

# ATOMIC HEALTH NEWS

FOR DEPARTMENT  
OF ENERGY, ATOMIC  
WEAPONS EMPLOYEES  
& URANIUM WORKERS

**WHY WE CREATED THE ATOMIC HEROES ALLIANCE:**  
Resources & Perks for AHA Members

**ATOMIC SITE FEATURE:** Savannah River Site

**ASK THE EXPERTS:** Denial Reviews Under EEOICPA & Two  
Commonly Unknown Benefits of the EEOICPA



In Loving Memory of Lyle H., Former Atomic Worker & Nuclear Care Partners Patient



We're very excited to feature our **Atomic Heroes Alliance**, our new exclusive membership group for former atomic workers, throughout this special edition. The Atomic Heroes Alliance, or AHA, was created in 2020 to provide a community for former atomic workers across the country while also serving as a resource, connecting workers to DOL-friendly doctors, pharmacies, and more.

**Are you a former worker looking for help, support and/or resources as it relates to your EEOICPA benefits?**

**Would you like to belong to a nationwide community of former atomic workers?**

Whether you're already a member of AHA or if you may be interested in joining, we want to share with you all of the perks and benefits of being a member—namely gaining access to a network of EEOICPA resources! We hope you'll enjoy this edition and its variety of educational and entertaining articles.



Jenna Noem, Co-Founder & CEO

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Former Savannah River Site Worker



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## Meet Jerry

### FORMER SAVANNAH RIVER SITE WORKER



**M**y name is Jerry and I was born and raised in the Graniteville, South Carolina area. I worked at the Savannah River Site for nearly 8 years as a Tool and Die Maker, mostly in the machine shop.

We knew that it was hot when we were doing the plutonium casts but we found out later that they were smoking hot. In the late 80's I did a lot of machining on the plutonium casts for the Mars space mission and that's where I got my radiation from.

After I left the Savannah River Site I started having flu-like symptoms constantly and I could never get rid of it. I went to the doctor and they gave me antibiotics but it wasn't going away. So I was referred to another doctor in Augusta who diagnosed me with Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia. Then in 2019 they found out I had lung cancer and I've been taking radiation pills every day.

I spoke with a lady from Nuclear Care Partners and they set up an appointment to come by the house. When they came they told me about the EEOICPA program and the benefits I could get.

“

**I HAD NO IDEA ABOUT THE PROGRAM AT ALL BUT THEY TOLD ME ALL ABOUT IT AND HELPED ME GET THE PROCESS STARTED SO I COULD FILE FOR BENEFITS.**

”

To be honest, I was kind of hesitant because I'm a laid back country boy and I'd always done everything my way. But they helped me get the ball rolling and suggested a couple of advocates to help me get my white card and they supported me through the process 100%.

“

**NOW, I'VE GOT THE BEST NURSES YOU COULD EVER HAVE WHO COME TO MY HOUSE THREE TIMES A WEEK.**

”

I love them to death. They come in and it's at my own pace and I get to build my own care. You truly couldn't ask for better.

I recommend anybody that's going through what I'm going through to pick up the phone and call Nuclear Care Partners. They're just a phone call away.





# THE NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROGRAM WORKERS

Dearest former atomic worker,

As you may know, October 30<sup>th</sup> marks the National Day of Remembrance (NDOR) for Nuclear Weapons Program Workers. Each year, we observe this honorary holiday which serves to recognize and honor the men and women who worked in the nuclear weapons development industry.

We remember your service and sacrifice and we honor your atomic legacy. Your patriotism, heroism, and devotion to our great country not only brought about incredible scientific innovation, but also played an essential role in our nation's defense during World War II, throughout the Cold War, and into the present day.

Your countless contributions will never be forgotten and we humbly honor your selfless bravery.

When the nation called, you answered. And we are forever grateful for your work, as well as your many sacrifices and profound dedication to our nation's security during such a critical time in our history.

It is a true privilege to serve the Atomic Heroes who boldly served us. From all of us here at Nuclear Care Partners, we want to say Thank You to our nation's Atomic Heroes!

Sincerely,  
Nuclear Care Partners



# CELEBRATING OUR NATION'S ATOMIC VETERANS

Robert - Hanford



Willie - Savannah River Site



Ron - Idaho National Lab



Kalina - Lawrence Livermore National Lab



Charles - Rocky Flats



Ruben - Uranium Miner



William - Nevada Test Site



Because of You, Freedom Lives



# Savannah River Site

Located near Aiken, South Carolina on the Savannah River which borders South Carolina and Georgia, the Savannah River Site (SRS) spans 198,046 acres. This expansive site holds great historical significance and played a crucial role in the nation's nuclear weapons complex from its inception in the early 1950s until the end of the Cold War.

## BIRTHED OUT OF WAR-TIME URGENCY

In 1949, when the Soviet Union conducted its first nuclear test, code-named RDS-1, President Truman announced that the United States would be accelerating its atomic energy program. In 1950, Truman formally asked the DuPont Company for their expertise on a new project to create a plutonium and tritium production plant. In November of that year, the location of the Savannah River Plant (SRP)\* was publicly announced and ground broke in February of 1951.

*\*The name of the Site changed from Savannah River Plant to Savannah River Site in 1989*

Throughout the 1950s, five reactors (R, P, L, K, and C) were built to produce tritium and plutonium-239, with the first reactor (R Reactor) going critical in December 1953. The P, L, and K Reactors started up in 1954 and C Reactor started up in 1955 along with H Canyon. A number of support facilities were also built including two chemical separation plants, a tritium extraction facility, a heavy water extraction plant, a nuclear fuel and target fabrication facility, and waste management facilities.

## SUPPORTING THE NATION'S DEFENSE PROGRAMS

Irradiated materials were moved from the reactors to one of the two chemical separation plants, called "canyons"—H Canyon and F Canyon. There the irradiated fuel and target assemblies were chemically processed to separate useful products from waste. After refinement, nuclear materials were shipped to other Department of Energy sites for final application.

The first use of SRP plutonium was in a space satellite which launched December 30, 1961. From 1953 to 1988, the Site produced about 36 metric tons of plutonium. For over 3 decades, the Savannah River Site and its talented workers produced the basic materials used in the fabrication of nuclear weapons, meeting every product shipment on time and within quality standards—largely contributing to the Cold War victory.

