



# ALWAYS EVOLVING

THE FUTURE OF MINNESOTA VETERANS

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

# EVOLVING



## numbers

Achieved the **best MNSafe Rating** in 5 years, more than 2 points under the established target rate.

MDVA Veteran **hearings increased** nearly 3-fold in 2018.

**Residential Satisfaction Rating** at MDVA Veterans Homes were 26% higher than the national average.

MDVA's Benefits program **served 11% more Veterans, spouses and employers** in 2018 over 2017.

MDVA **Website visitors increased** more than 10%.

**Minnesota Military Radio expands** into 10 new markets.

Attendance at the MDVA **Women Veterans Conference increased by 4%**.

Little Falls Veterans Cemetery **passed the 500 burials** per year mark.

**MN GI Bill funds increased** nearly 13% for educational needs and 25% for employment assistance.

Minnesota's **Veteran unemployment rate remains below national average**.

**MDVA Partnerships grew by 25%**, adding more than a dozen key Veteran-centered organizations.

Grant funds and grant recipients **increased in 2018** fueled by SOT participation.

MDVA's Pharmacy **Medicare D reimbursements** topped over \$300,000 in 2018.

## programs

**Telehealth** relationship with the VA expands to include wheelchair and speech therapy evaluations.

To unify **domiciliary care services, Minneapolis and Hastings merged programs**, available at two MDVA Veterans Home sites.

2018 marked the **successful launch of the Minnesota GI Bill** License and Certification provisions.

With a focus on reducing the use of medications, **antibiotic stewardship programs** were launched in Fergus Falls, Luverne and Silver Bay.

Developed **Living with Dementia Workshops** for families of Residents in Silver Bay.

Added **recreational and vocational programs** that appeal to younger generation Veterans.

**Healthy Choices** program created for MDVA's domiciliary care facilities.

Served over 6,700 MN Veterans through the **LinkVet program** in 2018.

Minneapolis Veterans Home campus **introduced Toddler Time**, a community participation program.

**Converted all MDVA burial records** to a digitized format.

Developed a **plain language emergency announcement system**.

**Updated the emergency plan**, complying with state and federal CMS requirements.

## noted

*TPT* released a **documentary** on the history and Residents of the Minneapolis Veterans Home campus.

*US News & World Report* rate MDVA's Luverne facility one of the **Best Nursing Homes**.

Received the prestigious USDVA's **Abraham Lincoln Pillars of Excellence Award**.

Received the **Outstanding Member Award** from the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans.

Minneapolis Home received two **Quality Improvement Awards** for *This Life Story* project.

MDVA **Communications recognized** for the *Preston Cemetery video* and *2017 Annual Report*.

## facilities

Opened a new, state-of-the-art **100 bed skilled care facility** on the Minneapolis Home campus, completing a 10 year, three-phase remodeling project.

Opened the nation's first Veterans Home **dental care facility**.

**Improved triage services** through the redesign of the Domiciliary Primary Care Clinic.

MDVA's **centralized pharmacy** now serves all five Homes, filling over 100,000 prescriptions per year.

All MDVA Veterans Homes achieved **CMS Certification** in 2018.

\$9 million approved by the Legislature in 2018 for the **preservation and improvement** of existing MDVA facilities.

\$32 million capital investment approved in 2018 for the **addition of three new Veteran facilities** to the Bemidji, Preston and Montevideo regions.

## staff

Expanded **staff training** to include topics as respecting choices, sexual harassment and cyber security.

**Dedicated and experienced**, 35% of MDVA's staff in 2018 reached 10 or more years of service to Veterans.

**Buddies Forever Dementia program** expands to both the Luverne and Silver Bay Homes.

CMS awarded the staff at the Luverne and Silver Bay Homes with a **5-STAR Overall Staff** rating.

Luverne received a CMS **5-STAR Nursing Staff** rating.

MDVA established a partnership with St. Catherine University, affording **health care learning opportunities** for students to serve Veterans.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM

JULY 1, 2017 TO  
JUNE 30, 2018

# 2018



A CONVERSATION WITH  
**COMMISSIONER LARRY SHELLITO**

“The best way to predict your future is to create it.”

A quote from one of my favorite voices in leadership, Peter Drucker, this aptly describes the evolution of the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs. I say this with great pride, as we reflect on the accomplishments achieved by my incredible staff in 2018.

This was a year of changes, hard work and movement. It is a year that ended with a renewed sense of mission, and strong forward momentum. It was a year of endings, with the promise of new beginnings.

2018 marks the eighth year I have had the honor of representing more than 330,000 Veterans as Commissioner of MDVA. I have valued and truly enjoyed my time in this role of continued service. I want to thank Minnesota Governor Mark Dayton for giving me the honor of being the Commissioner of this agency, and the opportunity to work alongside so many of Minnesota's, and America's, heroes. This work is not something we could ever do alone. So I thank our valuable partners across the state, in the non-profit, private and public sectors.

I invite you to take some time to reflect on this report, and most importantly, the impact Veterans make to this great state and our nation. The Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs is very proud of the service we provide. We will continue to work hard to ensure that Veterans of all generations – whether it be one going on their first deployment, one suffering from injuries, or one being laid to rest – are recognized for their service, and treated with the dignity and respect they so richly deserve.

The future for Minnesota Veterans remains bright. Taking care of Veterans and bringing them “all the way home” remains MDVA's mission, as we continue to move forward preparing for the future. I am so honored to serve in a state that has continuously made Veterans and their loved ones a top priority... *for lest we forget.*



*Larry W. Shellito*

**ENDINGS NEW BEGINNINGS**

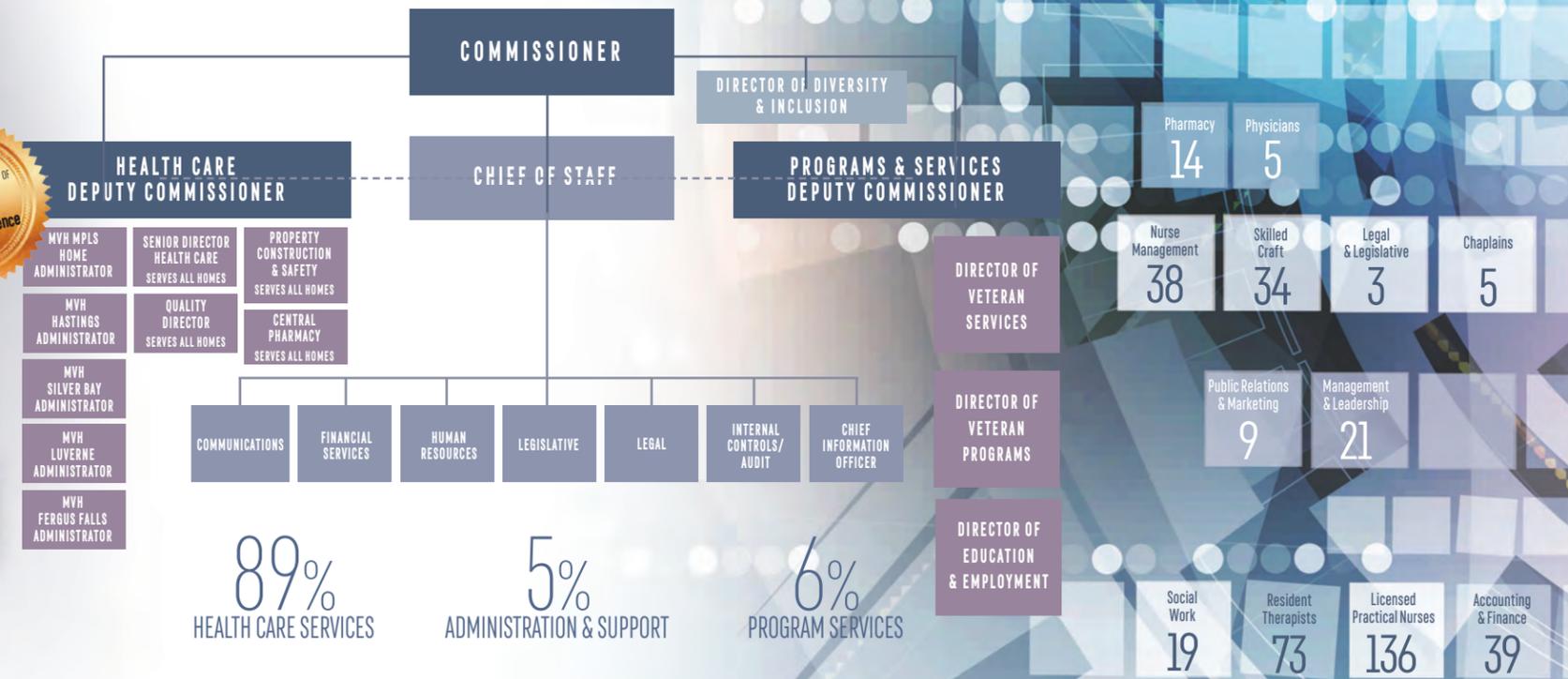
35%  
 OF MDVA STAFF HAVE  
 10 YEARS  
 OR MORE OF SERVICE

**MDVA STAFF**



2018  
 RECIPIENT OF THE  
 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF  
 VETERANS AFFAIRS  
 Abraham Lincoln  
 Pillars of Excellence  
 Award

SINCE JANUARY OF 2011, the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) has been under the experienced watch of Larry Shellito, its 17th Commissioner. Heading up a staff of 1,426, a 2.4% increase over 2017, Commissioner Shellito is assisted by Deputy Commissioners Douglas Hughes who oversees MDVA's Veterans Health Care, and Brad Lindsay who manages the Programs & Services division. 4% of Minnesota's total government workforce is employed by MDVA, servicing the needs of Minnesota Veterans and their families.



# MINNESOTA'S

**VETERANS** not only shape our past, they shape America's future. They put their lives on hold and at risk to protect our freedoms and rights. They are first in line to provide aid to those in need, whenever and wherever there is a crisis in the world. It is because of this selfless commitment that 75% of Americans rank caring for Veterans as a top priority and support an increase in Veteran benefits.

Over 327,000 of America's heroes call Minnesota home. Ranked 23rd in US Veteran population, 71% of Minnesota's Veterans are age 55 and older, with 2018 showing a 2% increase in Veterans living to age 85 and older. Minnesota's female Veterans continue to show a slight increase, a trend that is expected to reach 11% by 2020. Vietnam-era Veterans make up Minnesota's greatest numbers, whereas nationally the Gulf War-era ranks higher. Minnesota also has 3% more Peacetime Veterans than the national average of 23%. Funds from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to Minnesota showed a 3.32% increase over FY16, more than twice the percentage increase when comparing the previous year timeframes.

