



Veterans Services have improved over the last several years and the VA actively is looking to work with Vets who need help and assist them to qualify. There is work to do for the Veteran or their family--we hope this resource will make this easier.

Our Comfort Keepers offices proudly serve the veterans who have served our country. As a VA partner, we have experience providing in-home care services to hundreds of veterans, allowing them to live safe, happy, independent lives in the comfort of their homes. The Veterans Affairs Community Care Network (VACCN) program for in-home care support was designed for those who demonstrate the physical need for in-home care. Comfort Keeper's home care can include nurses, medication management, and home health aides depending on the person's [individualized needs](#).

There are many options available to you to get help working with the VA. County Veteran Service Officer's (CVSO) are usually your first contact to assist you with state and federal Veterans benefits and issues. They have an understanding of the problems which confront Veterans, dependents and their families. The CVSO knows the extent, meaning and the application of laws that have been passed by the U.S. Congress in the interests of Veterans and their dependents. They also know the rules/regulations adopted by the Federal U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs and can clarify and implement those laws. The CVSO will apply specialized knowledge in the best way suited to the needs of every individual Veteran or other beneficiary who comes to the office for assistance. You can find your CVSO through the Minnesota Association of County Veteran Service Officers (MACVSO) [directory](#)

Comfort Keepers Services

Studies show that most seniors find joy and meaning when they can live in the home they love as they age and remain close to their community. Comfort Keepers provides senior home care services that can help people remain independent in their own homes.

At Comfort Keepers, we believe an in-home care plan should be customized to each individual's needs, goals, and living situation. The best care improves the quality of life by focusing on home healthcare activities that increase engagement, improve physical and mental wellness, and bring happiness, purpose, and hope.

Our services focus on physical needs and total well-being. We believe that everyone should experience the best of life, no matter their age or the level of care that is needed. At Comfort Keepers, we strive to elevate the spirits of our clients and their families every day.

VA in-home care includes:

- Personal Care to maintain activities of daily living, such as dressing and grooming
- Respite care to provide temporary relief for family and other primary caregivers
- Private duty nursing with Registered Nurses (RNs) or Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) to offer advanced care
- Homemaking to provide household support

Specialized care services, including Alzheimer's and dementia care, 24-hour care, and post-hospital care, transportation services are offered but not necessarily paid for by the VA.

How to Start Your Senior Care Journey

Life can throw us a lot of curveballs so you never know "if" or "when" you may need help as you age. Like most things, being prepared and understanding your options are a good thing. In many cases, Veterans or their loved ones contact us at the time some care is needed. Many times they are not aware of their VA benefits. Sometimes they have been to a VA doctor but have not discussed home care. Don't worry, we can start private pay services immediately, but we can switch the payor source to the VA as soon as you qualify—you simply ask for Comfort Keepers to be your ongoing provider.

There are some steps you can take:

If you have been to a VA doctor but are experiencing changes in your condition, schedule a new appointment. During that appointment talk to your VA doctor about utilizing your VA benefits for home care. They can write an order that will trigger a team of people to look for the correct care for you at home. You may also ask for Comfort Keepers to be your home care company.

If you do not have a VA doctor, contact your CVSO and discuss the best way to make an appointment with the VA clinic or hospital. You may also call the nearest VA clinic and discuss making an appointment directly with them. You may need a referral from your regular doctor. If you feel you need additional support, the VA provides [patient advocates](#) you can contact. They are specially trained to help you resolve issues with your care.

If you require help in the home before being accepted into the VA Home Care program you can pay privately for services. Once accepted into the Home Care Program you would request to continue with Comfort Keepers as your provider. At that point, Comfort Keepers would switch over any billing the VA has agreed to pay to the VA for payment. You may get additional services from Comfort Keepers on a private pay basis if needed.

Over the past several years the VA has worked hard to make access to these programs easier and to provide excellent service to Veterans that have served our

country. We hope you take advantage of any services that you are entitled to. If you use the available services, it keeps the program relevant and makes sure that future members of the armed forces continue to get help. If you need help, call us or the CVS0 listed above!