

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS



Annual Report 1 July 2010 - 30 June 2011

Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of the Commissioner
1111B Louisville Road
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
Phone: (502) 564-9203



"Serving those who have served the Commonwealth and our great Nation."



KDVA Annual Report

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KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Steve Beshear
Governor

Office of the Commissioner
1111B Louisville Road
Frankfort, KY 40601-6118
PHONE: 502-564-9203 FAX: 502-564-9240

Kenneth R. Lucas
Commissioner

September 1, 2011

Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs Annual Report 1 July 2010 - 30 June 2011

The Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs (KDVA) continued to expand and improve our services to Kentucky's veterans and their families. This report documents that continuing progress and demonstrates that our work significantly benefits the Commonwealth as a whole by directly serving our patriotic veterans.

As of June 30, 2010, there were more than 335,000 veterans residing within the borders of the Commonwealth. KDVA serves the state's veterans in four primary areas of support: healthcare, benefits, cemetery operations and specialty programs. This structure parallels the administrative organization of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA.) This report provides details concerning each of these major service areas, as well as indicators of their effectiveness.

KDVA is committed to fulfilling its mission of taking care of Kentucky's veterans, their families and survivors as a result of their earned veteran status. Because of their dedicated and selfless service to our Commonwealth and Nation, our veterans deserve no less. This report reflects that commitment.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Lucas".

Kenneth R. Lucas
Commissioner, KDVA

"Serving those who have served the Commonwealth and our great Nation."

Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs Annual Report 1 July 2010 – 30 June 2011

INTRODUCTION AND HISTORY

In 1998 Governor Paul Patton created the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs (KDVA) and charged the Department with helping veterans and their families obtain all federal, state and local veterans benefits to which they are entitled. The first commissioner began building a Department capable of significantly assisting Kentucky's large veteran population.

“Serving those who have served the Commonwealth and our great Nation”

KDVA's motto sums up its work: ensuring that Kentucky's veterans receive all the benefits and services they have earned. Today, the Department offers free services and benefits counseling provided by a network of experienced and dedicated paid staff, provides representation before the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs during formal and informal hearings, and is operating three state-of-the-art veterans nursing homes. KDVA has opened the first three state veterans cemeteries, has a fourth about to begin construction and is developing a fifth. Responding to an unfilled need, in 2004 the department established a program to help homeless veterans.

MISSION

“Take care of Kentucky's 335,000 veterans and their 600,000 family members”

- *Ensure they receive federal, state and local veteran benefits*
- *Operate state veterans' nursing homes and veterans' cemeteries*



Veterans nursing home employee talks with one of our women veteran residents

The mission of the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs (KDVA) is defined in KRS Chapter 40.310. The statute provides for services and support to the citizens of the Commonwealth who are veterans of military service, their families, dependents and/or survivors and like persons residing in other states. This group represents more than 20 percent of Kentucky's population.

To that end, we help veterans and their dependents in the presentation, proof and establishment of all claims, privileges, rights and other veteran benefits which they may have under federal, state or local laws. Those other benefits include access to veterans nursing homes, burial with honors in veterans cemeteries, counseling, and specific assistance for homeless veterans.

ORGANIZATION

In January, 2009, Governor Steve Beshear appointed Kenneth R. Lucas Commissioner of KDVA. Commissioner Lucas is the Executive Officer of the Department and has the responsibility of the overall operation.

The Commissioner, Office of Kentucky Veterans Centers (health services), cemetery services, and headquarters are located in Frankfort. The Field Operations headquarters is co-located with the US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Regional Office in downtown Louisville. There are three major, distinct operational elements in the Department: field operations, healthcare services and cemetery services. Our organizational chart is in appendix 1.



*Kenneth R. Lucas
Commissioner, KDVA*

FIELD OPERATIONS

Our Field Operations Branch consists of 17 Field Offices strategically located throughout the state with Veterans Benefits Field Representatives (VBFR) located within each nursing home and one at the Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West in Hopkinsville. In FY 2008, KDVA reduced the number of field representatives and limited travel to 56 of Kentucky's 120 counties due to budget constraints. Nevertheless, every veteran requiring assistance receives it. Each of our 18 field representatives now serves approximately 18,000 veterans in seven counties.

See appendix 2 for a map of KDVA regions.



The Regional Administrators and VBFRs are the heart of the field operation. These dedicated men and women, most of whom are veterans themselves, provide counseling, advice and assistance to Kentucky's veterans. Each VBFR and Regional Administrator receives the professional training in veterans benefits required to competently assist veterans, their families and survivors.

The Field Operations Branch provides continuing education to staff to keep them abreast of the constantly changing rules and regulations governing benefits to members of the veterans community. The Regional Administrators have an in-depth knowledge of federal veterans' benefits law and unprecedented access to federal benefits resources and personnel.

Their tenacity, written skill and verbal proficiency are vitally important to our effective representation of Kentucky's veterans. KDVA's staff, as accredited representatives by the VA, can represent veterans before the VA in formal and informal hearings.

VBFRs maintain regular and published office hours in each county, which they visit at least once a month. They maintain close liaison with County Judge-Executives, Mayors, local veterans organizations, other state and local agencies, and local media who may be in contact with veterans who require assistance. Paul Hartless, KDVA Staff Advisor and a U.S. Army retired first sergeant, is in charge of Field Operations. It is not unusual for the staff to be called upon to help at night, weekends or holidays. Assistance is always available.

