



Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs

Briefing prepared for ...

Joint Executive Council for Veterans Affairs

October 7, 2015

Agenda



- Cemeteries/Burial Honors
- Nursing Facilities
- Legislative Agenda
- Homeless Program
- Women Veteran Program
- Commissioner
 - 2015 Upcoming Events

Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West

Opened March 1, 2004

As of September 2015

Interments:

Veterans 2,277

Dependents 807

Total 3,084

Cremated 823

KENTUCKY VETERANS CEMETERY
WEST

Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Central

Opened June 1, 2007

As of September 2015

Interments:

Veterans 3,386

Dependents 753

Total 4,139

Cremated 1,202

A photograph of the entrance to the Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Central. In the foreground, a long, low, light-colored stone wall features the words "KENTUCKY VETERANS CEMETERY" in large, bold, black capital letters, with "CENTRAL" centered below it. Three black benches are positioned in front of the wall. Behind the wall, a tall, cylindrical stone column stands prominently. Atop the column is a golden eagle sculpture with its wings spread. A tall flagpole rises from the top of the column, flying the United States flag. The background consists of a line of green trees under a clear blue sky.

KENTUCKY VETERANS CEMETERY
CENTRAL

Trooper Joseph C. Ponder



Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North

Opened August 22, 2008



KENTUCKY VETERANS CEMETERY
NORTH

As of September 2015

Interments:	
Veterans	921
Dependents	<u>178</u>
Total	1,099
Cremated	406

Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North East

Opened October 1, 2010



**KENTUCKY VETERANS CEMETERY
NORTHEAST**

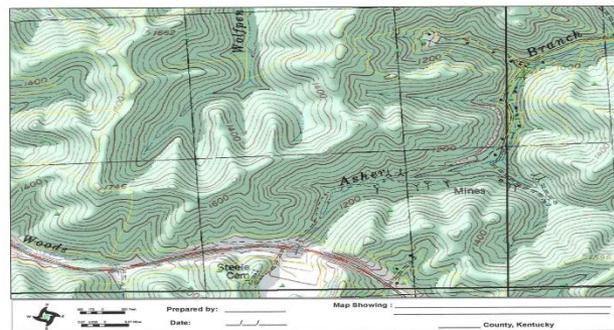
As of August 2015

Interments:	
Veterans	460
Dependents	<u>89</u>
Total	549
Cremated	160

Kentucky Veterans Cemetery South East

As of: September 30, 2015

- Suitable parcel of land purchased by Leslie County.
- Proposals & surveys approved by VCGS (Washington, DC).
- Major improvements completed in August 2015.
- Title deeded to the state in September 2015.



Cemeteries Capitol Projects

Expansion Grants for FY 2017

- ◎ KVCW – Construction of a second columbarium wall with an additional 1,000 niches for cremations. Projected use of 10 additional years.

Estimated federal grant - \$625,000

- ◎ KVCC – Establishment of new burial sections creating an additional 3,500 in-ground plots. Also, the construction of a second columbarium wall with 800 additional niches for cremations. Projected use of 10 additional years.

