

SERVING THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED  
THE COMMONWEALTH AND OUR GREAT NATION



**KDVA FY22  
ANNUAL REPORT**  
01 JULY 2021 to 30 JUNE 2022

**KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**



OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER  
1111B LOUISVILLE ROAD  
FRANKFORT, KY 40601



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# FROM THE GOVERNOR

Pursuant to KRS 40.300(1), the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs is attached to the Office of the Governor for administrative purposes. Notwithstanding KRS 12.028, KDVA's status as a separate organizational unit attached to the Office of the Governor shall not be changed except by action of the General Assembly.



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Andy Beshear  
GOVERNOR

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July 01, 2022

Veterans of our great commonwealth,

It is an honor to serve you as your Governor and preside over a historic moment in the prosperity of our great commonwealth in terms of economy, opportunities, and security. And we have this moment, this opportunity, because of you - our noble veterans. You, your fellow veteran teammates, and your families have served and sacrificed for our great Nation and the commonwealth. Your service has provided us with freedom and security in the world so we can create this opportunity of full lives and happiness here at home. You've given every American an incredible gift. Something we can never repay. So, on behalf of the people of Kentucky, let me say, thank you.

Because of your sacrifice, my administration continued to show our appreciation for veterans and their families. During FY 2021/22, our Kentucky Veterans Program Trust Fund granted \$556,027 to 25 partners like Honor Flight Bluegrass, Honor Flight Kentucky, and the Louisville Chapter of the National Association of Black Veterans. Our nationally recognized Homeless Veterans Trust Fund provided \$157,812.66 to 417 veterans in need. KDVA has generated over \$428.16 million dollars in entitlements and pensions for Kentucky veterans, widows, and dependents for FY22. Thus, improving the quality of life for our commonwealth veterans and their family members. We addressed the contributions and needs of women veterans through KDVA's very successful Women's Veterans Conference and the first all-women-veterans Honor Flight in Kentucky. The recognition is very welcome and long overdue. In May, I signed four pieces of legislation to improve conditions and opportunities in Kentucky for military spouses and families. Also, we have kept our promise in supporting our most senior veterans who've reached the stage of life where they need quality long-term care, which reflects in all four of Kentucky's long-term care facilities for veterans receiving 5-star ratings. That's the highest rating you can get from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid services. Finally, after the devastating aftermath of tornadoes ripped through Western Kentucky on the night of December 10, 2021, we saw our great veterans, of all generations, and organizations like the Veterans of Foreign Wars, come to the aid of our fellow Kentuckians in times of needs. Proving dedication to service to our nation and our commonwealth, never ends.

Those are just a few of the ways we're working to serve those who've served our country. And what's incredibly impressive is how many veterans continue to serve their communities and the commonwealth even after they separate from the military. And that's one reason we want as many veterans as possible to stay here and to move here and find jobs and start businesses. Veterans are great citizens. Great employees. Great partners. We are the "destination" for veterans and their families.

I appreciate that you are a part of Team Kentucky. You are role models of service, pride, and patriotism.

God bless you. And God bless the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andy Beshear".

Andy Beshear  
Governor

# FROM THE COMMISSIONER

Pursuant to KRS 40.300(1), the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs is headed by a commissioner appointed by the Governor pursuant to KRS 12.040. KDVA's present Commissioner is U.S. Army Lt. Colonel (Retired), Whitney Allen. Commissioner Allen is the seventh commissioner to be appointed to the role.

The last year, the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs and every other organ of state government has had its challenges. Resurgent COVID19 cases have tested our ability to come together and rise over these difficult times as the pandemic continues to rage and, subsequently, force a stark reevaluation of what our lives, both in and out of the government sphere, will look like in the future. Despite this uncertainty, KDVA has maintained a commitment to excellence in the service of Kentucky veterans.

Excellence, in every facet of our organization, is fundamental to KDVA's mission and, as Commissioner, I believe our agency has reached this lofty goal, exceeded expectations, and built a better tomorrow for the veterans of our state. KDVA has turned a directive to succeed into a tradition of pushing boundaries and increasing service that embodies everything our agency does, from the maintenance of five state run veterans' cemeteries to the administration of world class veterans' centers.



As Commissioner, it is my pleasure to oversee these truly incredible divisions and to work in concert with them to ensure that the veterans of this Commonwealth receive, not only what they have earned, but what they deserve. KDVA has done more than meet its mandate to service the veterans of the Commonwealth. It has built a cherished series of programs, initiatives, and departments that have created meaningful change for the former servicemen and women of our state, no matter where they may find themselves in life. Ultimately, as always, what KDVA has accomplished over the last year is less materially important than what these accomplishments have meant and the positive change they have created for veterans of the Commonwealth. While it is reassuring and certainly a positive experience to have won accolades and awards, to have expanded outreach and to have brought our department into the modern era, what all of this truly means, is that we have, over the last year, improved the lives of the veterans in our Commonwealth. There is no higher privilege and no higher honor.

Over the next year, I look forward to expanding on what we have already accomplished, building on the strong foundations we have set and continuing to deliver an exemplary standard of service to those that need and deserve it the most. KDVA's work is never done, and there is always more that can be accomplished in the pursuit of aiding servicemen and women of the Commonwealth. KDVA remains, as always, dedicated to this goal and driven to its completion. As you peruse KDVA's FY22 Annual Report, please focus not only on what we have accomplished, but keep in mind all that we have still yet to achieve. The KDVA family will continue to work tirelessly in pursuit of these goals and to do the same.

Respectfully,

*Whitney P. Allen, Jr.*

Mr. Whitney Allen, Lt. Colonel, U.S. Army (Retired)  
Commissioner, Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs

*"Let us not wait for other people to come to us and call upon us to do great deeds. Let us instead be the first to summon the rest of the path of honor. Show yourself to be the bravest of all the captains, with more of the right to leadership than those who are our leaders at present." Xenophon*

# AGENCY ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FY22

As Commissioner, I am extremely proud to highlight KDVA's accomplishments for FY22:

- 2021 Abraham Lincoln Pillars of Excellence Award for Creative State Programs Category for KDVA's Homeless Veterans Program and the Homeless Veterans Trust Fund.
- 2022 Abraham Lincoln Pillars of Excellence Award for Creative State Programs for KDVA's Radcliff Veterans Center's Songwriting Program.
- KDVA received the Citation of Appreciation from Kentucky's House of Representatives.
- Veterans Program Trust Fund (VPTF) granted a total of \$556,027 to 25 grantees.
- Homeless Veterans Trust Fund granted a total of \$157,812.66 to 417 grantees.
- Veterans Cemeteries performed 1691 internments during FY22.
- The Benefits Division generated over \$428.16 million dollars in entitlements and pensions for Kentucky veterans, widows, and dependents for FY22.
- Thomson-Hood Veterans Center in Wilmore, Kentucky was recognized by U.S. News and World Reports as one of the "Best Nursing Homes" in the nation.
- KDVA's Veterans Center maintaining CMS Five-Star Ratings during FY22.
- KDVA held its first state conference for Veterans Services Organization Commanders.
- KDVA executed several key outreach activities and events, to include:
  - 2021 KDVA State Conference (September 2021).
  - 20th Anniversary of 9/11 Ceremony with USACC (September 2021).
  - Wreaths Across America (December 2021).
  - Virtual Women Veterans Event (March 2022).



Commissioner Allen, with Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Denis McDonough and Thomas Palladino, President of the NASDVA, after receiving the Pillars of Excellence Award on behalf of Tamara Stewart and the Radcliff Veterans Center Songwriting Program in February 2022.

- Homeless Veterans Program 5K Walk, Run, Stroll (April 2022).
  - Gold Star Family Memorial Unveiling at Kentucky Cemetery North (April 2022).
  - KDVA Veterans Cemeteries Memorial Day Ceremonies (May 2022).
  - KDVA/VA Virtual Veterans Experience Action Center (VA-VEAC) (June 2022).
  - 2022 KDVA Women Veterans Conference (June 2022).
  - The Department of Veterans Affairs' "I Am Not Invisible" Campaign (June 2022).
- KDVA established or strengthened key strategic partnerships with myriad agencies/organizations, to include:
    - National Veterans Legal Services Program (NVLSP) in Washington, D.C.
    - The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships (CFBNP) in Washington, D.C.
    - AARP - Kentucky State Office.
    - The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Office of Intergovernmental Affairs State, Local and International Engagement, in Washington, D.C.
    - Louisville Metro Government Veterans Office.
    - Veterans Community Alliance of Louisville (VCAL).
    - Humana, Inc. Veterans Engagement Resource Group.
    - Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services Department for Aging and Independent Living.
    - Various Commands on Ft. Knox Army Post, including the Installation Command; Cadet Command (USACC); HQs, Recruiting Command (USAREC)/Partnership for Youth Success (PaYS) Program.
    - Veterans Treatment Courts (VTCs) throughout the Commonwealth.
    - The Woody Williams Foundation.
- KDVA's engaged in an Interstate Information Exchange Initiative (IIEI) with surrounding Veterans Affairs Agencies.
- KDVA appointed its inaugural class of KDVA Ambassadors (June): State Representative Pamela Stevenson, U.S. Air Force Colonel (Retired); Dr. Erin Mires; Ms. Grace Williams; Ms. Stacey Norris
- KDVA expanded its PSCs for VSOs from three to seven participating organizations.
- KDVA launched its first ever monthly newsletter and revamped its website.
- KDVA's biennial budget effective for FY23 and FY24 passed in FY22 with additional budget requests (ABRs):
    - KDVA received \$200,000 for the Homeless Veterans Program.
    - Funding for 15 positions: 8 positions for the Cemeteries Division and 7 positions for the Office of Kentucky Veterans Services (OKVS).
    - \$84,700 for restoration of the Kentucky Medal of Honor Obelisk located in the Medal of Honor Grove on the Campus of Freedom's Foundation at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.
    - Some of the 8 percent needed for staff pay increases.

# FROM THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

U.S. Army Command Sergeant Major (Retired) Lynice D. Thorpe-Noel was appointed KDVA's Deputy Commissioner on August 4, 2021. During FY22, Deputy Commissioner Thorpe-Noel was engaged in furthering strategic partnerships and promoting agency cohesiveness. She was also engaged in promoting and tracking significant veteran-friendly legislation to expand benefits and services for Kentucky's veterans and their families. Deputy Commissioner Thorpe-Noel reports to Commissioner Whitney Allen.

Despite the continued impact of the COVID19 pandemic last year, KDVA looked to the future and partnered with many agencies, organizations, and programs to produce a great year of wins by crossing state lines to establish new relationships; enhancing internal capabilities; and supporting veteran-friendly legislation.

During FY22, KDVA expanded its strategic engagements by initiating its Interstate Information Exchange Initiative (IIEI) to eliminate borders between KDVA and neighboring state agencies. By crossing state lines to exchange best practices and leverage shared resources with leadership from six state veterans' affairs agencies, KDVA was able to gain valuable information about how better to serve Kentucky veterans residing at her borders.



KDVA's and West Virginia's Department of Veterans Assistance senior leadership in October 2021 during one of KDVA's six Interstate Information Exchange Initiative events.

Traveling over 1000 miles, KDVA met with leaders of the following state agencies:

- Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs in Indianapolis, Indiana (July 2021).
- Tennessee Department of Veterans Services in Nashville, Tennessee (October 2021).
- West Virginia Department of Veterans Assistance in Charleston, West Virginia (October 2021).
- Ohio Department of Veterans Services in Columbus, Ohio (December 2021).
- Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs in Lansing, Michigan (April 2022).
- Georgia Department of Veterans Service in Atlanta, Georgia (June 2022).



KDVA's and Ohio's Department of Veterans Services senior leadership in December 2021 during one of KDVA's six Interstate Information Exchange Initiative events.

KDVA's primary objective for this initiative is to ensure that veterans are afforded exceptional benefits and service at the federal and state levels, notwithstanding where they opt to reside after separation or retirement from the U.S. Armed Forces.

Next, KDVA strengthened its capabilities as an agency by investing in the people who work tirelessly to ensure that veterans of the Commonwealth receive quality services, care, and interment. By taking a top-down approach, KDVA's executive leadership underwent extensive online training to work together more cohesively. In addition to online training, the agency's leadership team engaged in a series of professional team building exercises to leverage the agency's professional strengths and to carve out KDVA's mission and priorities for the coming years. KDVA's leadership team also traveled intrastate to meet with the agency's Regional Administrators (RAs), Veteran Benefits Representatives (VBRs), and Veteran Centers as a way of demonstrating appreciation for the entire agency's efforts to support Kentucky's veterans and families.



Lastly, KDVA continued to support veteran-friendly legislation to ensure that Kentucky veterans of the Commonwealth continue to receive the maximum number of opportunities, benefits, and services that their honorable service has earned them.

Governor Beshear was joined by bill sponsors and members of Kentucky's military community, including Deputy Adjutant General of Kentucky Brigadier General Brian Wertzler and KDVA's Commissioner Whitney Allen, to sign legislation that expands the Military Family Assistance Trust Fund, making it easier for military spouses to obtain occupational licenses and adding seven active military unit license plates to the 28 current military-related plates.