# HEROES

BY MINNESOTA COUNTY • JULY 1, 2017 TO JUNE 30, 2018

Aitkin	1,820	Itasca	4,229	Pope	867
Anoka	21,911	Jackson	731	Ramsey	24,155
Becker	2,962	Kanabec	1,390	Red Lake	249
Beltrami	3,036	Kandiyohi	2,427	Redwood	1,058
Benton	2,968	Kittson	304	Renville	1,032
Big Stone	429	Koochiching	1,142	Rice	4,012
Blue Earth	3,691	Lac Qui Parle	582	Rock	653
Brown	1,822	Lake	1,060	Roseau	1,116
Carlton	2,838	Lake of the Woods	365	Scott	6,649
Carver	4,599	Le Sueur	1,914	Sherburne	5,854
Cass	2,961	Lincoln	469	Sibley	868
Chippewa	790	Lyon	1,441	St. Louis	15,704
Chisago	3,926	Mahnomen	365	Stearns	10,021
Clay	3,797	Marshall	604	Steele	2,411
Clearwater	849	Martin	1,559	Stevens	530
Cook	444	McLeod	2,639	Swift	654
Cottonwood	779	Meeke	1,742	Todd	1,878
Crow Wing	5,742	Mille Lacs	2,239	Traverse	309
Dakota	25,094	Morrison	2,690	Wabasha	1,765
Dodge	1,319	Mower	2,624	Wadena	1,190
Douglas	3,021	Murray	696	Waseca	1,251
Faribault	1,147	Nicollet	1,935	Washington	14,188
Fillmore	1,431	Nobles	1,103	Watsonwan	762
Freeborn	2,440	Norman	474	Wilkin	449
Goodhue	3,636	Olmsted	9,323	Winona	2,806
Grant	487	Otter Tail	4,813	Wright	7,793
Hennepin	53,454	Pennington	926	Yellow Medicine	735
Houston	1,354	Pine	2,486		
Hubbard	2,012	Pipestone	632		
Isanti	2,818	Polk	2,191		

# 327,631



## GENDER

MALE	92.7%
FEMALE	7.3%

## AGE

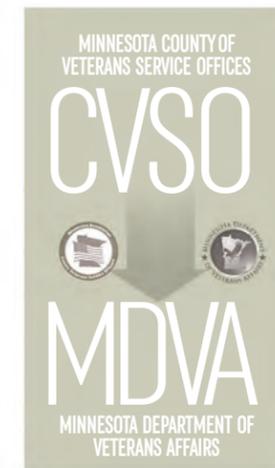
17-24	4,046
25-34	24,603
35-44	25,144
45-54	40,573
55-64	58,346
65-74	90,274
75-84	52,788
85+	31,854

## RACE

CAUCASIAN	93.4%
AFRICAN AMERICAN	3.0%
HISPANIC / LATINO	1.8%
AMERICAN INDIAN	.9%
ASIAN	.7%
OTHER	.2%

38% VIETNAM  
26% PEACETIME  
13% POST 9/11  
10% PRE 9/11  
9% KOREA  
4% WWII

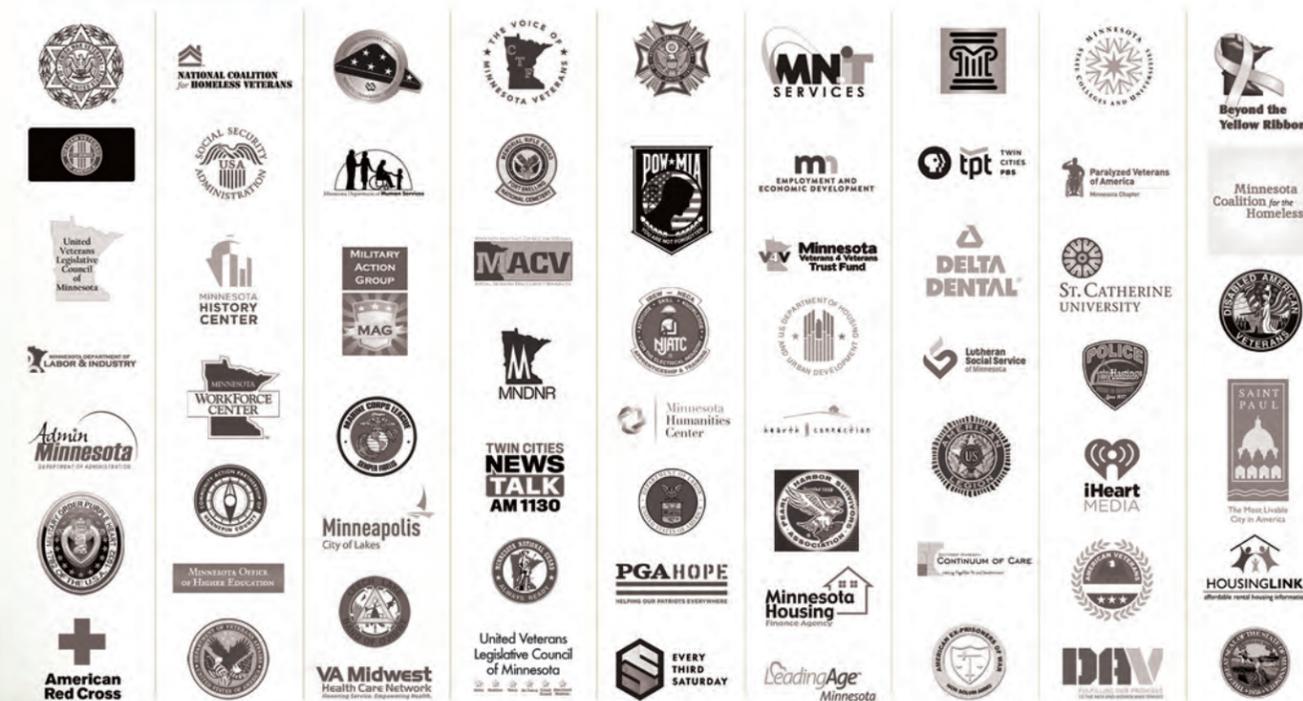
# Partnerships



LEARN WHAT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE TO VETERANS & THEIR FAMILIES

→ **START** by contacting your local CVSO OFFICE

Each local Minnesota County Veterans Service Office (CVSO) connects Veterans and their families to all of the MDVA programs, services and resources available, helping Veterans get back to the life they had before serving their country. Through a collaboration with state and federal departments, organizations, businesses and community resources, MDVA is able to provide Minnesota Veterans with an outstanding support, care and advocacy network. This network is made possible by the MDVA partners honored below. On behalf of all Minnesota Veterans, we extend our appreciation to each of the organizations that partnered with MDVA in 2018.



# HEALTH CARE



The Minnesota Veterans Home was established in the late 1800's to care for the mental, physical and spiritual well-being of our state's Veterans and their families. This mission remains the same today. Delivered by a health care staff of more than 1400 employees, MDVA pledges to provide a safe, dignified and nurturing health care environment to Minnesota's heroes, from every era of service.

Currently, MDVA offers five health care facilities for Veterans and their eligible spouses. **SKILLED NURSING CARE** is available through the Fergus Falls, Luverne, Minneapolis and Silver Bay locations. **DOMICILIARY CARE** is located in Hastings and on the Minneapolis campus. **ADULT DAY HEALTH CARE** is also provided and is located on the Minneapolis campus.

The quality care delivered by the MDVA Veterans Homes is rooted in hiring and retaining a skilled, compassionate and well-trained staff, at every level. MDVA's care teams seek to not just meet but to **exceed** the expectations of Residents and their families, from admission to end-of-life care. MDVA's success at achieving excellence is proven, with the **near perfect Resident Satisfaction Rating** received in 2018. Continuing the tradition, MDVA facilities remain the **caring** choice of Veterans and their families across the state.

## RESIDENTS

86.4% Male Veterans  
7.1% Female Veterans  
6.5% Spouse of Veteran

## SERVICE ERAS

35.0% Vietnam War  
27.0% Peace Time  
23.5% Korean War  
12.8% World War II  
1.7% Gulf War

## HEALTH NEEDS

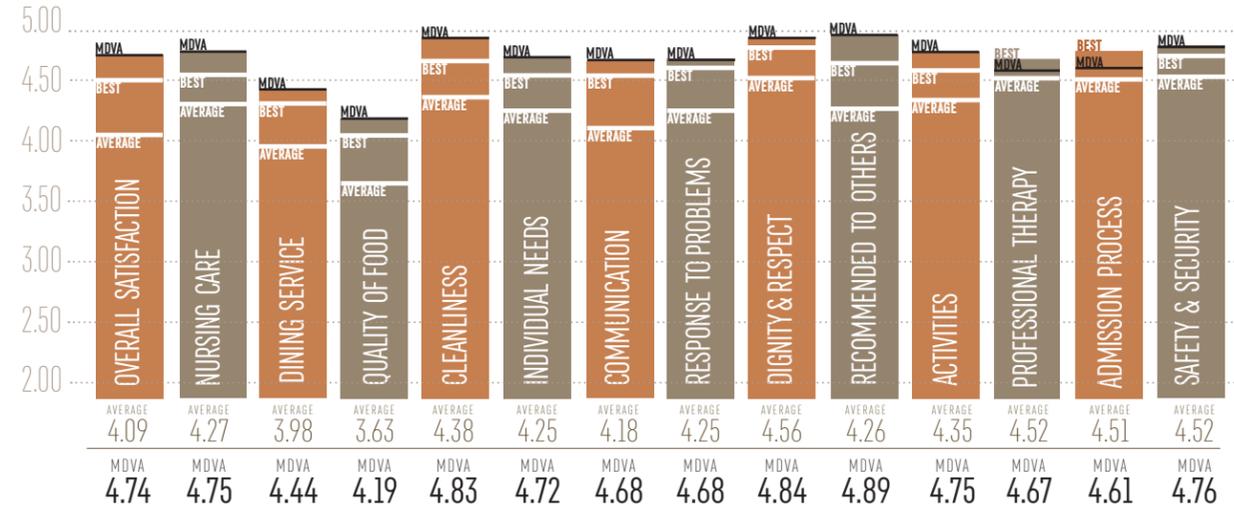
- 1 Alzheimer's
- 2 Mental Health Disorders
- 3 Dementia
- 4 Cerebral Vascular Disease
- 5 Other Special Services
- 6 Substance Addiction
- 7 Depression
- 8 Diabetes
- 9 Hypertension
- 10 Paralysis Agitans
- 11 Hyperlipidemia
- 12 Cancer
- 12 Chronic Pain
- 12 Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease COPD
- 12 Multiple Sclerosis MS
- 12 Muscle Skeletal Disorders
- 13 Malaise & Fatigue
- 14 Parkinson

## SERVICES

- Medical Care
  - 24 Hour Skilled Nursing
  - Special Care: Dementia, Alzheimer's
  - Outpatient Facility Care
  - Occupational Therapy
  - Physical Therapy
  - Speech Therapy
  - Fitness Services
  - Recreational Therapy
  - Drug & Alcohol Treatment
  - Mental & Behavioral Health Services
  - Dental Care
  - Optometry Care
  - Nutrition Services
  - Pharmaceutical Services
  - Social Services
  - Chaplain / Spiritual Care
  - Family Support Group
  - Transportation
  - Barber
  - Beauty Shop
  - Cashier / Banking
  - Volunteer Programs
  - Outings & Events
  - End of Life Care
  - Vocational Rehabilitation
  - Telehealth Services
  - Laboratory Services
  - Radiology Services
  - Ethnic & Cultural Aspects
- Services also include:  
Adult Day Center  
Community Transition Home  
Veterans Memory Care Facilities.

