



Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs

Joint Executive Council for Veterans Organizations

3 April 2019

Update presented by
Brig Gen (Ret) Benjamin F. Adams, III
Commissioner



Agenda



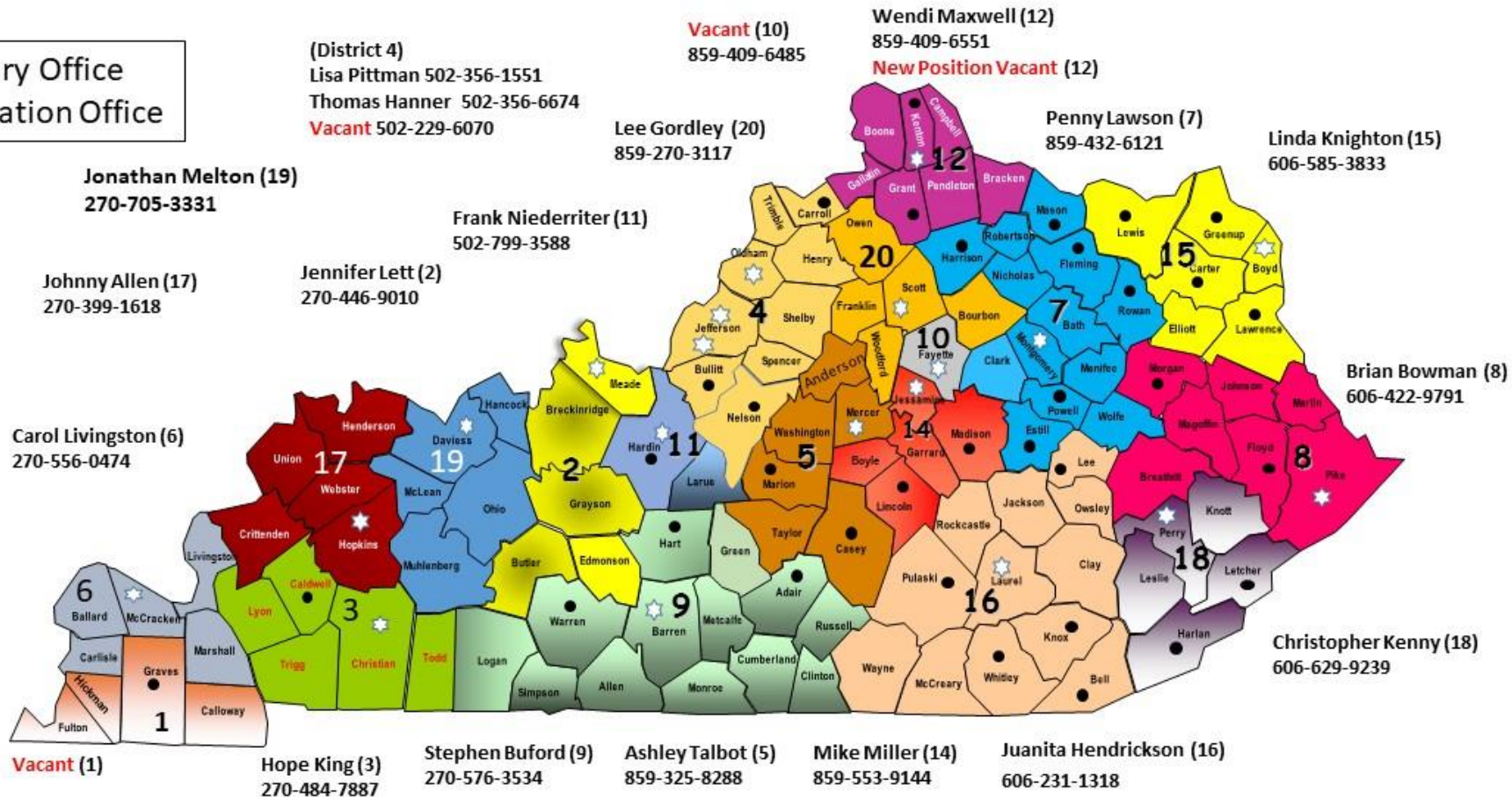
- Veterans Benefits Branch/Field Operations
- State Veteran Centers (Nursing Homes)
- State Veteran Cemeteries
- Homeless Veterans Program
- Women Veterans Program
- KyVETS
- Veterans Program Trust Fund
- Legislative Update
- Events & News

