

WAUKESHA COUNTY

Department of Veterans' Services



Annual Report

2020

WAUKESHA COUNTY DIVISION OF VETERANS SERVICES

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

July 19, 2021

To the Honorable Board of Supervisors
Waukesha County, Wisconsin

The total number of veterans in Waukesha County as of September 30, 2020, per VA figures was 22,316. This does not include the number of dependents of veterans which, when added with the veteran population, can easily triple this figure. Per Wisconsin Dept. of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) data, the veteran population in Waukesha County is 86% male and 14% female. Demographically 50% are in the working ages of 18 to 64 years old.

In 2020 there were 6,889 phone calls, 1580 e-mails, and 1,466 client visits to the office. Due to COVID, the Staff predominantly worked from home $\frac{3}{4}$ of the year.

The degree of economic impact that veterans' programs have on our county may be revealed by the following totals of state and federal benefits paid to Waukesha County veterans and their dependents or survivors.

BENEFITS REPORTED BY FEDERAL & STATE AGENCIES

Veterans Administration (VA) payments for the last fiscal year are as follows:

VA Guaranteed Home Loans -1077 Loans	\$ 333,224,122
Medical Expenditures *	81,252,000
Compensation and Pension	73,954,000
Education Benefits	8,008,000
Insurance and Indemnities	2,177,000
Total Federal Benefits:	<u>\$ 498,614,122.</u>

* Medical expenditures are federal VA dollars expended to provide care for Waukesha County veterans at VA facilities.

Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) payments are as follows:

Property Tax Credit (597)	\$ 2,299,159
Education Grants (0)	-
Retraining Grants (0)	-
Subsistence Aid Grants/ANV (1)	1,088.13
Health Care Aid Grant (0)	-.
Total State Benefits:	<u>\$ 2,300,247.13.</u>

Additional educational benefits for the Wisconsin GI Bill are not reported by either the University of Wisconsin system or the Wisconsin Technical schools; however, we processed 122 successful applications for the WI GI Bill.

TOTAL FEDERAL AND STATE BENEFITS: **\$ 500,914,369.13.**
(Received by Waukesha County veterans and/or their Dependents)

WISCONSIN VETERAN'S HOMES

The numbers of veterans, spouses and/or widows/widowers from Waukesha County residing at the Wisconsin Veteran's Homes are: King – 1
Union Grove - 9

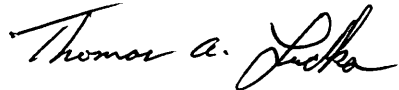
VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION

Due to the shutdown the Veterans Service Commission in has not met since October 2019.

No indigent burials were requested in 2020.

The Veterans Service Office is a very cost-effective operation of county government. The 2020 Budget of \$348,002, of which \$335,002 was from the tax levy, resulted in a return of \$500,914,369.13 in federal and state dollars to Waukesha County veterans and their dependents. This equates to \$1495 returned for every levy dollar invested.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas A. Ludka
Interim Veterans Service Officer

Notes: Federal Dollars are based on the FY 2020 Year (Oct 2019-Sept 2020) State Dollars are based on the 2020 Calendar year.

**WAUKESHA COUNTY RESIDENTS KIA
IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN**

- 1) **BROWN, SCOTT – US ARMY, SGT 33, BROOKFIELD, IRAQ, 5/18/2007**
- 2) **FROST, CHRISTOPHER, USAF, SSG, 24, VERNON, IRAQ, 3/3/2008**
- 3) **HIDALGO, DAREN – UA ARMY, 1LT, 24, DELAFIELD, AFGHANISTAN, 2/20/2011**
- 4) **HOWARD, MERIDETH, US ARMY, SFC, 52, WAUKESHA, AFGHANISTAN, 9/8/2006**
- 5) **MUELLER, CHRISTOPHER – CIA OPERATIVE, FORMER NAVY SEAL, 32, OCONOMOWOC, AFGHANISTAN, 10/25/2003**
- 6) **OPICKA, DEAN-USMC, LCPL, 29, WAUKESHA, IRAQ, 4/14/2008**
- 7) **SCHRAM, MATTHEW- US ARMY, MAJOR, 36, BROOKFIELD, IRAQ, 5/26/2003**
- 8) **WARNER, RICHARD-USMC, LCPL, 22, GENESEE, IRAQ, 12/13/2004**
- 9) **WARNS, ROBERT – USMC, CPL, 23, WAUKESHA, IRAQ, 11/8/2004**
- 10) **WITMER, MICHELLE – US ARMY, SPC, 20, NEW BERLIN, IRAQ, 4/9/2004**