## BEST IN CARE CUSTOMER SATISFACTION RATINGS

Independent Rating, Pinnacle Report - July 2018



**MDVA RESIDENT SATISFACTION**  
**26% BETTER THAN THE NATIONAL AVERAGE**  
**73.9%**  
**MDVA BEST IN CARE AVERAGE 4.67**  
NATIONAL 4.26

## COMPLIANCE

**Fergus Falls and Minneapolis Building 22** passed the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) survey.

In 2018, MDVA's goal to receive **CMS certification in all MDVA Skilled Care Veterans Homes** was achieved.

All MDVA Veterans Homes received **excellent survey ratings** from the Minnesota Department of Health, and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

## evolving SERVICES 2018

A new **REHABILITATION TELEHEALTH** program with the VA was implemented in Silver Bay to assist with Veteran wheelchair and speech therapy evaluations.

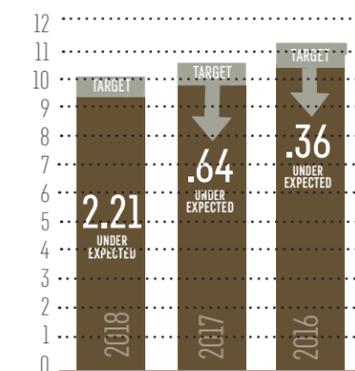
## ADVANCE CARE PLANNING

was MDVA's Health Care Initiative for 2018, implementing programs that included **End-of-Life Nursing Education Care (ELNEC)** and **Respecting Choices**.

## SAFETY

MDVA's ongoing program to reduce slip, trip, and fall related injuries continued in 2018, with highly noted success. The incident rate in the MDVA Veterans Homes hit the **lowest rate in five years**, over two points **under** the targeted number of incidents set for the year.

### 2018 INCIDENT RATE | EXPECTED VS ACTUAL



## evolving SAFETY ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2018

- Replaced the **code-based emergency announcement** system with a plain-language program.
- Updated emergency plans** to align with state and federal CMS requirements.
- Implemented emergency **Continuity of Operations** programs at agency locations.
- Reviewed **safety perception data** at all locations.
- Held **incident command training** for key leadership staff.
- Audited **pharmacy safety data** resulting in subsequent database update.
- NIOSH **hazardous drugs database** was updated to include detailed handling instructions.
- Ergonomic review** was performed to ensure compliance with ADA requirements.

## FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

The very best living conditions that can be provided to our Veterans and their families is at the forefront of MDVA's facility management. Safety, efficiency and the comforts of home remain key components to the design, building and maintenance of MDVA Veterans Homes.

Here are just a few facility highlights achieved in 2018...



Building 22, a new state-of-the-art **100 bed skilled care facility** opened on the Minneapolis Veterans Home campus.

**Facility condition audits** were performed at all five MDVA Veterans Homes, as well as the two state Veterans Cemeteries.

**LED lighting** installation was completed in three of the Veterans Homes and one Veteran Cemetery in 2018.

### ADDITIONAL 2018 IMPROVEMENTS - HOMES & CEMETERIES

FF	H	LF	L	M	SB
BATHROOM		SB			L
BOILER		SB			M
BRIDGE REPAIR		M			L
CEILING	H				L
DOORS		M	L		SB
ELECTRICAL		L			LF
ELEVATOR	H				FF
FLOORING		M	FF	SB	M
FOUNDATION		M			FF
GREENHOUSE	H				M
GYM / REC ROOM		M			H
HVAC	H				M
LIGHTING		FF			H
PARALLEL BARS		M			H
PARKING LOT		LF			SB
PATIO			L		
PNEUMATIC CONTROL				M	
RAILINGS			L		
REMODEL NURSES STATION	FF				L
REMODEL ROOMS		FF			SB
ROADS				LF	
ROOF				FF	
SEWER				M	
SIDEWALK				FF	
STRUCTURAL STUDY				M	
TUNNEL REPAIR				H	
WALLS			M	H	SB
WATER TOWER				H	
WINDOWS			H		SB

# Hastings

LOCATED ON 128 BEAUTIFUL WOODED ACRES along the Vermillion River, just minutes from the Twin Cities, lies the Hastings Veterans Home, one of just five stand-alone US Veterans Homes to offer domiciliary care. The campus is graced with bike and nature paths, an outdoor pavilion, as well as a heated, screened porch. With a strong focus on vocational rehabilitation, there are multiple offerings available on-site that even includes a wood shop program.

200	Domiciliary Units
134	Average Monthly Residents
19	2018 Admissions
27	2018 Discharges
65%	Average Occupancy



**2018 Deficiency Free Rating**  
MN DEPT OF HEALTH VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

*I like it here. The staff is great. I love the food and activities. It's a great place to live! I've been here 15 years and I plan to stay.*  
Steve Fuchs  
RESIDENT VETERAN



COLLABORATED WITH THE HASTINGS POLICE DEPT for Community Support of Veterans



OVER **70%** OF RESIDENTS PARTICIPATED IN VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION PROGRAMS IN 2018

**1978**  
1200 EAST 18TH STREET  
HASTINGS, MN 55033  
651-539-2400  
1-877-VET-3803  
1-877-838-3803

# Domiciliary Care

MDVA's Domiciliary Care Program offers supervised living in a home-like environment to Veterans and their eligible spouses unable to live alone due to age-related impairments, or physical, mental or medical disabilities. Redesigned in 2018, MDVA merged the Hastings and the Minneapolis domiciliary care services into one program, still available at the two sites. By integrating programs, MDVA is able to tailor services such as medical management, mental health stability and vocational goals, specific to each Resident's needs. At whatever point a Veteran is in their life, MDVA's Domiciliary Care Homes provide supportive, independent living in a safe, non-judgmental environment, so each Minnesota hero can achieve their optimal level of independence, and pursue their quality of life choices.

Available in both Hastings and Minneapolis are the following medical, mental, chemical and personal health support services:

- OFFERED SERVICES**
- 24-Hour On-site Nursing Staff Providing Individual Care
  - On-site Medical Care
  - Medication Management
  - Pharmaceutical Services
  - Nutrition Care
  - Meal & Snack Service
  - Fitness Services
  - Therapeutic Recreation
  - Vocational Rehabilitation
  - Drug & Alcohol Treatment
  - Sobriety Support
  - Mental & Behavioral Healthcare
  - Dental Care
  - Social Services
  - Linen Services
  - Sheltered Work Opportunities
  - Chaplain / Spiritual Care
  - Spouse Support Group
  - Transportation
  - Benefits Assistance
  - Cashier / Banking
  - Volunteer Programs
  - Outings & Events
  - End-of-Life Care
  - Ethnic & Cultural Aspects

## CARING FOR RESIDENTS

The redesign of the **Domiciliary Primary Care Clinic** is a highlight of 2018, with a vision to create better triage facilities and services that will keep pace with the changing health care needs of Minnesota Veterans.

A component of what makes MDVA's updated domiciliary program unique is the addition of **recreational and occupational programs** that appeal to a younger generation of Veterans. These program additions include community-based vocational programs, as well as expanding on-site facility offerings, such as woodshopping and a newly added greenhouse.

## PROGRAMS IMPLEMENTED

2018 saw the organization of an interdisciplinary team from the domiciliary Homes that resulted in the **Healthy Choices Work Group**. The initial work of this dedicated team created a series of educational sessions on key health issues of domiciliary Residents, including healthy food choices, pre-diabetes care programs, medical management tips and age appropriate exercise.

## STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

2018 saw the change in domiciliary leadership positions, with team members joining the program, bringing a variety of **experience and decades of knowledge**.

Recognition is also given to some of the **longest serving staff members** on the domiciliary team. These include a 38 year employee, the transportation/facility staff with an average 23 years of service, and two of the weekly community Veteran Home volunteers, both still serving at 94 years young.

# Minneapolis

ALONG THE TRANQUIL SHORE of the Mississippi River, near Minnehaha Falls, yet within walking distance to the light rail systems and many city parks and lakes, is a facility solely dedicated to the domiciliary care needs of Veterans and their families. For over 150 years, the "domiciliary care model" has been the longest running federal Veteran's program. Boasting its own 130-year legacy of service to Minnesota Veterans, the Minneapolis Veterans Home is a well-suited location to continue this tradition of administering model, dedicated care.