KDVA promoted the following legislation to support Kentucky's military community and families:

### **House Bill 636:**

The Bill amended KRS 36.474 to expand military family assistance trust fund eligibility and requirements; detail limitation on trust fund awards; grant authority to promulgate administrative regulations. As a result, the Military Family Assistance Trust Fund has the discretion to provide money for necessary emergency expenses such as housing, utilities, groceries, health insurance co-pays and child-care to all members of the Kentucky National Guard and Reserve components who call Kentucky home.

### **House Bill 465:**

The Bill created a new section of KRS Chapter 186 to establish a special military unit license plate for certain units; established eligibility and necessary documentation; amend KRS 186.162 to set forth fees for a special military unit license plate; amended KRS 186.166 to require the Transportation Cabinet to perpetually produce the special military unit license plate.

### **House Bill 345:**

The Bill amended KRS 61.394 to allow specified military members who are state employees leave of absence up to six months without penalty if they are physically disabled as a result of performing active or inactive duty training or entitled to incapacitation pay. The leave provides security for those serving our nation, as they recover from physical injuries incurred during military service.

### **House Bill 91:**

The Bill amended KRS 12.357 to require administrative bodies to issue or renew regular occupational licenses to spouses of active-duty members of the Armed Forces without payment of fees or dues. The Bill is intended to make it easier for spouses of current members of the military to apply for regular and/or temporary occupational licenses, and to renew their current license, without having to pay dues or fees. The Bill also established a refund policy for dues or fees already paid through online applications.

### **House Bill 213:**

The Bill created a new section of KRS Chapter 319A and amended other statutory sections for Kentucky's participation in the national Occupational Therapy Compact and established the Occupational Therapy Compact Commission. These national compacts create effective licensure portability policies for military spouses and our communities by providing consistent rules for licensed members to work in other states. The compacts assist service members and their spouses to transfer their licenses to a new state when military duty stations change.

# FROM THE CHIEF OF STAFF

During FY22, a new Chief of Staff, U.S. Army Major (Retired), Dwyane Edwards was appointed to KDVA. Appointed pursuant to KRS 12.050, Chief of Staff Edwards reports to Commissioner Whitney Allen.

## KDVA's Strategic Goals

- Highlighting Women Veterans
- Promoting Suicide Prevention Initiatives
- Recruiting for Veteran Service Organizations
- Expanding on Relevant Partnerships
- Capitalizing on partnerships through Personal Service Contracts

As we reflect on KDVA's strategic goals, the agency experienced tremendous success during FY22. We launched a new website to ensure better communication within the veteran community. We increased our outreach with a new monthly e-newsletter. Toward the end of 2021, we started an exciting veteran-focused podcast series to allow veterans to share their experiences in and out of uniform. We initiated or promoted new outreach programs for women veterans who reside in the Commonwealth. In addition, KDVA sponsored two very successful women veteran conferences, one virtual and one in person. Both were collectively attended by over 170 representatives supporting women veterans' outreach.

Along with our partners, KDVA took the lead on efforts to reduce veteran suicide in the Commonwealth. Slow but steady improvements have occurred across the nation and the Commonwealth. Several groups of veterans have seen serious success in combatting this scourge, in particular Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom veterans. Similarly, African American and women veterans' numbers are so low that they are statistically unreportable. KDVA's goal is still to eliminate veteran suicide throughout the Commonwealth.

KDVA continues to advocate and recruit for the Commonwealth's VSOs. KDVA's relationships with the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Disabled American Veterans (DAV), and AMVETS is as strong as ever. We continue to expand our partnerships



In recognition of the service and achievements of U.S. Army Colonel Charles Young, Governor Beshear posthumously promoted Young to honorary Brigadier General in Kentucky. Governor Beshear's request for federal recognition of Young's promotion was approved by Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness on November 1, 2021, with the recognition made effective on February 1, 2022.

with groups like Vietnam Veterans of America, Military Officers Association of America, Kentucky Wounded Heroes, and the National Association for Black Veterans. KDVA is committed to strengthening VSOs by promoting training, advocacy, and outreach. KDVA recently sponsored a VSO conference with an emphasis on peer-to-peer care, entitled “My Brother’s Keeper”.



Governor Andy Beshear awarding the family of Charles Young with his official commission on February 17, 2022.

KDVA fully realizes that it takes a combined arms team to effectively take on its lofty objectives. KDVA is incredibly proud of the partners that we have and the partnerships that have been nurtured. While working in partnership with the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, Deputy Secretary Keith Jackson, Brigadier General Hal Lamberton of the Kentucky Department of Military Affairs, Kentucky National Guard, African American organizations in Louisville, Louisville Metro Government, Governor Beshear was able to right a historical wrong with the promotion of Charles Young to Brigadier General in February of 2022.

We are also excited about working with the Department of Aging and Independent Living and the Department of Behavioral Health, as well as a host of other partners with which KDVA is creating an elastic array of services to assist the Commonwealth’s veterans. KDVA’s team works tirelessly to bring new initiatives and partnerships to fruition. KDVA’s personnel data, as reported by HR Manager, John Ostroske, and organizational chart are included below:

## KDVA PERSONNEL DATA: STAFFING AS OF 30 JUNE 2022

### OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

Position Title	Number of Positions Filled
• Commissioner	1
• Deputy Commissioner	1
• Chief of Staff	1
• Executive Secretary	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>

### OFFICE OF VETERAN LEGAL SERVICES

Position Title	Number of Positions Filled
• Executive Director & Staff Attorney III (Dual Role)	1
• Public Information Officer	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>

## OFFICE OF KENTUCKY VETERAN CENTERS

Position Title	Number of Positions Filled
• Executive Director	1
• Deputy Executive Director	1
• Medical Director	1
• Licensed Psychologist	1
• Budget Specialist II	1
• Thomson-Hood Veterans Center	155
• Eastern Kentucky Veterans Center	118
• Western Kentucky Veterans Center	88
• Radcliff Veterans Center	56
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>422</b>

## OFFICE OF KENTUCKY VETERAN SERVICES

Position Title	Number of Positions Filled
• Executive Director (Detail)	1
• Budget Specialist III	1
• Administrative Specialist III	1
• Budget Specialist II	1
• Human Resource Branch Manager	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>

## KENTUCKY VETERANS CEMETERIES DIVISION

Position Title	Number of Positions Filled
• Assistant Director	1
• Cemetery Branch Manager	5
• Cemetery Superintendent	4
• Administrative Specialist	5
• Cemetery Caretaker	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>35</b>

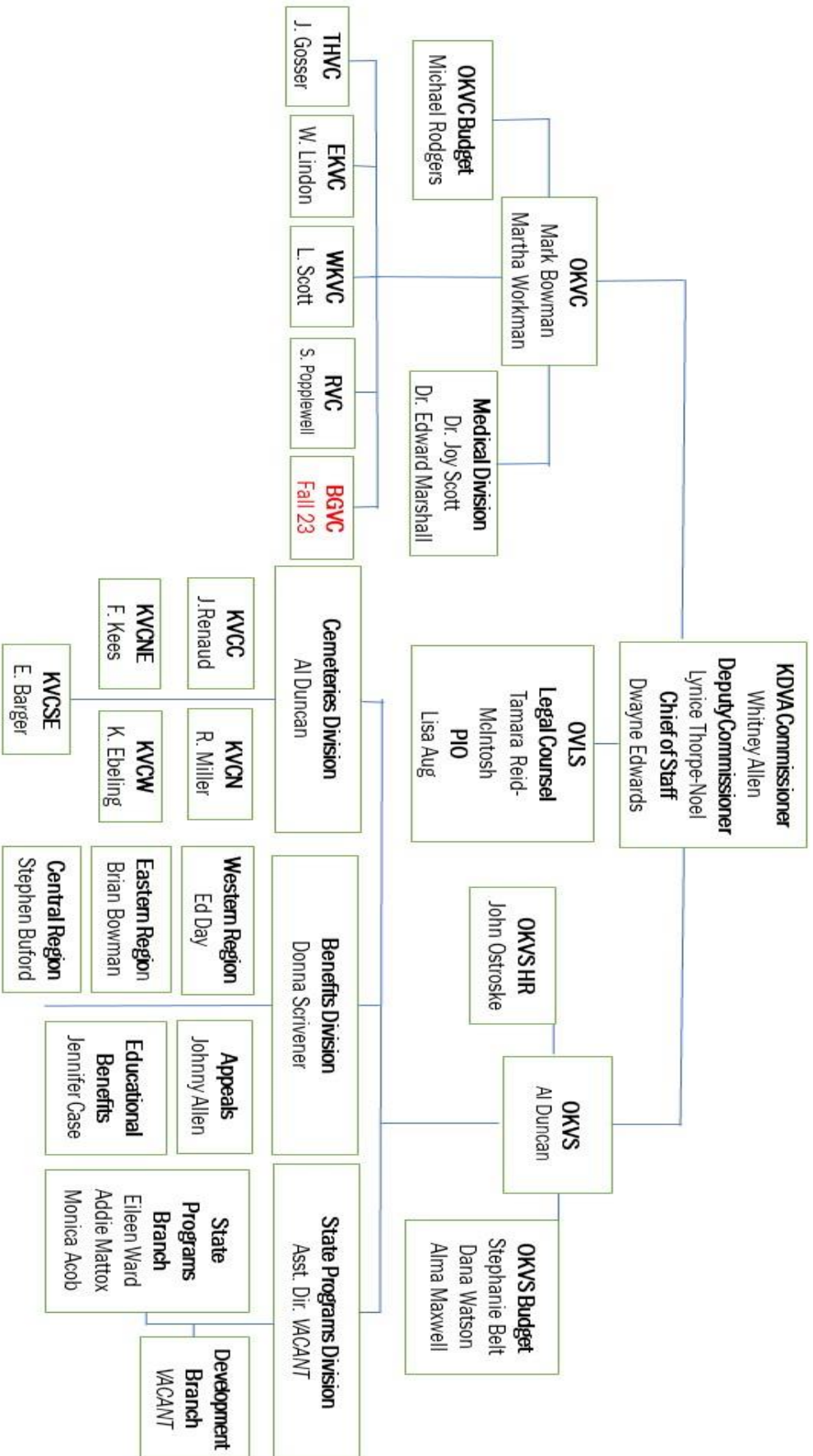
## KENTUCKY VETERANS BENEFITS DIVISION

Position Title	Number of Positions Filled
• Assistant Director	1
• Veterans Benefits Regional Administrators	4
• Administrative Specialist	1
• Veterans Benefits Regional Administrator (VBRA)	3
• Veterans Benefits Representative (VBR)	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29</b>

## KENTUCKY VETERANS STATE PROGRAMS DIVISION

Position Title	Number of Positions Filled
• Assistant Director	0
• Homeless Veterans Program Administrator	1
• Homeless Veterans Administrative Assistant (Temp)	1
• Women's Veterans Program Administrator (PT)	1
• KyVETS Program Administrator	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>

# FY22 ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



“SERVING THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED THE COMMONWEALTH AND OUR GREAT NATION”

# KDVA's FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR FY22

## APPROPRIATIONS

• General Fund Appropriation	\$26,886,500.00
• Restricted Fund Appropriation	\$69,553,600.00
• Federal Funds Appropriation (CARES Act funding)	\$3,923,000.00
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>\$100,363,100.00</b>

## ALLOTMENTS

• Kentucky Veterans Centers	\$92,505,800.00
• Kentucky Veterans Cemeteries	\$3,310,000.00
• Kentucky Veterans Services	\$4,547,300.00
<b>TOTAL ALLOTMENTS</b>	<b>\$100,363,100.00</b>

## EXPENDITURES BY FUND

### GENERAL FUND

• Kentucky Veterans Centers	(\$20,342,800.00)
• Kentucky Veterans Cemeteries	(\$2,133,400.00)
• Kentucky Veterans Services	(\$4,410,300.00)
<b>TOTAL KDVA GENERAL FUNDS EXPENDED</b>	<b>(\$26,886,500.00)</b>

### RESTRICTED FUND

• Kentucky Veterans Centers	(\$45,018,653.40)
• Kentucky Veterans Cemeteries	(\$1,089,845.31)
• Kentucky Veterans Services	(\$75,081.67)
<b>TOTAL KDVA RESTRICTED FUNDS EXPENDED</b>	<b>(\$46,183,580.38)</b>

**TOTAL KDVA EXPENDITURE BY ALL FUND SOURCES** (\$76,955,626.25)

## EXPENDITURES BY CLASS

• Personnel	(\$59,467,717.72)
• Operating	(\$11,832,806.78)
• Grants, Loans & Benefits	(\$3,545,697.57)
• Debt Service	\$-
• Capital Outlay	(\$2,109,404.18)
• Construction	\$-

**TOTAL KDVA EXPENDITURES BY ALL CLASSES** (\$76,955,626.25)

An aerial photograph of a cemetery at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow over the scene. The cemetery features numerous small, uniform headstones arranged in neat rows. There are several larger, more prominent structures, possibly monuments or chapels, scattered throughout the grounds. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds, and the overall atmosphere is peaceful and solemn.