Estimated federal grant - \$4,471,000

Burial Honors Stipend Program

As of: September 2015



FY 15 Honors

- 2,564 performed
- \$144,739 expended

FY 16 Honors

- 631 performed
- \$35,370 expended

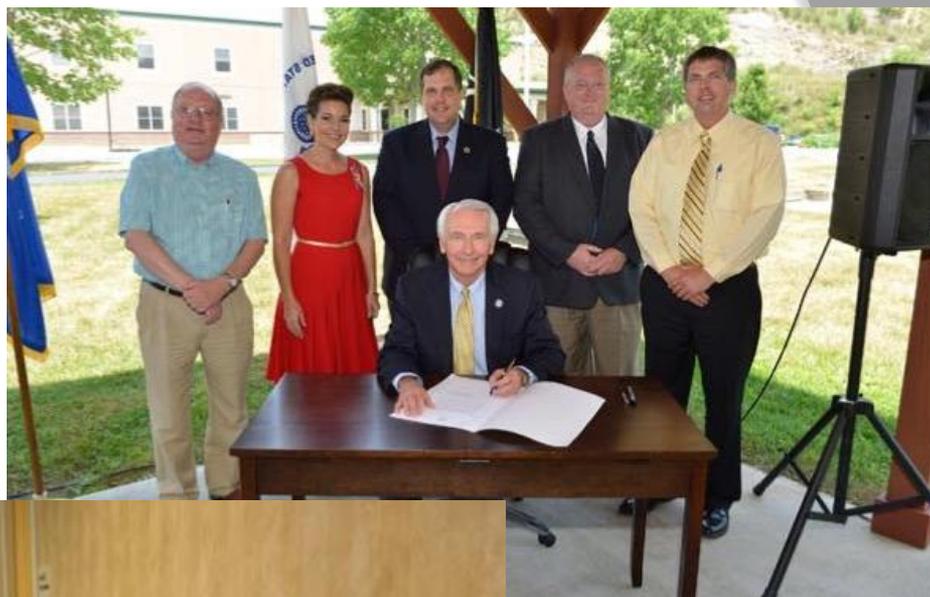


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Other Photos?





Thomson-Hood Veterans Center Wilmore, KY

- 254 Residents in house (254/285)
- 36 Admissions YTD (FY 2016)
- 22 discharges/deaths YTD (FY 2016)
- 321 Employees
- Chaplain Program Re-established
- Mental Health APRN hired
- Sensory Stimulation Room installed
- Two female veterans traveled with the Honor Flight to D.C. on Sep 26, 2015
- MAJ Ben Sweger USA(Ret)
Facility Administrator

As of Sep 18, 2015





Western Kentucky Veterans Center Hanson, KY

- 119 Residents in house (119/156)
- 5 discharges/deaths YTD FY2016
- 10 admissions YTD FY2016
- Flooring Project/Replacement
- 172 Employees
- Mental Health Collaboration VA, CBOC

- LaDonna Scott,
Facility Administrator

As of September 18,
2015





Eastern Kentucky Veterans Center Hazard, KY

- 107 Residents in house (107/120)
- 164 Employees
- Flooring Project/Replacement
- 11 Discharges/Deaths YTD FY 2016
- 14 Admissions YTD FY 2016

As of September 18,
2015

- Neil Napier,
Facility Administrator





SVHs Resident Demographics

As of September 18, 2015

CENSUS:	480 (81 available beds)
Free Meds:	164 (Pharmaceuticals)
70% SC:	90 (Eligible for VA NH care)
Residents with Spouses	162
Max Charge (\$3,700):	188
Zero Pay:	6
Ex-POWs:	4
Females:	16
Deaths to date:	38

Radcliff Veterans Center

120 beds

Expected completion date – Summer 2016

- ◉ Progress Report:

- 400 Neighborhood – finish work in process

- Israel Ray, Administrator hired and on site

- Job Fairs/Hiring – Key Staff now

- Applications for admission February 2016

- (contact Paul Hartless @ paul.hartless@ky.gov)

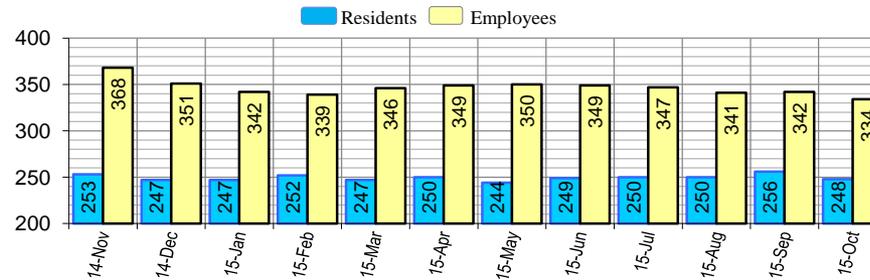


THOMSON-HOOD VETERANS CENTER

Resident Status Report

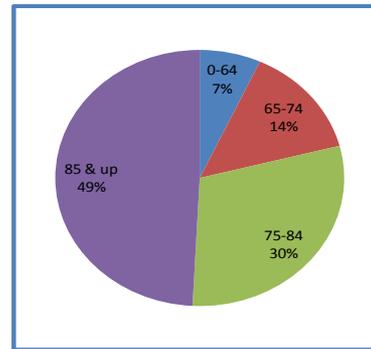


Resident & Staffing Levels



Resident Age Summary

Range	Male	Female	Totals
0-64	17	0	17
65-74	35	0	35
75-84	73	1	74
85 & up	113	9	122
	238	10	248



Residents Branch & Service Era

Air Force	36
Air Force & Marines	0
Army	140
Army & Air Force	3
Army & National Guard	2
Army & Navy	1
Marines	23
Navy	42
Coast Guard	1
TOTAL	248