50	Domiciliary Units
33	Average Monthly Residents
0	2018 Admissions
3	2018 Discharges
60%	Average Occupancy

**2018 Deficiency Free Rating**  
MN DEPT OF HEALTH VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

*It is fantastic living at the Minneapolis DOMS. Living here gives me the stability I need to keep me on track to maintain my sobriety. The location to community resources such as the VAMC and the college I am attending is one of the reasons why I choose to live here. The Minneapolis DOMS has helped me unbelievably.*  
Douglas Meggitt  
MINNEAPOLIS DOMS RESIDENT



COLLABORATED WITH THE MINNEAPOLIS COPE TEAM improving the coordination of Veteran Emergency Mental Health Care

**1887**  
5101 MINNEHAHA AVENUE SOUTH  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55417  
612-548-5700



# SKILLED NURSING CARE Minneapolis

OPENED IN 2018  
BUILDING 22  
**100 BED**  
STATE-OF-THE-ART  
SKILLED NURSING  
FACILITY



ABOVE NATIONAL  
AVERAGE  
**13 OF 15**  
CUSTOMER  
SATISFACTION SURVEYS

Recipient of the  
**MDVA  
QUALITY AWARD**  
AND THE  
**MINNESOTA  
LEADING AGE  
QUALITY AWARD**  
FOR  
**THIS LIFE STORY  
PROJECT**



*The doctors immediately lowered the amount of drugs Jim was receiving resulting in him becoming more alert. The Recreation Department is wonderful— more entertainment than you can imagine. The staff is great about making sure Jim attends events even when I am not there. The staff is wonderful. I thank God every day for Jim being here.*

Judy Laube WIFE OF RESIDENT

**1887**  
5101 MINNEHAHA  
AVENUE SOUTH  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN  
55417  
612-548-5700

ON A 53-ACRE WOODED CAMPUS that offers spectacular views overlooking the Mississippi River, you will find the Minneapolis Veterans Home. Conveniently located near the Minneapolis VA Medical Center, an on-site medical staff is just one of the **multi-levels of personalized care** provided to the 300 Residents that call this skilled nursing care facility home. 112 beds are dedicated to dementia care, with 12 rooms designed for elopement which provides a locked environment for safety. State-of-the-art rehabilitation and **all private rooms with bath** are comfortable features.

## NOTABLE EVENTS

Starting in 2008, the Minneapolis Veterans Home campus saw the completion of the third and **final phase** of its ten year remodeling program.

The **Community Room** in Building 22 held a special dedication to Wallace R. (Skip) Schmidt, a native of South Minneapolis and Vietnam Veteran, Silver Star and Purple Heart recipient, and member of *"The Twins Platoon."* The room is in tribute to all the Residents and families associated with the Vietnam War.

Opened the country's **first Dental Clinic** in a Veterans Home.

## PROGRAMS IMPLEMENTED

Continuing the goal to provide person-centered, quality care to Residents, the program, *This Life Story* was created. A *This Life Story* board was added to Building 22 of the Minneapolis campus, celebrating the individuality of each Resident while providing MDVA staff with background information to further engage with participants on a more personal level. In 2018, *This Life Story* project proudly received two **Quality Improvement Award** for creativity and success.

## CARING FOR RESIDENTS

*Toddler Time*, a new program added in 2018, joins Residents with families in the community to enjoy some intergenerational fun that includes live music and affords opportunities to meet and share stories.

300	Total Skilled Nursing Care Beds
37%	Beds Dedicated to Dementia Care
282	Average Monthly Residents
92	2018 Admissions
94	2018 Discharges
94%	Average Occupancy
8	Month Average Waiting List

## OFFERED SERVICES

- Medical Care
- 24 Hr Skilled Nursing
- Special Care: Dementia
- Outpatient Facility
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Speech Therapy
- Fitness Services
- Recreational Therapy
- Drug & Alcohol Treatment
- Mental & Behavioral Healthcare
- Dental Care
- Optometry Care
- Nutrition Services
- Pharmaceutical Services
- Social Services
- Chaplain / Spiritual Care
- Spouse Support Group
- Transportation
- Barber
- Beauty Shop
- Cashier / Banking
- Adult Day Center
- Volunteer Programs
- Outings & Events
- End-of-Life Care
- Ethnic & Cultural Aspects

LOCATED ON MINNESOTA'S STUNNING NORTH SHORE, overlooking the expanses of Lake Superior, is the Silver Bay Veterans Home, where care is defined as meeting the **physical, social and spiritual needs** of each Resident. The northwoods lodge design of the Home features **four distinct neighborhoods** each with a living room, dining room and kitchen. Home amenities include a game room, craft shop, a four-season porch, as well as private outdoor spaces for visiting and relaxing.

**Boating, fishing, hunting and gardening** are just a few of the outdoor activities Residents enjoy.

83	Total Beds
52%	Beds Dedicated to Dementia Care
78	Average Monthly Residents
27	2018 Admissions
27	2018 Discharges
94%	Average Occupancy
3-6	Month Average Waiting List

## OFFERED SERVICES

- Medical Care
- 24 hour Skilled Nursing
- Special Care Dementia
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Speech Therapy
- Fitness Services
- Recreational Therapy
- Drug & Alcohol Treatment
- Mental & Behavioral Healthcare
- Dental Care
- Optometry Care
- Nutrition Services
- Pharmaceutical Services
- Social Services
- Chaplain / Spiritual Care
- Spouse Support Group
- Transportation
- Barber
- Beauty Shop
- Cashier / Banking
- Volunteer Programs
- Outings & Events
- End-of-Life Care
- Ethnic & Cultural Aspects

## CARING FOR RESIDENTS

Psychiatrist, nurse practitioner and physician, along with podiatry service, dental care, massage and chiropractic care are **all provided on-site**.

Implemented an **aromatherapy program** to help reduce medications through the use of calming aromas.

Silver Bay's Life Enrichment Coordinator developed a **dementia workshop** series for families. Offered twice a year, *Living with Dementia* continues to receive excellent participant feedback.

The **Buddies Forever** dementia program, offering tools to enhance employee communication skills when caring for Residents with dementia, was further developed and expanded.

To enhance Residents quality of life, the **Pet Therapy Program** was developed in 2009 to accommodate dogs and cats. In 2018, the program expanded to include visiting therapy donkeys.

## TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

**Validation training** continued in 2018, with a number of staff members completing Level One and beginning work on the program's second level.

Internal **policies** were revised to meet the newly required CMS changes.

## IMPLEMENTED PROGRAMS

Department **competency tools** were developed in 2018 to enhance employee orientation, manage annual training, and provide for ongoing "as needed" training.

## 1991

56 OUTER DRIVE  
SILVER BAY, MN 55614  
218-353-8700  
1-877-SBY-VETS  
1-877-729-8387

# SKILLED NURSING CARE Silver Bay

ESTABLISHED 2018 <b>ANTIBIOTIC STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM</b> FOR RESIDENTS	PINNACLE RATING <b>15</b> BEST IN CLASS CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE	2018 Deficiency Free Rating VETERANS ADMINISTRATION	MEDICARE RATING <b>5 STAR</b> STAFFING
--	---	---	--

*I appreciate the overall feel of the Home. It is a very homey, close-knit group that has efficient hands-on care with the Resident.*



*I appreciate the quality of care and the quality of the staff.*

RESIDENT

# SKILLED NURSING CARE Fergus Falls

LOCATED IN MINNESOTA'S BEAUTIFUL LAKE COUNTRY in Ottertail County is MDVA's award-winning Fergus Falls Veterans Home. Reminiscent of taking a stroll along small town main street, rooms in the **Veterans Village** are designed to look like houses- right down to porches with porch lights. Beautiful outdoor courtyards afford space for family gatherings, with a play area for toddlers. The campus also houses a **Federal VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic** serving over 1,500 area Veterans.

*The facility is always clean, and they are very friendly and helpful.*  
RESIDENT FAMILY MEMBER



ESTABLISHED 2018  
**ANTIBIOTIC STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM**  
FOR RESIDENTS

*The staff are all so great to us. The staff are remarkable and bend over backwards to help the Veterans.*  
SPOUSE OF VETERAN





1821 NORTH PARK ST  
FERGUS FALLS, MN 56537  
1-877-VET-HMFF  
1-877-838-4633  
218-736-0400

1998

**PROGRAMS IMPLEMENTED**

Ongoing review process to prevent and **reduce Resident falls**.

Established a comprehensive, **Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement program (QAPI)** with systems of care that include a quality of life focus, as well as Resident and staff satisfaction.

Comprehensive **water management program** implemented, with ongoing testing and maintenance to ensure water quality and safety.

**CARING FOR RESIDENTS**

Received **CMS** (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) **Certification**, resulting in all eligible MDVA Homes achieving certification.

Established an **Antibiotic Stewardship** program to reduce microbial resistance.

**DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING**

The longevity of the Fergus Falls employees, and their diverse background and experiences, is what makes the staff exceptional.

2018 Staff Programs include:

- Morning Nursing Supervisor added to staff.
- Continued safety training through the annual safety fair.
- Establishment of a safety committee.

**OFFERED SERVICES**

106	Total Beds
20%	Beds Dedicated to Dementia Care
104	Average Monthly Residents
51	2018 Admissions
41	2018 Discharges
98%	Average Occupancy
6-8	Month Average Waiting List

**OFFERED SERVICES**

Medical Care
24 Hr Skilled Nursing
Special Care: Dementia
Outpatient Clinic: Federal VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC)
Occupational Therapy
Physical Therapy
Speech Therapy
Fitness Services
Recreational Therapy
Mental & Behavioral Healthcare
Dental Care
Optometry Care
Nutrition Services
Pharmaceutical Services
Social Services
Chaplain / Spiritual Care
Spouse Support Group
Transportation
Barber
Beauty Shop
Cashier / Banking
Volunteer Programs
Outings & Events
End-of-Life Care
Ethnic & Cultural Aspects

**NESTLED ALONG THE ROCK RIVER**, the Luverne Veterans Home offers three distinct living spaces, including a 17 bed special care unit designed to meet the unique needs of **Residents with dementia**.

A vibrant, active community that is highly supportive of our Veterans, the Luverne area provides a great volunteer base to draw from. The facility features a unique **backyard fishing pond, party room** that's available for family celebrations, along with Resident **gaming and computer rooms**.

# SKILLED NURSING CARE Luverne

**OFFERED SERVICES**

85	Total Beds
20%	Beds Dedicated to Dementia Care
78	Average Monthly Residents
42	2018 Admissions
44	2018 Discharges
92%	Average Occupancy
1-3	Month Average Waiting List

**OFFERED SERVICES**

Medical Care
24 Hr Skilled Nursing
Special Care: Dementia
Occupational Therapy
Physical Therapy
Speech Therapy
Fitness Services
Recreational Therapy
Drug & Alcohol Treatment
Mental & Behavioral Healthcare
Dental Care
Nutrition Services
Pharmaceutical Services
Social Services
Chaplain / Spiritual Care
Spouse Support Group
Transportation
Barber
Beauty Shop
Cashier / Banking
Volunteer Programs
Outings & Events
End-of-Life Care
Ethnic & Cultural Aspects

**CARING FOR RESIDENTS**

Implemented a new **Antibiotic Stewardship** program to help lower the chances of patient antibiotic resistance.

Over 8,800 hours of service and care were provided by **volunteers** to Luverne Home Residents in 2018.

**DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING**

With a dedicated staff of 190, many of the Luverne employees have over 20 years of service caring for Veterans.

2018 Staff Programs include:

- Emergency preparedness training for all staff.
- Dementia patient communication and care training.
- Resident meal assistance program.
- New OnTrack Certified Nursing Assistant Training Program implemented.