**\*\*\*\*\***

**The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall ... assist veterans and their families and dependents in the presentation, proof, and establishment of all claims, privileges, rights, and other benefits which they may have under federal, state, or local laws, and to cooperate with all national, state, and local government and private agencies securing services or any benefits to veterans, their families, and dependents.**

**KRS 40.310(1)**

**\*\*\*\*\***

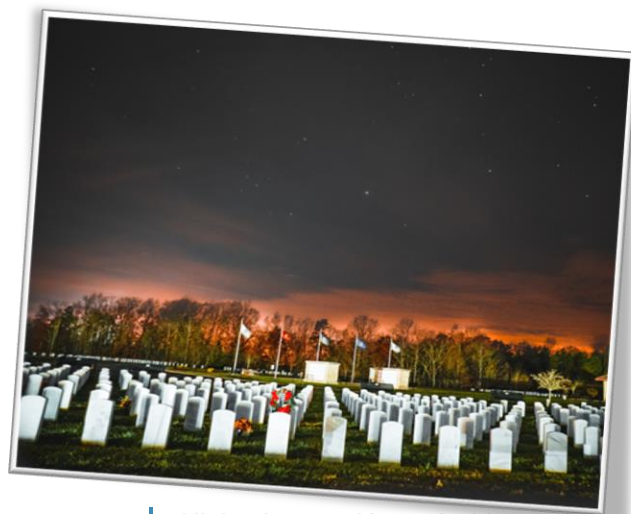
Image of Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Northeast 2022

# OFFICE OF KENTUCKY VETERAN SERVICES

KDVA's OKVS was established pursuant to KRS 40.300(5) as part of the Office of the Commissioner. OKVS consists of the Veterans Cemeteries Division, the Veterans Benefits Division, and the Veterans State Programs Division. During FY22, OKVS was headed by Executive Director, Retired U.S. Army MSG Alvin Duncan, who was appointed pursuant to KRS 12.050 and reported to Commissioner, Whitney Allen.

## Veterans Cemeteries Division

Kentucky has five state veteran cemeteries that service the 120 counties that make up the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The veterans' cemeteries are fully funded by the General Assembly and staffed by full-time state employees. Kentucky's five veteran cemeteries have completed 18,434 honorable and dignified interments, 1,691 were completed during FY22.



Night sky over Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Northeast.

Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West (KVCW) opened on March 1, 2004, in Hopkinsville, Kentucky. Kim Ebeling—a U.S. Army spouse—currently serves as the Veteran Cemetery Manager for this facility. As of June 30, 2022, 5,666 veterans and family members have been interred at KVCW. During FY22, KVCW averaged 39 interments per month.

Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Central (KVCC) opened on June 1, 2007, in Radcliff, Kentucky. Retired Army Major Juan Renaud currently serves as the Veteran Cemetery Manager. After fifteen years of operation, 8,604 veterans and eligible family members are interred at KVCC, as of June 30, 2022. During FY22, KVCC averaged 63 interments per month.

Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North (KVCN) opened on August 22, 2008, in Williamstown, Kentucky. Retired Sergeant First Class Robert Miller currently serves as Veteran Cemetery Manager. As of June 30, 2022, 2,452 veterans and eligible family members are interred. During FY22, KVCN averaged 21 interments per month.

Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Northeast (KVCNE) opened on October 1, 2010, in Grayson, Kentucky. Frank Kees—a Navy veteran—is currently serving as the Veteran Cemetery Manager. As of June 30, 2022, 1,614 veterans and eligible family members are interred. During FY22, KVCNE averaged 16 interments per month.

KDVA's fifth and final cemetery, the Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Southeast (KVCSE) opened on May 1, 2018, in Hyden, Kentucky. Eric Barger—a Lesley County native—is currently serving



as the Veteran Cemetery Manager. As of June 30, 2022, 98 veterans and eligible family members are interred. During FY22, KVCSE averaged 2 interments per month.

The Cemeteries Division’s Budget encompasses both general operating funds and donations made in trust by Kentuckians and Kentucky businesses to aid in the enhancement and beautification of KDVA’s five cemeteries. The Cemeteries Division’s FY22 budget is as follows:

CEMETERIES OPERATING BUDGET	FY22 ANNUAL REPORT
Beginning Balance	\$530,713.94
Revenue	
• General Fund	\$2,133,400.00
• Interments	\$1,061,040.00
• Dependent Burials	\$187,500.00
• Misc. Income	\$373.42
Total Revenue	\$3,382,313.42
Expenditures	(\$3,223,245.31)
Ending Balance	\$689,782.05

CEMETERIES TRUST FUND	FY22 ANNUAL REPORT
Beginning Balance	\$230,206.46
Revenue	
• Donations	\$34,158.39
• Interest	\$267.31
Total Revenue	\$34,425.70
Expenditures	(\$33,075.29)
Ending Balance	\$231,556.87

## INDIGENT VETERANS’ BURIAL PROGRAM

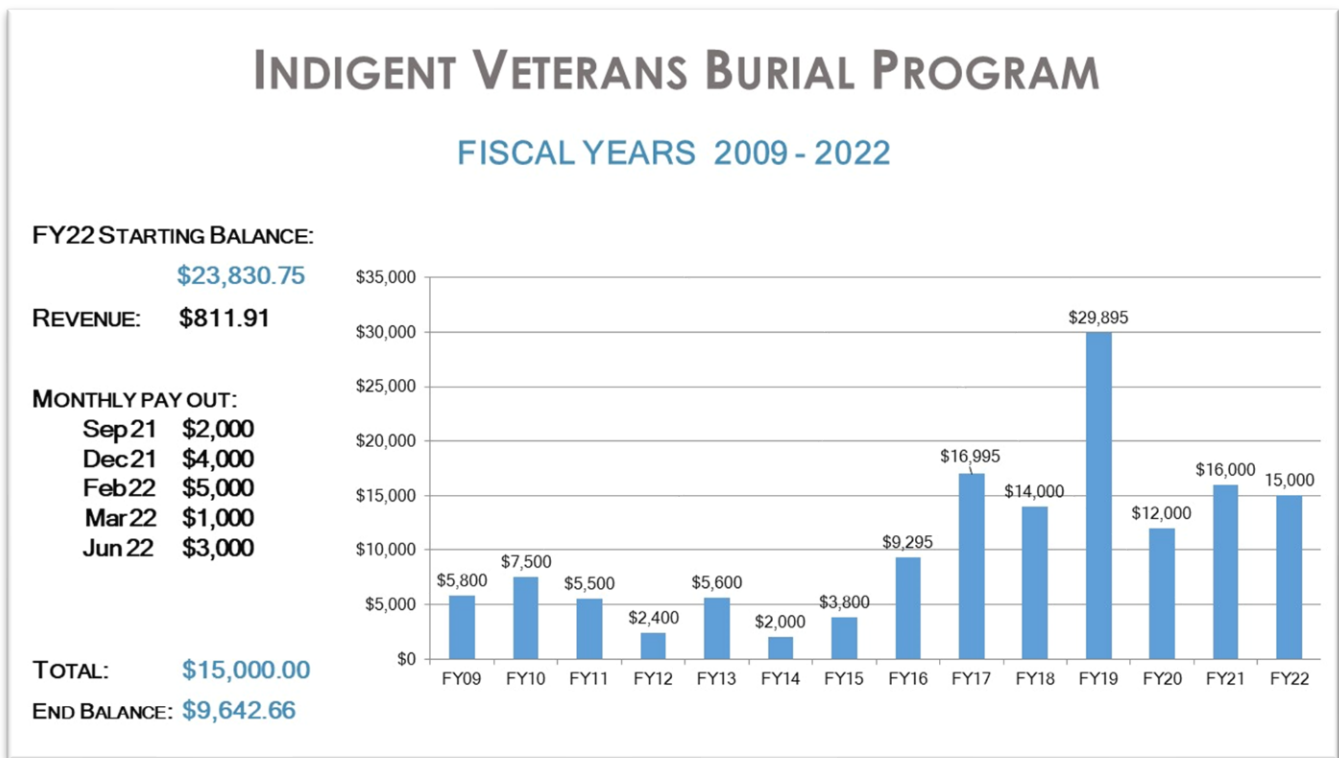
The Commonwealth of Kentucky appreciates the need to provide honorable burials for Kentuckians who have served the Commonwealth and the nation in the Armed Forces. The Commonwealth also recognizes that the brave military veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces should never have to face pauper burials due to financial hardships. However, many indigent veterans do not have the means to defray the cost of funeral expenses at the end of their life. To correct this unfortunate situation, KDVA’s Cemeteries Division oversees the Indigent Veterans’ Burial Program. Promulgated pursuant to 17 KAR 4:040, the Program provides funding up to \$1,000.00 to help cover the cost of funeral arrangements for each indigent veteran.



Horse drawn carriage interment at Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North.

The Indigent Veterans Burial Program started FY22 with a budget of \$23,830.75. During FY22, the program paid \$15,000.00, to assist with interring 15 veterans at one of the Commonwealth's five veterans' cemeteries.

Since its inception in 2009, the Program has expended \$144,785.00 to provide indigent veterans with honorable and dignified burials. The average cost of each interment is \$904.90. As a result, all one hundred sixty (160) indigent veterans received full military burial honors and were interred in one of KDVA's five state veterans' cemeteries or one of the five national VA cemetery located within the Commonwealth of Kentucky.



## VETERANS' SERVICE ORGANIZATION BURIAL HONOR GUARD PROGRAM

On July 1, 2002, the General Assembly promulgated KRS 40.360 & 40.362, which establishes KDVA's Burial Honor Guard Program and the Burial Honor Guard Trust Fund. The Program assists local Kentucky VSOs with augmenting the existing Federal program that offers a two-person honors team. The Veterans Burial Honors Program (BHP) in Kentucky provides a final tribute to the men and women who served our state and nation honorably as members of the U.S. Armed Forces. It allows a grateful nation to pay its last respects in a dignified and solemn ceremony. KDVA administers the Program with assistance from VSOs, funeral directors, and the active duty and reserve components of the U.S. Armed Forces.

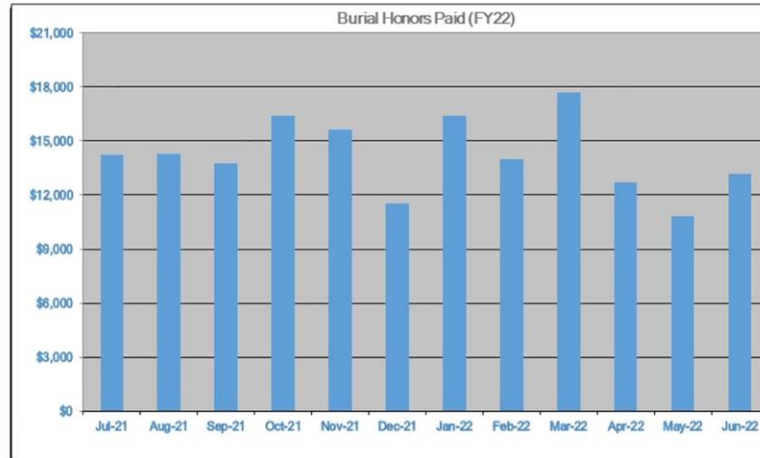
# MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS STIPEND

## FISCAL YEAR 2022

FUNDS	
STARTING BALANCE	\$74,493.13
GENERAL FUND DEPOSIT	\$100,000.00
REVENUE	\$45,644.83
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$220,137.96</b>

EXPENDITURES		
Jul 21	255	\$14,230.00
Aug 21	259	\$14,320.00
Sep 21	247	\$13,785.00
Oct 21	289	\$16,410.00
Nov 21	282	\$15,625.00
Dec 21	209	\$11,530.00
Jan 22	291	\$16,405.00
Feb 22	251	\$13,990.00
Mar 22	316	\$17,700.00
Apr 22	225	\$12,685.00
May 22	193	\$10,830.00
Jun 22	234	\$13,190.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>3,051</b>	<b>\$170,700.00</b>
<b>FY22 Balance:</b>		<b>\$49,437.96</b>

## AS OF JULY 1, 2022



- June 22 Honors Performed: 234
- FY22 Honors Performed: 3,051
- Total Honors Performed: 44,020
- Total Money Payed out Since 2005: \$2,292,896.00

## NOTEWORTHY ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FY22

This past fiscal year, the Cemeteries Division underwent significant turnover in staffing. Veterans Cemetery Managers at KVCC, KVCW, KVCN and KVCSE retired and were replaced with new managers during FY22. The Division also experienced a large turnover with Caretaker positions. These changes resulted in the loss of a wealth of institutional knowledge. The Veterans Cemeteries Division submitted an additional budget request (ABR) from the General Assembly during FY22 to expand its operating budget to hire 8 additional cemetery personnel. The ABR was approved and placed in the FY23 budget. All five cemeteries executed a COVID19-free restriction Memorial Day Ceremony this past May, with record attendance. KVCC has the largest 9/11 Memorial in the Commonwealth.



Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Central in conjunction with Fort Knox conducted the 20th anniversary of Patriots Day on September 11, 2021.

## CEMETERIES DIVISION GOALS FOR FY23

Goals for FY23 include the following:

- Pursue burial expansion for 2,000 pre-placed double depth lawn crypts at KVCW.
- Start raising funds to build a Gold Star Monument at KVCW.
- Continue the legislative push to remove the residency requirement from KRS 40.315.
- Engage in programs that promote second chance veterans' employment.
- Conduct a feasibility study on effects of the 2021 Burial Equity for Guards and Reserves Act.
- Continue to utilize the NCA School for cemetery personal.