KENTUCKY VETERANS CENTERS

KDVA provides health services through its Office of Kentucky Veterans Centers (OKVC).

The state's first veterans nursing home, Thomson-Hood Veterans Center (THVC), opened in August 1991. It is a 285-bed facility situated approximately 30 minutes south of Lexington in Wilmore, Kentucky.



*Thomson-Hood Veterans Center
Wilmore, Kentucky*

As of June 30, 2011, there were 250 residents at THVC.

Two new nursing homes in the Eastern and Western portions of the state opened in fiscal year 2002.

The first resident was admitted to the Western Kentucky Veterans Center (WKVC) on March 14, 2002. Admissions to the Eastern Kentucky Veterans Center (EKVC) began on March 21, 2002.



Western Kentucky Veterans Center, Hanson, Kentucky

WKVC and EKVC each contain 90 general admission beds, a 30-bed special care unit for those veterans suffering from Alzheimer's Disease and related dementia disorders.

As of June 30, 2011, there were 119 residents at WKVC and 119 at EKVC. Although the admissions lists at THVC and EKVC have steadily grown over the years, they are manageable; however the waiting list at WKVC remains well over 50 with a minimum of 38 waiting for the special-care unit.

In April 2011, KDVA began construction on a 36-bed expansion at WKVC. The three new home-like buildings with private bedrooms and baths are scheduled to be completed in December 2011.

In the meantime, our staff works to place veterans waiting for a bed at WKVC temporarily at EKVC or THVC to ensure all veterans in need of nursing home care receive it.

During the annual licensing and regulations survey, the veterans homes received received only minor deficiencies. These outstanding results are good news for veterans and speak volumes about the hard work performed by the dedicated nursing home staff on a daily basis.

Details about all three state veterans nursing homes are in appendix 3.



*Eastern Kentucky Veterans Center,
Hazard, Kentucky*

OKVC Costs

Kentucky's Veterans Centers strive to contain costs as well as provide continued quality care to veterans. Daily cost of care (the cost of caring for one resident for one day) rose approximately \$15 from \$224 in FY 2010 to \$239 in FY 2011. That equates to a monthly cost of care of \$6,993 per resident.

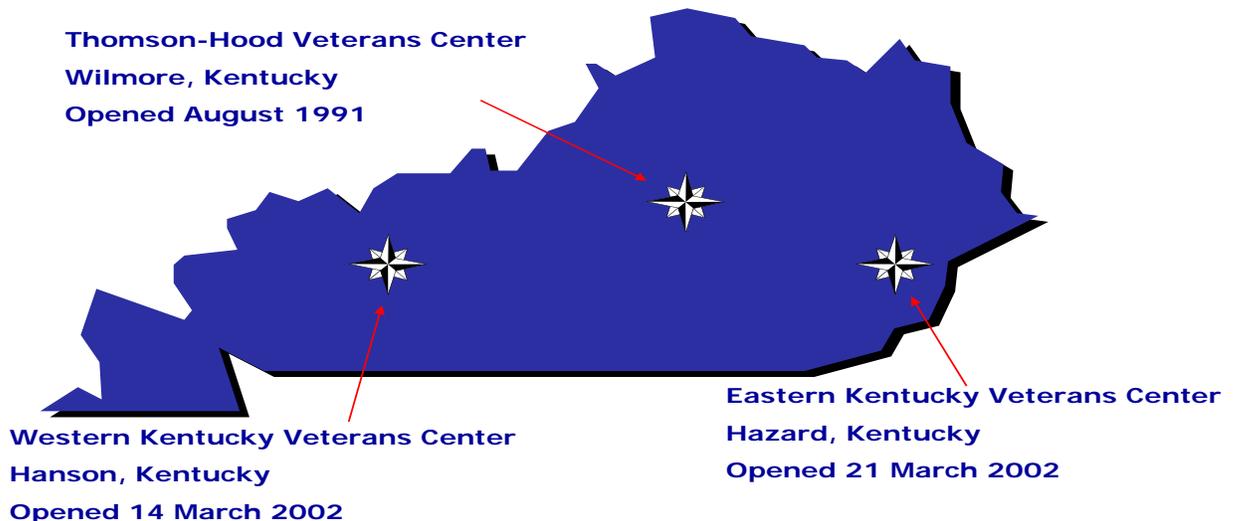
Charges to residents for care are on a sliding scale based on income. They range from zero for veterans with the lowest income to a maximum of \$3,500 per month. The average monthly charge per resident in FY 2011 was \$2,042.

Resident charges account for approximately one-third of the budget for the veterans centers. Another third of the budget comes from *per diem* payments from the USDVA, and the final third comes from state General Fund dollars.

Gilda Hill, Executive Director of the OKVC, oversaw the operation of all three state veterans nursing homes. In addition, she monitored all veterans' health issues through a very close relationship with the eight USDVA Medical Centers which operate in and around Kentucky.



WKVC staff received the Governor's Ambassador Award to their dedicated efforts to maintain service during the January 2009 ice storm. While power was out for more than a week, facility generators kicked in immediately, and staff lived at WKVC round the clock to ensure residents were safe, secure and comfortable.