**PROGRAMS IMPLEMENTED**

Implemented and trained staff in the **Buddies Forever** dementia program to improve the communication skills of staff caring for Residents suffering from dementia and related symptoms.



MEDICARE RATING  
**5 STAR**  
RN STAFFING

MEDICARE RATING  
**5 STAR**  
STAFFING

Rated by  
**US News & World Report**  
One of the  
**BEST**  
NURSING HOMES

**Deficiency Free Rating**  
MN DEPT OF HEALTH  
VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

*There isn't anything I don't like. The facility and all the staff are warm, loving, and caring.*  
RESIDENT WIFE

*I can't say enough good things; everything is positive.*  
RESIDENT WIFE



1994

1300 N. KNISS  
PO BOX 539  
LUVERNE, MN 56156  
507-283-6200  
1-877-LUV-VETS  
1-877-588-8387



# Adult Day Center

## MINNEAPOLIS

LOCATED NEAR MINNEHAHA FALLS in a beautiful park setting is the exclusive “Vet’s Club.”

An Adult Day Center dedicated to offering Veteran caregivers a respite and the support they need to keep aging Veterans in their homes, for as long as possible. Located on the grounds of the Minnesota Veterans Home campus, housed in a historic 1887 building that served Civil War Veterans, is where you’ll find this award-winning program. **One of only three** Centers of its kind in the nation, members of the “Vet’s Club” receive person-centered care tailored to individual needs. This specialized care even includes dietary preferences, with a **staff chef** known to serve the best food in town! MDVA’s unique care program was created, and continues to be managed, by a highly dedicated, professional staff trained specifically in the care of **dementia and Alzheimer’s** diseases.



“It has been amazing for my dad to be there, they treat every participant with dignity, you don’t see that in many places.”

DAUGHTER OF VETERAN



2012 5101 MINNEHAHA AVE S, BLDG 4  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55417  
612-548-5963

### CARING FOR VETERANS

Monthly *Nurses Corner* and *Dietitian Corner* are offered covering **educational tips** on requested topics.

Visiting historian seminars, special documentaries, art programs, plus scheduled field trips continued in 2018.

The popular “*Heroes on Horseback*” program continued.

*Operation: “Sight and Sound,”* featuring the songs and photos of Veterans, was featured at the **Minnesota State Fair** for a third year.

“*Let’s Go Fishing*” continues to be a favorite **annual client event**.

### CARING FOR CAREGIVERS

Programs and resources available for caregivers continued to expand, including **one-to-one counseling** and care conferences for families.

**Community referrals** to additional resources and services continued to grow in 2018.

As the official **location for the Alzheimer’s Association Support Group**, MDVA’s Minneapolis campus continues to provide the latest in care and treatment.

“They are great and have helped my husband so much. He has dementia, but they keep him stimulated and interested. They are a great group!”

SPOUSE OF VETERAN



2018 Deficiency Free Rating

MN DEPT OF HEALTH  
VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

### CLIENTS

35	Maximum Occupancy
71%	Average Daily Occupancy
99%	Veterans
1%	Spouses

### FUNDING

99%	Receive Federal Per Diem Funds
100%	Private Pay on Co-Pays (After 3rd day, per week)

### STAFF

2	Registered Nurses
1	Social Worker
1	Recreational Therapist
4	Program Assistants

### OFFERED SERVICES

Transportation
Bathing
Mental & Behavioral Healthcare
Special Care: Dementia
Physical Therapy
Speech Therapy
Fitness Services
Recreational Therapy
Nutrition Services
Pharmaceutical Services
Social Services
Spouse Support Group
Volunteer Programs
Outings & Events

### PARTNERSHIPS

MDVA 2019 celebrates the **10 year partnership with Lutheran Social Services** of Minnesota, offering the MN CORE counseling program to Veterans and their families.

Focus will be given to **increasing post-secondary education partnerships** with institutions across Minnesota to develop curriculum that aligns with current and future MDVA staffing needs.

Partnering with CNA, MDVA proposes to **develop a training center** under the direction of the Health Care Division.

### STANDARDS

MDVA 2019 Validated by a 2018 audit performed by the Office of Legislative Audit (OLA), MDVA’s financial and operational processes were cited as not only exemplary but “**moving in the right direction.**” 2019 promises to keep this course, monitoring and adhering to the **same high levels of operation and care standards.**

Working closely with state and national organizations, MDVA will continue to develop and implement programs that insure all areas of care follow current, best known practices, and champion the changing needs of Veterans.

### WORKFORCE

MDVA 2019 will see **additions to staff** that include an administrative position for the newly-reorganized MDVA Domiciliary Program.

The Health Care Recruitment & Retention Workgroup will be **developing strategic goals for staffing** the Veterans Homes for 2019 and beyond.

Staff training will continue to **focus on hospice and palliative care** with the integration of the program *End-of-Life Nursing Education Care and Respecting Choices*, to be implemented at all MDVA Home facilities.

### QUALITY CARE IMPROVEMENTS

MDVA 2019 will continue to **develop life-enhancing programs**, specifically in the areas of smoking cessation, oral health, dementia care, hospice and end-of-life care.

MDVA’s Domiciliary Program will further **integrate operations** by standardizing specific program methods used to deliver medical, mental health and chemical dependency services to Residents.

Continuing efforts to **enhance the efficiency of MDVA operations** will result in more opportunities to improve and add community-based program and service offerings in 2019.

### PHARMACY

MDVA 2019 will seek to **increase current revenue streams** captured through Medicare dollars.

Pharmaceutical procedures to **maintain compliance with USP 800 standards** will continue, and work to be improved.

### SAFETY

MDVA 2019 will focus on **maintaining ongoing programs** for:

- Reducing slip, trip, and fall related injuries.
- Assessing arc flash hazards.
- Updating the workplace violence prevention program.
- Continuing safety incident investigations.
- Updating agency fleet policies.

Monitor and perform site reviews of **CMS emergency planning** requirements at Veterans Homes.

Implement a **new ergonomic review process** ensuring MDVA maintains ADA compliance.

### FACILITIES

MDVA 2019 promises to be an exciting year of moving forward on improvements to the Homes, as well as expanding MDVA services and care to more Minnesota locations. With the approval of asset preservation allocations to repair, enhance and maintain buildings on all five of the current MDVA campuses, **critical funds will provide Residents and staff with a modern, safe living and working environment**, while preserving the Homes rich and proud historic structures.

State funding for **three new Veterans Homes**, approved in FY2018, will allow **the design and development to begin in 2019**. Designs for each new Home, as well as the remodeling and upgrade of existing facilities, will be centered around ensuring that Resident space feels warm and welcoming, while nurse charting stations and administrative areas will be inconspicuously incorporated to enhance this home-like atmosphere.

With the 2018 successful opening of the nation’s first Veterans Home Dental Clinic on the Minneapolis campus, 2019 will look towards **expanding the Veterans oral health program**, in partnership with *Delta Dental of Minnesota Foundation*, *Minnesota Veterans 4 Veterans Trust Fund (V4V)*, and the *Disabled American Veterans (DAV) of Minnesota Foundation*.

Property for MDVA’s **fourth Cemetery** has been acquired **in Redwood County**. Federal funding will dictate when construction can begin to serve Veterans in southwest Minnesota.

### END HOMELESSNESS

MDVA 2019 efforts to end Veteran Homelessness will continue to encourage and **support the successful Continuum’s of Care (CoCs)** program.

Work will continue in 2019 to develop a public dashboard designed to make the **Homeless Veteran Registry outcome data readily available**. Access to this data affords participants the ability to monitor and evaluate progress, improve data literacy, and accelerate community engagement and impact.

2019 will see MDVA joining with the USDVA and MACV to create a **Core Team of Veteran Organizations**, each aligned in the common goal to address and to end Veteran homelessness.



# PROGRAMS & SERVICES



*Collaboration* between federal, state and local Veteran service partners is what makes the **Six** departments within **MDVA's Programs & Services Division** vital to Veterans. Over **65** services are administered to Veterans through **20** nation-leading state programs. A dedicated staff of **86** is committed to the task of assisting Minnesota Veterans and their families find the **housing, medical, education, employment, financial, end of life** and often just the **personal support** required to transition back to civilian life. Whatever the need, MDVA is at the ready to help each Minnesota hero that gave a part of his and her life in service to our country.

## EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT

### SERVICES

- Assist in Deployment Options
- Transfer Military Credits
- Referral to Scholarships
- Assist with FAFSA Applications
- OJT/Apprenticeship Referrals
- Employer Referrals
- Employment Assistance
- Referral to Career Resources
- Institutional Readiness
- Veterans GPS LifePlan
- VA Compliance Surveys
- College Admission Assistance
- Military Education Benefits

### PROGRAMS

- Higher Education Veterans Program
- Minnesota GI Bill
- Veterans Employment Program
- State Approving Agency - SAA

*evolving* with approved educational opportunities, job training programs, as well as financial assistance to help Veterans transition to a civilian career. MDVA is also a resource to assist private businesses and public employers with the hiring and training of Veterans.

## CLAIMS & FIELD OPERATIONS

### SERVICES

- Complete & File Claims
- Advise on Available Benefits
- Assist in Benefit Applications
- Advise on Available Services
- Schedule Appointments
- Transportation Services
- In-home Counseling
- Provide Updates on Benefits
- Help Obtain Military Records
- Arrange for Temporary Shelter
- Appeals Processing
- Board of Veteran Appeals
- Pre-Hearing Conferences

### PROGRAMS

- Claims & Field Operations
- County Veterans Service Officers - CVSO
- Tribal Veterans Service Officers - TVSO
- Gold Star Family Program
- Women Veterans Program

*evolving* by providing state and federal claim advocacy, in addition to support services to Veterans and their dependents, from all social and economic backgrounds.

## MEMORIALS & CEMETERIES

### SERVICES

- Grave Sites
- Cremation In-ground
- Cremation Columbarium
- Open / Closed Graves
- Interment Site
- Markers & Headstones
- Assist with Qualifying
- Assist with Arrangements
- Presidential Certificates
- Committal Services
- Military Honor Service
- Perpetual Care
- Grave Site Locator Services

### PROGRAMS

- Little Falls Veterans Cemetery
- Preston Veterans Cemetery
- Duluth Veterans Cemetery

*evolving* MDVA strives to be the nationwide model of excellence for burials and memorials for Veterans and their families. Private or General, MDVA's mission is to assure every Veteran is honored for their service and sacrifice to our nation through a lasting tribute.

