

MEDIA RELEASE

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THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIR'S BEST KEPT SECRET

DAYTON, OH – October 9, 2016 - The Aid & Attendance Benefit has been one of the VA's best kept secrets. Only a fraction of the eligible veterans over age 65, and their spouses, know about the availability of the Aid & Attendance Pension (A&A) which help elderly veterans and widows pay for home care and long term care. The Miami Valley Homecare has been helping their clients apply for this underutilized, special monthly pension benefit. "Veterans have given their service to maintain our freedom and independence. It's our honor to help maintain theirs," stated Grant Dixon, owner of Miami Valley Homecare.

"Although this is not a new program, not everyone is aware of his or her potential eligibility," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Jim Nicholson in a press release by the Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs. Many veterans don't realize that they have a choice. They can choose any home care provider or assisted living facility they want, and any physician can document the care needs of the applicant.

Successful registration is all in the proper completion of the paperwork which can be daunting and frustrating for the veteran. If the application paperwork is done incorrectly and initially declined, the veteran can reapply but the wait for a second review of the paperwork can be lengthy. "Miami Valley Homecare advocates for the veteran, and helps them fill out the paperwork correctly the first time to ensure that they get the care they deserve," stated Dixon.

A recent AARP survey demonstrates that nearly 70 percent of retirees, over 35 million people, plan to age in their homes and will be at some point, and to some degree, reliant on home health care. Most veterans don't realize that they have earned the right to the Aid and Attendance Pension and Housebound Pension or don't know how to file for pension benefits. Miami Valley Homecare helps them navigate the Department of Veteran Affairs' application process to help veterans remain living independently, and with dignity in their own homes.

With Veteran's Day quickly approaching, Miami Valley Homecare wants to ensure that every eligible elderly veteran in Southwest Ohio understands their options and gets the assistance they need with the application process. For more information on Miami Valley Homecare, please call the office at 937-671-CARE (2273) or visit www.miamivalleyhomecare.net.

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