CEMETERY SERVICES

One of KDVA's early accomplishments was to determine the need for state veterans cemeteries in Kentucky. The USDVA funds 100 percent of construction and initial equipment for such cemeteries, and the state is responsible for continuous operating costs. KDVA applied for five new state veterans cemeteries, and in the summer of 1999, both the Governor and the USDVA approved the pre-applications.



The Honor Guard for a service at Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West



One of Kentucky's first veterans buried at the cemetery in Hopkinsville, Kentucky

Our second state veterans cemetery, Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Central, opened in Radcliff June 1, 2007. Retired Army First Sergeant Charles Heater serves as Director. After four years of operation, as of June 30, 2011, KDVA had interred 1,845 veterans and family members at KVCC.

Our third state veterans cemetery, Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North, opened in Williamstown August 22, 2008. Retired Army First Sergeant Al Duncan serves as Director of the facility. After 34 months of operation, as of June 30, 2011, KDVA had interred 383 veterans and family members at KVCN.

Our fourth state veterans cemetery, Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North East (KVCNE) opened in Greenup County on October 1, 2010. Navy veteran Frank Kees serves as the Director of the cemetery. As of June 30, 2010, after 9 months of operation, KVCNE had interred 90 veterans and family members at our newest facility.

KDVA plans its fifth and final cemetery: KVC South East in in Leslie County.

Appendix 4 of this report contains a map of cemetery locations and fact sheets on each cemetery.

BURIAL HONORS

The Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs operates a Burial Honors Program to ensure veterans receive burial honors at interment. The program pays a stipend to Veterans Service Organizations and burial honors programs throughout the Commonwealth to help defer costs of performing honors. The program paid \$138,650 during FY 2011 to offset the cost to these volunteers who participate in this noble endeavor. As of June 30, 2011, KDVA has honored 14,600 veterans through this program. We continue to regularly receive stipend requests.



Medals and flag at the service for an Iraq War combat veteran at Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West in Hopkinsville

CEMETERY SERVICES—Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North East

On Friday, September 18, 2011, Governor Steve Beshear dedicated the state’s fourth veterans cemetery: Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North East in Greenup County.

Guests at the ceremony included Frank Salvas, Sr., the Director of the State Cemetery Grants Program of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The USDVA paid the \$6.1 million cost of constructing and equipping KVCNE. The Commonwealth of Kentucky pays operating and maintenance costs. Other state and local officials will also attend.



The completion of KVCNE gets KDVA four-fifths of the way toward its goal of completing five state veterans cemeteries in each region of the state: West, Central, North, Northeast and Southeast.

The state must acquire the land for the cemeteries and pay to operate them, but USDVA funds 100 percent of construction costs.



Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North East

Dedication

September 10, 2010



Governor Beshear Dedicates Kentucky's Fourth State Veterans Cemetery

Governor Steve Beshear dedicated the Commonwealth's fourth state veterans cemetery in Greenup County.

"I am honored to be here to dedicate Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North East in Greenup," said Gov. Beshear. "Today, we remember the brave men and women who have served our country in the armed forces, and we are also grateful for the hard work of the legislature and the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs for locating this property and obtaining the federal grant for this cemetery."

"The North East Veterans Cemetery is fourth facility established through the partnership between the Federal VA and the State of Kentucky," said Frank Salvas, Sr., director of the State Cemeteries Grant Service of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. "In all, VA's State Cemetery Grants Service has awarded the State of



Kentucky \$29,034,934.00 since the first Hopkinsville grant awarded in 2002. In FY 2010, 703 veterans and their dependents have been interred in three established cemeteries in Hopkinsville, Radcliff and Williamstown. I am confident that the staff here at this cemetery will continue to honor and respect our fallen Heroes."

Other speakers at the ceremony included Congressman Geoff Davis, R-KY4, Rep. Tanya Pullin, D-South Shore, and Senator Robin Webb, D-Grayson.

The cemetery will serve veterans and their families from northeastern Kentucky as well as those from southeastern Ohio and western West Virginia. It thus serves the federal goal of ensuring that a national or state veterans cemetery is no further than 75 miles from veterans' families. KDVA is currently seeking land for its fifth state veterans cemetery in Leslie County in southeastern Kentucky.



HOMELESS VETERANS PROGRAM

In April 2011, KDVA celebrated the sixth anniversary of its Homeless Veterans Transition Facility at the Leestown Campus of the Lexington VA Medical Center, in partnership with the Volunteers of America.



As of June 30, 2011, the Leestown program had graduated 135 homeless and substance-abusing veterans to sobriety, stable housing and jobs. FY 2011 offered the continued success as 152 veterans received services at the 40 bed capacity. In October, St. James Place apartments in Lexington celebrated the fifth year of operation with all 38 efficiency apartment units for homeless veterans fully occupied. These units receive support from the USDVA Homeless Veterans Grant & Per Diem Program. Because each unit is complete with kitchen and private bath males and females will use this facility. Lexington also served 30 male veterans at the Hope Center facility which is part of a larger program for the homeless. In addition the Hope Center added 5 beds for female veterans on their women's campus.

The Interlink Counseling Services facility in Louisville continued the mission of serving homeless veterans maintaining a 98% capacity of the 85 male beds. Interlink also continues to operate the Landing Zone with five emergency housing beds that allows the program to take homeless veterans off the street. Prior to this addition veterans had enter one of the homeless programs briefly before admission. St. Vincent DePaul in Louisville provides 20 beds through the Grant & Per Diem for homeless veterans, and recently Wayside Christian Mission continues to provide transitional housing to 10 men, four women, and two family units. The family units are unique to the State of Kentucky and offer the opportunity for a male or female veteran to bring a spouse and children into the a G&PD-sponsored unit. In June of 2011 Salvation Army began serving male veteran in the newly renovated Old Male High School building located on Brooks street in Louisville.



