

Veteran Services

The C.A.R.E. Directory (Coordinating Area Resources Effectively) is a compilation of non-profit corporations, groups, organizations, services clubs, and service providers operating in Crow Wing County.

This reference manual is always accepting more information. If your organization fits into one of our headings, please call or email us with your information so we can keep our CARE directory up to date.

Brainerd Community Action
213 S. 5th Street
Brainerd, MN 56401
Office: 218.829.5278
E-mail:
holly@brainerdcommunityaction.org

194th Regiment

1115 Wright Street
Brainerd, Minnesota

All volunteer organization. Our lineage dates back to the soldiers of Co A 194th Tank BN from Brainerd, MN that saw action in the Philippines in WWII.

American Legion Riders

708 Front Street
Brainerd, MN 56425
Contact: 218-829-9249

Contact: Paul Edwards, Chapter Director - greyscouther@charter.net
<https://www.brainerdlegion255.org/legion-riders.html>

Brainerd Chapter of the American Legion Riders was chartered on October 2, 2013 by 7 members of Carl Sydney Hanson Post 255. The chapter set its charter period as October 18 through December 31, 2013 and closed out the year with 16 charter members with 4 of those members designated as supporters.

Brainerd Chapter meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at the Legion Post on Front Street in Brainerd. Additionally, the chapter has restaurant socials every non-meeting Wednesday at various eateries in the local area.

Brainerd American Legion Post 255

708 Front Street
Brainerd, MN 56425
Contact: 218-829-9249

<https://www.brainerdlegion255.org/>

If you have served federal active duty in the United States Armed Forces during any of the war eras listed below, and have been honorably discharged or are still serving, you are eligible for membership in The American Legion!

August 2, 1990-Today Persian Gulf/War on Terrorism
December 20, 1989-January 31, 1990 Operation Just Cause-Panama
August 24, 1982-July 31, 1984 Lebanon/Grenada
February 28, 1961-May 7, 1975 Vietnam
June 25, 1950-January 31, 1955 Korea
December 7, 1941-December 31, 1946 World War II
April 6, 1917-November 11, 1918 World War I

Because eligibility dates remain open, all members of the U.S. Armed Forces are eligible to join The American Legion at this time, until the date of the end of hostilities as determined by the government of the United States. U.S. Merchant Marine eligible only from December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946 (WWII).

Other membership options include. Auxiliary Membership and Sons of the American Legion.

Beyond The Yellow Ribbon

15000 Highway 115
Little Falls, MN 56345-4173

Contact: [Camp Ripley Phone Listing](#)
<http://www.minnesotanationalguard.org/btyr/>
<http://mnbtyr.ng.mil/>

The Minnesota National Guard has pioneered a program in hopes of changing how Soldiers and Airmen are reintegrated back to their communities. Called Beyond the Yellow Ribbon, the program is named as a reminder that the support of Soldiers cannot end when they return from deployment and the yellow ribbons are untied.

Brainerd VFW-Post 1647

309 South 6th Street
Brainerd, MN 56401

Contact: 218-829-6393
<https://www.brainerdvfw.org/>

Brainerd Veterans of Foreign Wars. Duty, Honor, and Country. Since 1929, this post is open to all VFW members and guests

OUR MISSION: To foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts. To serve veterans, the military, and our community.

Camp Ripley Training Center

15000 Highway 115
Little Falls, MN 56345-4173

Contact: [Camp Ripley Phone Listing](#)
http://www.minnesotanationalguard.org/camp_ripley/
Camp Ripley, located near Little Falls, Minnesota, is a 53,000-acre regional training center hosting numerous ranges and state-of-the-art facilities to support the training requirements of military and civilian agencies. In addition to providing resources enabling customers to train in a realistic environment, CRTC sustains lodging, administrative and conference space for customer events, programs and education. Additionally, CRTC remains committed to environmentally-sound stewardship throughout Central Minnesota to include its 18 miles of undeveloped Mississippi River shoreline.

Camp Ripley Wreaths for the Fallen

5244 Ashdale Lane
Baxter, MN 56425
24-hour Information Request Line: 218-833-2662
Email: office@wreathsforthefallen.org

Our mission is to honor our veterans by providing wreaths for the Minnesota State Veterans cemeteries in December of each year.

