3. Please use the hashtag: **#OperationConnectAVet**
4. Please contact us with any questions.



Facebook and Instagram Posts



Call 1-833-INFO-IJF (463-6453). Support Starts with a Call.

An initiative of Illinois Joining Forces

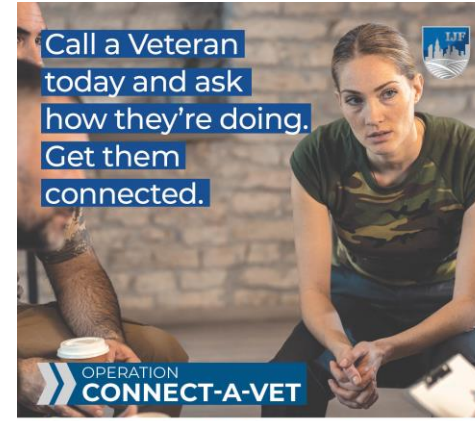
Post: Veterans have been there for us. Now it's our turn to be there for them. Calling Operation Connect-A-Vet is a simple way to make a difference. **us**
#OperationConnectAVet us



Call 1-833-INFO-IJF (463-6453). Support Starts with a Call.

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Post: A simple call can make a world of difference for a veteran in your life. With Operation Connect-A-Vet, we're bridging the gap to provide vital resources and care. **us**
#OperationConnectAVet us



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Post: Take a moment today to connect with a veteran in your life to express your gratitude. Your call can make an impact. **us**
#OperationConnectAVet us



Call 1-833-INFO-IJF (463-6453). Support Starts with a Call.

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Post: Let's ensure every veteran feels connected and supported. Call the Veteran in your life and simply ask them how they are doing. IJF is here to help. **us**
#OperationConnectAVet us

Program Flyer



**OPERATION
CONNECT-A-VET**

Connect with a
Veteran in your life.

HOW IT WORKS:

- 1. Reach Out:** Call a Veteran and ask how they're doing—a simple conversation shows you care.
- 2. Connect-A-Vet to IJF:** When additional support is needed, contact us:
 - Call 1-833-INFO-IJF (463-6453)
 - Email referrals@illinoisjoiningforces.org
 - Scan the QR code or visit www.illinoisjoiningforces.org
- 3. Identify Services:** Our team members will connect the Veteran with the resources they need.

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ILLINOIS JOINING FORCES
Supporting Service Members, Veterans, and Their Families

An initiative of Illinois Joining Forces

Suggested Uses:

- Partners are encouraged to distribute the fact sheet to your network, encouraging your members, supporters and stakeholders to engage with Operation Connect-A-Vet.
- When participating at events, conferences, town halls or workshops, partners are encouraged to bring copies of the fact sheet with them to the event.

Partner Information and Onboarding



ABOUT OPERATION CONNECT-A-VET:

Operation Connect-A-Vet is an initiative launched by Illinois Joining Forces (IJF). The program aims to bridge the gap and ensure Veterans receive the support they deserve.

KEY BENEFITS:

- Empowers loved ones to easily check in on veterans and connect them with needed resources
- Simplifies access to essential support for housing, food, employment, healthcare, and more
- Promotes proactive wellness checks to support veterans' physical and emotional health
- Builds a network of care and community connection for veterans
- Offers additional support and connection during meaningful times like Veterans Day and other holidays

HOW IT WORKS:

- 1. Reach Out:** Call a veteran in your life and ask them how they're doing. A simple conversation can be a meaningful gesture of appreciation.
- 2. Submit a Connect-A-Vet Request:** If you believe a veteran needs more support, submit a request by calling 1-833-INFO IJF (463-6453), emailing referrals@illinoisjoiningforces.org, or using the Connect-A-Vet form on www.illinoisjoiningforces.org.
- 3. Identify Services:** Our dedicated team members are skilled at connecting veterans with housing, food, employment, mental health services, and other critical needs.

Call 1-833-INFO-IJF (463-6453).

Support Starts with a Call.



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Suggested Uses:

- This factsheet provides an overview of the program's purpose goals, and how to access services.
- Partners are encouraged to use the fact sheet to train their staff, volunteers, and team members about the initiative.

Sample E-Newsletter Copy

Subject: Recognizing Veterans: A Simple Way to Make a Big Difference

Hello [Partner's Name] Community,

Recognizing the sacrifices of our veterans and supporting them is something we all aspire to do. However, it's often challenging to know where to begin. That's why we're proud to support Operation Connect-A-Vet. This initiative, led by Illinois Joining Forces, is designed to make it simple to recognize and support veterans. It offers a direct way for friends and family to arrange wellness calls, checking in on veterans while connecting them with a team ready to assist them with housing, food, employment, healthcare, and more.

Taking Action is Simple:

1. Reach Out: Call a veteran in your life and ask them how they're doing. A simple conversation can be a meaningful gesture of appreciation.

2. Submit a Connect-A-Vet Request: If you believe a veteran needs more support, submit a request by calling 1-833-INFO IJF (463-6453), emailing referrals@illinoisjoiningforces.org, or using the Connect-A-Vet form on www.illinoisjoiningforces.org.

3. Identify Services: Our dedicated team members are skilled at connecting veterans with housing, food, employment, mental health services, and other critical needs.

Operation Connect-A-Vet is active from now through the end of the year, ensuring veterans and military families receive support during the holiday season. Join us in recognizing and supporting the Veterans in our lives. Together, we can make a significant impact.

Sincerely,

[Partner's Name]

Suggested Uses:

- Partners are encouraged to dedicate a section of their regular e-newsletter to highlight the program.
- Partners are encouraged to dedicate an entire e-newsletter to highlight the program.