Gulf	2
Korea	62
Korea & Vietnam	6
Peace Time	25
Vietnam	57
Vietnam & Gulf	0
WW2	88
WW2, Korea & Vietnam	3
WW2 & Korea	5
TOTAL	248



Current Issues

- ⊙ Spousal Admission
- ⊙ Bowling Green 90 Bed Capital Project Application
- ⊙ Collaboration with Louisville, VA to improve admission process
- ⊙ Fishing Pond at THVC
- ⊙ Admissions Process
- ⊙ NASVH participation
- ⊙ Private \$3,700/mo
- ⊙ SC 70% VA pays 100%
- ⊙ Medicare and Medicaid Certified

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2016 Legislative Issues

25% Bed Allocation for Spouses of Veterans

- ⦿ Federal law regarding state homes: up to 25% of a home's bed occupancy can be spouses of veterans
- ⦿ Kentucky law currently only recognizes Kentucky veterans as occupants
- ⦿ To move forward, legislature must amend KRS 40.325
- ⦿ Proposed language would authorize veterans spouses per federal guidelines

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Homeless Veterans

- ◎ It is estimated that more than 600 Kentucky veterans are homeless
- ◎ Approximately 12% of homeless adults are veterans
- ◎ 51% of homeless veterans have disabilities
- ◎ 50% have serious mental illness
- ◎ 70% have substance abuse problems

Homeless Veterans

- ◎ KVDA works closely with organizations such as HUD/VASH and the SSVF programs to quickly house and case manage homeless veterans once they are identified.
- ◎ KDVA screens all veterans for possible benefits for which they may be eligible including VA benefits, Social Security, healthcare, education assistance, employment assistance, and more

Veterans Treatment and Transition

- ▶ There are several veteran treatment and transition programs in Kentucky. These facilities are grant per diem programs and work to help veterans overcome obstacles that may interfere with success once they are placed into permanent housing. Veterans may remain in these facilities for up to 2 years.
 - ❖ Louisville – 144 beds with 4 female beds and 2 family units
 - ❖ Lexington – 108 beds (male and female)
 - ❖ Hopkinsville – 50 beds (male only)
 - ❖ Pikeville – 27 beds (male only)

Please contact the Homeless Veteran Coordinator for assistance with applications for these program.

Emergency Financial Assistance Homeless Veteran Trust Fund

- To provide a small once-time assistance to qualifying veterans to obtain or maintain housing
- May not be other than honorably discharge, must be a Kentucky resident, meet income requirements, must show that without this assistance they will remain or become homeless, and must show that they will be able to sustain their housing or utilities in the future.

Partnering With Local Law Enforcement Agencies

- ◎ September 15-17 Sheriffs Convention in Owensboro, KY KDVA Distributed over 1200 gunlocks. We currently have orders for 1500 more that will be distributed throughout this month.
- ◎ Scheduled to address Lexington Police Department roll calls during the months of October and November to address veteran homelessness in an effort to educate officers on what to do when coming in contact with homeless veterans.
- ◎ Will be scheduling roll calls with Louisville Metro, Owensboro, Bowling Green, and others in the coming months

Upcoming Outreach Events

- October 7, 2015 Louisville Stand Down
Salvation Army
311 Brook St. Louisville
- October 15, 2015 Lexington Stand Down
Central Christian Church
205 E. Short St. Lexington
- November (TBD) Vet Connect event in Grayson KY
Currently working with other veteran organizations to identify
and connect with homeless veterans in the rural areas of
Eastern Kentucky to offer needed assist

Emergency Blankets

Cold weather is quickly coming upon us. KDVA will be receiving a shipment of emergency blankets within the coming weeks. Please contact the Homeless Veteran Coordinator to obtain some of these blankets if you know of veterans in need.



Trina Patty
Homeless Veteran Coordinator
502-352-3120

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Women Veterans Program

Latest Accomplishments:

- Developed the Women Veterans Advisory Committee
 - Committee of 11 members including a member from both the Kentucky House and Senate
 - Senator Albert Robinson
 - Rep. Caroline Belcher
 - To advise the KDVA Women Veterans Coordinator
- Established needs for women veteran in Northern, KY
- Enter KWVP in Veterans Community Alliance of Louisville Resource Guide
- Joined the “Joint Community Force” outreach committee
 - Governmental and non-governmental agencies that support our Veterans, Military members and their Families
 - Consolidating efforts, improving communication and regionalizing network to build community capacity and better support local military communities.

