In 2020, Maryland accepted the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration/U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs invitation to participate in the Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide among Service Members, Veterans and Families (SMVF).

Maryland is home to:
- 385,000 veterans
- 30,000 active duty service members
- 18,000 reservists/national guard
- 130,000 veteran households with children
- 60,000 reserve/national guard/active duty dependents

Not feeling understood is one of the key barriers for SMVF seeking civilian services.

-Only 40% of MD veterans are enrolled in the VA healthcare system
-Veterans represented 17.4% of MD suicide deaths in 2018
-Nationally, 40% of veterans lost to suicide are not enrolled in the VA healthcare system

The Ask the Question Campaign focuses on asking the question at places where customers are receiving services in the community including healthcare, human services, libraries, the justice system and more.

LEARN MORE AT: VETERANS.MARYLAND.GOV
SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, AND FAMILY RESOURCES

BENEFITS
- For assistance with U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) benefits applications, veterans and family members can call the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs Service and Benefits Program at 800-446-4926, ext. 6460.
- To contact the USDVA directly with benefits questions, veterans and family members can call 800-827-1000.

EMPLOYMENT
To access employment resources, job training and apprenticeship programs, veterans, National Guard and Reserve components, and transitioning service members can contact any Maryland Department of Labor American Job Center location for information on their veterans program. To learn more visit http://labor.maryland.gov/employment/veteranservices.shtml

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
- To access behavioral health (mental health and substance use) services, as well as wrap around service referrals; service members, veterans and family members can contact Maryland’s Commitment to Veterans, a Maryland Department of Health Program at 877-770-4801.
- To access readjustment counseling for eligible veterans, active duty service members, including National Guard and Reserve components, and their families as well as counseling for survivors of military sexual trauma contact the USDVA Combat Call Center at 877-WAR-VETS (927-8387).

USDVA HEALTHCARE ENROLLMENT
To enroll in USDVA Healthcare, veterans should contact one of three USDVA Healthcare Systems (based on where they live):
- Central Maryland/Eastern Shore: Contact the VA Maryland Healthcare System at 877-222-8837
- Western Maryland: Contact the Martinsburg VA Medical Center at 800-817-3807, press 4
- Montgomery County/Prince George’s County/Southern Maryland: Contact the Washington DC VA Medical Center at 202-746-8000, ext 56333

PROGRAMS SERVING ALL ELIGIBLE BRANCHES AND VETERANS
- Military One Source: 800-342-9647/militaryonesource.mil (service members, veterans up to 365 days after retirement, end of tour, or discharge and families) Provides many resources including financial, legal, employment, health and wellness, moving, family support, and more. Members of the Coast Guard should call to confirm eligibility.
- Family Assistance Centers: (all service members, veterans and families)
  - Havre de Grace: 410-676-1446
  - Baltimore: 410-918-6768
  - Edgewood: 410-612-4152
  - Hagerstown: 301-733-4731
  - AnneArundel County: 410-740-5189
  - Montgomery County: 301-897-2600
  - Frederick County: 301-846-5161
  - Prince George’s County: 301-733-4600
  - Calvert County: 301-855-4470

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Hotlines and Call Centers
Veterans Crisis Line 800-273-8255, press 1 or text to 838255
National Center for Homeless Veterans 877-4AD-VET (424-3838)
Women Veterans Call Center 855-VA-WOMEN (829-6636)
Veteran Caregiver Support Line 855-260-3274
Coaching Into Care for family and friends needing help guiding a veteran into care 888-823-7458

FOR MORE INFORMATION: VETERANS.MARYLAND.GOV