

Jan Dils Veterans Disability Benefits Newsletter

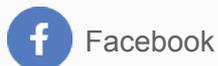
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The Jan Dils team follows Veterans' issues closely. This month, we want to share news that impacts both our heroes and "hidden heroes!" Our Veterans selflessly served our country. However, when many of these brave men and women come home, they often face challenges. In this issue, we are pleased to highlight a new Adaptive Sports program that will help promote the wellbeing of our disabled Veterans. Awarded by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), this multi-million-dollar grant will allow organizations to come together to support a range of activities that will help strengthen disabled Veterans both physically and emotionally. To quote Theodore Roosevelt, "Believe you can and you're half way there."

And let's not forget our community of nearly 6 million

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“Hidden Heroes” – the caregivers who are there for a wounded, ill or injured Veteran, day in and day out. It is more than just the physical demands of caregiving; it’s the constant negotiation of the system to make sure their loved one gets the benefits they need. The role of the new Veterans’ Family, Caregiver, and Survivor Federal Advisory Committee is to further assist both caregivers and Veterans. The committee will be led by U.S. Senator, Elizabeth Dole – a professionally strong woman who knows the very *personal sacrifices* of caring for her own husband, World War II Veteran and former U.S. Senate Majority Leader, Bob Dole. She is also the founder of the Elizabeth Dole Foundation – the preeminent organization empowering, supporting, and honoring our nation’s military caregivers; the spouses, parents, family members and friends who care for America’s disabled Veterans.

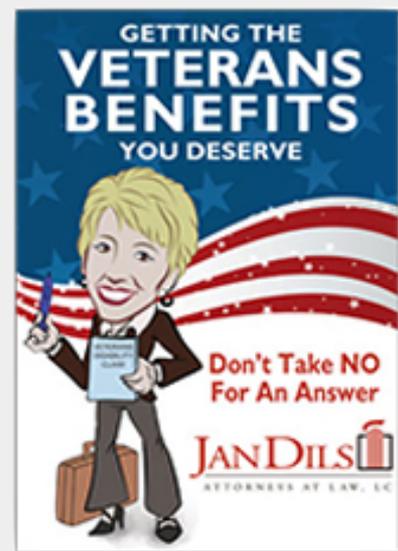
Last but certainly not least, I want to look ahead to November 11, 2017 – Veterans Day. This is a day of remembrance. But also know that all of us at Jan Dils, Attorneys at Law are here for you every day! If you have any questions about your benefits do not hesitate to call or send an email. We are a compassionate team with the experience and expertise to provide peace of mind when you need it most.

Sincerely,



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Email Address by Last Name

A-C

megans@jandils.com
springh@jandils.com

D-J

Carrie@jandils.com
MHutchinson@jandils.com

K-Q

BobbieS@jandils.com
kwentz@jandils.com

R-Z

Devon@jandils.com
bmaze@jandils.com

THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION AWARDS \$8 MILLION IN ADAPTIVE SPORTS PROGRAM GRANTS TO AID DISABLED VETERANS



The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) recently announced the awarding of up to \$8 million in grants for adaptive sports programs that will benefit disabled Veterans as well as disabled members of the armed forces. The goal of the program is to promote rehabilitation, health and community reintegration.

Grant recipients may use the funds for planning, developing, managing and implementing adaptive sports programs.

“We are honored to partner with so many organizations across the country to provide adaptive sports programs where our Veterans live,” said VA Secretary Dr. David J. Shulkin. “Adaptive sports provide opportunities for Veterans, and empower them to believe in themselves and let go of what others may see as limitations.”

VA is awarding the grants to national governing bodies, which prepare high-level athletes for Paralympic competition; Veterans service organizations; city and regional municipalities; and other community groups to

provide a wide range of adaptive sports opportunities for eligible Veterans and service members. The grants will support activities ranging from kayaking, sailing, cycling, skiing, equine therapy and equestrian sports, among other activities.

VA will distribute the [grants](#) to 96 national, regional and community programs serving all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Approximately 10,000 Veterans and service members are expected to benefit.

Information about the awardees and details of the program may be found at www.va.gov/adaptivesports.



Source: <https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2957>

http://www.va.gov/adaptivesports/va_grant_program.asp



**NEW COMMITTEE FOCUS ON THE
NEEDS OF CAREGIVERS AND THE
VETERANS THEY SUPPORT**



New Veterans' Family, Caregiver, and Survivor Advisory Committee Focuses on the Needs of Caregivers and the Veterans They Support

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced the formation of the Veterans' Family, Caregiver, and Survivor Federal Advisory Committee as part of VA Secretary David Shulkin's commitment to supporting our nation's Veterans and those who care for them.

The new Committee will be chaired by former U.S. Senator Elizabeth Dole, a noted advocate for military caregivers, and the founder of the [Elizabeth Dole Foundation](#) and the Hidden Heroes Campaign, both of which regularly collaborate with the VA on issues related to military caregiving.

“The VA is committed to the delivery of highest quality care and support to our Veterans, and recognizes the essential role their families, caregivers, and survivors have every day,” said Secretary Shulkin. **“Senator Dole is an accomplished and experienced advocate for Veterans' caregivers. I am honored that she will chair this landmark Committee.”**



The Committee will advise the Secretary, through the Chief Veterans Experience Officer, on matters related to Veterans' families, caregivers, and survivors across all generations, relationships, and Veteran status, with a focus on gaining a better understanding of the use of VA care and benefits services, and factors that influence access, quality, and accountability for those services. A key element of the committee's work will be to engage Veteran family members, research experts, and family service providers as a way to better understand their needs and identify ways VA can continue to support them in the best possible way.

“Military families, caregivers, and survivors are truly our nation's hidden heroes, and make great sacrifices each and every day on behalf of their loved ones, so we must do more to support them on their journey. VA, under Secretary Shulkin's leadership, is stepping up at a time of tremendous need and opportunity,” said Senator Dole, herself a caregiver to her husband, former U.S. Senate Majority Leader Robert J. Dole, a World War II veteran injured in combat. “I am proud to serve as chair of such a critical committee, alongside some of the nation's top voices on the issues that affect Veterans and their families.”

The fact is, nearly 6 million Americans care for wounded, ill and injured military service members of the pre- and post-9/11 eras. These hidden heroes, which include parents, spouses, children, extended family members, friends and battle buddies, are often overwhelmed. They

face significant challenges and need support. If you, a family member or friend need help, learn more about organizations like the Elizabeth Dole Foundation's [Hidden Heroes Caregiving Community](#) and the [Military & Veteran Caregivers Network](#). These groups support our caregivers, offering peer support and access to partner organizations' resources.

Sources: <https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2960>

<https://milvetcaregivernetwork.org>

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Jan Dils, Attorneys at Law, handles Personal Injury Claims, Social Security and Veterans Disability for clients throughout West Virginia with offices located in Parkersburg-Beckley-Charleston-Huntington-Logan as well as one additional office located in Charlotte, North Carolina. But regardless of where you are located we are able to serve you or a family member Nationwide.

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