In 1991, with the end of the Cold War, production of nuclear materials for weapons at SRS came to a close. The dedicated and skillful men and women who worked at the site are to thank for its critical contributions during such an important time in our nation's history.

THE CONSTRUCTION OF SRS WITH ITS MORE THAN 200 STRUCTURES EMPLOYED OVER 38,000 WORKERS.



## CONTRIBUTING TO THE COLD WAR VICTORY THROUGH TRITIUM & PLUTONIUM PRODUCTION

### CURRENT MISSIONS

In 1992, the focus at SRS transitioned to environmental cleanup, nuclear materials management, and research and development activities.

Today, the Savannah River Site processes and stores nuclear materials in support of national defense and the United States' nuclear nonproliferation efforts. The site also develops and deploys technologies that focus on improving the environment and treating nuclear and hazardous wastes left from the Cold War.

The Department of Energy Savannah River Operations Office (DOE-SR) is responsible for oversight of the Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL). The lab assists the DOE's Office of Environmental Management in achieving the country's legacy nuclear waste cleanup objectives and plays an important role in supporting the National Nuclear Security Administration through its work in tritium R&D, operations support, stockpile stewardship, nuclear nonproliferation, and other national security programs.

With over 70 years of service to our nation, the Savannah River Site's legacy will live on in its modern missions in scientific and technological innovation, nonproliferation, environmental cleanup and more.



Sources: [Srsheritagemuseum.org](http://Srsheritagemuseum.org), [Energy.gov](http://Energy.gov), [SRS.gov](http://SRS.gov)

## THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR IS LOOKING AT EXTENDING ITS QUALIFYING DATES FOR EEOICPA BENEFITS!

They are currently looking to add an SEC for subcontractor construction trade workers who worked at the Savannah River Site anytime from October 1, 1972 - December 31, 1990.

**Want help refiling a denied claim?**  
**Curious if you may qualify for benefits?**

**WE CAN HELP! ☎ 800.295.5846**



# My Dad's Life SAVED

## THANKS TO THE TRAINING I RECEIVED FROM NCP

One night I was sitting with my dad, Booker, and noticed he was looking side to side and started scratching his face and I noticed his face looked a bit odd. His nurse, Caren, always trains and teaches me as she's caring for my dad and told me what symptoms to watch for in case of something serious, including a stroke. When I saw these things I knew my dad was having a stroke and I really thought he was going to pass so I called my brothers and sisters.

I knew we wouldn't put him through going to the hospital, so I called a local hospice company for help. I spoke to a nurse and asked if somebody could come out to help us but the nurse said she was on her way to another house and told me somebody else would give me a call. I waited and got no call. So I called the nurse back and she said they'd have to wait to send someone out until morning. And I knew morning may be too late! I was so upset and thinking "what are we going to do?" My dad couldn't talk and he wouldn't eat or drink.

But then in that moment of crisis, every training I had received from Nuclear Care Partners and from my dad's nurse came into play and I asked myself, "what would a nurse do?" I told my family, "I'm going to take his blood pressure, his oxygen level, and his temperature." Thankfully everything was pretty much fine but I told my family we needed to get our dad off the couch and into his bed to a place he could

be comfortable. So we all lifted him up and brought him to his bed.

You don't know what you've truly learned until you're in a scary moment and things start coming to you. Using my training, I kept him hydrated and monitored him and did what Caren always does. I made sure not to feed him as I remember Caren telling me that if someone's having a stroke they could choke if they eat anything.

The funniest thing was my little two year old nephew went up to my dad in the bed and said something to him and after that my dad started smiling and coming back around. He did come out of the stroke and since then he's been doing really well. There's some after effects like he can't speak as well but he's doing a lot better and he's not in pain.

While this was all going down, and after the fact, I said

“LORD, THANK YOU FOR  
ALLOWING ME TO BE HIS  
CAREGIVER. AND THANK  
YOU FOR THE NURSES  
AND THE TRAINING I'VE  
GOTTEN BECAUSE IT MADE  
A DIFFERENCE.”

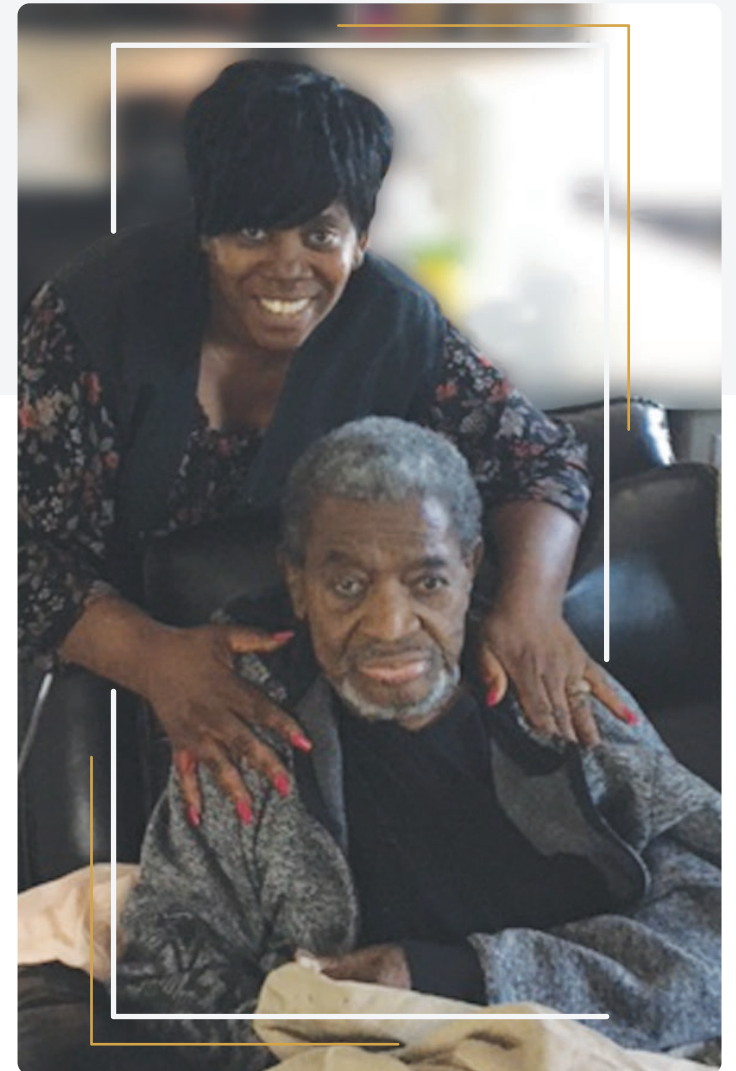


A LITTLE TRAINING CAN SAVE  
A PERSON'S LIFE. IF IT HADN'T  
BEEN FOR NCP I WOULDN'T HAVE  
KNOWN THESE THINGS AND IT  
MADE A DIFFERENCE FOR MY  
DAD AND FOR OUR FAMILY.