Gold Star Families Monument Memorial unveiling at Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North.



### Contacting State Veterans Cemeteries

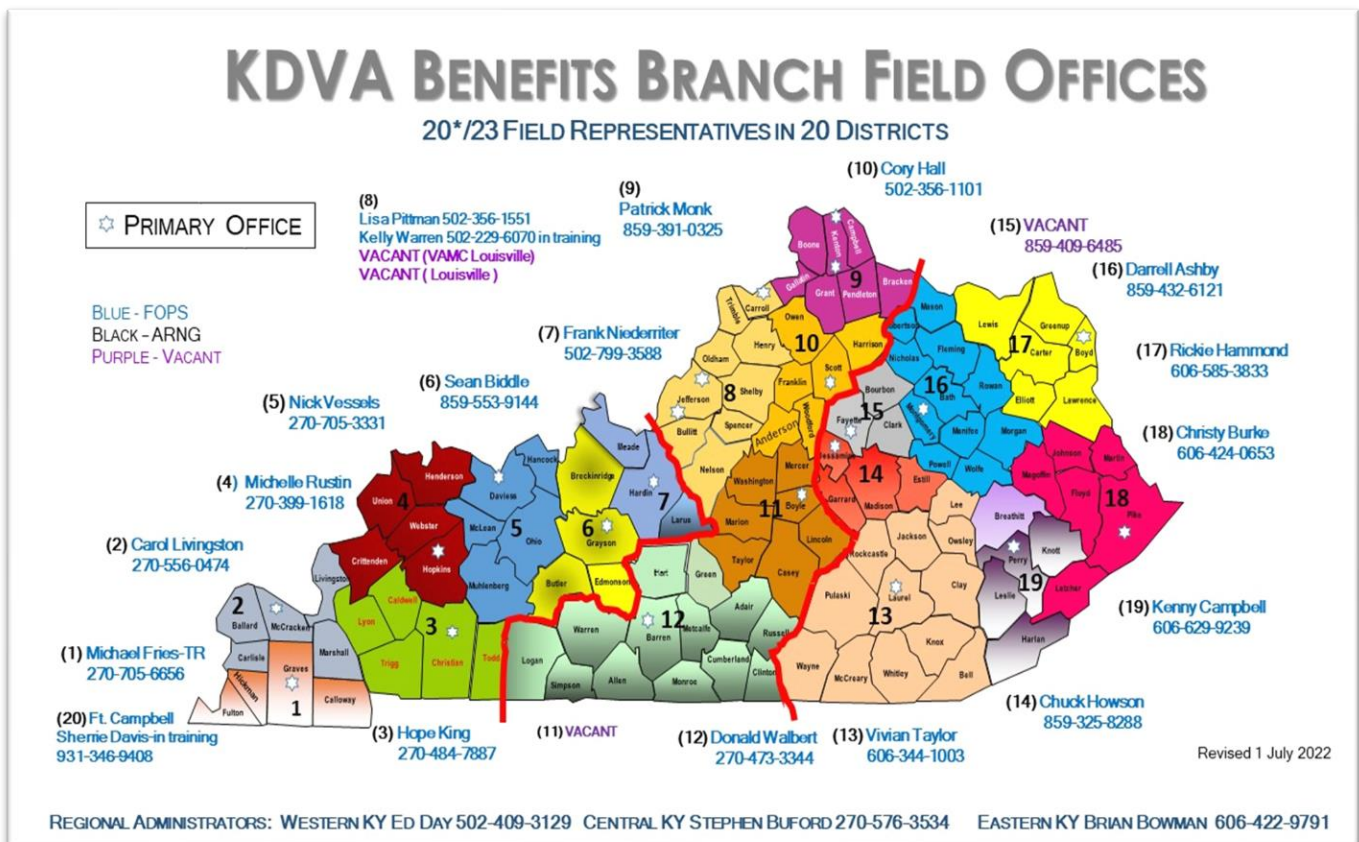
Mr. Alvin W. Duncan ▪ U.S. Army MSG (Retired)

Director State Veterans Cemeteries ▪ OKVS

O: (502)782-5731 ▪ C: (502)229-2718 ▪ [Alvin.Duncan@ky.gov](mailto:Alvin.Duncan@ky.gov)

## Veterans Benefits Division

Established pursuant to KRS 40.317, KDVA's Benefits Division's primary mission is to assist veterans and their family members with filing for their federal VA Compensation and Pension Benefits. The Benefits Division has Veterans Benefits Representatives (VBRs) across the Commonwealth to ensure that veterans have 'accredited' representatives when pursuing their VA claims for compensation and benefits. The following demonstrates where representatives are located:



## Noteworthy Accomplishments for FY22

FY22 saw both a return to normalcy and the return of KDVA's VBRs to their offices. While the Benefits Division conducted many in-office visits with veterans and family members, the Division continued to leverage available technology to assist clients who either did not wish to or were unable to travel to a Field Representative Office.

In FY22, the Benefits Division submitted 8,710 'fully-developed' Pension and Compensation Claims to the U.S. Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA). In addition, the Benefits Division submitted 5,891 Intent to File notices (ITFs), preserving an effective date for future claims. The Benefits Division also added 8,946 additional veterans and survivors, who appointed KDVA as their accredited representative.

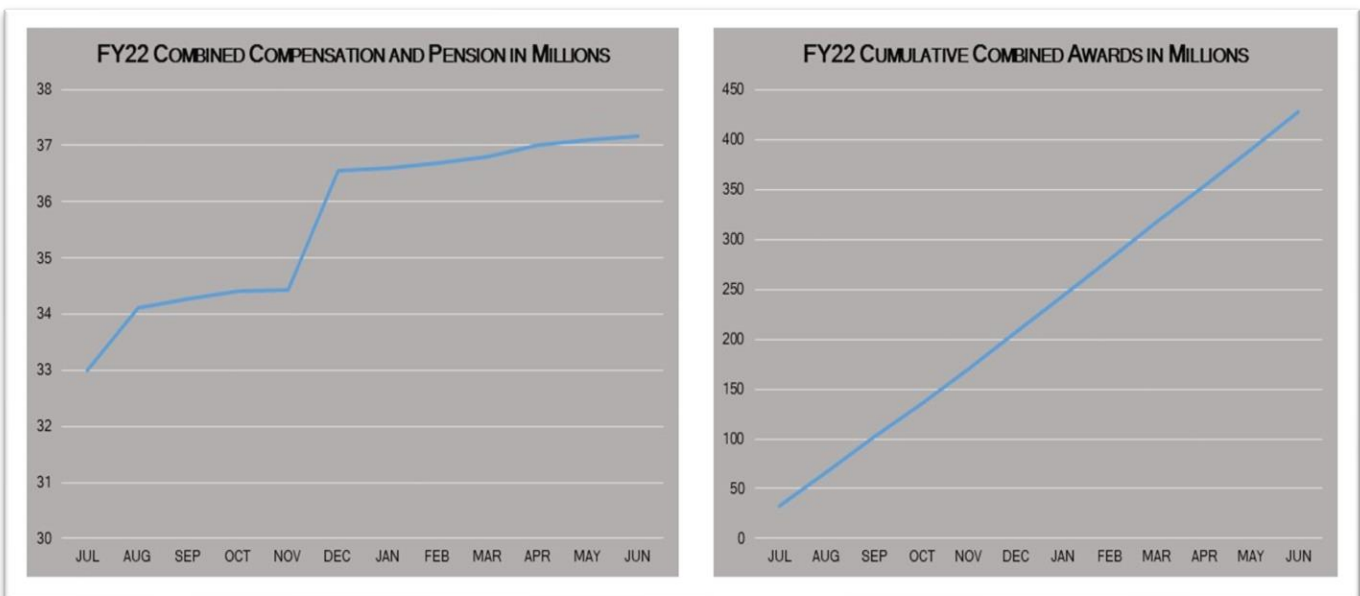


### POWERS OF ATTORNEY (POAs) AS OF 30 JUNE 2022

• Total Veterans in Kentucky:	295,390
• Veterans represented by KDVA as of 03.31.22:	27,865 (+123)
• Beneficiaries represented as of 03.31.22:	9,561 (+46)
• Overall Percentage of KY Veterans Represented by KDVA:	13%

### Annual Claims Data for FY22

Over the course of FY22, the successive monthly Compensation and Pension awards to Kentucky veterans and survivors represented by KDVA—approximately 13% of veterans in the Commonwealth—increased from \$33 million to \$37.17 million. The total VBA payments to our clients including FY22 was \$428.16 million.



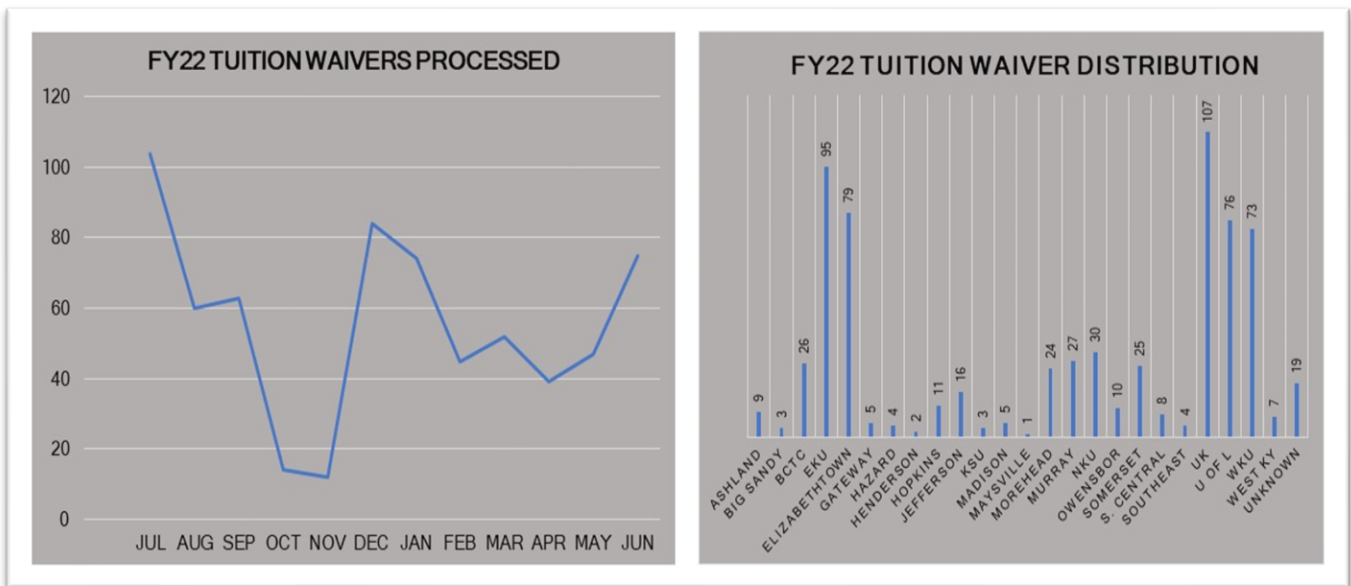
The Division’s full time Appeals Manager fully supported the BVA’s Virtual Hearing ongoing initiative by representing appellants at 103 virtual hearings. This hearing option allows veterans or family members to participate in their hearings from the comfort of their home. In addition to contributing to the running award totals, successful appeals yielded lump sum retroactive awards in excess of \$2.4 million.

CLAIMS SUMMARY		APPEALS SUMMARY	
• Total Claims:	8710	• Board of Veterans Appeals Hearings:	103
• Intent to File Notices:	5891	• HLR Conferences:	23
• New 21-22 (POA):	8946	• FY22 Appeals Retro Awards:	\$2,402,434.18

KDVA’s national reputation for excellence and innovation was recognized by being selected as one of the first states to partner with the Veterans Engagement Office of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to present a Virtual - Veterans Experience Action Center (V-VEAC). During FY22, Kentucky successfully hosted two V-VEACs, the first in July 2021 and the second in June 2022. The VA joined forces with KDVA and community and strategic partners to virtually connect veterans, family members, caregivers, and survivors to services and benefits they have earned. Both events were extremely successful, and the Benefits Division was able to capitalize on lessons learned to increase the number of customers served from 383 in July 2021 to 480 in June 2022.

## Tuition Waivers for FY22

For FY22, the Benefits Division continued to administer the Kentucky Tuition Waiver program by processing 669 applications and awarding 590 waivers of tuition to Kentucky’s state-funded colleges and universities.



## Benefits Division Goals for FY23

- Increase veterans claims and Powers of Attorney from 27,000 to 35,000.
- Engage with corporate entities that provide Veterans Resource Groups.
- Reform operation and training within the Division.
- Provide training for claims officers located within Kentucky's Veteran Service Offices.
- Increase engagements in the surrounding counties.
- Continue to hire capable VBRs to efficiently process veterans' claims.
- Execute benefits claims clinics with Humana, Inc., Jim Beam, and others.
- Establish the Division's first physical Veterans Engagement Action Center (VEAC) in the spring of 2023.



