

Dec. 17, 2021

**An open letter to all veterans who served in Afghanistan,  
from the #ClackCo Veterans Advisory Council**

## **You are not forgotten, we are here for you.**

Members of the Clackamas County Veterans Advisory Council would like to thank any veteran who served in Afghanistan from the bottom of our hearts for your sacrifice to our country and dedication to preserve the freedoms that we cherish so deeply here at home.

We are proud and honored for your service in defending this great nation with courage and bravery that our military has been know for throughout history.

Words cannot express the gratitude that we have for you. However, we understand that words are not enough to adequately express the emotions that many of you are feeling. We veterans have our ways of dealing with our struggles. Some choose not to talk about it, but others just need to find the right person to listen to them.

You may not be ready to talk. You may still need time to understand your experience, or at least to **try** to understand. Please know that we are here for you with open ears, and our thoughts are with you.

Your support is a just phone call away. Here are some resources that you can reach out to for support and assistance.

- **Veterans Crisis Line**, aka **Lines for Life** (all options 24/7)
  - 1-800-273-8255, Press Option #1, or
  - Text 838255, or
  - Chat online at [www.linesforlife.org](http://www.linesforlife.org)
  
- **#ClackCo Veterans Service Office**
  - 503-650-5631
  - [www.clackamas.us/socialservices/veterans.html](http://www.clackamas.us/socialservices/veterans.html)
  - Email: [veterans@clackamas.us](mailto:veterans@clackamas.us)
  
- **Veterans Federal Housing Assistance**
  - 1-877-424-3838
  - [www.va.gov/homeless/for\\_homeless\\_veterans.asp](http://www.va.gov/homeless/for_homeless_veterans.asp)
  
- **Oregon Department of Veterans Administration**
  - 800-692-9666 or 503-373-2085
  - [www.oregon.gov/odva/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/odva/Pages/default.aspx)

Please know that you are not be alone. We will get through this together. **You are now our mission.** Please contact the #ClackCo Veterans Service Office anytime at 503-655-5631.

Sincerely,  
#ClackCo Veterans Advisory Council