I'm so grateful for the training I got from NCP and his nurse Caren. I never realized all of the training I was getting from watching her and from her telling me what she was doing and what to look for. You can read books all you want, but it's nothing like the hands-on training that I've been getting. And in the midst of a crisis where I had to act quickly with no medical help in the moment and with my father's life at stake, I had no choice but to go off of what I knew and what I had learned. And I really believe that the comfort and care we were able to give my dad helped him come out of that stroke—all thanks to what I'd learned from Nuclear Care Partners.

I really am so grateful for Nuclear Care Partners and the training I've been getting (whether I realized it or not) from my dad's nurse. A little medical training could save a person's life and had I not been taught by NCP, this story could've had a very different outcome.

— Story told by Annette, daughter and family caregiver for Booker (former Nevada Test Site worker & Nuclear Care Partners patient)



Are you  
providing  
care for your  
loved one?

Do they have their  
DOL White Card?

### Receive the education, training & support you need as a family caregiver!

Benefits of being a Family Caregiver with Nuclear Care Partners:

- Family Caregivers are **direct employees**, not independent contract workers (As a direct employee, we will take care of the employment taxes)
- Earn a **competitive wage** for activities you may already be doing
- Receive **on-going training** and 24/7 support from our care teams

**Call Today to Learn More! 800.295.5846**

## ASK THE EXPERTS

# DENIAL REVIEWS UNDER EEOICPA

With Josh Ashby, EEOICPA Benefits Specialist

Filing for benefits can be a long and frustrating process that tests the resolve of even the most resolute. It is made worse when after all the waiting you are informed that your case was denied. Is there even anything you can do or are you just out of luck? I assure you that most cases are not hopeless.



JOHNNIE, FORMER ATOMIC WORKER

When the Department of Labor (DOL) issues a decision they send out two letters. The “Recommended Decision” is not a finalized decision and your case is still open. This letter has a list of what the DOL needs to approve a claim. This is usually in a paragraph towards the end of the letter and recently has been given the title “What we need from you.” The “Final Decision” has the same list, but in this case your claim will need to be reopened.

**Typically, the DOL will list one of three reasons for not approving a claim:**

The DOL needs evidence that you worked at a Department of Energy (DOE) Nuclear Site in a position that is qualified for coverage under the EEOICPA. Because of storage and other issues, some records may have been lost and employment cannot be confirmed through the DOL. The responsibility to provide evidence of employment then falls upon you. Although it may cost a small fee, the IRS will send all records of taxes paid by you and your employer. While this is the easiest route, there are other options to get proof of your employment. Give us a call and get connected to one of our Benefits Specialists to learn more.

## one PROOF OF EMPLOYMENT

## two

### LACK OF SUFFICIENT EXPOSURE

When the DOL denies a claim based on the lack of sufficient exposure, they want evidence that during your employment you were in contact with substances that are linked to the illness.

The DOL can say that your job either did not put you in contact with any causative agents or that you would not have received enough exposure to cause your condition. The recourse here is to better define your routine and to have this, if possible, confirmed by former managers and site protocol. Your doctor can also help write a letter describing their medical opinion on how the agents that you were in contact with could have caused or exacerbated your condition.

## three

### NIOSH

Radiation caused conditions are typically cancers and the proof of exposure is handed to the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). NIOSH will calculate the amount of radiation exposure and issue a percentage of exposure (to be approved a condition will need to be 50% or higher).

The best defense, in this case, is a good offense. NIOSH will issue a request before starting a review and request any information to help them determine accurate radiation dosages. The best way to ensure accuracy is to write a letter describing your job functions, complete with times, locations, and to the best of your recollection, incidents that you were involved in. Once NIOSH issues their findings and the DOL accepts them, it is difficult to get the percentage changed.

### **This is not a case where you are better off throwing in the towel.**

Many conditions are not necessarily caused by radiation alone; other agents can be linked to many cancers under Part E, so a denial under Part B is not necessarily a dead end.

We all hope that your cancer is “one and done.” If not, there is some good news; the percentage needed to approve your claim is cumulative. If you were denied, for example, for one skin cancer with a 20% rating, you can file for another skin cancer or other cancers as they arise. Numerous times people file for their first cancer and never file for more, assuming they will also be denied. However, three positive pathology reports each at 20% brings the total to over 50%. After you reach this milestone, you may be approved.

Denials can be difficult and in many cases, people just give up on getting an approval even though they may have been just a letter or a single piece of further clarification away from approval. **If you have received a denial and would like to get a review to see if you are closer than you think to an approval, please give us a call at 800.295.5846 to set up a denial review.**



# Why We Created the Atomic Heroes Alliance

## Hello!

My name's Tyler Skeen, I'm the Vice President of Marketing and Business Development here at Nuclear Care Partners. I started with NCP back in 2014 and have such a passion for this company and its mission. In my time with Nuclear Care Partners this far, there's been a common theme of former atomic workers voicing a desire for community—wanting to be with and engage in conversations with people that they worked with as well as folks who worked at other atomic sites.

This is a special group of people. They did many things that most Americans have no clue about. Their jobs were sometimes so secretive that even their co-workers or spouses had no clue what they did. The personal stories I have heard over the years from these folks is really what inspired us to create the Atomic Heroes Alliance, or AHA.

Yes, there are other groups out there, but they are all extensions of a larger system that only really focuses on filing for claimants. AHA is different. The goal behind AHA is to be a means for former workers to **connect with one another**—sharing in their common experiences and stories—and more importantly to **be a resource for them**.

There's so much education still needing to be provided in our communities across the country about all the benefits of the EEOICPA program. Many people don't even know how to use the benefit once they get it.

