



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ HUMAN SERVICES

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News Release

Date: July 13, 2026

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HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED

Helping Senior Veterans Access Earned Benefits at Watsonville Resource Fair

The County of Santa Cruz Veterans Services Office (VSO) is partnering with the City of Watsonville, the Watsonville Senior Center and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for a resource fair connecting veterans, their families, caregivers, and supporters to a wide range of resources and services. The event, which will be held in Watsonville on July 28, 2026, will inform attendees about VA benefits, healthcare options, mental health services, housing resources, employment supports, community programs, and other services available in our county.

VA Palo Alto will be at this resource fair, which will allow local veterans to apply for and enroll in disability or medical benefits they may be eligible for without having to leave the county. Veterans can also learn about California State Veterans Benefits, environmental medicine services for Veterans, accessing VA and other support programs for seniors, as well as the PACT Act, which expands health care and benefits for Veterans exposed to toxic substances. Attendees can also take advantage of free face-to-face medical visits and toxic exposure screenings, connect with the Whole Health program and meet caregiver support coordinators.

"Bringing VA Palo Alto to Watsonville is part of our commitment to ensuring all Veterans can easily access and get meaningfully connected to the benefits and resources they have earned, right in their backyard," said Andre Samayoa, Veterans Services Officer the County of Santa Cruz. "All Veterans and their families, those who care for veterans, and anyone in need of connection to support services are encouraged to attend this day-long, robust resource fair."

A Senior Veterans Resource Fair

Tuesday, July 28, 2026, 9:30 am – 2:30 pm

Watsonville Senior Center, 114 E 5th St, Watsonville, CA 95076

This resource fair is **free** to all attendees, with educational seminars starting at 10:00 am and repeating every hour through 1:00 pm. Attendees can walk in, sit down with service providers in attendance and get answers and support. For more information about the resource fair, contact the VSO at veteransservicesoffice@santacruzcountyca.gov, or call (831) 454-7276.

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