Central Lakes College Veterans Resource Center

501 W. College Drive
Brainerd, MN 56401

Contact: Theresa Harsha – Director of Veterans Resources & VA School Certifying Official, 218-855-8279

E-mail: tharsha@clcmn.edu
<http://www.clcmn.edu/veterans-resource-center/>

Central Lakes College (CLC) would like to thank you for your service! As you consider your future, CLC is here to help you successfully pursue your educational goals. Whether you are actively serving in the military, a veteran, military spouse and/or dependent, the Veterans Resource Center is here to serve you!

The Veterans Resource Center serves current or former military members, their spouses and/or dependents by:

- Offering information and direction on GI Bill® education entitlements, Federal Tuition Assistance, State Tuition Reimbursement, student loans, financial aid, and scholarships
- VA resourcing and referrals
- Provide emergency financial, housing, and food assistance to CLC students using our Random Actos of Kindness (RAK) fund
- Academic degree planning with priority registration
- Individualized advising for enrollment and registration
- Providing free printing, meals, and a space to meet in the Veterans Resource Center
- Building relationships among service members and veterans organizations, such as DAV, VFW, American Legion, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Beyond the Yellow Ribbon, Family Assistance Centers, and all branches of service.

Crow Wing County Veteran's Service Office

204 Laurel St., Ste. 14
Brainerd, MN 56401
Contact: 218-824-1058

The Crow Wing County Veterans Services Office is committed to providing professional and courteous service to veterans and their dependents, while striving to ensure they receive the maximum benefits and services they are entitled to. Individual right to privacy and confidentiality is always respected.

We provide assistance and clerical support to veterans and their dependents with a diverse array of benefits and services. This includes claims assistance, benefit counseling, and advocacy. The Veterans Service Office can also assist in obtaining military discharge and upgrades is also provided.

Transportation service to the St. Cloud and Minneapolis Veterans hospital medical appointments are available by calling the office to reserve a seat on the van. This service is available on a first-come, first-served basis. The van will travel whenever there are 2 or more passengers and by reservation only. The van departs Westgate mall at 4:45 am.

DAV (Disables American Veterans) of Minnesota – Crow Wing County

PO Box 85

Brainerd, Mn 56401

Contact: Dave Meyer, Chapter Commander, 218-829-0608

<http://davmn22.webs.com/>

Chapter Name: #22 Crow Wing County (Brainerd)
Region: Central Minnesota, Northern Minnesota
Meeting Location:
VFW Post 1647, 309 6th St. S, Brainerd, MN 56401
Meeting Time and Day: 7:00 PM, 3rd Thursday

Crow Wing County Chapter #22 is a community-based Veterans Service Organization helping disabled, non-disabled veterans and families in the greater Brainerd Lakes Area. The chapter donates funds and provides assistance to worthy causes that directly affect the health and welfare of our nations military veterans. Chapter 22 and Auxiliary meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of each month at the VFW Clubrooms in Brainerd MN. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. We welcome all service connected disabled veterans in Crow Wing/Cass county to join us.

The Military Order of the Purple Heart

Contact: Mary Beth Wroolie, 218-829-5421

Email: Mbwroolie57@gmail.com

<http://www.purpleheart.org/Default.aspx>

Chapter Name: LAMOPH McComas-Lunde

Charter Location: Brainerd, MN

Meeting Place: The Center, Kingwood Street, Brainerd, MN 56401

Meeting Time: 4th Thursday every other month, September through May, at 10:00 a.m.

The mission of the Military Order of the Purple Heart is to foster an environment of goodwill and camaraderie among combat wounded veterans promote patriotism, support necessary legislative initiatives, and most importantly, provide service to all veterans and their families.

Patriot Guard

Brainerd, MN 56401

Contact: Carl Bates

brainerdrc@mnpatriotguard.org

<http://www.mnpatriotguard.org/index.asp>

Our Mission Scope:

“The Minnesota Patriot Guard is a 100% Volunteer, registered 501(c)3 non-profit Organization which ensures Honor, Dignity, and Respect at memorial services honoring Fallen Military Heroes, Honorably discharged Veterans, and line of duty Police, Firefighters, and First Responders.”

MN Patriot Guard Mission Statement: To attend the funeral services of fallen American heroes as invited guests of the family, Providing Honor, Dignity, and Respect.

Other missions undertaken by Minnesota Patriot Guard include:

- Funeral Missions As requested by families
- Welcome Home and Deployment Sendoff Missions
- Visits to VA Medical Centers and Minnesota State Veterans Homes

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

722 NW 7th Street

Brainerd, MN 56401

Phone: 218-855-1115

https://www.va.gov/landing2_about.htm

Mission Statement

To fulfill President Lincoln's promise "To care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan" by serving and honoring the men and women who are America's veterans.