

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 | Juan A.Renaud | 06 June 2023 | NA |
| Governor's Advisory Board for Veterans' Affairs | Dave Best | 22 May 2023 | NA |
| Joint Executive Council of Veterans Organizations of Kentucky | David Rummier | 16 July 2020 | 15 July 2023 |
| American Legion, Kentucky | Vacant | | |
| 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 | Vacant | | |
| Kentucky National Guard | LTC Carla A. Raisler | 08 July 2021 | 15 July 2023 |
| At-large Member | Amy McGrath | 11 November 2022 | 10 November 2025 |
| At-large Member | Timothy Martinez | 8 July 2021 | 15 July 2023 |

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 FY23 update outlines the amounts received from each of these sources.

The Trust Fund began the year with a balance of \$936,242.29. Expenditures during FY24 totaled \$910,329.96. The fiscal year ended with a fund balance, less obligations of \$676,650.12.

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE FOR FY24

Revenues:

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Veteran's Plate Sales (R404) | 515,813.31 |
| Donations from Taxes (R809) | 13,529.00 |
| KYTC Web Based Renewal Donations (R801) | 64,930.35 |
| Miscellaneous Donations (R802) | 4,145.00 |
| Refund of a Prior Year Expenditure (R881) | 4,555.16 |
| Return of Internal Unused Grant Funds (N163) | 2,352.11 |
| Interest Income (R771) | 45,412.86 |
| Total Revenues | 650,737.79 |

Expenditures:

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Program Grants (E399) | 875,165.96 |
| Program Grants (T463,E257) | 25,000.00 |
| Program Administration (E142) | 10,164.00 |
| Total Expenditures | 910,329.96 |

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Excess Revenues over Expenditures | (259,592.17) |
|--|---------------------|

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Net Change in Fund Balance | (259,592.17) |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Fund Balance, Beginning | 936,242.29 |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Fund Balance, Ending | 676,650.12 |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|

A Year in Review: FY24

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.

FY24 Meeting Minutes at a Glance

The remaining pages of the KDVA FY24 Annual Report are dedicated to highlighting the scope of projects undertaken and/or supported by funds obligated and dispersed by the VPTF during FY24. The Board of Directors convened four times during FY24: 13 September 2023, 13

December 2023, 20 March 2024, and 12 June 2024. For each meeting, the organization, funding request, purpose, and award amounts are outlined:

KENTUCKY VETERANS PROGRAM TRUST FUND BOARD MEETING 13 SEPTEMBER 2023

TRUST FUND APPLICANTS AND OUTCOMES

ORGANIZATION: #n nfa; ã# } i

REQUEST: \$28,416 to support the expansion of their equine mentoring program in Kentucky.

BOARD'S AWARD: The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$28,416.

- Motion made by Carl Kaelin (VFW) and seconded by Juan Renaud (KDVA).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

ORGANIZATION: KY Habitat for Humanity

REQUEST: \$80,000 to support the Hammers for Heroes program to provide home repairs for KY Vets.

BOARD'S AWARD: The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$90,000.

- Motion made by Dave Jarrett (DAV) and seconded by Carl Kaelin (VFW). A motion to amend by Tim Martinez to raise to \$90K and second by Juan Renaud (KDVA).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.



ORGANIZATION: KY National Guard Memorial Fund, Inc.

REQUEST: \$20,090 to preserve and repair the National Guard Memorial.

BOARD'S AWARD: The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$20,090.

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

ORGANIZATION: #Visual Presentations, Inc.

REQUEST: \$10,000 to honor and celebrate the veteran community with a parade event.

- **BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve \$10,000 pending detailed budget submission.
- Motion made by Juan Renaud (KDVA) and seconded by David Rummler (JECVO).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

ORGANIZATION: #USA Cares#

REQUEST: \$100,000 to provide emergency financial assistance for the Kentucky Army and Air National Guard units who experience natural disasters.