KY Women Veterans UNITED!

2015 Calendar

Upcoming:

Women Veteran Calendar

6 Oct - American Legion Auxiliary –Madisonville, KY

7 Oct - Louisville Stand Down

13 Oct - Job & Resource Fair-Louisville, KY

15 Oct - Lexington Stand Down

15 Oct - Ladies Chat-THVC

19 Oct - VFW 1179- Shelbyville, KY

22 Oct - Lexington VA women committee

22 Oct - State women advisory committee

4 Nov - Veteran's day recognition ceremony-Louisville, KY

KY Women Veterans UNITED!

2015 Calendar cont'd.

Upcoming:

Women Veteran Calendar

7-11 Nov - Week of Valor-various locations

7 Nov - U of L Military Appreciation Night-TBD

9 Nov - Veteran of the Year Banquet

12 Nov - ESGR Hiring our Heroes-Burlington, KY

14 Nov - Veterans Wellness Expo-Louisville VA

17 Nov - Limestone DAR chapter- Maysville, KY

18 Nov - Women Vet Connect Southwest Public Library-
Louisville, KY

21 Nov - UK Heroes Day

KY Women Veterans UNITED!

Future:

- Eastern & Western KY Regional Women Veterans Summits-2016
- Women United conference 2017
- Kentucky Lady Veterans Facebook page
- Establishing child care options for female veterans
- Veteran Treatment Court Women Veteran mentorship program

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KY Veterans Program Trust Fund

201 KAR 37:010. Kentucky Veterans' Program Trust Fund, administration of fund.

KRS 40.450(3) requires the department to promulgate administrative regulations required for the effective administration of KRS 40.310 through 40.560. KRS 40.310(3) authorizes the Department of Veterans' Affairs to accept gifts, grants, and other contributions from a governmental unit and authorizes the department to administer these funds through the use of trust and agency accounts. KRS 40.310(7) requires the department to manage the fund and authorize expenditures once the board has approved a request for funds. KRS 40.460(2)(b) establishes the Veterans' Program Trust Fund. This administrative regulation establishes a board of directors to administer the fund and establishes criteria for expenditures made from the fund.

Section 1.

Definitions. (1) "Board" means the Board of Directors of the Kentucky Veterans' Program Trust Fund.

(2) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Veterans' Affairs.

(3) "Fund" means the Kentucky Veterans' Program Trust Fund.

(4) "Honorably separated veteran" means an individual discharged or released from the military with an honorable discharge, a discharge under honorable conditions, or a general discharge.

KY Veterans Program Trust Fund

Section 3. Board of Directors. (1) The board of directors shall consist of eleven (11) members, including:

- (a) The Commissioner;
- (b) The Commissioner's designee from Kentucky Department of Veterans' Affairs;
- (c) A member of the:
 - 1. Joint Executive Council of Veterans Organizations of Kentucky (JECVO); and
 - 2. Governor's Advisory Board for Veterans' Affairs (GAB);
- (d) A representative of the following organizations appointed by the Governor pursuant to subsection (3) of this section:
 - 1. The American Legion, Department of Kentucky;
 - 2. The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Kentucky;
 - 3. The Disabled American Veterans, Department of Kentucky;
 - 4. AMVETS, Department of Kentucky; and
 - 5. The Kentucky National Guard; and
- (e) Two (2) at-large members appointed by the Governor.
 - (2)(a) The commissioner shall serve as chair of the board of directors.
 - (b) The board of directors shall hold an election to fill the position of vice-chair.

KY Veterans Program Trust Fund Highlights

Grants Approved:

- \$2,500 - Kentucky Prostate Cancer Coalition – Free Prostate Cancer Screenings at the Kentucky State Fair for Veterans.
- \$40,000 - KDVA Homeless Veteran Fund – To Provide one time financial assistance for veterans in need who qualify
- \$32,500 - Kentucky Habitat for Humanity – Funding to assist veterans in making critical repairs to their homes
- \$5,000 - KDVA Women Veterans Program – to purchase items for informational booth.
- \$25,000 – Bluegrass Honor Flight
- \$20,000 – University of Louisville Veteran Entrepreneurship program
- \$50,000 – DAV Van for Veterans Transportation
- \$18,000 – Veterans Memorial Park, Pee Wee Valley
- \$15,000 – Somerset Community College Student Veterans
- \$50,000 – University of KY MOCC Software program for student veterans
- \$15,000 – Athena's Sisters Outreach – 3 Workshops

