

CAL STAMMER

Goes to work every day with one mission: **Assist Veterans in need.**

Stammer, an Army Veteran who served multiple tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, not only has a service mentality, but his experiences in the military help him bond and gain the trust of Veterans who need mental health or substance use services.



“*The VORP has changed so many lives and it is a privilege to be able to represent the WDVA every day and assist in the effort to help so many Veterans in a wide variety of issues.*”

Cal Stammer

Stammer works as the Region 7 coordinator of the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs’ **Veterans Outreach and Recovery Program**. Coordinators like Stammer work throughout the state to connect Veterans to community services, provide case management and support, with a special focus on treatment and recovery.

While he has an office in Appleton, Stammer rarely sees it because he spends most days working directly with Veterans throughout his region, which includes Portage, Waupaca, Waushara, Outagamie, Winnebago, Calumet, and Manitowoc counties.

Through the VORP, Veterans can receive crisis services, as well as on-the-street case management in order to get them treatment for mental health and/or substance use care, including paying for private treatment. A big part of Stammer’s job as a VORP coordinator is collaborating with those in the community. He works closely with County Veterans Service Officers, Veteran service organizations, local government agencies, community nonprofits, and others, so that Veterans may also receive individualized wrap-around services such as housing, food, clothing, furniture, education, and employment.

Recently, Stammer was working with a 60-year old Army Veteran who was struggling with addiction. He referred the Veteran to the Manitowoc CVSO and went out of his way to assist with transportation to a hospital in Appleton. After he was released the next day, the WDVA provided two-night's stay at a hotel until the Veteran could be transported to the Milwaukee VA Medical Center. In the meantime, Stammer provided clothing, meals and hygiene products.

The Veteran has since enrolled into a rehabilitation program in Milwaukee. He credits Stammer for saving his life.

“Without Cal Stammer’s hard work and determination to assist me in my struggles and issues in my life, I would not be here today,” the Veteran said. “Cal is always willing to find a solution to one of my many problems. When I first met Cal I was unaware of the program that he works in and what resources I had available to me. But now I know that Cal is always available to help me when I need it.”

The WDVA’s Veterans Outreach and Recovery Program started out as a pilot program in 49 counties in 2014 and recently expanded to all 72 counties in Wisconsin. Since the program’s inception, coordinators have helped about 500 Veterans obtain mental health services, substance and alcohol treatment and other supportive services.

If you know of a Veteran in need, **contact Stammer at 715-409-3767.**

Veterans Outreach and Recovery Program

The Veterans Outreach and Recovery Program (VORP) connects Veterans to community services, provides case management and support, with a special focus on treatment and recovery.

VORP staff work with community partners and professionals to provide assistance and connection to:

- Mental Health Services
- Substance Abuse Treatment
- Financial Assistance
- Housing and Utilities
- Claims and Benefits Assistance
- Employment and Education
- Transportation
- And many other services

“*Cal always goes above and beyond to improve the quality of life for the Veteran’s he serves ... Cal is very knowledgeable about Veteran benefits and is an amazing asset to work with in providing supportive services to Veteran’s in the community.*”

Case Manager John H. Bradley
*Clinical Case Manager,
USDVA’s Community-based Outpatient Clinic*