AHA is a network of organizations that are committed to helping former workers get what they need. Whether it's a list of DOL-friendly pharmacies, finding a DOL-friendly doctor, durable medical equipment or if they just need extra support around the home... AHA is a place that workers can turn to when they are searching for help, support, and/or resources.

FOR FORMER  
ATOMIC  
WORKERS,  
LIKE YOU!

A membership in AHA is membership into a community of atomic heroes who are all in this together and can help each other along the way. **Today, our proud AHA community is thousands of members strong, and growing!** We're very excited to be instituting new programs and events for our members to further cultivate the community, so please stay tuned!

We're so humbled to be able to honor you, your service, and your sacrifice in the atomic industry through the Atomic Heroes Alliance. **If you haven't joined AHA yet, it's not too late to sign up!**

Membership is always free and you can sign up by calling 800.295.5846 or by visiting [nuclearcarepartners.com/aha](http://nuclearcarepartners.com/aha).

Always a joy to serve you,  
Tyler Skeen  
Vice President of Marketing and Business Development



LYLE, FORMER ATOMIC WORKER

Plus!

Upon signing up, you'll receive a **FREE Membership Card and Pin!**



\*Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery



## Resources & Perks for AHA Members



Receive an early edition of our Atomic Health News magazine



Early access to honorary atomic pins and gifts



Premiere access to our Family Caregiver Bootcamp

*This program will guide your caregiver through the basics of what it means to be a family caregiver and provide them with the education and support they need to care for you.*



White cardholders may qualify for these programs:

**BreatheBetter - A Respiratory Care Program**

*This program will help improve your breathing and guide you through individualized interventions unique to your health needs.*

**Health Watch**

*This program will help you monitor your health & provide you with a variety of resources related to your EEOICPA health benefits while you await being approved to receive care.*



Information about free health screenings



Early access to events in your area



Complimentary benefits assistance for DOL White Cardholders

**Receive assistance with:**

- Adding consequential illnesses to your white card
- Learning how to maximize your benefits
- Out-of-pocket and medical travel reimbursement forms
- Impairment ratings - Understanding what they are, how they work, and when you can receive one



And much more!



