

# WOMEN VETERANS HEALTH CARE

*You served, you deserve  
★ the best care anywhere.*



The Department of Veterans Affairs celebrates Women's History Month (March) by recognizing and honoring the valiant contributions of our Women Veterans. Each one of the 1.8 million Women Veterans alive today serves as a living reminder of the courage and sacrifice that women have made and continue to make for our nation. Women were officially recognized as members of the armed forces in 1901, but their military involvement dates back to the Revolutionary War. There is no better time than Women's History Month to commend and thank them for their service.

Women are now the fastest growing subgroup of U.S. veterans. As of 2007, 14.3% of active duty military (all branches) are women—11 percent of the fighting force in Iraq and Afghanistan are women. The number of Women Veterans is expected to increase dramatically in the next 10 years, and VA health care is expected to be in high demand by the young women veterans of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. The Department of Veterans Affairs understands the health care needs of women veterans and is committed to meeting these needs. Women Veterans served and they deserve the best quality care.