



MARCH 2018

Grant Money Available for Vets in Need of Adaptive Equipment for Vehicles

I am pleased to announce that the San Mateo County Veterans Service Office is well prepared to help County vets apply for grant funding to help them purchase a new or used automobile to accommodate certain injuries or disease as a result of active military service. Administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), the one-time grant for special automobile adaptive equipment is paid directly to the seller of the automobile for the total price of the car up to \$20,174. Please note, a veteran may only take advantage of this program once during his or her lifetime. In order to qualify for grant funding, veterans must have at least one of the following disabilities – a disability that is a direct result of or aggravated during active military service, including:

*Loss, or permanent loss of use of one or both feet,*Loss, or permanent loss of use of one or more hands,*Permanent impairment of vision in both eyes to a certain degree,*A severe burn injury, *Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis.

Veterans who have ankylosis (an abnormal stiffening and immobility of a joint due to fusion of the bones) of one or both knees or hips resulting

from an injury or disease incurred or aggravated by active military service may also qualify for the adaptive equipment grant. The grant funding provides special adaptive equipment in automobiles, including, but not limited to: Power steering, windows and seats or special equipment to help assist the eligible person in and out of the vehicle.

I encourage all vets to visit our office to see if they qualify for this benefit or any other benefit services we offer, as our staff is happy to answer any questions you may have. We can even help you complete the DMV Veteran Status Verification Form for the new California Veteran Designation on your driver's license and veteran's ID card if you like – it's a great benefit!

WHERE TO CONNECT WITH US:

Tuesdays, 8:30am to 3pm, VA Menlo Park Bldg. #348
March 8th & 22nd, 8:30am-3pm, VA Palo Alto Building #4, Room #B210
March 16th - Peninsula Vet Center
March 12th, 6:30pm - 8pm, Veterans Commission meeting, 400 Harbor Blvd., Building B, Belmont

SAVE THE DATE- April 20th 3rd Annual Open House & Resource Event, Redwood City American Legion.

The Veterans Crisis Line connects Veterans in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring Department of Veterans Affairs responders through a confidential toll-free hotline, online chat, or text. Veterans and their loved ones can call 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1, chat online, or send a text message to 838255 to receive confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Support for deaf and hard of hearing individuals is available. <https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/>



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY