

# WAUKESHA COUNTY

## Department of Veterans' Services



Annual Report

2019

## WAUKESHA COUNTY DIVISION OF VETERANS SERVICES

## ANNUAL REPORT 2019

August 28, 2020

To the Honorable Board of Supervisors  
Waukesha County, Wisconsin

The total number of veterans in Waukesha County as of September 30, 2019, per VA figures was 20,600. 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 93% male and 7% female. Only 38% are in the working ages of 18 to 64 years old.

In 2019, there were 8,522 phone calls (a 28% increase), 8,093 e-mails, and 3,218 client visits to the office. Fifty-nine appearances on behalf of veterans were made. The Milwaukee Vet Center had 881 client contacts in our office. Additionally, we started a partnership with the WI Dept. of Workforce Development to bring a Disabled Veteran Outreach Program specialist in once a week to assist disabled veterans with finding the right jobs. Lastly, our Guitars for Vets program graduated eight veterans, maintaining a 100% completion rate.

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	\$ 150,782,079
Medical Expenditures *	71,083,000
Compensation and Pension	68,947,000
Education Benefits	9,255,000
Insurance and Indemnities	2,863,000
<b>Total Federal Benefits:</b>	<b><u>\$ 302,930,079</u></b>

\* 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 (517)	\$ 2,030,548
Education Grants (0)	-
Retraining Grants (0)	-
Subsistence Aid Grants/ANV (1)	0
Health Care Aid Grant (0)	-
<b>Total State Benefits:</b>	<b>\$ <u>2,030,548</u></b>

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 150 successful applications for the WI GI Bill.

**TOTAL FEDERAL AND STATE BENEFITS: \$ 304,960,627**  
(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 - 12

#### **VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION**

The amount of expenditures by the Veterans Service Commission in 2019 was \$8,230 for Veterans Relief. Administrative expenditures for the Veterans Service Commissioners totaled \$785. The Commission met five times during the year. Total direct assistance to veterans was \$7,445.

No indigent burials were requested in 2019.

The Veterans Service Office is a very cost effective operation of county government. The 2019 Budget of \$340,218, of which \$310,512 was from the tax levy, resulted in a return of \$304,960,627 federal and state dollars to Waukesha County veterans and their dependents. This equates to over \$982 returned for every levy dollar invested.

Respectfully submitted,

John Gaidosh IV  
Veterans Service Officer