### Contacting Veterans Benefits Division

Ms. Donna Scrivener ▪ U.S. Navy (Retired)

Assistant Director of Veterans Benefits ▪ OKVS

O: (502)782-5733 ▪ C: (502)330-5724 ▪ Donna.Scrivener@ky.gov

Website: <https://veterans.ky.gov/Benefits/Pages/default.aspx>



## Veterans State Programs Division

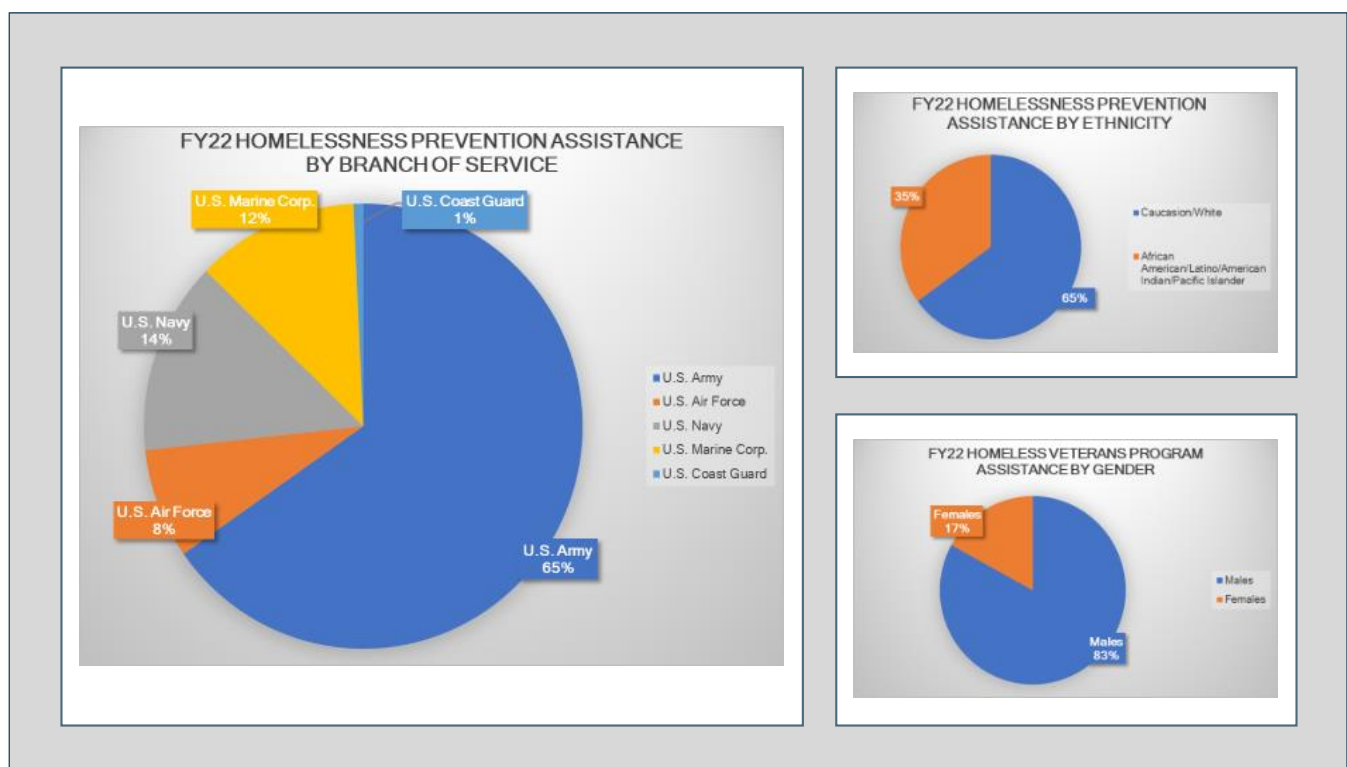
KDVA's Veterans Programs Division offers a wide variety of programs to veterans of the Commonwealth. The Division consists of the Homeless Veterans Program (HVP), the Women's Veterans Program (WVP), and KyVETS—a work force resource program for veterans seeking employment in the Commonwealth.

### HOMELESS VETERANS PROGRAM

Established pursuant to KRS 40.340, KDVA's Homeless Veterans Program (HVP) is focused on preventing veteran homelessness across the Commonwealth by connecting with veterans in need before they are in crisis. HVP is a proven, successful program that gets homeless veterans off the streets and aids those at imminent risk of homelessness by connecting them with resources across the state. Mrs. Eileen Ward serves as HVP's Administrator; she has worked diligently to expand and improve HVP by fiscally managing the Program as well as the HVP Trust Fund.

### The Homeless Veteran Population: Who the HVP Serves

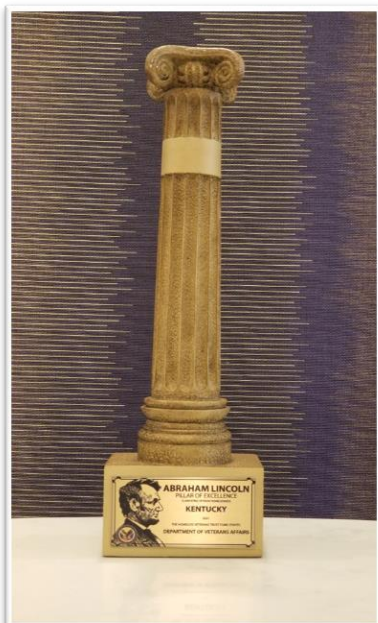
HVP's FY22 goal was to serve as many veterans of the Commonwealth as possible by responding to requests received by veterans and their families as well as by reaching as many partners as possible once all the COVID19 pandemic restrictions were lifted. HVP's goals were attained. Based on a referral rate of 44%, HVP certainly made a difference to help veterans of the Commonwealth avoid homelessness. The following provides an overview of the veterans served by HVP during FY22:



During FY19, HVP paid \$62,457.65 helping 256 veterans. During FY20, HVP paid \$123,638.96 helping 364 veterans. During FY21, HVP paid \$101,848.28 helping 318 veterans. During FY22, HVP paid \$157,812.66 helping 417 veterans. Working in conjunction with community partners, numerous veterans found permanent housing. HVP received and expended the following amounts on preventing veteran homelessness:

HOMELESS VETERANS TRUST FUND	FY22 ANNUAL REPORT
Beginning Balance	\$44,032.87
Revenue	
• VPTF Transfers	\$115,905.00
• Donations	\$11,678.00
• Interest	\$29.73
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$127,612.73</b>
Expenditures to avoid Veteran Homelessness	
• Gas	(\$3,351.69)
• Electric	(\$41,653.78)
• Water/Sewer	(\$9,141.21)
• Rent/Temporary Shelter	(\$103,265.98)
• Military Order of the Purple Heart Tornado Relief	(\$4,000.00)
• Other/Electrician	(\$400.00)
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>(\$161,812.66)</b>
<b>FY22 ENDING BALANCE</b>	<b>\$9,832.94</b>

## Noteworthy Accomplishments for FY22



HVP had a productive FY22. The Program received national recognition from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) with the Abraham Lincoln Pillars of Excellence Award. The VA's Office of Intergovernmental Affairs developed the award together with NASDVA. The Secretary of Veteran Affairs presented the first awards in 2014. The award allows Veterans Affairs and NASDVA to evaluate state programs, establish best practices among those outstanding state programs, and provide a model program for other state agencies to follow for greater success and efficiency. Understanding the challenges and solutions in other states will foster learning and advance KDVA's shared goal of serving and supporting veterans.

During FY22, HVP coordinated with the VFW to distribute financial donations received from across the United States for veterans in Western Kentucky effected by tornadoes. Ninety-three families received over \$93,000.00. Likewise, the Military Order of the Purple Heart

(MOPH) made a generous donation of \$5,000.00 designated for veterans effected by the tornadoes.

HVP also sponsored a 5K Run, Walk, Stroll in Lexington, Kentucky, to bring awareness to the plight of homeless veterans in the Commonwealth. In coordination with Morehead State University, HVP received a shipment for female veterans, which included gently used purses, personal hygiene products, and much-needed socks, hats, and gloves.

During 2022, the General Assembly awarded the HVP Trust Fund \$200,000 and a full-time employee for the 2022-2024 budget session. With secure funding and another full-time employee, the Program will be able to aid more veterans in need throughout the Commonwealth.

HVP started a new initiative to encourage small non-profits already helping Kentucky veterans to apply to the Veterans Program Trust Fund, so HVP can build a stronger support network in Kentucky for all veterans in need.

### Homeless Veterans Program Goals for FY23

- Participate in national forums and committees to advocate for homeless veterans.
- Continue to work with community partners in the Commonwealth to locate and assist veterans in need.
- Endeavor to award \$200,000 to more than 500 grantees.



#### Contacting the Homeless Veterans Program

Mrs. Eileen Ward

Homeless Veteran Program Administrator ▪ State Programs Division ▪ OKVS

O: (502)782-5730 ▪ C: (502)352-3120 ▪ Eileen.Ward@ky.gov

Website: [https://veterans.ky.gov/Veterans-](https://veterans.ky.gov/Veterans-Programs/Homeless-Veterans/Pages/default.aspx)

[Programs/Homeless-Veterans/Pages/default.aspx](https://veterans.ky.gov/Veterans-Programs/Homeless-Veterans/Pages/default.aspx)

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### WOMEN VETERANS PROGRAM

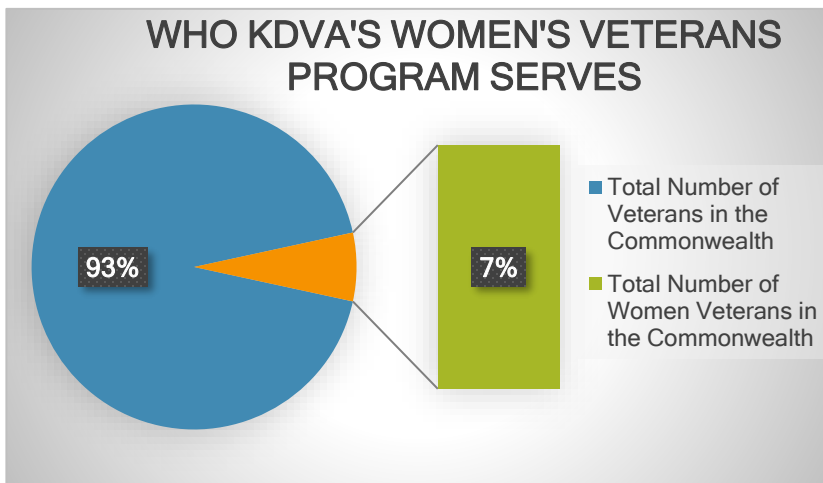
Established pursuant to KRS 40.600, KDVA's Women Veterans Program (WVP) is dedicated to addressing the unique need of women who have honorably served. The mission of the Women Veterans Program is to ensure that Kentucky's women veterans have "equitable access to federal and state veterans' services and benefits" and to ensure that women veterans are treated with dignity and respect and are understood by veteran service providers. The

program promotes advocacy, public awareness, collaboration, research, education, honor and recognition, and support to women veterans and their families.

## The Female Veteran Population in the Commonwealth of Kentucky

During FY22, there were over 27,000 women veterans residing in the Commonwealth.

KDVA's Women's Veterans Program made great strides performing outreach to improve women veterans' awareness of eligibility for federal and state veterans' services and benefits. Locate, Educate & Advocate!



## Noteworthy Accomplishments for FY22

During FY22, WVP took the lead in the "I Am Not Invisible" Campaign in by partnering with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to highlight women veterans in the Commonwealth and throughout the United States. The "I Am Not Invisible" Campaign highlighted sixteen of Kentucky's women veterans to help increase awareness, dialogue, and visibility of women veterans. This project will be traveling throughout Kentucky in FY23.

On March 23, 2022, WVP also hosted a virtual Women Veterans Education & Awareness Forum on Women Veterans Benefits and Services. As a result of the forum, WVP installed its inaugural class of KDVA Ambassadors.

On June 3, 2022, WVP held its Women Veteran's Conference at the Marriott Griffin Gate in Lexington, Kentucky. The objective of the Conference was to inspire, empower, and educate women veterans by immersion in an interactive day of speakers, special guests, question and answer sessions, and veteran-centric entertainment.



Five of KDVA's women veterans participated in Kentucky's "I Am Not Invisible" Campaign.

The Conference was attended by over 100 attendees. There were two informative panels of guest speakers, over 20 resource tables, and RVC's "Lest We Forget" songwriter, Tamara Stewart performed songs from her CDs. Those in attendance were not only educated about benefits and services, but also shared in a much-needed dialogue about PTSD, depression, and suicide prevention amongst the female veteran population. The central theme from those in attendance was the need for women veterans to be seen and heard.



On June 11, 2022, KDVA partnered with Honor Flight Kentucky to sponsor "Operation HERoes", an all-female honor flight that afforded over 130 women veterans the opportunity to travel to Washington D.C. to tour the national monuments dedicated to military service. Once in Washington D.C., the honorees were inducted into the Women Veterans Memorial.



In conjunction with "Operation HERoes", Governor Beshear signed a proclamation establishing June 12, 2022, as "Women Veterans Recognition Day". The date was chosen to mark the anniversary of the "Women Armed Services Integration Act", a law that enabled women to serve as permanent, regular members of the Armed Forces. Kentucky is one of 14 states to celebrate

"Women Veterans Recognition Day", ensuring that the hard work and sacrifice of women veterans of the Commonwealth are not forgotten.