Homeless Veterans Transition Program graduate David Holland, with his Bachelor's Degree from WKU.

All the facilities offer rooms, regular meals and multiple services, including:

- Drug and alcohol abuse counseling
- Education referrals
- Employment and job training referrals
- Assistance with permanent housing.

Dr. Patrick McKiernan, Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor, is KDVA's Homeless Veterans Outreach Coordinator. He represents the agency on the Kentucky Council on Homeless Policy, which advises the Governor and his staff on homelessness and housing issues across the state. Dr. McKiernan also represents KDVA at the annual conference of the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans in Washington, D.C., and the Homeless and Housing Coalition of Kentucky, which is the state's advocacy group for the homeless. Dr. McKiernan has worked with US DVA to establish the Homeless Veterans Coordination Committee to provide additional guidance and support to help homeless veterans. They convened the first meeting in March 2010.

KDVA has worked hard to coordinate efforts with the local VA Hospitals to assist Kentucky's homeless veterans. Along these lines KDVA in conjunction with the VA hospitals and other social and health services providers including the Kentucky Housing Corporation hosted four Stand Downs providing information and referrals for Homeless Veterans in Bowling Green, Covington, Lexington, Louisville, KDVA has been successful in helping veterans get off the streets into housing or some treatment facility.

Tonight there will be 800 – 1,200 veterans sleeping on the streets of the Commonwealth.

HOMELESS VETERANS TRUST FUND

The Homeless Veterans Trust Fund (HVTF) seeks to prevent homelessness among veterans and help homeless veterans return to permanent housing quickly. It provides small, one-time cash grants for rent deposits, utility payments and other housing-related expenses.

The HVTF represents a beacon of hope to veterans who otherwise would slip into or remain in a state of homelessness.

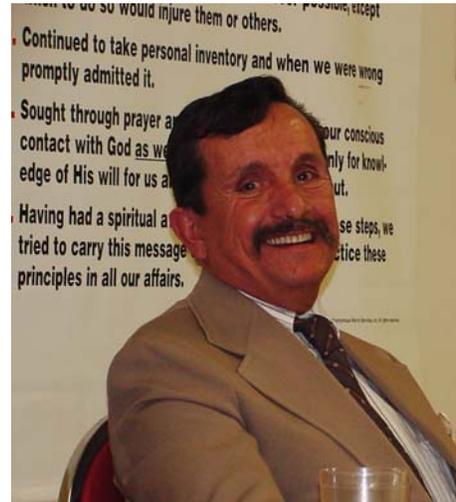
FY 11 Milestones

Total Expenditures \$67,051

Average Amount of Assistance \$270

Assisted 248 Veterans and families

- 150** veterans received rent assistance
- 98** veterans received utility assistance
- 2** homeless veterans events sponsored



*Homeless Veterans Transition Program
2007 graduate Bobby Downs.*

Homeless Veterans Trust Fund Fiscal Year 2011	
Starting Balance	\$ 28,982.96
Income	
Donations	\$ 6,516.28
From Veterans Program Trust Fund	\$ 50,000.00
Interest Income	\$ 74.69
Total Income	\$ 85,573.93
Total Assistance Granted	\$ 67,810.83
End of Year Cash Balance	\$ 17,763.10

KENTUCKY VETERANS PROGRAM TRUST FUND

The Kentucky Veterans Program Trust Fund (KVPTF) supports veteran-related programs for which there are no appropriated funds. Funding sources include:

- Contributions from taxpayers who use the veterans check-off on their tax returns to donate a portion of their income tax refund.
- Five dollars from each initial purchase and renewal of a veteran or military related license plate.
- Donations directly to the Veterans Program Trust Fund.

During the 2005 session of the Kentucky General Assembly, House Bill 134 was passed into law. This legislation allows all citizens, veteran or not, to contribute to the Veterans Program Trust Fund through county clerk offices. In response to the new law, the Kentucky County Clerks Association approved the Help A Veteran Everyday (H.A.V.E.) program to encourage citizens to contribute directly to the Veterans Program Trust Fund at any county clerk office.

Examples of how Veterans Program Trust Fund money has been used include:

- Major contribution to start and maintain Honor Flights to take Kentucky World War II veterans to visit the World War II memorial in Washington, D.C.
- Purchase of vans to transport veterans to VA healthcare facilities
- Purchase of land for a state veterans cemetery
- Contributions to install an eternal flame atop the 101st Airborne Division Memorial at Fort Campbell
- Purchase of a mobile office for outreach to homeless veterans
- Paying the cost of first year operation of Homeless Veterans Treatment and Transition Facility
- Contribution to bring the 82nd Airborne Division Chorus to perform a public concert in Central Ky.



In May 2007, the students in Lynn Settles technology class at Jessamine County Middle School built special display boxes for the long-delayed medals presented to veterans at Thomson-Hood Veterans Center in Wilmore. The Veterans Program Trust Fund paid for the materials, but the students donated their time and skills. Less than \$800 paid for the wood, felt, paint and hardware for 65 boxes presented in formal ceremonies at THVC.

