

RESIDING AT THE VA DURING COVID-19

U.S. Army Veteran Brian Burton started at the Butler VA's Domiciliary (Dom), a residential rehabilitation treatment program, in January. A few short months later, everything changed for Veteran residents with the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Many groups and classes were cancelled during the pandemic, but my case manager, Jeff, was always available to me. He helped me work on my goals throughout the entire time that the COVID crisis was happening," said Brian.

Brian also was able to use telehealth technology for his care. "I thought the process was really easy, and I felt like I was in his office with him." Telehealth technologies allow Veterans to meet with VA providers virtually and send important health data from the comfort of their home (or the Dom!), using a computer or mobile device.

"The medical staff was also there for Veterans 100% during the crisis. For instance, I had a nagging cough for years and years. The nursing staff and my provider determined that it was a side effect of a medication that I was taking, and for the first time in countless years, I am cough-free."

From physical distancing and mask-wearing, to regular cleaning and more virtual care, there have definitely been

changes at the Butler VA these past few months, but one thing has remained the same, our mission: To fulfill President Lincoln's promise, "To care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan" by serving and honoring the men and women who are America's Veterans.

"I want to say that I truly feel that God guided me to the Dom. It is truly the best place I have ever been. I have never had a counselor like the one I have now, he's stayed the course with me. I feel blessed that I was here during this pandemic. I am truly impressed with the way we have been treated and protected."

The Butler VA is here for our Veterans, and we will continue to make safety a priority. Learn more about safety measures currently in place: www.butler.va.gov.



"I feel blessed that I was here during this pandemic. I am truly impressed with the way we have been treated and protected." - Brian Burton, U.S. Army Veteran

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY...JULY

- 2** The Army Air Corps is established (1926)
- 6** The Air Force Cross is created. The Air Force Cross is the United States Air Force and United States Space Force's second highest military award for valor in combat (1960)
- 21** The Veterans Administration (VA) is created (1930)
- 26** The Department of Defense is created (1947)
- 27** The Korean War ends with the signing of an armistice by U.S. and North Korean delegates at Panmunjom, Korea (1953)
- 28** World War I begins (1918)

SAFE CARE IS OUR MISSION

We have begun expanding some in-person services, but we will continue to make your safety a priority. We also will continue to maximize virtual care options like telehealth, phone consults, and wellness checks. Veterans should contact the Butler VA at 724-287-4781 or toll-free at 800-362-8262, or their VA provider for information about the expansion of services.



FREE VIRTUAL WELLNESS CLASSES

Group Yoga and Meditation

We are excited to offer Veterans free access to OMPractice for the remainder of this calendar year!

OMPractice is a virtual yoga and meditation platform. OMPractice makes it easy to practice, and experience the benefits of live yoga and meditation, all from the comfort and privacy of your own home. Participating in group classes provides feedback and support from a teacher in real time. Whether you are just starting out or you have practiced yoga for years, there is a class for you!

Sign-up here: <https://www.ompractice.com/class/va-membership-butler/>. Have questions? Email Michael.Anderson41@va.gov.



Scan this code or go to va.gov/covid19screen



COVID-19 SCREENING TOOL

COVID-19 screening is required at all Butler VA facilities. To get started quickly, use the new COVID-19 screening tool on your phone.

- Scan the code or go to va.gov/covid19screen
- Answer the questions
- Show your phone at the door

Thank you for helping us protect you and others during this time.

FREE TRAINING FOR WOMEN VETERANS IN JULY

Active-duty service women and women Veterans can learn more about VA health care services for women through free online training sponsored by VA in collaboration with the Department of Defense. Attendance is especially encouraged for women service members who will be transitioning to civilian status or to the Guard and Reserve within the next calendar year.

The course provides an in-depth look at:

- Female-specific health care including reproductive services, maternity care, mental health services, newborn care, gynecological care and musculoskeletal care;
- Eligibility for VA health care and how to enroll; and
- Resources available for servicewomen during the transition from military to civilian life.

Virtual VA Women's Health Transition Training sessions are offered twice a day, Monday through Friday, during July. All training is unclassified, confidential, and available to only women. For more details and to register, visit www.va.gov/womenvet/wlht/.

SALUTE YOU

Thank you for your service

DONALD BEN CYPHER

U.S. Marine Corps Veteran



1953 to 1956
1st Engineer
Battalion/1st Marine
Division

Service Company

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Health Administration
Butler VA Health Care System



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Let us "Salute You!" Contact the Butler VA Public Affairs Office for more information.