BOARD'S AWARD: The Board voted to approve an obligation of **\$10,000** pending detailed budget submission.#

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



**KENTUCKY VETERANS PROGRAM TRUST FUND
BOARD MEETING 13 DECEMBER 2023**

TRUST FUND APPLICANTS AND OUTCOMES

ORGANIZATION: Bettina Rice

REQUEST: \$22,351 to build a monument honoring the men that served aboard the USS Hornet CV-12.

BOARD'S AWARD: The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$22,351.

- Motion made by David Best (GAB) and seconded by Juan Renaud (KDVA).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

ORGANIZATION: Veteran's Walking Wounded Project, Inc. (VWWP)

REQUEST: \$17,715.00 to assist Veterans in Fayette County Veterans Drug Treatment Court (VTC).

BOARD'S AWARD: The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$250.

- Motion made by David Rummler (JECVO) and seconded by David Best (GAB).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

Operation Honor Corps request to purchase U.S. Branch Flags for placement at Patriot's Landing in Williamstown, KY.

ORGANIZATION: Veterans Rural Outreach KY, Inc.

REQUEST: \$29,655.00 to provide a truck for business services with stipulations of vehicle with under 50,000 miles and three quotes sent to KDVA.

BOARD'S AWARD: The Board voted to approve an obligation of up to \$45,000.

- Motion made by Carla Raisler (KYNG) and seconded by Juan Renaud (KDVA).
- Motion unanimously carried.

ORGANIZATION: Roll Call Foundation

REQUEST: \$10,000 to grow their equine assisted therapy program.

BOARD'S AWARD: The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$10,000.

- Motion made by David Best (GAB) and seconded by Carla Raisler (KYNG).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

ORGANIZATION: Dogs Helping Heroes

REQUEST: \$47,547.00 to raise funds for the care and training of 9 service animals that will be provided to veterans.

BOARD'S AWARD: The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$50,000 (with stipulation).

- Motion made by and seconded by digital vote.
- Motion unanimously carried.

ORGANIZATION: Morehead State University

REQUEST: \$6,000.00 to continue offering veteran affiliated students funds for books and supplies while in school.

BOARD'S AWARD: The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$6,000.

- Motion made by Carla Raisler (KYNG) and seconded by David Best (GAB).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

ORGANIZATION: Kentucky Veteran Business Alliance

REQUEST: \$50,000 to create an environment where veteran business is united in creating new business and increasing the job force.

BOARD'S AWARD: The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$17,340.00 as seed money for 5 veterans.

- Motion made by Carla Raisler (KYNG) and seconded by Tim Martinez (AL).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

**KENTUCKY VETERANS PROGRAM TRUST
FUND BOARD MEETING 20 MARCH 2024**

TRUST FUND APPLICANTS AND OUTCOMES

ORGANIZATION: Homeless Veterans Program (Interagency)

REQUEST: \$50,000 to prevent eviction and utility disconnection for veterans and their families.

BOARD'S AWARD: The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$50,000.

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

ORGANIZATION: Rowan County Veterans Foundation

REQUEST: \$500 to build a simulated "hooch" on the north wall of Vietnam room and display memorabilia.##

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

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

ORGANIZATION: Clark County Veterans Council, Inc.

REQUEST: \$100,000 to build a public monument to honor the sacrifices of 101 Clark County residents who gave their lives in World War II and Korea.

BOARD'S AWARD: The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$100,000.

- Motion made by David Best (GAB) and seconded by Juan Renaud (KDVA).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

ORGANIZATION: Honor Flight Bluegrass

REQUEST: \$105,000. \$80,000 to first fly up to 84 veterans and 84 guardians to Washing D.C. to visit the War Memorials built in their honor. Second, \$25,000 to fly WWII veterans in a WWII B-25 Bomber to various airports in KY.

BOARD'S AWARD: The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$105,000.

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

ORGANIZATION: Veterans Memorial Park of KY

REQUEST: \$30,192 to fund a monument that depicts the Spanish American and Philippine Wars.

BOARD'S AWARD: The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$30,192.

- Motion made by Tim Martinez (AL) and seconded by Dave Jarrett (DAV).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.