# Meet Your Benefits Specialists



**CA**  
Laura Welsh  
LOCAL BENEFITS SPECIALIST



**CO**  
Lori Shanks  
LOCAL BENEFITS SPECIALIST



**OH (West)**  
Nick Ferrigno  
LOCAL BENEFITS SPECIALIST



**ID & WY**  
Josh Ashby  
LOCAL BENEFITS SPECIALIST



**NM**  
Stephanie Bogle  
LOCAL BENEFITS SPECIALIST



**OH (East)**  
Ashley Oesch  
LOCAL BENEFITS SPECIALIST



**SC & GA**  
Amanda Rhoden  
LOCAL BENEFITS SPECIALIST



**FL**  
John Tyrkala  
LOCAL BENEFITS SPECIALIST



**NV**  
Ruben Mendoza  
NATIONAL BUSINESS  
DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST



Melissa Byrd  
NATIONAL OUTREACH SPECIALIST

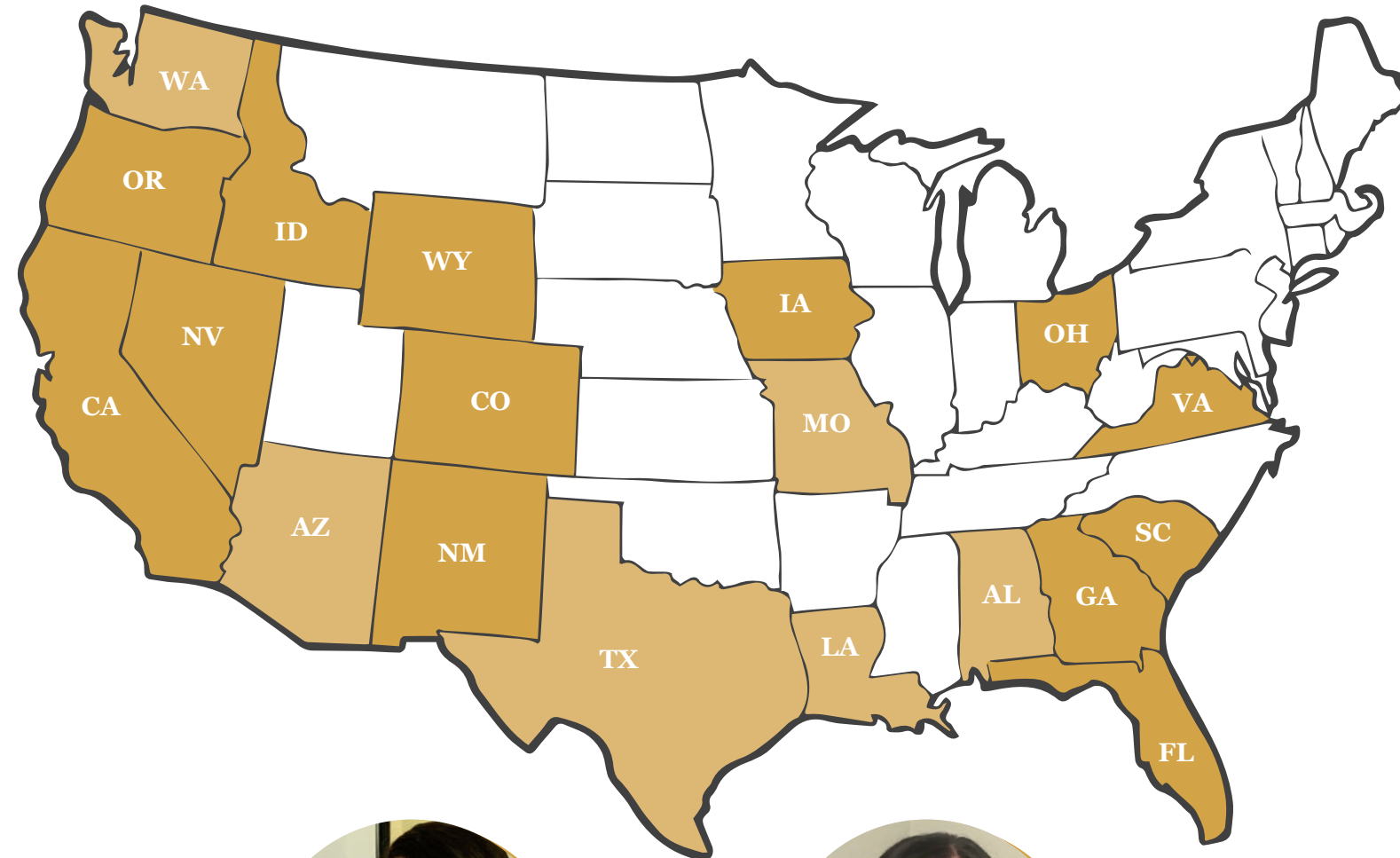


Sunshine Valler  
NATIONAL OUTREACH SPECIALIST

## 📍 STATES WE SERVE

Nuclear Care Partners is one of the largest home care providers serving former atomic workers across the United States. Our teams are based across the country and can help you determine your EEOICPA benefit eligibility, establish your next steps, connect you to resources to help you file your claim, and help you get the most out of your white card benefits.

*If you don't see your area and would like help with your benefits, please reach out to us!*  
**800.295.5846**





# DRILL, BAR, BLAST & LOAD

## My Experience in the Uranium Mines of Utah & Colorado

My name's Larry and I started working in the mines out in Moab, Utah when I was 18 years old. You were either a carpenter, a miner, or a construction worker. My dad and three of my brothers worked in the uranium mines. Mining was just what my family did, and I loved it.

For the first 12 years of my mining experience, I worked right in the face of the mine. Drill, bar, blast, and load is the easiest way to explain it. We did everything for the extraction of the uranium and I took the mining very seriously. After the first 12 years working as a miner I went into management for about six years. To me, it was more than the work; it was the extraction of the ground, the ground movement, and taking care of the ground.

We moved out to Grand Junction, Colorado to raise our family and I worked out there in the mines for about 10 years. The job was very fun and I was introduced to new types of

mining and all kinds of new technologies. I loved the people and I loved the work, but I wish I had taken some pictures. I have such vivid memories of things I saw underground that I wish I could share with people.

I knew I had been exposed to harmful radiation and I always thought about the air. I think they knew we were being exposed and knew there would be consequences. But it's like anything, you never know what's going to happen, and once we start learning more about it we have to make changes.



I was diagnosed with terminal esophageal cancer caused by my exposure at the mines, but my health problems began years ago with my heart. I had to have a double bypass done and then began to have problems with my lungs and stomach as well. I started seeing my pulmonary doctor for my lung issues a few years back and that's when they found nodules on my lungs.

They kept an eye on them but later found that they were cancerous. All of my health issues — with my lungs, stomach and heart — are all connected and sprung from the exposure at the mines. I don't like having this disease, but I have it, and I'm going to live with it.

“ I KNOW I'VE HAD A VERY GOOD AND REWARDING LIFE, I WOULDN'T TRADE IT FOR ANYTHING. ”

When they found cancer in the nodules in my lungs I decided to have an operation to remove them, but really struggled with my recovery. I was aspirating everything back into my lungs and had to stay in the hospital for about seven weeks. It was a really tough time. I'll never forget when NCP found me and came to the hospital when I was struggling to heal. They helped me through the benefits process and approved for home care before I even got out of the hospital.

When I got out of the hospital I stayed at my daughter's house and was on 24-hour care while I recovered from my operation. But as they helped me I became more stable and started improving. I was able to come back home and continue improving with the help of my wonderful nurses.

I've never been so happy in my life to have someone care for me and work with me so much. They help me with anything I need and actively keep me doing things to make sure that I take care of myself.

“ I'VE GOT A LIFE THAT I CAN STILL LIVE AND I WANT A QUALITY OF LIFE, THEY GIVE ME THAT. ”

They help me do the things I want to do. They really care.

Nuclear Care Partners is at the top of my list. They do so much for me to make my life better and that's worth a whole bunch.

## Important Information About RECA

**The Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) will expire, or “sunset”, on July 9, 2022.**

For many years we have been lobbying for changes to the Act that would extend that deadline as well as extend compensation for many workers who are not covered under the current law. With the sunset of RECA on July 9, 2022, the Department of Justice will no longer accept any new claims after that date.

Anyone who is eligible under the current RECA program must file their claim prior to July 9, 2022. The Department of Justice will continue to process claims that were filed prior to that date.

Since there will no longer be a compensation program for the uranium workers, there will be no medical benefits for these workers under the EEOICPA.