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NEWS

- KDVA Youth Council
 - Assembled gunlocks for distribution
 - Passed out gunlocks at the Kentucky Sheriff's Convention in Owensboro
 - Participated in the Welcome Home Celebration for the Honor Flight Bluegrass at Bluegrass Airport



Upcoming Events & News

- October 7, 2015 – JECVO American Legion 113, Elizabethtown
- October 9, 2015 – Danville, KY: 125th Anniversary DAR
- October 10, 2015 – Louisville, KY: Sullivan College Graduation
- October 13 – 16, 2015 – Barren River State Park KDVA Benefits Training
- October 14, 2015 – Fort Knox Job Fair
- October 18, 2015 – Frankfort, KY: Lee Greenwood FREE Concert
- October 20, 2015 – Ni Vets Employee Assistance Event
- October 21, 2015 – London, KY – Veterans Benefits Expo
- October 29, 2015 – Lexington, KY: Workforce Solutions for Women
- October 30, 2015 – Fort Knox, KY: Fort Knox Retiree Days
- November 1, 2015 – Paintsville, KY: Veterans Telethon Paintsville, Ky
- November 2, 2015 – Boone County, KY: St. Elizabeth Hospice Veterans Event
- November 3, 2015 – Fern Creek, KY: Election/ Fern Creek Chamber
- November 4, 2015 – Louisville, KY: USPS Veteran Recognition
- November 5, 2015 – Louisville, KY: KY Counseling Association
- Lexington, KY: DAR Salute to Veterans

Upcoming Events & News cont'd.

- November 6, 2015 – Madisonville, KY: Kiwanis Veterans Luncheon
- November 7, 2015 – Barren County: Freedom Event
Glasgow, KY: Veterans Recognition Ceremony
- November 8, 2015 – Madisonville, KY: Veterans Day Parade
- November 9, 2015 – Louisville, KY: Kentucky Veterans of the Year Banquet
- November 11, 2015 – Louisville, KY: Veterans Day Parade
- November 12., 2015 – Fort Mitchell, KY: Fort Mitchell Baptist Church
- November 17, 2015 – Ohio County Chamber of Commerce Veterans Event
- November 18, 2015 – Frankfort, Kentucky: Kentucky History Center Honor Women Veterans Luncheon
- November 20, 2015 – Lexington, KY: Centenary Methodist Church Veterans Event



*The Frankfort and Franklin County Community
is invited to attend the dedication*

of the Giant American Flag & Christian Flag

October 18, 2015

2:00 p.m.

1470 Cardwell Lane, Frankfort, KY

*Please come out and join C. Michael Davenport and
Guest Speaker Heather French –Henry
as we celebrate a day to say thank you to God and
America's Veterans.*

Country Music Artist Lee Greenwood will be hosting a

Free concert in honor of our Veterans.

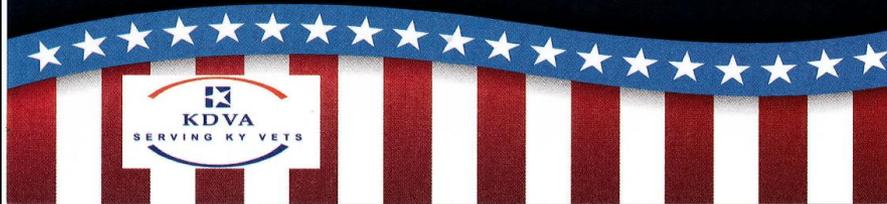
Grab your chairs and a blanket and make plans to attend.

The Ky Department of Veterans Affairs

INVITES YOU...

to learn more about veterans benefits.

www.veterans.ky.gov



- ★ **Ky Department of Veterans Affairs**
- ★ **INVITES YOU...**
- ★ **to learn more about veterans benefits.**
- ★ **Veterans Benefits Expo**
- ★ **WHEN:** October 21, 2015
- ★ **TIMES:** 10am-12pm or 5pm-7pm
- ★ **WHERE:** London Community Center
529 South Main Street
London, Ky 40741
- ★ **Learn more about the benefits**
you may have earned with your
military service.
- ★ **502-564-9203 or 1-800-572-6245**
- ★ www.veterans.ky.gov