Benefits Branch

22 Field Representatives in 19 Districts



- ☆ Primary Office
- Outstation Office



Veteran Centers

As of 1 April 2019



Thomson-Hood Veterans Center, Wilmore, KY
156/285, 55%



Western Kentucky Veterans Center, Hanson, KY
88/156, 56%



Radcliff Veterans Center, Radcliff, KY
58/120 48%



Eastern Kentucky Veterans Center, Hazard, KY
105/120 88%

Veterans Cemeteries

As of 1 April 2019



Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West



Opened March 1, 2004

Interments:

Veterans	3,167
Dependents	<u>1,168</u>
Total	4,335
Cremated	1,265

Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Central



Opened June 1, 2007

Interments:

Veterans	5,016
Dependents	<u>1,234</u>
Total	6,250
Cremated	1,874

Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North



Opened August 22, 2008

Interments:

Veterans	1,415
Dependents	<u>311</u>
Total	1,726
Cremated	665



Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North East



Opened October 1, 2010

Interments:

Veterans	849
Dependents	<u>187</u>
Total	1,037
Cremated	308

Kentucky Veterans Cemetery South East



Opened May 1, 2018

Interments:

Veterans	19
Dependents	<u>4</u>
Total	23
Cremated	7

Total : 13,371



Homeless Veterans Program



- Operation Victory renovation of a house in Louisville for a homeless veteran. Dedication set for Monday, 22 April 2019.
- Will begin renovation of the next Operation Victory home in May.
- Accepting applications from homeless veterans for the next 4 homes through Operation Victory.
- Continuing to provide financial assistance for veterans to prevent homelessness or help them become housed.
- Homeless Veteran Program Coordinator is Eileen Ward, (502) 564-9203, email eileen.ward@ky.gov



Homeless Veterans Program

Financial Assistance



FY 2018 (1 Jul 17-30 Jun 18)

Total assistance paid out	\$74,162.61
Avg. per veteran	\$219.00
Veterans assisted with Housing	208
Veterans assisted with Utilities	<u>130</u>
Total veterans assisted	338

FY 2019 (1 Jul 18 to Present)

Total assistance paid out	\$42,664.10
Avg. per veteran	\$249.50
Veterans assisted with housing	94
Veterans assisted with Utilities	<u>77</u>
Total veterans assisted	171



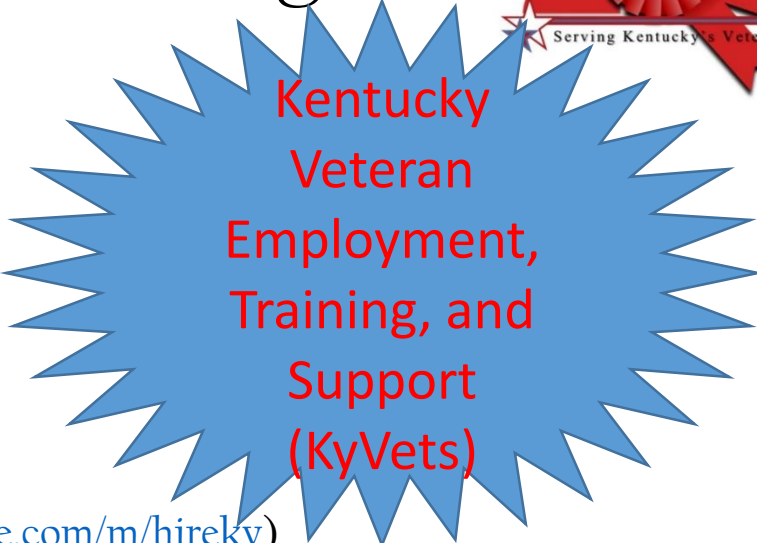
Women Veterans Program



- Provided resources to 9 women veterans seeking mental health treatment
- Email address
women.veterans@ky.gov
- Operation Victory house dedication
 - Date: 22 April 2019
 - Location: Teamsters Local Union 89
3813 Taylor Blvd
Louisville, KY
- Women Veterans UNITE 2019 conference.
 - Date: August 10th (tentatively)
 - Location: Louisville, KY