## VETERAN BENEFITS

### SERVICES

- Phone / Web / Email Support
- Referral to Outside Programs & Services
- Provide VPA Guidelines & Updates
- Assist in VPA Review Process
- Referrals to Support Services
- In-home Assessment / Follow-up
- Rent & Mortgage Assistance
- Health Premium Assistance
- Cash Assistance with Utilities
- Denture Expenses
- Optical Expenses
- Veteran One-time Education Grant
- Annual Dependent Education Grant
- Special Needs Grant
- Social Security Assistance

### PROGRAMS

- LinkVet
- Veterans Preference Act - VPA
- Minnesota Service CORE - MN CORE
- State Soldiers Assistance Program - SSAP

*evolving* Working closely with federal, state and community partners, MDVA Benefits supplement existing programs, as well as address the needs specific to Minnesota Veterans.

## GRANT PROGRAMS

### SERVICES

- Distribute Grant Funds
- Assist with Grant Applications
- Network with Organizations
- Provide Grant Updates / Changes

### PROGRAMS

- County Veterans Service Offices - CVSO Grants
- Veteran Service Organizations - VSO Grants
- MN Assistance Council for Veterans - MACV
- Support Our Troops - SOT Grant Program

*evolving* to provide needed funding to partners that assist MDVA in our mission and goal of serving and providing programs and services to Minnesota's Veterans and their families in their communities.

## HOMELESSNESS ASSISTANCE

### SERVICES

- Mortgage Assistance
- Rent Assistance
- Assistance with Utilities
- Transportation
- Food
- Emergency Shelter
- Transitional Housing
- Permanent Housing
- Referrals to Housing Services

### PROGRAMS

- Minnesota Homeless Veterans Registry
- MN Operation for Veteran Empowerment - MOVE
- SSI/SDI, Outreach, Access, Recovery - SOAR

*evolving* as we continue the mission to end Veteran homelessness through appropriate and effective solutions, developed on a case-by-case basis.

# Education & Employment



## Higher Education VETERANS PROGRAM

A nation-leading program that is available on all public and most private Minnesota colleges and universities to help **identify and remove barriers** Veterans can face when trying to enroll and access **state and federal GI Bill education benefits**.

### HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAM COORDINATORS ASSIST WITH

- Payment extensions while awaiting for applied educational benefits
- Military transfer credit
- Veteran resident status
- Class withdrawal options due to deployment

## 78 ON-CAMPUS RESOURCE CENTERS

Unique to Minnesota, Veteran On-Campus Resource Centers provide student Veterans enrollment assistance and opportunities for interaction and networking with other Veterans and their families, all in a dedicated, welcoming environment.

REFERRALS TO OTHER RESOURCES: **10,883**

## 57 TRAINING & OUTREACH EVENTS

Opportunities in 2018 for MDVA Higher Education training and outreach were held across the state, working with student orientation programs, training CVSOs, assisting Veterans with demobilizations, and more.

TOTAL ATTENDANCE: **6,475**

### 2018 HIGHLIGHTS

#### FEDERAL GI BILL FUNDS TO MINNESOTA INSTITUTIONS

**\$125 MILLION**

#### STUDENTS ASSISTED THROUGH FEDERAL GI BILL FUNDS

**11,259**

#### STUDENTS ASSISTED INCREASED

**9.5% OVER 2017**

## MN GI Bill EDUCATION BENEFITS

State funded program for Veterans seeking to earn a certificate, diploma or degree. MN GI Bill funds can be used to reimburse Veteran students for **qualified admission tests**, as well as **supplement tuition costs** at approved Minnesota universities, colleges and career schools.

### 2018 MN GI BILL EDUCATIONAL FUNDS AVAILABLE

up to **\$3,000** Educational funds available per academic year for tuition or exam costs\*  
 \* MN GI Bill offers a \$10,000 lifetime benefit for education and/or employment use

### 2018 HIGHLIGHTS

#### STATE EDUCATION FUNDS TO MINNESOTA INSTITUTIONS

**\$1.8 MILLION**

#### VETERANS ASSISTED THROUGH MINNESOTA GI BILL FUNDS

**1,022**

#### FUNDS INCREASED

**12.5% OVER 2017**



## MN GI Bill EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

State funding program for Veterans seeking to **learn a skill through on-the-job training or apprenticeships**, as well as receive **reimbursement for certification and license fees**.

### 2018 MN GI BILL EMPLOYMENT FUNDS AVAILABLE

up to **\$3,000** Licenses and certification reimbursements per fiscal year\*  
 up to **\$5,000** Employment training benefits\*  
 up to **\$2,000** Employers for training and employing a qualified Veteran

\* MN GI Bill offers a \$10,000 lifetime benefit for education and/or employment use

### 2018 HIGHLIGHTS

#### STATE ON-THE-JOB TRAINING & APPRENTICESHIP FUNDS TO EMPLOYEES & EMPLOYERS

**\$1.2 MILLION**

APPRENTICESHIPS: **303**

OTJ TRAINING: **155**

#### FUNDS INCREASED

**25.2% OVER 2017**



## Veterans Employment PROGRAM

State funding program that **helps Veterans learn a trade or skill through on-the-job training**. MDVA additionally **works with private businesses and public employers promoting and funding the hiring and training of Veterans**.

### 2018 ACTIVITY

**21** Employers Assisted  
**226** Apprenticeship Training Programs Available in Minnesota  
**672** Minnesota Veterans Trained in the Trades

### 2018 HIGHLIGHTS

#### VETERAN UNEMPLOYMENT MINNESOTA 2018

**3.3**

NATIONALLY RATE 2018

**3.9**

#### APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS MINNESOTA 2018

**5.6% INCREASE**



#### VETERANS CAREER FAIR HELD JULY 18, 2018

**165**

EMPLOYERS / SERVICES

**630** ATTENDEES

## State Approving Agency SAA

State program to safeguard the quality of a Veteran's education and training, both on the job and through apprenticeships, which includes monitoring that participating programs **meet license and certification requirements**.

### FACILITY ACTIVITY 2018

**363** TOTAL MN FACILITIES  
**103** Public Facilities  
**260** Private Facilities

### PROGRAM ACTIVITY 2018

**4,501** TOTAL PROGRAMS MONITORED  
**430** New Programs Added  
**1,034** Programs Eliminated

## 63 ACTIVITIES

- Assisted other state SAAs on VA-Once and flight approvals
- Assisted VA at School Certifying Officials (SCO) workshop
- Participated in quarterly VA webinars
- Presented on blended-hybrid, on-line courses & non-standard terms
- Responded to denial of benefits letters

### Meetings and conferences with:

- Chief Education Liaison Officer (CELO)
- SAA National Association of State Approving Agencies (NASAA)
- Education Liaison Representative (ELR)
- MN Office of Higher Education (OHE)

### 2018 HIGHLIGHTS

#### FACILITIES APPROVED MINNESOTA 2018

**45% INCREASE**

#### COMPLIANCE SURVEYS PERFORMED

**38**

#### PROGRAM ACTIONS TAKEN

**1,464**

# Claims & Field Operations

Serves as a **liaison and personal advocate** for Veterans and their dependents seeking state and federal benefits in the areas of compensation, non-service connected pensions, vocational rehabilitation, health care, subsistence and education. This program is offered at the **St. Paul and Fargo offices**, as well as through MDVA's **Field Operations**, a mobile service that travels to Veterans in need throughout Minnesota.

FEDERAL DISABILITY CLAIMS 2018	STATE BENEFIT CLAIMS 2018	VA APPEAL HEARINGS CONDUCTED
1,638	385	145

APPEAL HEARINGS INCREASED  
**179%**  
OVER 2017

2018 FEDERAL COMPENSATION  
MIN VETERANS & THEIR SURVIVORS  
**\$1,193,130,000**

## ST PAUL CLAIMS ACTIVITY 2018

The St. Paul Claims office represents Veterans and their dependents who live within the jurisdiction of the St. Paul VA Regional Office.

21,332	Mail Received
11,787	Phone Contacts
2,145	Office Visits
750	Event Hours

## FIELD OPERATIONS 2018

Mobile professional advocacy services to Veterans at their location across the state.

14,522	Phone Contacts
7,396	Public Contacts
6,282	Office Visits
1,236	Event Hours
1,560	CVSO Office Coverage Hours

## FARGO CLAIMS ACTIVITY 2018

The Northwest/Fargo Claims office represents Veterans and their dependents who live within the 15 Minnesota counties under the jurisdiction of the Fargo VA Regional Office.

2,490	Phone Contacts
2,109	Mail Received
469	Office Visits
43	Event Hours

"MDVA patiently guided me through the claims process. The rep is a wonderful listener and extremely knowledgeable about Veterans Affairs. My case would have not reached a successful resolution without this help." KOREAN WAR VETERAN

## CVSO County Veterans Service Officers

It is through their local CVSO that Veterans can apply for state and federal benefits, as well as receive information and assistance on medical, compensation, housing and education needs. **MDVA provides each CVSO with the staff education and program coordination required to connect Minnesota's Veteran population to all available MDVA resources.**



### 2018 CVSO HIGHLIGHTS

- Provided an in-place Claims Representative dedicated to providing County Veteran Service Officers with initial program education, as well as ongoing support and training in the various stages within the VA System.
- Continued work with MACVSO on the hiring and training of CVSO mentors.
- Provided hours of on-site support staff to keep CVSO operations open during leaves of absence.

## TVSO Tribal Veteran Service Officers

Provides **advocacy, community outreach, service and training** to Native American Veterans, in partnership with various government organizations and the Minnesota Native American Nations.

TVSO FEDERAL CLAIMS INCREASED  
**6%**  
OVER 2017

### 2018 TVSO HIGHLIGHTS

823	230	3,299
FEDERAL CLAIMS	STATE CLAIMS	OFFICE VISITS
2,219	3,858	346
PUBLIC CONTACTS	PHONE CONTACTS	EVENT HOURS

## Gold Star Family Program

A program that honors the legacy of every fallen Minnesota hero by working with and **supporting the needs of their families.**



### 2018 GOLD STAR FAMILY HIGHLIGHTS

- Family Representative added to the Gold Star staff to further expand the program's service.
- The Annual Gold Star Family Day at Valleyfair.
- Annual Gold Star Family Event held at Camp Ripley.

## Women Veterans Program

Offers Women Veterans **assistance and equitable access** to federal and state benefits, opportunities and resources. Outreach programs are geared to improve the awareness of available benefits, services, and eligibility criteria for the women of Minnesota who served.