**However, if you are currently receiving benefits through the EEOICPA you will not lose your benefits.**

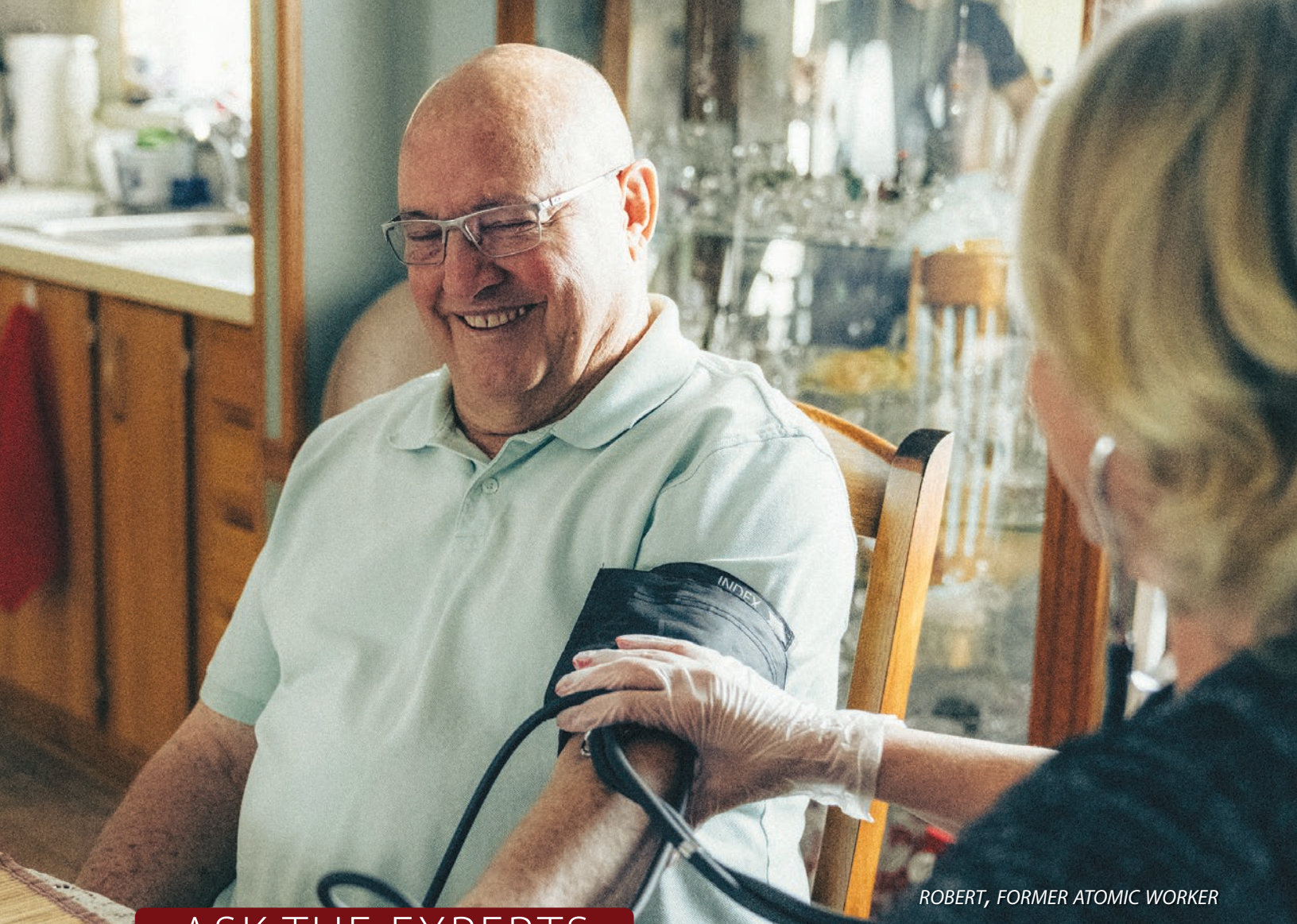
There is still hope for the RECA Amendments to be extended. Senator Mike Crapo of Idaho and Senator Ben Ray Lujan of New Mexico are working to introduce the “Radiation Exposure Compensation Act Amendments of 2021”. These amendments will extend the program by 19 years and make benefits available for many workers and downwind claimants that do not qualify under the present law.

Please contact your Congressional Representatives and ask them to pass the Radiation Amendments. These very important amendments will extend benefits to those who were unjustly exposed to radiation in our country's efforts to end The Cold War.

Jennifer McCall  
Senior RECA Paralegal to J. Keith Killian

**KD Killian, Davis**  
Richter & Kraniak, PC  
Injury Law





ROBERT, FORMER ATOMIC WORKER

## ASK THE EXPERTS

### Two Commonly Unknown Benefits of the EEOICPA

With Melissa Byrd, National Outreach Specialist



My name is Melissa Byrd and over the past three years in my time with Nuclear Care Partners I've had the great opportunity to talk with former atomic and uranium workers across the nation. I'm part of a team that reaches out to former atomic workers to check in on how they're doing, help schedule appointments with their local Community Outreach Managers, answer any questions they may have, and to simply see if there's anything we can do to help them!

You may have already received calls from myself, Leslie, Vicky, or Sunshine. The team and I love being able to speak to our country's atomic heroes—helping answer their questions and hearing their incredible stories! **Over the years, and in many of my conversations, I've noticed two distinct areas most aren't aware of: free medical screenings and the value of home health care.**

*While employed, most workers received medical screenings to monitor their health and make sure they were fit for the job. These screenings ranged in complexity based on the job, the hazards they may have encountered and the equipment they were required to wear. Once retired, many employees ceased to get regular medical screenings.*

### Free Health Screenings

One of the benefits of the EEOICPA are the free screenings which allows former workers to continue to monitor their health every three years for possible issues that may arise years, even decades after employment.

When I explain this benefit, the most common response I get is that they receive annual physicals from their physician and have no need for more. These screenings, however, don't focus on blood pressure or cholesterol. **These screenings focus on the early detection of health conditions that may be related to occupational exposures such as beryllium, asbestos, radiation, silica, etc.** Medical screenings include a physical exam, hearing test, blood and urine tests, and other special tests depending on the individual's work and exposure history.

Most doctors might not realize what these former atomic and uranium workers were exposed to during their time out at the site and may not test for them.

Not long ago, I was speaking with a former worker who just found out she has stage 4 Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD). She was not aware that CKD is a common illness for former workers in her classification. She said she had no clear symptoms prior to the diagnosis and was upset and wondered why she was only just now finding out that not only does she have CKD, but was at a higher risk for getting it. With that knowledge, she admits, she and her doctor might have been more aware of the early warning signs.

**These no-cost medical screenings are available to all former DOE Federal, contractor, and subcontractor employees.** An occupational medicine physician, independent of DOE, will review the exam results and provide a written results letter. If a potentially work-related illness is identified, the screening exam results letter may be used to support an EEOICPA claim. Re-screen exams are offered every three years.

### Home Health Care

The EEOICPA also provides former atomic and uranium workers who have developed a chronic illness as a result of workplace exposure—and have filed a claim and been accepted—with compensation and no-cost medical benefits.

One of the main medical benefits is home health care. More often than not I hear great hesitation in signing on for care, with many former workers telling me they aren't ready for home health.

A piece of advice I'd like to share is that this benefit is for every stage of your disease. **We work together with you and your doctor to make sure that you receive the right amount of care for the stage you are in.** For instance, your doctor might recommend twice weekly visits if you were just diagnosed, are experiencing new symptoms, and wish to keep as healthy as possible as well as to be educated about possible side effects and consequential illnesses from medication or treatment. Conversely, at the end of life, your physician might recommend 24-hour care so that your loved ones can be with you at home and your medical needs are taken care of by nurses. I know that the love and support of family is harder if they are also exhausted from caregiving.

