Services / Eligibility

The Incarcerated Veteran Reintegration Services (IVRS) Program in King County, Veteran Programs, is designed to assist eligible veterans who are currently in custody or recently released from county or city correctional facilities or Veteran Specialty Courts.

IVRS can help:

- Advocate with private attorneys or assigned counsel for reduced or alternative sentencing
- Access transitional housing and make referrals to local shelters
- Provide up to 90 days of needs-based individualized case management
- Provide referrals to partner agencies for vocational rehabilitation assessment and treatment for military sexual trauma, PTSD, TBI and mental health
- Defray transportation costs if transportation is a barrier in obtaining permanent housing, attending healthcare and addictions treatment, financial counseling and/or vocational rehabilitation appointments
- Provide work clothes and tools needed for employment
- Coordinate with the federal VA to verify or apply for healthcare, Disability Compensation and/or VA Pension
- Advocate with the Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator to insure continuity of medical or mental health treatment upon release

Eligibility:

- Honorable, Medical or General Under Honorable Conditions Discharge
- 181 days of active duty service before September 6, 1980, or 24 months of consecutive active duty service after September 6, 1980, or completion of first term of service
- No present charges or past convictions of felony “strike” crimes, including but not limited to arson and sex offenses

Thank you for your service!

Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs, King County

Incarcerated Veterans’ Re-Entry Services

(206) 450-1652
Fax # (206) 623-0200

WDVA King County Veterans Programs
Belltown Center
2106 2nd Ave
Seattle, WA  98121

Washington Department of Veterans Affairs
King County

Incarcerated Veteran Re-Entry Services

“Serving Those Who Served”
Program Overview

The Incarcerated Veteran Reintegration Services (IVRS) Program uses federal, state, and county resources to help veterans who are in jail or recently released from jail.

It is a joint effort of King County Veterans Programs, the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA), and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care System.

IVRS advocates for veterans before they are released and connects them to community-based support resources so they can get back to a healthy and productive life.

The program works because it identifies possible health and emotional problems that may have contributed to a veteran’s arrest and incarceration and then connects veterans to supportive services within their communities.

IVRS also helps local and state governments save money by preventing veterans from going to jail in the first place and by reducing the number of veterans who return to jail.

Partnerships are key to IVRS success. IVRS works closely with county and city correctional facilities, the Addictions Treatment Center at the Federal VA Medical Center, county mental health and drug courts and other public and private agencies.

When a veteran is booked into jail, IVRS staff are notified and given information on why the veteran is there.

For veterans interested and eligible for the program, IVRS staff helps develop a case plan and goes with the veteran to court to advocate for alternative sentencing, sentence reduction, or early release so the veteran can start a treatment program.

IVRS works with Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator staff to screen veterans for addictions and mental health needs. These screenings help determine whether the veteran should receive inpatient or outpatient treatment services.

Once the veteran is released, IVRS staff helps with a wide array of services, such as:
- Emergency financial assistance
- Mental health/trauma counseling
- Employment and skills training assistance
- Temporary, transitional, and permanent housing
- Other referral services as necessary.

IVRS provides less expensive alternatives to jail and the opportunity for each veteran to resume a productive life.