### 2018 WOMEN VETERANS PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- The Annual State Women Veterans Conference held in Plymouth, MN with over 130 Women Veterans and their families in attendance, marking a **4% increase** over 2017.
- Initiated the **I Am Not Invisible** campaign with partner organizations to honor the service and sacrifice of Women Veterans, providing an opportunity to show these female heroes the respect and support of the community through the message that they are not invisible.

# Memorials & Cemeteries

## Laid to Rest



IN-GROUND CREMATION BURIALS	COLUMBARIUM PLACEMENTS	CASKET BURIALS	IN MEMORY OF MARKERS
279	162	169	6

**Little Falls**  
MDVA STATE CEMETERY

ESTABLISHED	1994
ACRES	39
STAFF	7.50

LAI TO REST SINCE ESTABLISHED  
**7,088**

**Preston**  
MDVA STATE CEMETERY

ESTABLISHED	2015
ACRES	169
STAFF	6.75

LAI TO REST SINCE ESTABLISHED  
**327**

**Duluth**  
MDVA STATE CEMETERY

OPENED	FALL 2018
ACRES	104

FIRST LAI TO REST ON NOVEMBER 11, 2018  
**Veterans Day**

## MDVA FACILITIES

Administration Building
Outdoor Assembly Area
Maintenance Building
Committal Area
Columbarium
Memorial Walkways
Honor Guard Lounge
Parking

"It was perfect and absolutely heartwarming."  
JODI J, DAUGHTER

"I just wanted to stop and say how beautiful this Cemetery is. We buried my dad up here and I didn't have a chance to tell anybody that day. We had never been out here before that. I just saw how beautiful everything was. The Cemetery, the service, everything. On my way home I just felt at peace knowing that he was in such a good place."  
DAUGHTER OF A MN VETERAN

### 2018 HIGHLIGHTS

For the first time in 20+ years of operation, the Little Falls MDVA State Cemetery surpassed the per year burial mark of 500.

*Experience* is what contributes to the high ratings given to the MDVA Little Falls Cemetery, with every one of the full-time and support staff possessing 10 or more years of continuous service with MDVA.

In 2018, all MDVA burial records were converted to a scanned and digitized format for improved documentation and the elimination of paper records.

Continue to receive a 98% rating in service and facilities satisfaction rating from the Veterans and families served.



# Benefits



## LinkVet

Minnesota Veterans and their families receive **immediate answers** to questions regarding benefits, programs and services through LinkVet. Staffed by MDVA trained specialists, **one-on-one help** is available via web, phone or email, seven days a week.

2018 TOTAL SERVED  
**6,712**

### 2018 INQUIRIES

Calls Received	3,140
Web Online Chats	2,522
Outbound Calls	704
Email Inquiries	346
Calls Without Merit	132

ONLINE WEB CHATS  
**3%**  
OVER 2017

### 2018 TOPICS

Assistance with Family Needs	2,790
Health/Disability	1,213
State & Federal Resources	521
Education	490
Veterans Homes	364
Burials	259
Employment	173
SOAR Program	114
Homeless Registry	59
Crisis	30

RESOLVED RATE  
**98%**  
IN 2018

*"I just wanted to take a moment to say thank you!  
The program is a wonderful tool that I hope will serve many Veterans as it has me."*  
Jim Dupont, VETERAN

*"I received the good news regarding my medical bills at Mayo & Gold Cross and I'm so grateful.  
I feel extremely fortunate for the way the MDVA has helped me out."*  
VETERAN

## Veterans Preference Act VPA

MDVA is the information resource for both Veterans and employers on **implementing VPA in the workplace**, entitling Veterans to limited hiring preferences, as well as protections involving layoffs and discharges.

### 2018 VPA HIGHLIGHTS

- **VPA Training** was provided to CVSOs, as well as Local Government Human Resource Departments. Through these efforts, public employers are better meeting obligations, with more Veterans accessing and receiving VPA Rights.
- MDVA worked with the Office of Administrative Hearings and the Attorney General's Office to draft orders, schedule hearings and advise the Commissioner regarding **VPA enforcement actions**.
- MDVA continued its partnership with the Minnesota Department of Administration, Material Management Division, affording up to a **6% preference to Veteran Owned Small Businesses (VOSB)** when awarding state and local government contracts.

### 2018 VPA Assistance

127	Veterans & Spouses
37	Employers
25	CVSOs
7	Total Cases
2	Active / Ongoing
5	Closed Cases

EMPLOYERS  
INCREASED  
**208%**  
OVER 2017

VETERAN  
OWNED BUSINESSES  
**6%**  
PREFERENCE

## MN CORE Minnesota Service Core Program

A nationally-recognized, no-cost service providing individual and family **counseling, financial and debt management, addiction assistance, and disability support**. MN CORE is offered in partnership with the Lutheran Social Services of MN (LSS), available to Veterans and their families at 11 locations around Minnesota.

### 2018 TOTAL SERVED

**822**

72% VETERANS 19% SPOUSES 9% CHILDREN

### 2018 SERVICES

91%	Behavioral Health Counseling
5%	Financial Counseling
4%	Housing Counseling

### 2018 SERVICE HOURS

**7,735**

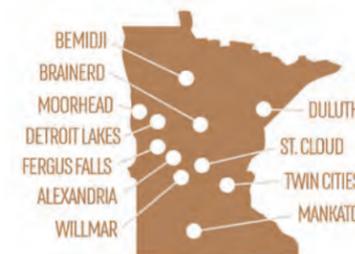
**\$108,892**

FUND FROM INSURANCE  
INCREASED **10%**

INSURED CLIENTS  
**43%**

### MINNESOTA COUNTIES THAT UTILIZED THE MN CORE PROGRAM IN 2018

Anoka	4	Dakota	1	Lyon	1	St. Louis	11
Becker	2	Douglas	3	Martin	3	Sherburne	10
Benton	7	Faribault	1	Meeker	1	Sibley	1
Blue Earth	6	Freeborn	2	Mille Lacs	5	Stearns	34
Brown	5	Grant	1	Morrison	2	Todd	4
Carlton	7	Hennepin	15	Nicollet	3	Traverse	1
Carver	3	Hubbard	3	Olmsted	5	Waseca	3
Cass	2	Isanti	1	Otter Tail	6	Washington	3
Chisago	1	Itasca	5	Ramsey	13	Wilkin	1
Clay	3	Jackson	1	Redwood	4	Wright	5
Crow Wing	12	Lake	1	Renville	1		



### 2018 AGES SERVED

9%	0-19
24%	20-39
15%	40-49
16%	50-59
24%	60-69
11%	70-79
1%	80 and up

AGES  
**60 & UP**  
INCREASED  
**8%**  
FROM 2017

## State Soldiers Assistance Program SSAP

Funding assistance provided for Veterans and their dependents, specifically in the areas of **housing, dental, optical, education, subsistence, disaster relief, and special needs**.



### 2018 SSAP HIGHLIGHTS

Received the **2018 USDVA Abraham Lincoln Pillars of Excellence Award** for MDVA's Discharge Access Database System (DADS). Working with 87 counties, discharge records housed in county recorder offices throughout the state were consolidated into one, searchable database.

### 2018 APPLICANTS

<b>5,820</b>	Total Applications
4,766	Veterans
1,054	First Time Applicants

### 2018 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

\$1,458,162	Special Needs
\$1,341,169	Dental Care
\$282,063	Optical Care
\$121,652	Subsistence Needs
\$26,186	Dependant Education
\$10,543	HUD/VASH
\$4,500	Veteran Education

### SSAP FUND DISTRIBUTION BY COUNTY or UNIQUE LOCATION

July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018

Aitkin	\$42,046	Jackson	\$22,130	Red Lake	\$727
Anoka	\$73,950	Kanabec	\$33,150	Redwood	\$13,969
Becker	\$16,861	Kandiyohi	\$74,919	Renville	\$6,711
Beltrami	\$33,646	Kittson	\$3,175	Rice	\$15,178
Benton	\$26,083	Koochiching	\$9,874	Rock	\$5,442
Big Stone	\$16,373	Lac Qui Parle	\$938	Roseau	\$4,426
Blue Earth	\$49,148	Lake	\$2,776	Scott	\$27,552
Brown	\$26,682	Lake of the Woods	\$0	Sherburne	\$64,727
Carlton	\$36,767	Le Sueur	\$4,824	Sibley	\$722
Carver	\$32,428	Lincoln	\$4,604	St. Louis	\$150,860
Cass	\$41,436	Lyon	\$4,294	Stearns	\$159,875
Chippewa	\$13,985	Mahnomen	\$476	Steele	\$11,438
Chisago	\$28,139	Marshall	\$5,343	Stevens	\$28,689
Clay	\$41,723	Martin	\$15,799	Swift	\$18,674
Clearwater	\$5,610	McLeod	\$20,029	Todd	\$22,666
Cook	\$0	Meeker	\$30,088	Traverse	\$5,961
Cottonwood	\$40,348	Mille Lacs	\$32,292	MDVA Field Operations	\$440,691
Crow Wing	\$143,360	Morrison	\$23,848	MDVA Veterans Homes	\$31,211
Dakota	\$123,578	Mower	\$40,981	Wabasha	\$7,382
Dodge	\$6,188	Murray	\$11,343	Wadena	\$19,271
Douglas	\$42,736	Nicollet	\$21,395	Waseca	\$7,300
Faribault	\$7,084	Nobles	\$5,329	Washington	\$35,604
Fillmore	\$7,019	Norman	\$3,513	Watsonwan	\$14,274
Freeborn	\$11,656	Olmsted	\$39,478	Wilkin	\$0
Goodhue	\$22,259	Otter Tail	\$71,808	Winona	\$4,240
Grant	\$0	Pennington	\$10,263	Wright	\$21,472
Hennepin	\$259,166	Pine	\$45,798	Yellow Medicine	\$12,842
Houston	\$892	Pipestone	\$0		
Hubbard	\$18,486	Polk	\$30,416		
Isanti	\$24,885	Pope	\$35,638		
Itasca	\$112,073	Ramsey	\$196,511		

**\$3,244,275**

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2018  
DECREASED **2%** OVER 2017

# Grants

The Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs has provided up to **90 grants**

every year to Veteran organizations

selected by the Minnesota

legislature for 25 years.

In 2016, MDVA announced the

new Support Our Troops (SOT)

License Plate Grant Program.