KDVA's WVP collaborated with or supported myriad other agencies and programs focused on promoting awareness for women veterans in the Commonwealth. Some include:

- The 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion's (Six Triple Eight) path to the Congressional Gold Medal.
- Uncle Sam's Daughter Podcast featuring KDVA Women Veterans Program.
- Meet & Greet at the VFW Post 680 in Lexington, Kentucky.
- Patriots Landing, Williamstown, Kentucky, to support women veteran owned business.
- HorseSensing in Bagdad KY, helping women veteran's transition back to civilian life.
- VA Women's Health Reengagement Training: Bellarmine University in Louisville Kentucky.



The 6888th Central Postal Battalion: 1941-1945. Highlighting that, during WWII, 6,520 African American women served in the U.S. Army.

- Kentucky Historical Society: Women Veterans Exhibit in Frankfort, Kentucky.

## Women’s Veterans Program Goals for FY23

- Continue to participate in national forums and committees for women veterans.
- Establish the Women’s Veterans Committee.



### Contacting the Women’s Veterans Program

WVP Administrator ▪ State Programs Division ▪ OKVS  
 O: (502)782-5738 ▪ Website: <https://veterans.ky.gov/Veterans-Programs/Women-Veterans/Pages/default.aspx>

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## KyVETS

Veteran employment is one of the largest and most critical barriers faced by both the recently discharged and aging veteran population. The KyVETS Program is working hard to identify and create a network of employers—small businesses and large corporations—dedicated to hiring veterans.

The Program utilizes a skills-based database to match unemployed or underemployed veterans with appropriate businesses seeking to hire. In addition to the Program’s referral process, KyVETS incorporates numerous tools and resources for job seekers, as well as employers who want high quality applicants. KyVETS also partners with Department of Defense’s Skills-Bridge Program and federal and state work development agencies.

During FY22, the program assisted with workforce training, resume assistance, and interview skills enhancement for veterans, service members, and their dependents, who are looking for work, transitioning out of the military, or changing careers. Additionally, the Program sponsored or partnered with other agencies to conduct seminars for employers on the advantages of employing veterans.



### Contacting the KyVETS Program

KyVETS Program Administrator  
 State Programs Division ▪ OKVS  
 O: (502)782-5740 ▪ Website: <https://veterans.ky.gov/Veterans-Programs/Veteran-Employment/Pages/Veterans-Employment.aspx>

# OFFICE OF KENTUCKY VETERAN CENTERS

Pursuant to KRS 40.320 and 40.325, the General Assembly determined that the establishment of state veterans' nursing homes was in the best interest of the veterans of the Commonwealth and necessary to the well-being of the Commonwealth's elderly and disabled veterans. The Office of Kentucky Veterans' Center (OKVC) was established to operate the Commonwealth's veterans' centers and medical division. Pursuant to KRS 12.050, OKVC's Executive Director is Mark Bowman, who reports to Commissioner Whitney Allen. Martha Workman serves as Deputy Executive Director of OKVC.

Kentucky has four state veterans centers that service the 120 counties that make up the Commonwealth of Kentucky.



Thomson-Hood Veterans Center (THVC) opened in 1991 in Wilmore, Kentucky. Joni Gosser currently serves as the facility's Administrator. The facility is a 285-bed skilled nursing facility with a secure unit. During FY22 the facility provided 42,755 days of care.



The Paul E. Patton Eastern Kentucky Veterans Center (EKVC) opened 2002 in Hazard, Kentucky. Wade Lindon, an Army Veteran serves as the facility's Administrator. The facility is a 120-bed skilled nursing facility with a secure unit. During FY22 the facility provided 30,949 days of care.



The Joseph E. Ballard Western Kentucky Veterans Center (WKVC) opened in 2002 in Hanson, Kentucky. LaDonna Scott serves as the facility's Administrator. The facility is a 156-bed skilled nursing facility with a secure unit. During FY22 the facility provided 25,099 days of care.



The Carl M. Brashear Radcliff Veterans Center (RVC) opened in 2017 and is located right outside the gates of Fort Knox Army Post. Sue Popplewell serves as the facility's Administrator. The facility is a 120-bed skilled nursing facility with all private suites. During FY 22 the facility provided 15,140 days of care.

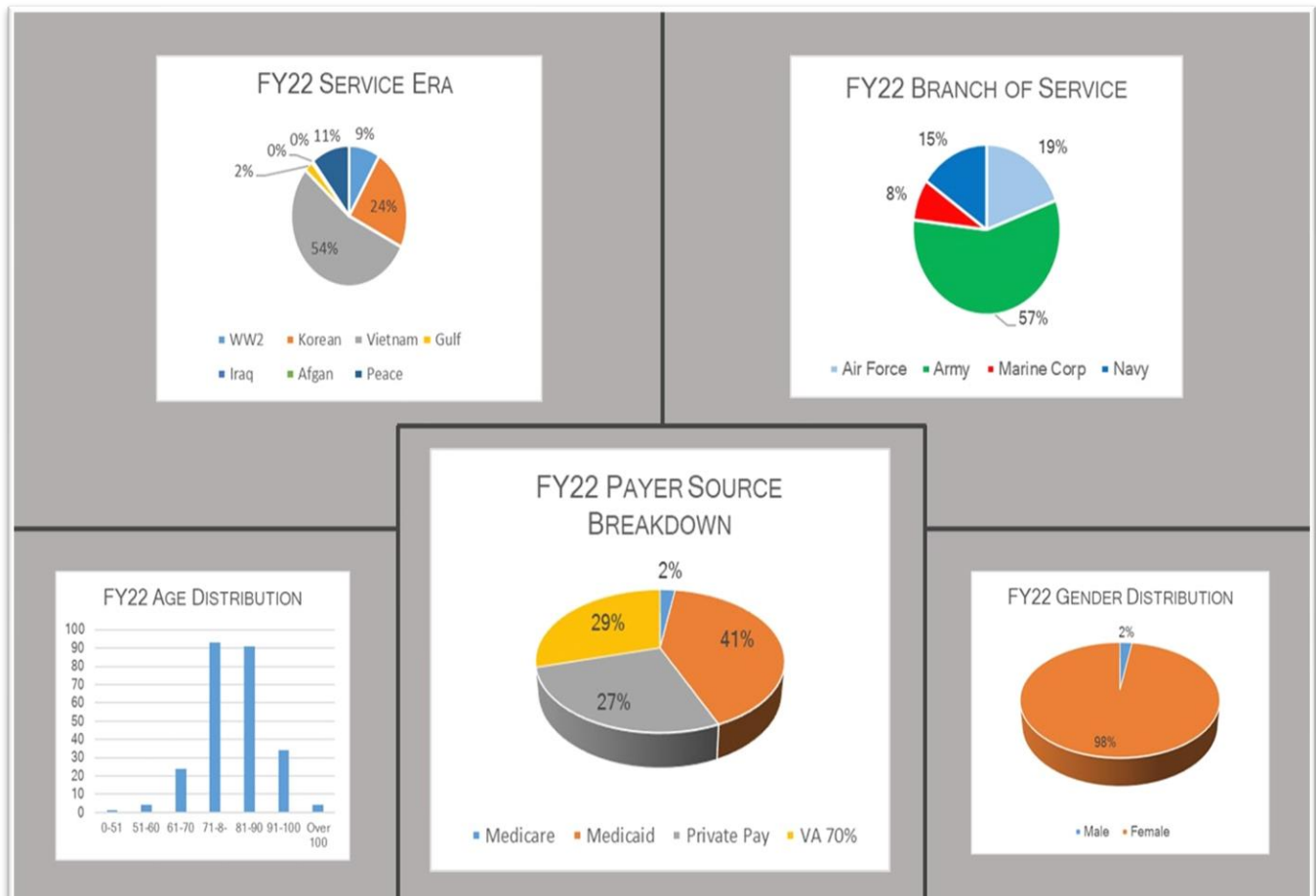
OKVC is proud to provide skilled nursing care in four diverse regions of the state, with a new state of the art facility slated to begin construction in Bowling Green in August 2022. OKVC secured \$21,450,000.00 in federal grant awards for the construction of the 60-bed facility to service aging veterans of the Commonwealth. The following is the architect's rendering of the Bowling Green Veterans Center:



Sherman Carter Barnhart Architects are the lead on the project and have collaborated with Orcutt | Winslow for the design work. The facility is scheduled for completion by December 2024 and is located at the Bowling Green Transpark adjacent to Mizpah Road.

## Veteran Populations: Who OKVC Serves

OKVC serves veterans of various ages, branches of service, as well as combat and peacetime service eras. The following provides an overview of our veteran population:





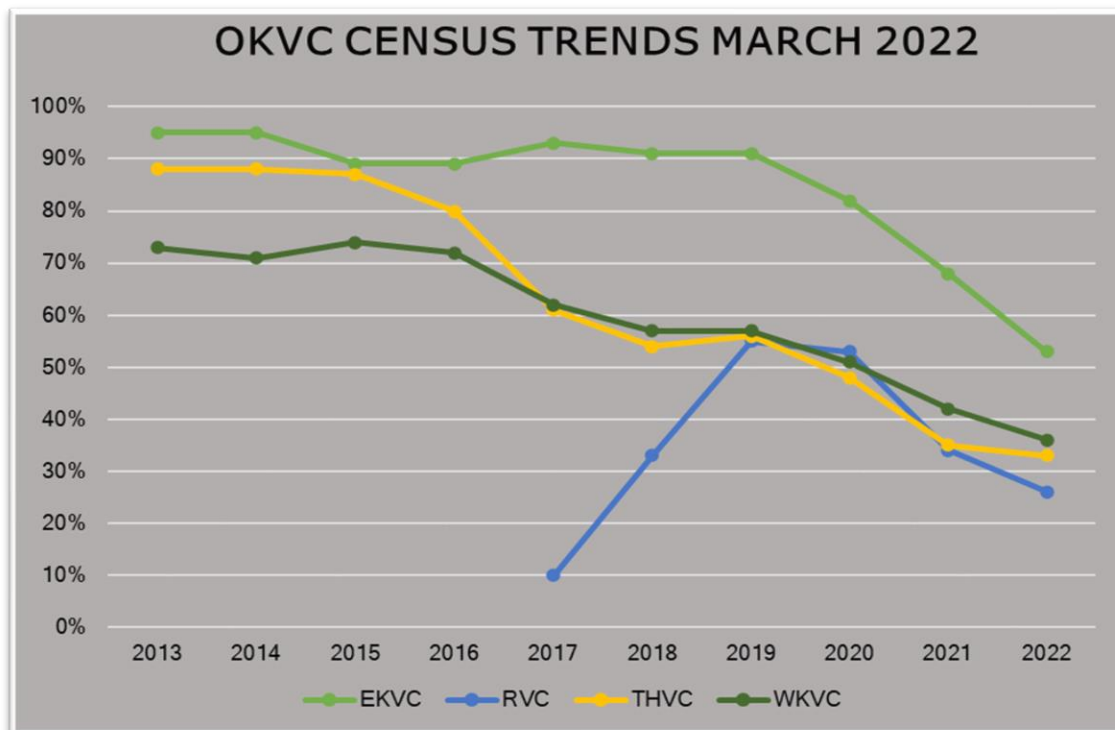
## Serving Kentucky's Veterans: OKVC's Operating Budget

The Office of Kentucky Veterans Centers operations are funded by a mixture of both general fund support and restricted revenue in the form of Medicare, Medicaid, Private Pay, Insurance and VA per diem payments. OKVC's FY22 budget is as follows:

### OKVC OPERATING BUDGET FOR FY22

REVENUE	
• General Funds	\$20,342,000.00
• Restricted Funds	\$45,814,030.83
• Federal Funds (COVID19 Pandemic Relief Funds)	\$5,776,613.18
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$71,933,444.01</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES (\$69,246,999.27)</b>	

Staffing vacancies and the COVID19 pandemic have led to a historical low census. OKVC is pursuing both legislative and financial solutions to fill vacant positions and improve access to care for veterans. The following reflects the downward trend for each of OKVC's veteran centers:



## Noteworthy Accomplishments for FY22

One of the veterans at OKVC's Thomson-Hood Veterans Center celebrated his 108<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 25, 2022. Born in 1914, Chester Edgar Wilson, is from Versailles, Kentucky. Mr. Wilson was first in his family to complete high school, graduating from Bryan Station High School in 1934. Wilson was 29 and married to Margaret Dozier when drafted into the U.S. Navy on

December 7, 1943. Wilson served in the Pacific Theater aboard U.S.S. Benevolence, a U.S. Navy hospital ship, as a Pharmacist's Mate Third Class, though he often refers to himself as working as a nurse during his time on the ship. Benevolence served as a haven and first stop in rehabilitation for thousands of allied POWs during WWII and was one of three hospital ships in Tokyo Bay on Victory over Japan (VJ) Day, on September 2, 1945.