The care your doctor prescribes is based on your disease and how quickly it is progressing. Most diseases progress slowly and you might not notice how hard your activities of daily living have become. **I often tell people they may not realize how much help they need until they have it and wonder how they ever coped without it.**

For our lung patients specifically, we have an exclusive program called BreatheBetter - A Respiratory Care Program. This program offers education, supervision, tips, and advice to help people with pulmonary conditions manage their symptoms, complications, oxygen and medications, reduce hospitalizations and—most importantly—breathe better and improve their quality of life.

**If you'd like to learn more about the free health screenings or the home health benefits that may be available to you, give us a call at 800.295.5846**



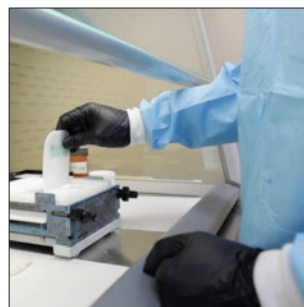
Your Whole Family Wellness Partner

National Specialty Pharmacy (NSP) is a retail pharmacy dispensing traditional and compound medications. Based in Las Vegas, Nevada, we specialize in providing prescription fulfillment services to patients who are former atomic workers under Department of Labor (DOL) programs. We have been successfully working with DOL patients in the White Card program for over three years and have established streamlined processes that ensure efficient and accurate prescription fills for patients across the US.

Everyone involved in the patient care process starting with the patients themselves, to the caregivers, nurses, case managers and physicians quickly discover that having one central pharmacy focused on fulfilling their prescription needs, simplifies the process for all involved. Our three full time pharmacists and dedicated DOL support team are able to oversee the management of these medications and give advice to a patient, practitioner or nurse for any interactions, over-prescribed medications, treatment options, etc.



## Nasal Dryness Gel

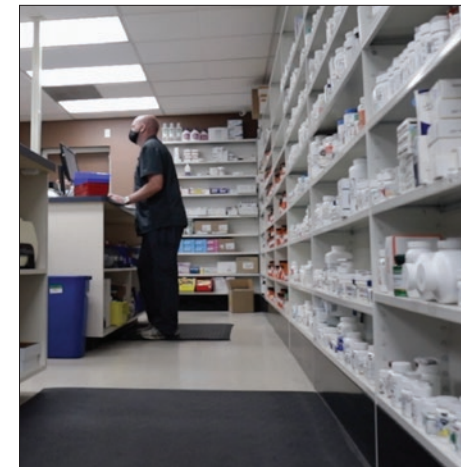


We listen to our patients to better understand their needs and strive to help in every way possible. After hearing feedback from many of our patients who suffer from nasal dryness, we created a Nasal Gel formula to help combat the adverse effects experienced with nasal dryness. The nasal gel helps to moisturize and soothe a dry nose that may be caused by the following:

**CPAP/BIPAP use**  
**Radiation therapy**  
**Oxygen therapy**  
**Allergies**  
**Low humidity**

**Colds/flu/COVID**  
**Chronic sinusitis**  
**Nosebleeds**  
**Air travel**  
**Winter dryness**

Many over the counter alternatives (*Vaseline for example*) can be dangerous and a possible fire hazard when used with oxygen.



The main ingredient in the nasal dryness compound is Spira-Wash which is a non-petroleum-based gel containing organic Meadowsweet Extract. This extract potentially has germicidal, anti-inflammatory and healing properties, thus making it a good choice for wounds, ulcers, burns, sores, and cuts. Sesame oil is added for lubrication and to make the smell more appealing. If you would like more information about the Nasal Gel and possible treatment, please contact the pharmacy, we are happy to assist you.

**Contactless delivery and shipping! Stay at home and let us deliver your medication directly to you!**

We are joining forces with Nuclear Care Partners in the following states, and many more.

Arizona	Missouri
California	Nevada
Colorado	New Mexico
Georgia	Ohio
Idaho	Oregon
Iowa	Wyoming

NATIONAL  
SPECIALTY PHARMACY

Please feel free to contact our pharmacy with any questions.

**Pharmacy 855.557.6595**

This free 8-week program will provide you with a variety of resources related to your EEOICPA benefits & will keep you informed through your benefits authorization process.

Receive weekly calls from a specially trained DOL expert discussing a variety of topics including:

- ✓ **White Card Review** - Are you using your white card to its full potential?
- ✓ **Durable Medical Equipment** - What would make getting around your home easier?
- ✓ **Help Around the House** - Need help around the home or with getting prescriptions?
- ✓ **Consequential Illnesses** - Need help adding a consequential condition to your white card?
- ✓ **Reimbursement Forms** - Need help with your medical travel/mileage reimbursement forms?
- ✓ **Family Q&A** - Do any of your family members have questions about your health or your benefits?

**Health Watch**   
A Nuclear Care Partners Initiative

**Better health is just a phone call away!**

**Call 800.295.5846 to learn more about this program & determine if it may be right for you!**



TERRY, FORMER ATOMIC WORKER



# WORKING WITH AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

# Q&A



**ELIZABETH BROOKS**  
Independent Advocate for Nuclear Workers & Survivors  
*Working with Nuclear Care Partners since 2015*

I have 27 years of experience in the medical field and my background originates in nursing. When I was a nurse and case manager, I successfully helped some of my patients file for their benefits and found I had a passion for advocacy. I've been an Authorized Representative for 10 years now.

### As an Advocate, what's important to you when working with an EEOICPA home care provider?

I feel very comfortable working with Nuclear Care Partners because I know that they're ethical. In everything they do, they practice integrity and that's very important to me.

They're also very knowledgeable about the program and the filing process. Working with a company that knows the ins and outs of the EEOICPA and claims process not only makes our relationship beneficial, it also creates a smoother and more enjoyable experience for the atomic retirees.

“ I APPRECIATE HOW NUCLEAR CARE PARTNERS CREATES A MORE SEAMLESS FILING PROCESS BY ORGANIZING DOCTOR'S APPOINTMENTS, HELPING TRACK DOWN MEDICAL RECORDS FOR THE CLAIMS, AND JUST WORKING SIDE BY SIDE WITH ME TO HELP THESE WORKERS. I'VE ESTABLISHED GREAT RELATIONSHIPS WITH THEM AND WE SUCCESSFULLY WORK TOGETHER TO HELP THESE ATOMIC RETIREES. ”

### As a former worker, what's the benefit of working with an Authorized Representative (AR)?

Filing for an EEOICPA claim has its challenges so it is definitely to your advantage to have an experienced advocate on your side!