But the results - to honored veterans, to their families in the audience, to the students who got to meet and learn from the veterans who received the medals - were priceless.

WOMEN VETERANS PROGRAM

From the founding of our nation, women have protected America's freedom and continue to do so in ever increasing numbers. Women veterans remain historically under-represented in obtaining available benefits and may be more reluctant than their male counterparts to embrace their status as veterans.

Too many times this segment of our veteran population is overlooked because of a long-outdated stereotype that associates “veterans” with men. The Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs has made it one of our goals to modernize that paradigm ...because ***she served too!***

In October 2004, KDVA appointed its first Women Veterans Coordinator for the Commonwealth of Kentucky. KDVA launched the Women Veterans Program in March of 2005 and two months later held Kentucky’s first Women’s Veteran’s Conference.



“Let the generations know that women in uniform also guaranteed their freedom. That our resolve was just as great as the brave men who stood among us. And with victory our hearts were just as full and beat just as fast - that the tears fell just as hard - For those we left behind.”

Army Nurse WWII

In April 2007, KDVA and VAMC Lexington sponsored the first Kentucky Women Veterans Health Care and Benefits Bazaar.

MISSION AND GOALS

The mission of the Kentucky Women Veterans Program shall be to ensure that Kentucky's women veterans have equal access to federal and state veterans' services and benefits. The goals are to:

- Perform outreach to improve women veterans' awareness of eligibility for federal and state veterans services and benefits;
- Assess the needs of women veterans with respect to improve the Women Veterans Program;
- Make recommendations to the Commissioner to improve benefits and services;
- Review programs, research projects, and other initiatives designed to address or meet the needs of Kentucky's women veterans;
- Incorporate women veterans' issues in the Department's strategic planning; and
- Participate in National forums and committees for women veterans.

The program shall provide assistance to women who served in the United States Armed Forces or in forces incorporated as part of the United States Armed Forces, and who were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.

From the storm lashed decks of the Mayflower...to the present hour; women have stood like a rock for the welfare and the glory of the history of the country, and one might well add...unwritten, unrewarded, and almost unrecognized.”
Clara Barton, February 1911

LEGISLATION

The 2011 General Assembly approved six bills related to KDVA's mission.

New "I Support Veterans" License Plate Approved

For years, people have asked KDVA for a license plate that would show their support for veterans.

Although veterans may purchase specialty license plates displaying their veteran status, there was no license plate for non-veterans who want to display their support.

Now there will be. Beginning in 2012, any vehicle owner in Kentucky can purchase a special "I Support Veterans" license plate.

The plate will cost \$35, \$10 of which will go to support veterans programs at KDVA.

Medal of Honor Plaque

The Kentucky State Capitol will display a large plaque honoring Kentucky's 62 recipients of the Medal of Honor.

CDL Skills Test Exemption

Requires a veterans to apply and complete the requirements for a CDL with a skills test exemption within 90 days of separation of duty.

Drill and Parade with Arms

Allows veterans to drill and parade with arms while participating in historic military events.

Display POW/MIA flag

Directs the Transportation Cabinet to display the U.S. flag, Kentucky flag and POW/MIA flag at all highway rest areas.

In-State Tuition for Veterans

Permits Kentucky universities to charge in-state tuition to non-Kentucky residents who are veterans under the Post 9/11 GI Bill.

FIELD OPERATIONS

In federal FY 2010 the US Department of Veterans Affairs expended **1.7 billion dollars** in Kentucky. Thanks to the hard work of the employees of KDVA's Field Operations Branch, Kentucky's veterans and their dependents received \$886 million in direct monetary benefits.



The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' Office of the Inspector General released a study of the effect of veterans' advocates (state benefit representatives as well as benefit officers from Veteran Service Organizations) on the amount of benefits veterans received.