After his honorable discharge from the Navy on December 23, 1945, Wilson went on to work as a storekeeper and tax collector for the federal government, retiring when he was approximately 62 years old. To celebrate his special day, Mr. Wilson was presented with a Louisville Slugger baseball bat in addition to other cards and celebratory notes. Mr. Wilson's birthday celebration was also publicized on WDRB and Fox 56 news stations.



Mr. Wilson noted: "I was drafted, but happy it was with the Navy...I was incredibly proud to be a sailor and enjoyed traveling the world."



Presentment of the Abraham Lincoln Pillars of Excellence Award to Governor Beshear.

OKVC maintained a Five-Star rating from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for all four facilities.

OKVC secured \$1,533,620.00 for the construction of four storage buildings for COVID19 and emergency response supplies.

OKVC also received the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs' Abraham Lincoln Pillar of Excellence Award for the Veterans Songwriting Project.

The Veterans Songwriting Project paired veterans at KDVA's four veterans' centers with a professional songwriter, Tamara Stewart, who turned their memories into songs. At the Carl M. Brashear Radcliff Veterans Center, the songs have developed into CDs entitled, "Lest We Forget Radcliff Veterans Center: Songs of American Stories" and "Lest We Forget II", as well as live concerts featuring the veterans and musicians. To see videos about the RVC veterans' stories and/or to purchase CDs, visit: <https://www.lestweforgetrvc.com/>.

Songwriter Tamara Stewart performing veterans' songs from the CD, "Lest We Forget RVC".



## Office of Kentucky Veterans Centers Goals for FY23

- Fill staffing vacancies to increase access to care.
- Gain legislative support for competitive wages.
- Restructure facilities to increase private rooms for quality of life and enhanced infection control.
- Begin construction of the new 60-bed facility in Bowling Green.
- Maintain CMS Five-Star rating.
- Continue development of in-house mental/behavioral health program.



## Contacting the Office of Kentucky Veterans Centers

Mr. Mark Bowman ▪ U.S. Navy Veteran

Executive Director Office of Kentucky Veterans Centers ▪ OKVC

O: (502)782-5725 ▪ C: (859)553-9359 ▪ [Mark.Bowman@ky.gov](mailto:Mark.Bowman@ky.gov)

Website: <https://veterans.ky.gov/Veterans-Centers/Pages/default.aspx>

# OFFICE OF VETERAN LEGAL SERVICES

KDVA's Office of Veteran Legal Services (OVLS) was established pursuant to KRS 40.300(4) to address legal issues associated with KDVA's mission to assist Kentucky veterans and their families to pursue "all claims, privileges, rights, and other benefits which they may have under federal, state, or local laws." During FY22, the Honorable Tamara Reid-McIntosh assumed the role of Executive Director and Counsel for OVLS. She was appointed pursuant to KRS 12.050 and reports to Deputy Commissioner Lynice Thorpe-Noel.

During FY22, the Office of Veteran Legal Services revised its Standard Operating Procedures to ensure that the Office can more effectively serve veterans by serving as a repository of resources and information for veterans seeking legal services within the Commonwealth. As a result, OVLS undertakes the following legal services:

## Administrative Legal Services

OVLS advises KDVA's divisions and programs in the furtherance of its mission and represents KDVA before the Commonwealth's administrative boards and commissions. OVLS also provides legal support to the Veterans Program Trust Fund Board of Directors. As KDVA is an extension of the Governor's Office, OVLS's Counsel serves as Ethics Officer to ensure KDVA functions within the guidelines of the Executive Branch.



## Outside Legal Collaborations

OVLS does not directly represent veterans in state or federal legal claims. Instead, KDVA partners with Legal Aid societies in the Commonwealth to offer veterans low/no-cost legal assistance with civil matters (e.g., domestic relations, contracts, probate, etc.). Each region below represents different counties within the Commonwealth:

- **REGION 1:** Kentucky Legal Aid, 1700 Destiny Lane, Bowling Green, KY 42104 (270.782.1924 or 800.782.1924): <https://www.klaid.org/>.
- **REGION 2:** Legal Aid Society, 416 W. Muhammad Ali Boulevard, Suite 300, Louisville, KY 40202 (502.584.1254): <https://yourlegalaidsociety.org/>.
- **REGION 3:** Legal Aid of the Bluegrass, 104 E. 7th Street, Covington, KY 41011 (859.431.8200): <https://lablaw.org/home>.
- **REGION 4:** Appalachian Research and Defense Fund, 120 N. Front Avenue, Prestonsburg, KY 41653 (866.277.5733): <https://www.ardfky.org/>.

## Noteworthy Accomplishments for FY22

During FY22, OVLS finalized over 200 service contracts for staffing and services for OKVC. OVLS drafted and mediated the terms of service contracts covering KDVA's seven VSO partnerships to ensure consistency concerning terms, expectations, and deliverables. OVLS also drafted and/or negotiated MOUs for academic practicum arrangements between KDVA and university programs within the Commonwealth.



Contract review with representatives from the American Legion, VFW, and DAV.



Judge Shumate presiding over Hardin County's Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) Graduation in May 2022.

OVLS reengaged with the Commonwealth's Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) programs after hiatuses caused by the COVID19 pandemic. Two VTC graduations were held during FY22, in Hardin County and Jefferson County. Approximately fifteen veterans completed the programs.

Presently, there are five VTC programs throughout the Commonwealth available to Kentucky veterans who have criminal infractions, provided they 'qualify' for the program. To determine eligibility, visit:

- [Kentucky Court of Justice: Veteran Treatment Court](#)

OVLS negotiated a partnership with the [National Veterans Legal Services Program \(NVLSP\)](#) to provide veterans with no-cost legal assistance with more sophisticated federal VA compensation and pension benefits claims:

- Appeals: Board of Veteran Appeals (BVA) and the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims (CAVC) in Washington D.C.
- Military Service Record Upgrades ([Lawyers Serving Warriors® \(LSW\) Program](#)).

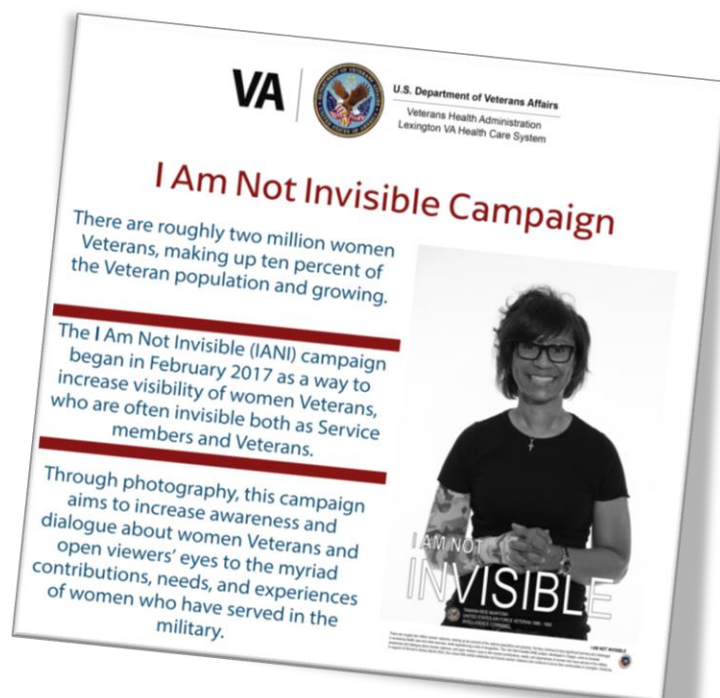
NVLSP also offers a virtual veteran's law training platform, which KDVA will utilize to train its Benefits Representatives and VSOs.



OVLS also drafted and finalized a significant MOA with the Kentucky National Guard Memorial Fund, Inc. to renovate and rededicate the Kentucky Medal of Honor Memorial and Plaza on the campus of Freedom's Foundation in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. The Memorial is due to be completed not later than 30 June 2023.

In addition to providing legal support for KDVA departments and programs, OVLS supported several KDVA sponsored events, to include:

- Attended the Run for the Wall ride through Kentucky (May 2022).
- Attended three of six Interstate Information Exchange Initiative events (September 2021 through June 2022).
- Served as Moderator for KDVA's Women Veterans Conference (June 2022).
- Attended Kentucky's All-Female Veterans Honor Flight (June 2022).
- Participated in U.S. VA's "I Am Not Invisible" Campaign (June 2022).



Counsel for OVLS was selected to serve as a spokesperson for the "I Am Not Invisible" Campaign.

## Office of Veteran Legal Services Goals for FY23

- Continue promoting the VTC programs throughout the Commonwealth of Kentucky.
- Serve as POC for the Governor's Challenge on preventing veterans' suicide in Kentucky.
- Draft and submit necessary veteran-friendly statutory and regulatory legislative modifications for FY23.
- Continue to aid Kentucky veterans as they seek legal services throughout the Commonwealth.
- Continue KDVA's Continuing Legal Education (CLE) training module: "Veteran's Law in the Commonwealth", to better serve Kentucky veterans' legal needs. The course will be presented to the Kentucky Bar Association (KBA) for approval in FY23.



## Contacting the Office of Veteran Legal Services

Ms. Tamara Reid-McIntosh, JD, PhD ▪ U.S. Air Force Veteran  
Executive Director & Counsel ▪ OVLS

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Website: <https://veterans.ky.gov/Pages/Legal-Resources.aspx>

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**The Department of Veterans Affairs shall manage the Veterans' Program Trust Fund established by KRS 40.460 by hosting all Board meetings, providing logistical support, recording the minutes of each meeting, and authorizing expenditures once the Board has approved a request for funds.**

**KRS 40.310(7)**

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Image of Radcliff Veterans Center with a Rainbow 2021.

# VETERANS PROGRAM TRUST FUND

The Veterans Program Trust Fund (VPTF) was established as part of the Kentucky Vietnam Veterans' Bonus Act on December 23, 1988. The purpose of the VPTF is to direct funding to projects and programs that aid Kentucky's veterans. KRS 40.460(2)(b), KRS 40.310(7), and 201 KAR 37:010 outline assembly and population requirements for the Trust Fund Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors must consist of eleven members appointed by the Governor, representing the organizations detailed below:

POSITION	REPRESENTATIVE	APPOINTED	TERM EXPIRES
The Commissioner	Whitney Allen	04 August 2021	NA
The Commissioner's KDVA Designee	Lynice Thorpe-Noel	04 August 2021	NA
Governor's Advisory Board for Veterans' Affairs	Richard Eisert	16 July 2020	NA
Joint Executive Council of Veterans Organizations of Kentucky	David C. Rummler	16 July 2020	15 July 2023
American Legion, Kentucky	Timothy Martinez	04 October 2019	15 July 2022
Veterans of Foreign Wars	Carl J. Kaelin	16 July 2020	15 July 2023
Disabled American Veterans	Dave C. Jarrett	04 October 2019	15 July 2022
American Veterans	Terrance R. Noel	16 July 2020	15 July 2023
Kentucky National Guard	Col. Fredrick Bates	04 October 2019	15 July 2022
At-large Member	Carla A. Raiser	08 July 2021	15 July 2023
At-large Member	Shontelle Adams (VACANT)	16 July 2020	Resigned during FY22

## VPTF's Financial Impact

Funding sources include dollars generated by taxpayers who receive an income tax refund and who contribute all or a portion of that refund to the Trust Fund through the tax check-off on their state income tax form. The Trust Fund also receives a \$5.00 fee that is included in the price of an initial or the renewal of a veterans' license plate. The Trust Fund also graciously accepts tax-deductible contributions from individuals, groups, or corporations. This FY22 update outlines the amounts received from each of these sources.

The Trust Fund began the year with a balance of **\$564,201.58**. Expenditures during FY22 totaled **\$524,094.40**. The fiscal year ended with a fund balance, less obligations of **\$659,482.36** as shown in the financial report on page 41.



## STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE FOR FY22

<b>REVENUE</b>	
• Veteran's Plate Sales	\$551,293.17
• Donations from Taxes	\$14,747.00
• Miscellaneous Donations	\$18,545.00
• Event Proceeds	\$905.00
• Refund from PY Expenditures	\$33,000.00
• Interest Income	\$885.01
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$619,375.18</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	
• External Program Grants	(\$398,256.40)
• Interagency Program Grants	(\$115,905.00)
• Program Administration	(\$9,933.00)
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>(\$524,094.40)</b>
Excess Revenues over Expenditures	\$95,280.78
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$95,280.78
<b>FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING</b>	<b>\$564,201.58</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE, ENDING</b>	<b>\$659,482.36</b>

### A Year in Review: FY22

During this reporting period, the VPTF obligated funds for 25 worthy projects that benefited the Commonwealth's veteran population. The Trust Fund Board of Directors also approved additional modifications to the application in conjunction with KDVA's website updates. Application enhancements, which have continued since FY20, have significantly improved the quality of grant proposals and the effectiveness of Trust Fund expenditures.

### FY22 Meeting Minutes at a Glance

The remaining pages of the KDVA FY22 Annual Report are dedicated to highlighting the scope of projects undertaken and/or supported by funds obligated and dispersed by the VPTF during FY22. The Board of Directors convened four times during FY22: 22 September 2021, 08 December 2021, 16 March 2022, and 06 June 2022. For each meeting, the organization, funding request, purpose, and award amounts are outlined:

**KENTUCKY VETERANS PROGRAM TRUST FUND  
BOARD MEETING 22 SEPTEMBER 2021**

**TRUST FUND APPLICANTS AND OUTCOMES**

**ORGANIZATION:** VFW Post 3769

**REQUEST:** \$12,300 to complete needed improvements to Pikeville Veterans Memorial Park.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$12,300.