KyVets Veteran Services:

- Resume review and update
- Referral to employers
- Referral to other resources
- Education & Training
- KireKy website & App (<https://login.bfacmobile.com/m/hireky>)



Kentucky
Veteran
Employment,
Training, and
Support
(KyVets)

KyVets Employer Services:

- Education on why hiring veterans is good business
- Matching veterans skills and experience to employer needs
- Free advertisement of positions
- Top talent referrals
- HireKy website & App (<https://login.bfacmobile.com/m/hireky>)



New KyVETS Program Coordinator is April Brown
(502) 564-9203, email april.brown@ky.gov



Veterans Program Trust Fund



13 March 2019 Meeting

- 10 Grant Applicants
- 10 Grants Approved

Total Obligated \$186,535.00

Next Meeting 12 June 2019

- Limited to 10 Grant Applicants
- Suspense for grant applications is 13 May 2019



Legislative Update



- **Property Tax Exemption for Veteran Service Organizations**
 - HB 153: The version that KDVA drafted was sent to A & R where it DIED
 - ACTION NEEDED: VSOs need to contact their legislators.
 - KDVA sent the “preferred” bill draft to DJ Johnson for next session
- **Fee Free License Plate for 100% Disabled Veterans**
 - HB 277: Extends free plate to those NOT 100% but paid at 100% rate. Died in Transportation Committee.
 - ACTION NEEDED: Establish key contacts in Transportation Committee
- **Exempt 100% of a Veteran’s Military Pension from State Income Tax**
 - HB 66, HB 58, and HB 15: All died in A & R.
 - ACTION NEEDED: FULL COURT PRESS REP. MOORE AND CONTACTS IN A & R.
- **Nurse Student Load Repayment Program**
 - HB 296: Signed by Governor Bevin.
 - Next Session: ABR to fund program.
 - Effective Date: 1 January 2020
 - Anticipated first payout: 2021 after one year of satisfactory performance
- **Clarify the Veterans Preference Law to Include Veteran Spouses**
 - HB 338: Signed by the Governor.
- **Amend Current State and Local Rescue Law to Include Green Alerts**
 - SB 55: Signed by the Governor.



Events & News

(April)



- 6 Apr 19: American Gold Star Mothers Annual Meeting, Owensboro, KY
- 11 Apr 19: Military Honors Ceremony, Lexington, KY
- 12-13 Apr 19: American Legion Ky Dept Spring Conference, Erlanger, KY
- 14 Apr 19: Military Day at The Races Presented by Marathon, Keeneland, Lexington, KY
- 16 Apr 19: WE Day Community for Kentucky Middle Schools, Louisville, KY
- 18 Apr 19: Governor's Advisory Board Meeting, Frankfort, KY
- 24 Apr 19: NKY Military-Veteran Coalition Gathering, Burlington, KY
- 27 Apr 19: Honor Flight, Lexington, KY
- 28 Apr 19: Military Children's Appreciation Day, Louisville, KY



Events & News

(May)



- 9 May 19: Spring Veterans Graduation & Recognition Ceremony, Richmond, KY
- 16 May 19: VRUCK Meeting, Lexington, KY
- 17 May 19: 100th Louisville Armed Forces Dinner, Louisville, KY
- 18 May 19: Patriot Guard Flags Ride For USA Cares, Wickliffe, KY
- 18 May 19: Cub Scouts Troop 168 Veteran Honors Dinner, Olive Hill, KY
- 27 May 19: Memorial Day Ceremony, Kentucky National Guard Memorial, Frankfort, KY
- 28 May 19: Honor Flight Bluegrass, Louisville, KY



Questions?