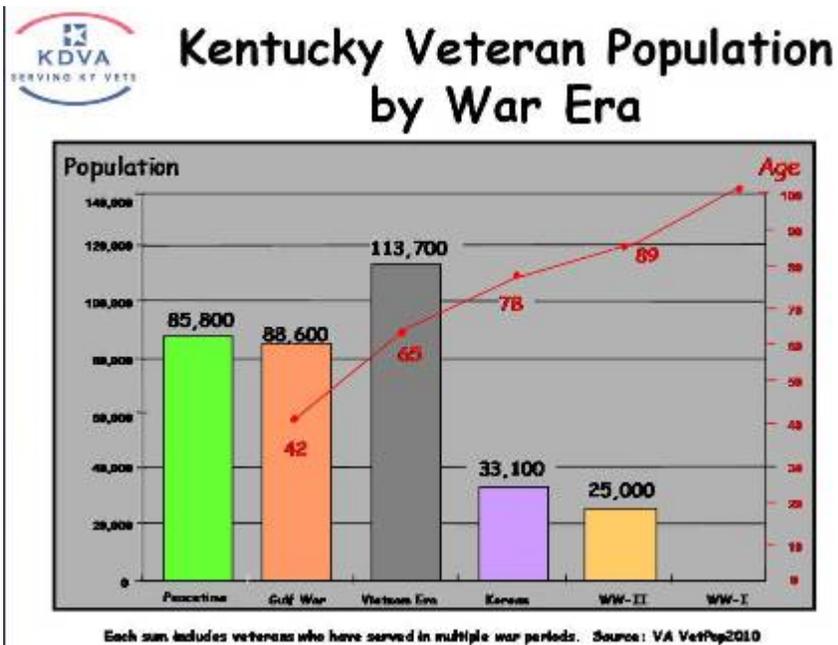
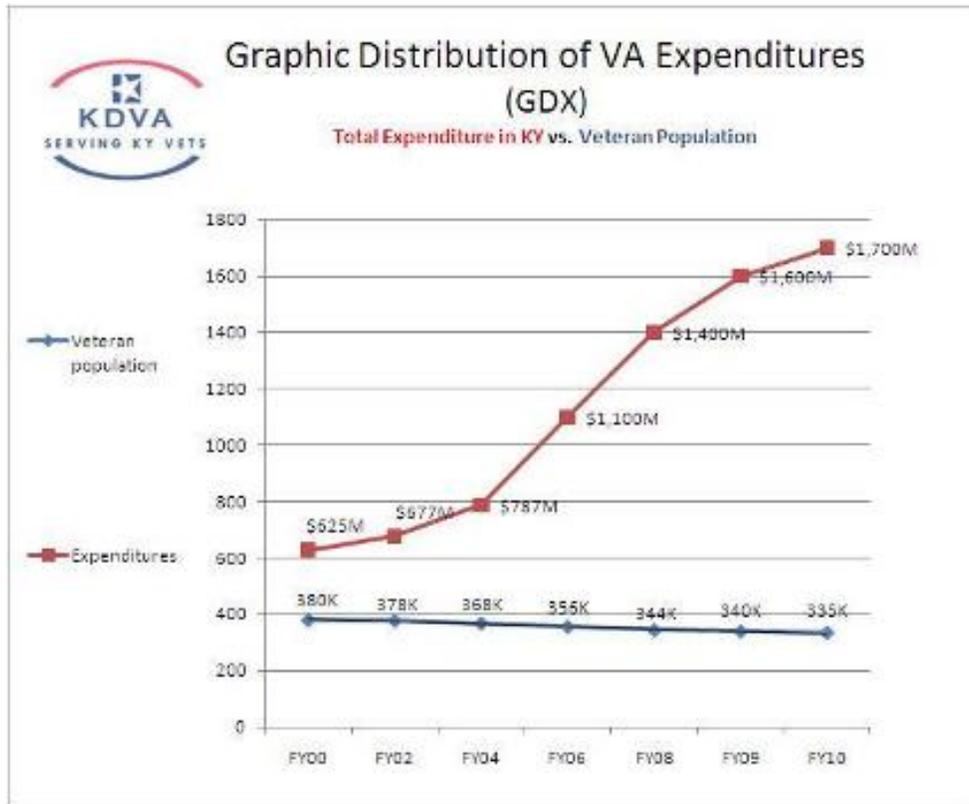
It found that in Kentucky, veterans who had an advocate received an average of \$7,000. per year more than veterans who file for benefits themselves.

KDVA's annual budget of only \$1.6 million (Headquarters, Field Operations and Cemetery Services) has proven to be a huge financial bargain to Kentucky as indicated above, and at the same time, has helped our veterans and their families obtain benefits they deserve.

In Fiscal Year '10, the Kentucky State Treasury took in more than \$50 million in tax revenue from the \$886 million in compensation and pension paid to Kentucky's veterans.



Kentucky Veteran Population



Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs Financial Statement

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2011

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, FY 2011		
SOURCE OF FUNDS		
	Enacted Budget	
General Fund		
Enacted Budget	\$ 17,307,800	
Budget Reductions	\$ (461,100)	
Total General Fund	\$ 16,846,700	
Restricted Fund		
Enacted Budget incl Add'l appropriations	\$ 30,921,300	
Budget Reductions	\$ -	
Total Restricted Funds	\$ 30,921,300	
Total Budget	\$ 47,768,000	
USE OF FUNDS		
By Fund		
General Fund	\$ 16,846,700	
Cemetery Restricted Funds	\$ 181,610	
Nursing Home Restricted Funds	\$ 29,971,188	
Total KDVA	\$ 46,999,498	
By Class		
Personnel	\$ 38,652,732	
Operating	\$ 7,814,421	
Grants, Loans and Benefits	\$ 524,149	
Capital Outlay	\$ 301	
Capital Projects Outlay	\$ 7,894	
Total KDVA	\$ 46,999,498	
Commissioner's Office, Field Ops, Cemeteries	\$ 4,525,110	
Office of Kentucky Veterans Centers	\$ 42,474,388	
Total KDVA	\$ 46,999,498	

Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs Personnel Data - Staffing as of 30 June 2010:

Office of the Commissioner

<i>Title</i>	<i>Number of positions filled</i>
Commissioner	1
Deputy Commissioner	1
Executive Advisor	1
Staff Attorney	1
Staff Assistant	1
Human Resources Branch Manager	1
Internal Policy Analyst	1
Human Resources Administrator	1
Network Analyst	1
Administrative Specialist	1
Executive Secretary	1
Information Officer	1
Totals	12



Field Operations Branch

<i>Title</i>	<i>Number of positions filled</i>
Veterans Benefits Regional Administrators	5
Administrative Specialist	1
Veterans Benefits Field Representative	20
Totals	26