- Motion made by Carl Kaelin (VFW) and seconded by David Rummler (JECVO).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

**ORGANIZATION:** VFW Post 12175

**REQUEST:** \$10,000 to complete the Veterans Memorial Park.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$12,000 with \$2,000 to be used toward solar lights to light the park.

- Motion made by Carl Kaelin (VFW) and seconded by David Rummler (JECVO).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

**ORGANIZATION:** Active Heroes

**REQUEST:** \$14,854 to support cost of materials and camping, along with activities for the Veterans Family Getaway Weekend in the fall of 2021.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$14,854.

- Motion made by Carla Raisler (At-Large) and seconded by Carl Kaelin (VFW).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

**ORGANIZATION:** HBOT4KYVETS Inc.

**REQUEST:** \$30,000 to continue with research and Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy for veterans with TBI or PTSD.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$8,000.

- Motion made by Carla Raisler (At-Large) and seconded by Dave Jarrett (DAV).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.



Presentment of KDVA's donation to VFW Post 3769 for modification to the Veterans Memorial Park.

**ORGANIZATION:** Homeless Veterans Trust Fund

**REQUEST:** \$60,000 to support to provide emergency financial assistance for Veterans and their families who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$60,000.

- Motion made by David Rummler (JECVO) and seconded by SFC Terrance Noel (AMVETS).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

**ORGANIZATION:** Lady Veterans Connect

**REQUEST:** \$24,562 to provide resources and classes for women veterans.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$7,812.

- Motion made by Carla Raisler (At-Large) and seconded by Terrance Noel (AMVETS).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

**KENTUCKY VETERANS PROGRAM TRUST FUND  
BOARD MEETING 08 DECEMBER 2021**

**TRUST FUND APPLICANTS AND OUTCOMES**

**ORGANIZATION: POW/MIA Flag Guard**

**REQUEST:** \$2,700 to recognize the recipients at a ceremony for their dedication to being accountable for Kentucky Veterans who are POW's or MIA.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$2,700.

- Motion made by Dave Jarrett (DAV) and seconded by David Rummler (JECVO).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

**ORGANIZATION: Honor Flight Kentucky**

**REQUEST:** \$70,000 for an all-women honor flight in the spring of 2022.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$60,000 (with stipulations).

- Motion made by Carl Kaelin (VFW) and seconded by Dave Jarrett (DAV).
- Amended motion made by David Rummler (JECVO) and seconded by SFC Terrance Noel (AMVETS).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.



Kentucky's First All-Female Honor Flight to Washington D.C. on June 11, 2022, to honor the service and sacrifice of the Commonwealth's women veterans.

**ORGANIZATION: Warrior Battalion Inc.**

**REQUEST:** \$10,000 to fund a mobile office for the organization.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board denied the request due to lack of direct nexus between the Board's primary objective and the creation of a mobile office.

- Motion made by Carl Kaelin (VFW) and seconded by David Rummler (JECVO).
- Motion unanimously carried.

**ORGANIZATION: Honor Flight Bluegrass**

**REQUEST:** \$19,000 to provide a WWII B25 Bomber Honor Flight.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$19,000.

- Motion made by Carl Kaelin (VFW) and seconded by David Rummler (JECVO).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

**ORGANIZATION: Save a Warrior**

**REQUEST:** \$17,500 to help support five of Kentucky's heroes in crises and help them live a life free of suicidal ideations.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board denied the request due to lack of clarity concerning the organization's stated objectives and the clear description of how the requested funds would be utilized.

- Motion made by Dave Jarrett (DAV) and seconded by Carl Kaelin (VFW).
- Motion unanimously carried.

**ORGANIZATION: National Association for Black Veterans (Louisville, Kentucky Chapter)**

**REQUEST:** \$25,000 to support restoration for veteran graves in Greenwood Cemetery.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$25,000.

- Motion made by Carl Kaelin (VFW) and seconded by David Rummler (JECVO).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

**ORGANIZATION:** Active Heroes

**REQUEST:** \$20,800 to help support the Equine Assisted Therapy Services, along with military members and their families who need additional support.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$20,800.

- Motion made by Carl Kaelin (VFW) and seconded by David Rummler (JECVO).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

**ORGANIZATION:** Livingston County Fiscal Court

**REQUEST:** \$1,500 for POW/MIA Chair purchases and installation.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$1,500.

- Motion made by made by David Rummler (JECVO) and seconded by Carl Kaelin (VFW).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

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KENTUCKY VETERANS PROGRAM TRUST FUND BOARD MEETING 16 MARCH 2022	TRUST FUND APPLICANTS AND OUTCOMES
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**ORGANIZATION:** KY Veterans Hall of Fame

**REQUEST:** \$25,000 to honor distinguished veterans in the Commonwealth .

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$25,000.

- Motion made by Colonel Fred Bates (KYNG) and seconded by David Rummler (JECVO).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

**ORGANIZATION:** National Association for Black Veterans (NABVETS)

**REQUEST:** \$259,000 to provide veterans transportation in Oldham, Carroll, Gallatin, Henry, Owen, and Trimble Counties.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** No award granted; NABVETS withdrew its application to be tabled for later date.

**ORGANIZATION:** KDVA-Office of Kentucky Veterans Services

**REQUEST:** \$3,000 to create replicas of the Kentucky Medal for Freedom plaques to be displayed in the State Capitol building in Frankfort, Kentucky.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$3,000.

- Motion made by Carl Kaelin (VFW) and seconded by Colonel Fred Bates (KYNG).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

**ORGANIZATION:** Homeless Veterans Trust Fund

**REQUEST:** \$55,000 to support to provide emergency financial assistance for veterans and their families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$55,000.

- Motion made by Carl Kaelin (VFW) and seconded by David Rummler (JECVO).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

**ORGANIZATION:** Kentucky Opera

**REQUEST:** \$20,000 to assist in putting on a play/opera called "An American Dream".

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$20,000 with a stipulation that the funds shall be used for free entry tickets for veterans, veterans' families, and Gold Star families.

- Motion made by David Rummler (JECVO) and seconded by Colonel Fred Bates (KYNG).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.



"An American Dream" appeared at the Kentucky Opera in Louisville from April 9-11, 2022.

**ORGANIZATION:** Camp Brown Bear

**REQUEST:** \$50,000 for an emergency response vehicle to help transport injured veterans, move equipment, and help veterans with limited mobility while at the Camp.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$15,000.

- Motion made by Carl Kaelin (VFW) and seconded by Colonel Fred Bates (KYNG).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

**ORGANIZATION:** Thurston Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution

**REQUEST:** \$25,000 to replace Color Guard equipment.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$15,000.

- Motion made for \$10,000 by Colonel Fred Bates (KYNG) and seconded by David Rummmler (JECVO).
- Motion amended from \$10,000 to \$15,000 by Rick Eisert (Governor's Advisory Board) and seconded by David Rummmler (JECVO).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

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**KENTUCKY VETERANS PROGRAM TRUST FUND  
BOARD MEETING 06 JUNE 2022**

**TRUST FUND APPLICANTS AND OUTCOMES**

**ORGANIZATION:** Bowman Field Foundation

**REQUEST:** \$30,000 to promote a collaborative event that salutes veterans of all US Conflicts from WWI-Afghanistan.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$25,000.

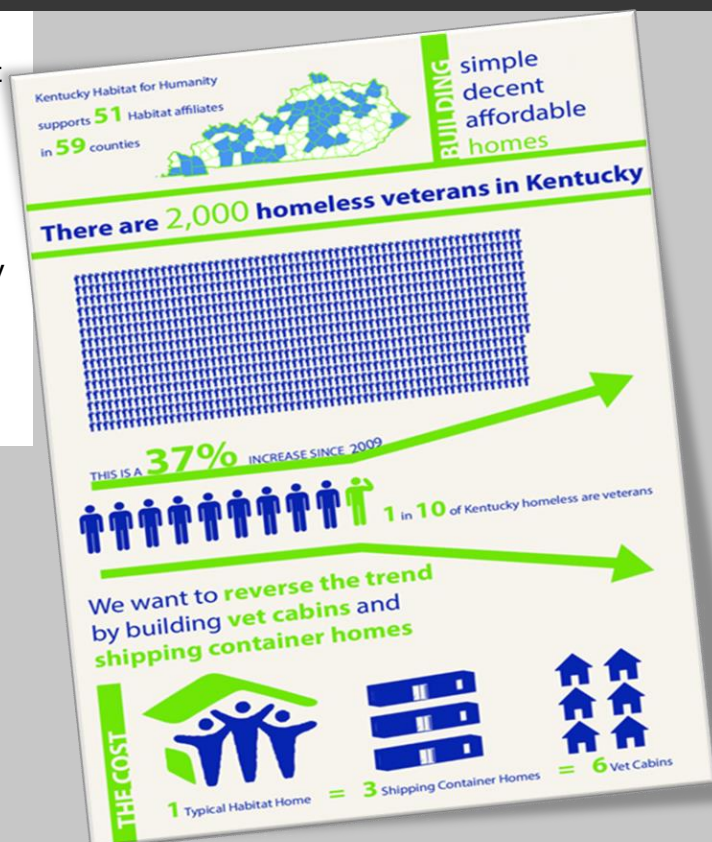
- Motion made by Rick Eisert (Governor's Advisory Board) and seconded by Colonel Fred Bates (KYNG).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

**ORGANIZATION:** Kentucky Habitat for Humanity

**REQUEST:** \$50,000 to support the program, Hammers for Heroes.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$75,000 specific to Kentucky Veterans.

- Motion made for \$10,000 by Colonel Fred Bates (KYNG) and seconded by Carl Kaelin (VFW).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.



KDVA supporting Hammers for Heroes with Habitat for Humanity: <http://www.razoo.com/story/Kentucky-Habitat-For-Humanity>.  
Permission to use granted.

**ORGANIZATION:** Green River VFW Post 5704

**REQUEST:** \$36,860.65 to restore the Liberty-Casey County WWI Doughboy Monument.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$36,860.65.

- Motion made by Carl Kaelin (VFW) and seconded by Colonel Fred Bates (KYNG).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

**ORGANIZATION:** National Association for Black Veterans (NABVETS)

**REQUEST:** \$18,000 for the "Week of Valor" in Fayette County.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$18,000.

- Motion made by Colonel Fred Bates (KYNG) and seconded by Rick Eisert (Governor's Advisory Board).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.



**ORGANIZATION:** Lady Veterans Connect

**REQUEST:** \$28,000 to engage women veterans, reserves, National Guard, and active duty with available information, resources, and programs.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board denied the request based on the co-mingling of events that makes it unclear whether women veterans in the Commonwealth are receiving the full benefit at no cost.

- Motion made by Colonel Fred Bates (KYNG) and seconded by Carl Kaelin (VFW).
- Motion unanimously carried.

**ORGANIZATION:** Homeless Veterans Trust Fund

**REQUEST:** \$6,100 for a 5K Run-Walk-Stroll to bring awareness to the increasing risk of veteran homelessness and financial instability in low-income veterans.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$7,500.

- Motion made by Carl Kaelin (VFW) and seconded by COL Fred Bates (KYNG).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

**ORGANIZATION:** HorseSensing

**REQUEST:** \$8,900 to assist women veterans with comfortable housing, food, and other necessities while they attend the 90-day HS Grooming Education, Certification, and Job Placement Program.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$8,900.

- Motion made by Carl Kaelin (VFW) and seconded by Colonel Fred Bates (KYNG).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

KDVA's KyVETS Administrator Monica Acob addressing women veterans attending the HorseSensing program.

**ORGANIZATION:** Louisville Armed Forces Committee

**REQUEST:** \$10,000 for the Louisville Armed Forces Day Dinner is held to celebrate and honor sacrifices of soldiers who fought in World War I.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board suggested resubmitting for the 2023 Dinner to avoid a retroactive payment, which is against the Board's standard operating procedures.

**ORGANIZATION:** Active Heroes

**REQUEST:** \$41,600 to support the Equine Assisted Therapy Services, as well as military members and their families who need additional support.

**BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation for 10 people (no funds enunciated).

- Motion made by Carl Kaelin (VFW) and seconded by Dave Jarrett (DAV).
- The motion was amended to include an amount of \$7,800.
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

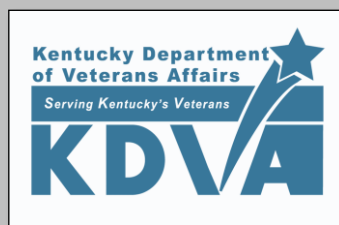
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If you are an agency or organization of the Commonwealth seeking to fund a program and/or project that benefits Kentucky veterans, please visit:  
<https://veterans.ky.gov/veterans-trust-fund/Pages/default.aspx>  
to apply for funding from the Veterans Program Trust Fund (VPTF).

**“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)



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**KDVA's FY22 Annual Report was designed and assembled by  
the Executive Director for the Office of Veterans Legal Services (OVLS).**