- Your **claim will be properly prepared from the start.**
- Required medical evidence will be submitted for the diagnosis that is being filed to **prevent any delays.**
- **Assistance will be provided in preparing for the occupational history questionnaire** which may be required for certain types of claims.
- Your advocate receives copies of all correspondence with the Department of Labor. When paperwork is received, we help complete it for you. **We act on your behalf.**
- **We respond to any request for further medical or employment evidence** that may be requested by your claims examiner. This will prevent the claimant from submitting information which could be damaging to their case.
- **We handle your claim from beginning to end.** You can be sure that every move will be handled promptly, professionally and most of all, correctly!
- Having an advocate prepare and orchestrate your claim puts you in **a better position to receive the optimal benefits.**



**MEGHAN ROBLES**  
Independent Authorized Representative  
*Working with Nuclear Care Partners since 2019*

I've always had a passion for helping others and for me, being an AR fulfills this passion. It's all about being an advocate for others to help them receive the medical benefits and compensation they are not only eligible for, but deserve. Being able to take so much off of the claimants plates so they can focus on themselves and their health is extremely rewarding.

“ I LOVE WORKING WITH NUCLEAR CARE PARTNERS BECAUSE WE ALL HAVE THE SAME GOAL OF HELPING FORMER ATOMIC WORKERS GET THE BENEFITS THEY DESERVE. EVERYONE IS SO HELPFUL AND REALLY MOTIVATED FOR THE RIGHT REASONS. ”

### How long can the claims filing process take?

Every claim is as unique as the individual who is filing it, so there's really no magic formula for how long the process will take. Many variables can impact the time frame including needing to track down medical records, requiring further employment evidence, or even simply just how the claims examiner works. However, I'll give a rough estimate from my experience.

For a Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) claim under Part B (as long as all of the medical records are in order), the approval time may be approximately five to seven months. For a non-SEC claim under Part B and for Part E claims, the approval time may be approximately one year from initially filing to receiving the compensation.

### How often can you expect to hear from your AR throughout the process?

Every AR is different, but my personal practice is to check in every 30-45 days with the claims examiner and if I have an update, I'll let the claimant know. It's important to me to keep the claimant informed throughout the process.

I have an open door policy for communication and always tell former workers they are welcome to email or call me anytime if questions arise or if they want to check in on the status of their claim!

### What kind of fees will I need to pay when working with an AR?

Payment is only required after your claim is approved so there's no upfront payment! For new claims (if you've never filed a claim for that condition before) the fee is 2% of the compensation received. If it's something that has been previously filed for and been denied, the fee will be 10%. If your AR has to retrieve any medical records there may be some small record retrieval fees, but this doesn't happen often as typically the claimant is able to request their medical records from their doctor for free.

\*Disclaimer: Nuclear Care Partners does not receive any compensation for recommendations of Authorized Representatives.

Want to get connected to a reputable Authorized Representative?

Give us a call at 800.295.5846!

 **NUCLEAR CARE PARTNERS**



## JOIN OUR GROWING NCP FAMILY

Over the past decade our NCP family has grown into a proud community of atomic heroes, nationwide. We love being able to form meaningful relationships with our patients and provide a care experience unlike any other.

BERNARD & RAMONA, FORMER  
ATOMIC WORKERS & NUCLEAR  
CARE PARTNERS PATIENTS

You sacrificed your health to keep our country safe, in return we believe **you deserve nothing less than excellence**. You deserve care that fulfills your specific and unique needs.

Our care encourages **choice, independence**, and **a sense of purpose** because we believe this kind of care gives life meaning.

### WE'D LOVE FOR YOU TO JOIN OUR NCP FAMILY!



The other company we were with didn't know how to care for Alfred, they weren't educated in caring for former nuclear workers. **I am so glad we found Nuclear Care Partners**, they are so good to him and that means more than anything. He's so happy to have ya'll caring for him now.

— Edith, health care surrogate for Alfred, NCP patient



I signed up with a company that made a lot of promises that they couldn't follow through on. My favorite thing about Nuclear Care Partners is that **they treat you like family**. My nurses are fabulous and I know if I ever have a question they will help me. I'm very happy I made the switch to Nuclear Care Partners.

— Dallas, Former Atomic Worker & NCP patient



We trust Nuclear Care Partners. They know the difference between right and wrong, and they try to do what's right. **We are so glad we made the switch.**

— Clairice & husband Dennis, NCP Patient



Nuclear Care Partners made it **so smooth and easy** for us to switch and Arnie never lost any care in the process. They pride themselves on getting the right person for the right family. We're totally happy now.

— Myrtice, wife of Arnold, NCP patient



Nuclear Care Partners is the best! I can tell you that I was on the fence about switching providers, but I'm so glad we switched and I wish we would've done it a long time ago. **Best decision we ever made.**

— Ruth, wife & caregiver for Bruce, NCP Patient



### ARE YOU GETTING THE MOST OUT OF YOUR EEOICPA BENEFITS?



#### Do you need help with:

- Tracking your Impairment Ratings?
- Adding a Consequential Illness to your White Card?
- Finding Approved Medical Vendors?
- Getting Connected White Card Friendly Resources?
- Discussing your Health Needs with your Physician?

We are here to help you **receive the quality service & care you deserve**



As an **accredited provider**, Nuclear Care Partners proudly subscribes to a higher level of service & care with over a decade of experience in serving former atomic workers.

**See how we can make a difference in your care & join those making the switch!**

**800.295.5846**





NUCLEAR  
CARE  
PARTNERS®

631 24 ½ Rd. Suite C  
Grand Junction, CO 81505

2022

## Atomic Heroes Calendar

This year's limited-edition calendar was custom created to honor our nation's former atomic and uranium workers. As they built and maintained our nation's nuclear defense, these men and women made many sacrifices. The 2022 calendar features real photos of real former atomic workers, submitted to us from across the country—from Security workers at the Nevada Test Site to Truck Drivers at the Savannah River Site! It also features some of our specialty programs for former workers and other useful resources, all as a tribute to **honor our Atomic Heroes.**

### Get Connected



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**ORDER YOUR FREE  
2022 ATOMIC HEROES  
CALENDAR TODAY!**

**800.295.5846**