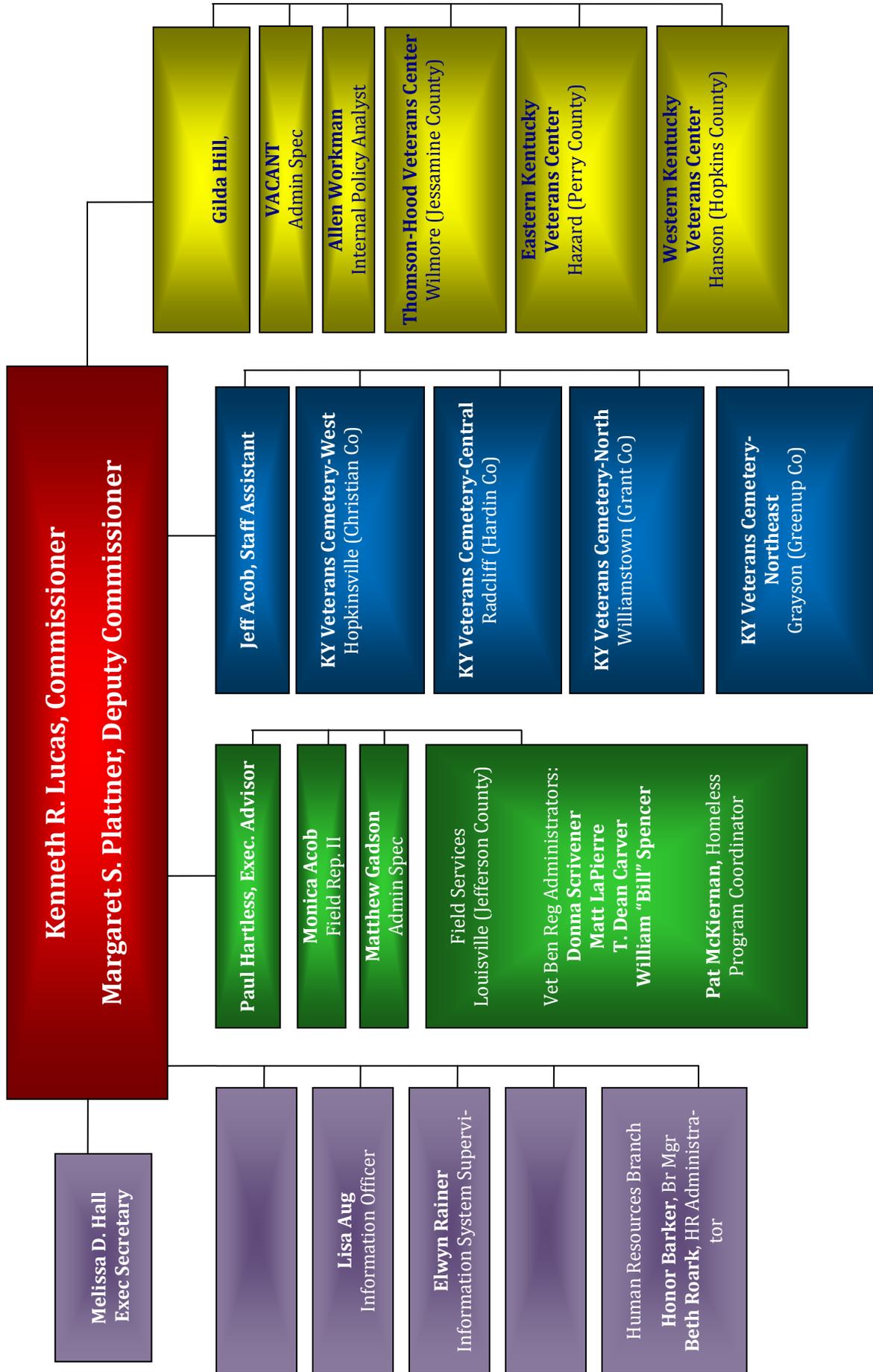
Office of Kentucky Veterans Centers

	<i>Number of positions filled</i>
OKVC Headquarters Staff	3
Thomson-Hood Veterans Center	370
Eastern Kentucky Veterans Center	1561
Western Kentucky Veterans Center	164
Totals	698

Cemeteries Branch

<i>Title</i>	<i>Number of positions filled</i>
Administrative Branch Manager	4
Cemetery Superintendent	3
Administrative Specialist	4
Cemetery Caretakers	12
Totals	23

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS





FACT SHEET
Thomson-Hood Veterans Center
Wilmore, Kentucky

June 30, 2011

Size: Approximately 180,000 square feet with appropriate parking and grounds. Additionally, a warehouse and pavilion were incorporated into the design. The facility is three floors. A \$2.8 million renovation project moved the specialty care unit to the first floor and provided a new kitchen. The facility is located on approximately 60 acres of land in rural Jessamine County.

Occupancy: 240 semi-private beds for general admission and 45 private beds for residents needing special care and a secure environment.

Staff: Currently 375 employees with an annual payroll of approximately \$18.4 million.

Services: Physician, Nursing, Rehabilitation Services, Dietary, Recreational Therapy, Social Services, Administration, Security, and Maintenance.

Qualifications for Admission: Be a veteran with other than a dishonorable discharge and a resident of the state before submitting an application. Residents are charged a reasonable monthly fee based on the veteran's assets and income. Veterans with a disability rating of 70 percent or above are not charged the maximum monthly fee.