ORGANIZATION: Louisville Armed Forces Committee
REQUEST: \$5,000 to recognize and honor KY Veterans at the Louisville Armed Forces Day Dinner

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

- Motion made by David Best (GAB) to increase funding to \$7,500 and seconded by David Rummler (JECVO).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

ORGANIZATION: Lady Veterans Connect

REQUEST: \$14,746 to host a weekend for women veterans at Cumberland Falls State Park.

BOARD'S AWARD: The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$14,746.

- Motion made by Carla Raisler (KYNG) and seconded by Amy McGrath (At-Large).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

ORGANIZATION: Operation Odyssey Outdoors

REQUEST: \$10,000 to sponsor a trip to Florida for 20 wounded heroes..

- **BOARD'S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve \$10,000 with the stipulation that the funding only benefit KY Veterans.
- Motion made by Carla Raisler (KYNG) and seconded by Carl Kaelin (VFW).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

ORGANIZATION: KY Veterans Association

REQUEST: \$75,000 to fly KY Veterans to Washington DC to tour war memorials and lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

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

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

ORGANIZATION: Sun Valley Veterans Association

REQUEST: \$30,000 to recognize and honor KY Veterans in the KY Veterans Hall of Fame.

BOARD'S AWARD: The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$30,000.

- Motion made by Juan Renaud (KDVA) and seconded by David Rummler (JECVO).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

**KENTUCKY VETERANS PROGRAM TRUST FUND
BOARD MEETING 12 JUNE 2024**

TRUST FUND APPLICANTS AND OUTCOMES

ORGANIZATION: Project Healing Waters – Louisville Program

REQUEST: \$11,000 to provide the necessary equipment for veterans in the program to participate in fly fishing in the water. #

- **BOARD’S AWARD:** The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$11,000.
- Motion made by Juan Renaud (KDVA) and seconded by David Best (GAB).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

ORGANIZATION: Kentucky Wounded Heroes Inc.

REQUEST: \$28,083.33 to provide an opportunity for KY wounded veterans to travel and experience the extreme outdoors, while fellowshiping and reconnecting to nature.

BOARD’S AWARD: The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$28,083.33.

- Motion made for by Amy McGrath (At-Large) and seconded by Juan Renaud (KDVA).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

ORGANIZATION: Kentucky Minuteman Relief Fund

REQUEST: \$50,000 to provide financial grants to KY Army and Air National Guard members experiencing periods of financial distress during national disasters.

BOARD’S AWARD: The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$50,000.

- Motion made by David Best (Governor's Advisory Board/GAB) and seconded by Juan Renaud (KDVA).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

ORGANIZATION: National Association for Black Veterans (NABVETS)

REQUEST: \$22,500 to honor veterans and their families through a Veterans Day parade in Paris, KY.

BOARD’S AWARD: The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$22,500.

- Motion made by Juan Renaud (KDVA) and seconded by Carl Kaelin (VFW).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

ORGANIZATION: Heather Renee’ French Foundation for Veterans

REQUEST: \$15,000 to provide the 2024 Military Educational Display at the KY State Fair and pay tribute to Vietnam Veterans and their families.

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

- Motion made by Carl Kaelin (VFW) and seconded by David Best (GAB).
- Motion unanimously carried.

ORGANIZATION: Visual Presentations, Inc.

REQUEST: \$10,000 to honor our veteran community with a Veteran’s Day parade.

BOARD’S AWARD: The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$10,000.

- Motion made by Carl Kaelin (VFW) and seconded by Juan Renaud (KDVA).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

ORGANIZATION: Indigent Burial - Internal

REQUEST: \$25,000 to provide reimbursement for costs incurred burying an indigent veteran.

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

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

ORGANIZATION: Veterans Walking Wounded Project, Inc

REQUEST: \$15,000 to assist veterans in the Fayette County Veteran's Drug and Treatment Court program.

BOARD'S AWARD: The Board voted to approve an obligation of \$20,000.

- Motion made by David Best (GAB) to increase amount to \$20,000 and seconded by Amy McGrath (At-Large).
- Motion for approval unanimously carried.

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).