



## THERE IS HOPE

This summer, VA Butler’s Center for Behavioral Health (CBH) Recovery Team partnered with AmeriCorps (Suit Yourself) and Dress for Success Pittsburgh to put on a Veteran fashion show. All attire was modeled by Veterans, including U.S. Navy Veteran Roy Remone. Roy participated in the

Fashion Show event held last year (the first one) and was asked to participate again this year.

“The Fashion Show gives Veterans a chance to feel good about themselves. I would do it again, I enjoy it,” Roy shared.

“It also gives me a chance to sit down one-on-one with some of the Veterans while we’re waiting, get to know them, and give them hope that sobriety is possible.”

Roy will celebrate nine years sober this November. He first came to VA Butler Healthcare in 2010 as a resident in the

Domiciliary. VA Butler’s 56-bed Domiciliary is a residential facility for eligible Veterans who may be dealing with issues such as homelessness, mental health, substance abuse and unemployment.

“I like the idea that the fashion show also promotes the different services in the community that can help Veterans with clothing, like Suit Yourself or Dress for Success,” added Roy.

Since graduating from the Domiciliary, Roy has been involved with the community giving back to other

Veterans. He started a program called Compeer CORPS (Vet to Vet) at the Mental Health Association in Butler County ([mhabutler.org/compeer.html](http://mhabutler.org/compeer.html)) to provide one-to-one supportive friendships between Veterans on the path to mental health recovery.

The purpose of the fashion show was to promote mental health recovery and success in the community for local Veterans. Mental Health Recovery differs from other types of recovery (i.e., physical recovery, trauma recovery, etc.).

Definitions of Mental Health Recovery vary, but all involve some component of acceptance of the illness, having a sense of hope about the future, and finding a renewed sense of self.

The one thing Roy wants other Veterans to know: “There is hope.”

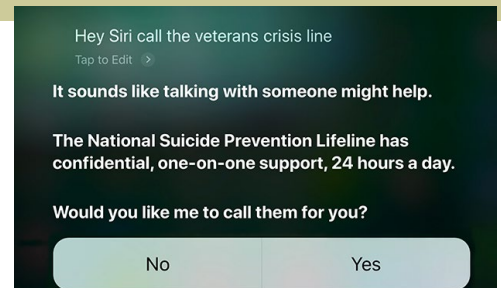
Every VA across the country has a Local Recovery Coordinator who assists Veterans and their families on recovery efforts. For more information, visit [www.mentalhealth.va.gov/mentalhealthrecovery.asp](http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/mentalhealthrecovery.asp) or call VA Butler Healthcare at 800-362-8262.

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- Roy Remone, Navy Veteran

## THIS MONTH IN HISTORY...AUGUST

- 2 Albert Einstein wrote a letter to President Franklin D. Roosevelt concerning the possibility of atomic weapons. Six years later, on August 6, 1945, the first Atomic Bomb, developed by the U.S., was dropped on the Japanese port of Hiroshima (1939)
- 4 The Revenue Cutter Service (now U.S. Coast Guard) is created by Congress (1790)
- 7 General George Washington authorizes the award of the Purple Heart for soldiers wounded in combat (1782)
- 14 For their bravery and service, President Ronald Reagan sets aside August 14 as Navajo Code Talkers Day for their crucial role in World War II (1982)
- 28 Dr. Martin Luther King delivers his “I have a dream” speech (1963)



## “CALL THE VETERANS CRISIS LINE”

The Siri function on Apple’s iPhone and the Google Assistant function on Android phones now automatically dials the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, which also serves the Veterans Crisis Line, even if the number (1-800-273-8255) is not saved in the phone’s contact list.





# Can't Make Your Slot? Give Another Veteran Your Spot!

*To cancel your appointment:*

- ✓ Call: 888-266-9040 to CANCEL
- ✓ Log on: [www.myhealth.va.gov](http://www.myhealth.va.gov)



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Health Administration  
VA Butler Healthcare

## MENTAL HEALTH SUMMIT - JOIN US NEXT MONTH!

VA Butler Healthcare will host its annual Mental Health Summit on Friday, September 14, from 8:30am-4:00pm at the Abie Abraham VA Health Care Center. This annual event brings together key stakeholders in our local community with the goal of enhancing access to mental health services and addressing the mental health care needs of Veterans and their family members in Armstrong, Butler, Clarion, Lawrence and Mercer Counties. This year's primary focus will be Women Veterans Behavioral Health: Challenges and Opportunities.

For more information or to RSVP, please call VA Butler's Behavioral Health Program Assistant at 878-271-6532.

## TELEBENEFITS - A VIRTUAL VA BENEFITS AGENT

TeleBenefits, a program in which Veterans are provided with benefits information and assistance through the use of video teleconferencing equipment, is now available at VA Butler Healthcare!

With TeleBenefits, Veterans are able to video chat with a claim specialist ready to assist with VA benefits-related questions and services. Veterans also are able to submit claims and supporting documents during the Telebenefits session.

Veterans may utilize this new, walk-in service (no appointments) every other Friday at the Abie Abraham VA Health Care Center (Waiting Room 1) from 8:00am-12:00pm. Upcoming dates for Telebenefits sessions are August 10, August 24, and September 7. To learn more, Veterans may contact Amy Stewart at 878-271-6120 or Amy Kunst at 878-271-6119.

We want to hear from you! Email [amanda.kurtz2@va.gov](mailto:amanda.kurtz2@va.gov) to share your story with us!

## EVENTS



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Health Administration  
VA Butler Healthcare

800.362.8262  
724.287.4781

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353 north duffy road . butler pa 16001



**15** **Town Hall Meeting**  
Wednesday, August 15 • 5pm  
Michael Marzano VA Outpatient Clinic  
295 N. Kerrwood Drive, Suite 110,  
Hermitage, PA

**22** **Music is Medicine Hour**  
Wednesday, August 22 • 11:30am-12:30pm  
HCC 2nd Floor Lobby

**24** **Summer Health & Wellness Event  
and Farmers Market**  
Friday, August 24 • 10am-2pm  
HCC Main Entrance