FACT SHEET
Eastern Kentucky Veterans Center
Hazard, Kentucky

June 30, 2011

Size: Approximately 90,000 square feet with appropriate parking and grounds. Additionally, a warehouse and pavilion were incorporated into the design. The facility is two floors with two 45-bed units and one 30-bed unit. The facility is located in Perry County.

Occupancy: 120 beds with 90 semi-private beds for general admission and 30 private beds for residents needing special care and a secure environment.

Staff: Currently 150 employees with an annual payroll of approximately \$7.9 million.

Services: Physician, Nursing, Rehabilitation Services, Dietary, Recreational Therapy, Social Services, Administration, Security, and Maintenance.

Qualifications for Admission: Be a veteran with other than a dishonorable discharge and a resident of the state before submitting an application. Residents are charged a reasonable monthly fee based on the veteran's assets and income. Veterans with a disability rating of 70 percent or above are not charged the maximum monthly fee.

Cost of construction and initial equipment: ~\$15.9 million with the state providing 35% and the federal government providing 65%.



FACT SHEET
Western Kentucky Veterans Center
Hanson, Kentucky

June 30, 2007

Size: Approximately 86,000 square feet located on one-floor with appropriate parking and grounds. A warehouse and pavilion have been incorporated into the design. The facility is located in rural Hopkins County.

Occupancy: 120 beds with 90 semi-private beds for general admission and 30 private beds which will be used for special care residents needing a secure environment.

Staff: Currently 160 employees with an annual payroll of approximately \$7.9 million.

Services: Physician, Nursing, Rehabilitation Services Dietary, Recreational Therapy, Social Services, Administration, Security, and Maintenance.

Qualifications for Admission: Be a veteran with other than a dishonorable discharge and a resident of the state before submitting an application. Residents are charged a reasonable fee per month based on the veteran's assets and income. Veterans with a disability rating of 70 percent or above are not charged the maximum monthly fee.

Cost of construction and initial equipment: \$14.2 million with the state providing 35% and the federal government providing 65%.

FACT SHEET

Kentucky Veterans Cemetery–South East
Site TBA (FAI No. KY-99-03)

Size: Approximately 40 acres located in eastern Kentucky. Construction will include an administration building (~3,600 square feet), a maintenance building (~4,400 square feet) with service area, committal facility and a columbarium. Appropriate parking, road network, walking path and landscaping commensurate with the dignity and honor for a state veteran’s cemetery.

Projected use: Complement to National Cemetery System, improve service to veterans and their eligible family members, and provide service to remote locations. We are striving to meet a 75-mile radius of coverage.

Staff: Estimate four employees with an annual facility projected operating costs of \$400,000.

Services: Total interment services include:
Furnishing grave or columbarium space
Opening and closing the grave
Providing the interment site with perpetual care
Supplying a suitable marker or headstone

Qualifications for Interment: Burial in a state veterans cemetery is based on military service. The eligibility criteria are the same criteria for burial in VA national cemeteries. Requests for interment will be directed to staff at the cemetery where burial is sought.

Estimated Cost of construction and initial equipment: \$6.0 Million scope. State will incur acquisition costs prior to construction.

Projected Schedule:

Site Selection: **TBA**

Architect/engineer firm selected: **TBA**

Phase A Master Planning: **TBA**

Phase B Design Development and Construction Estimate: **TBA**

Phase C Contractual Development: **TBA**

Bid/Award Contract completed: **TBA**

Construction completed: **TBA**

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRSVeterans Program Trust Fund
Fiscal Year 2011 (July 2010 - June 2011) Summary

	<u>FY 2011</u>
Fund Balance, Beginning of Fiscal Year	\$ 654,132.14
Receipts:	
License Plate Fees	\$ 362,684.64
Tax Check-off	45,505.00
HAVE Donations - checks sent to Frankfort	1,257.88
Miscellaneous Donations	8,351.08
KECC Funds	7,331.16
Interest Income	2,059.87
Total Receipts:	427,189.63
TOTAL SOURCE OF FUNDS	<u>\$1,081,321.77</u>
Expenditures:	
American Legion Post 73	\$ 20,000.00
AMVETS Carillon	15,000.00
Rowan County Memorial	10,000.00
Calvert City VFW	21,543.46
eVet Assist	87,354.41
West/Collier Memorial	50,000.00
Interlink Counseling Services	25,000.00
Homeless Veterans Program	80,000.00
KY Veterans Pins - America's Mint	3,000.00
Board Member Travel	349.68
Medals for terminally ill veterans	17.15
Ky Historical Society	28,740.00
Wild Rose Therapeutic	30,000.00
Med Storage	14,298.00
Bluegrass Honor Flight	25,000.00
Audit	5,472.50
Total Expenditures	\$ 415,775.20
Fund Balance	<u>\$ 665,546.57</u>
State Veterans Cemeteries Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$ 87,348.09
Additional Donations	26,292.42
Other Adjustments	56.29
Interest	257.44
	<u>\$ 113,954.24</u>
Expenditures	\$ 40,926.29
Ending Balance	<u>\$ 73,027.95</u>
Balance (Veterans Trust Fund + Cemeteries Trust)	<u>\$ 738,574.52</u>

“The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional as to how they perceive the veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their nation.”

– George Washington

(attributed)



Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of the Commissioner
1111B Louisville Road
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
Toll free: (800) 572-6245 (in Kentucky)
Phone: (502) 564-9203
FAX: (502) 564-9240
WEB: www.veterans.ky.gov