2018 CVSO TOTAL  
**\$1,100,000**  
INCLUDES A GRANT TO THE MACVSO  
**\$50,000**  
MN ASSOC. OF COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS

2018 CVSO DISTRIBUTED  
**\$989,439**

2018 VSO TOTAL  
**\$539,308**  
INCLUDES SOT GRANT FUNDS OF  
**\$186,308**

2018 VSO MAXIMUM AWARDED  
**\$147,724**

2018 MACV TOTAL  
**\$750,000**

## Support Our Troops Grants



When you purchase a **Support Our Troops license plate**, the money goes to benefit Minnesota military members, Veterans, and their families through a variety of programs and services. To learn more, contact your local Department of Motor Vehicles, or visit [MinnesotaVeteran.org/SOT](http://MinnesotaVeteran.org/SOT). Dollars raised through the SOT program in 2018 helped fund the following two grant programs:

LICENSE PLATES 2018 FUNDS  
**\$558,449**

SOT FUNDS INCREASED  
**8%**  
OVER 2017

COMPETITIVE 2018 GRANTS  
**\$277,500**

GRANT RECIPIENTS INCREASED  
**100%**  
OVER 2017

VSO 2018 AWARDED  
**\$302,408**

VSO GRANTS INCREASED  
**70%**  
OVER 2017

## Legislative Grants

Legislatively mandated grants administered by MDVA include:

### COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER (CVSO) GRANTS

Grant funds distributed to Minnesota's 87 counties, used for outreach and to address local needs.

	2015	2016	2017	2018
Counties Receiving Base Grant of \$7,500	26	25	25	25
Counties Receiving Additional Funds	61	61	60	57
Amount Used for County Training /Education	\$ 35,795	\$ 25,178	\$85,475	\$87,689

CVSO FUNDS DISTRIBUTED  
**90%**  
OF TOTAL

### VETERAN SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS (VSO) GRANTS

VSO grants are awarded to service organizations working with Veterans and their families. Organizations that partnered with MDVA in the 2018 program include:

American Legion	Disabled American Veterans	Military Order of the Purple Heart
Paralyzed Veterans of America	Veterans of Foreign Wars	Vietnam Veterans of America
AMVETS		

VSO PARTNERSHIPS INCREASED  
**17%**  
OVER 2017

### MN ASSISTANCE COUNCIL FOR VETERANS (MACV) GRANTS

MACV Grants provide assistance throughout Minnesota to positively motivated Veterans and their families who are homeless or experiencing other life crises.

MACV PROGRAM  
**25TH**  
YEAR OF SERVICE

Organizations that serve Veterans have the opportunity to receive additional grants **beyond the annual legislatively mandated funds** through the *Support Our Troops (SOT) Grant Programs*.

### COMPETITIVE GRANTS

Minnesota organizations with programs designed to "support and improve the lives of Veterans and their families" can apply for grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$100,000. Applications for the SOT Competitive Grant are reviewed twice per year. 2018 grants were awarded to the following:

Every Third Saturday
Freedom Flight Inc.
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe
Community Action Partnership - Hennepin County

### VETERAN SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS (VSO) GRANTS

During 2018, the following organizations partnered with MDVA affording VSOs additional funds:

American Legion
Disabled American Veterans
Veterans of Foreign Wars
AMVETS
Paralyzed Veterans of America

"A special 'Thank You' goes out to MDVA and the SOT Grant Program.

The wheelchair accessible van we received from the SOT Grant is an invaluable addition to LLBO's Veteran Program."

ROBERT BUDREAU, LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE

# Homeless Veteran Prevention & Assistance

## MN's Homeless Veterans

279 | 281 | 320 | **53%**  
2016 | 2017 | 2018 | **REDUCTION**  
FROM 2010-2018  
4% BETTER THAN NATIONAL AVG

### MN VETERAN REGISTRY COMPARISON

Regions who have declared an end to Veteran Homelessness in 2018

	2015	2016	2017	2018
Central Minnesota	29	3	24	16
Hennepin & Ramsey	186	133	157	154
Northeast Minnesota	3	2	1	0
Northwest Minnesota	10	1	2	0
Southeast Minnesota	8	8	4	5
Southwest Minnesota	2	0	3	0
St. Louis County	26	7	8	8
Suburban Metro Area	28	6	13	13
West Central Minnesota	5	1	1	0

As of June 30, 2018. Does not include the Veterans who are housed, have left Minnesota, or have been out of contact for more than 90 days.

### 2018 HIGHLIGHTS

Shared SOAR program best practices at the **National Coalition for Homeless Veterans (NCHV) Annual Conference** in June 2018. MDVA was awarded **Outstanding Member of 2018** for its leadership role in building alliances to help end Veteran homelessness in Minnesota and across the country.

Spoke at the **Annual Association of MN Mayors Conference** in Perham on April 21, 2018, **reinvigorating the Mayor's Challenge** statewide.

MDVA partnered with Minnesota's Department of Labor & Industry to **prioritize Veterans who are eligible for apprenticeship programs** and streamline processes.

In 2018, Northeast Minnesota Continuum of Care (CoC) cleared its housing waiting lists, **declaring an end to Veteran homelessness.**

## 2018 Programs

### PREVENTION MN HOMELESS VETERANS REGISTRY

Connects Veterans experiencing homelessness with **housing and services** in their community.

Anyone can refer a Veteran to join, participation is voluntary.

	2016	2017	2018
Veterans Registered	895	357	468
Number Housed	594	488	404

Includes Veterans who have left Minnesota, became housed, or who are no longer in contact.

REGISTERED VETS INCREASED  
**31%**  
FROM 2017

### ASSISTANCE

#### MOVE MINNESOTA OPERATION FOR VETERAN EMPLOY

Temporarily assists homeless Veterans, housing them at *it* while working one-on-one with MDVA, connecting each Vete.

100% Occupancy Rate 2018 | 16 Veterans Assisted

#### MACV MINNESOTA ASSISTANCE COUNCIL FOR VETERA

Assists motivated Veterans and their families experiencing h  
Funding made possible through MDVA Grant Program.

\$325,623	Mortgage Assistance
\$6,402	Rent Assistance
\$44,409	Utility Expenses

### SOAR PROGRAM

Designed to **increase access to Social Security** benefits homeless adults with a mental illness, medical impairer  
Learn more about how SOAR is helping Veterans in need at

<b>\$527,100</b>	Federal Assistance Received in 2018
\$161,450	Back Payments Received in 2018
\$105,000	MN Dept. of Human Services Partner Fur
71%	Of the SSI/SSDI Claim Decisions Apprc

BACK PAYMENTS INCREASED  
**39%**  
FROM 2017

"They don't just come and fill out the paperwork and leave you with a number to follow-up. They are your mentor, they are there literally every step of the way start to finish, and even after finish they follow-up."

Sandy Bojarski, SOAR CLIENT

"I want to help spread the word that there's good people out here like that, that help Veterans and that's what we all need, sometimes you just need someone to help pull you up."

Gary Johnson, SOAR CLIENT



# COMMUNICATIONS

## ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

The mission of the Communications Division is to support the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs in its overall goal of serving Veterans. Activities include producing a weekly radio show, proposing ideas to the media regarding Veteran issues, the preparation and distribution of all communication tools, both print and electronic, coordinating Veteran and MDVA events, as well as building relationships with strategic audiences that can help promote MDVA and Veteran-related initiatives.

### SERVICES

- Advertising
- Branding
- Communications: Internal & External
- Event Management
- Marketing
- Media
- News & Events
- Online & Social Media
- Imaging: Photography Videography / Drone
- Public Relations

### NEWS MEDIA

73,398,738 Reach  
369 News Clips  
20 Press Releases

### EVENTS

#### Most Memorable Veterans Day 2017

Vietnam themed, the event's keynote address included *Douglas Bradley* and *Craig Werner*, authors of Rolling Stones' 2015 best-selling music book, "We Gotta Get Out of This Place - The Soundtrack of the Vietnam War," which delves into the music popular during the heart of America's experience in Vietnam.

"Craig and I were honored to be part of your Veterans Day Event. We've spoken to Veteran audiences across the country, and the Minnesota event was the biggest and best. Run like clockwork, too! Congrats!"

DOUGLAS BRADLEY

### WEBSITE

MinnesotaVeteran.org  
107,783 Website Users  
168,776 Sessions  
598,218 Page Views

#### TOP PAGES VIEWED

	HOME PAGE 75,448
	VETERANS HOMES 24,444
	EVENTS 21,622
	VETERAN CONTACTS 17,952
	MINNEAPOLIS VETERANS HOME 17,015

WEBSITE VISITORS  
INCREASED  
10.1%  
FROM 2017

### Minnesota Military Radio

For eight years, the award-winning Minnesota Military Radio (MMR) has been the forum for retelling the stories of Minnesota's military heroes. Each week, MMR covers topics important to the lives of Minnesota's Veterans and their families, including news on MDVA programs and services, along with event information and updates on the MDVA Veterans Homes.

Vietnam Veteran and volunteer host *Tom Lyons* keeps the program informative and entertaining with guests that range from historians to Veterans and their Commanders from all eras.

Carried on over 55 radio broadcasting stations, this syndicated radio show and podcast serve to preserve the stories of heroism before they are forgotten.

Tune in or listen to episodes at  
MinnesotaMilitaryRadio.com



#### 2018 SHOW HIGHLIGHTS

- Memorial Day Live Show 2018
- MDVA's Adult Day Center Broadcast
- Commanders' Task Force Holiday Show
- 7th Anniversary of Minnesota Military Radio Show

MMR RADIO STATIONS  
INCREASED  
22.2%  
FROM 2017

Albany	KDDG-FM 105.5
Albert Lea	KATE AM 1450
Alexandria	KXRA 1490 AM
Austin	KAUS AM 1480
Aitkin	KKIN AM 930
Bemidji	KBUN AM 1450 & KBUN FM 104.5
Bois Forte	KBFT FM 89.9
Brainerd	KVBR AM 1340
Crookston	KROX AM 1260 & KROX FM 105.7
Duluth/Superior	WDSM AM 710
Faribault	KBGY FM 107.5 & KQCL FM 95.9
Fond Du Lac	WGZS FM 89.1
Forest Lake	WKLX FM 95.9
Grand Rapids	KOZY AM 1320
Hastings	KDWA AM 1460 & KDWA FM 97.7
International Falls	KQBR FM 91.9
Jackson	KKOJ AM 1190 & KKOJ FM 97.7
Litchfield	KLFD AM 1410
Little Falls	KTLF AM 960 & WYRQ 92.1
Luverne	KQAD AM 800
Madison	KLDP FM 92.1
Montevideo	KDMA AM 1460
New Prague	KCHK AM 1350 & KCHK 95.5 FM
New Ulm	KNUJ AM 860
Owatonna/Waseca	KOWZ AM 1170/FM 106.3 & KRFO FM 104.9
Pequot Lakes	KLKS FM 100.1
Pine City	WCMP AM 1350
Pipestone	KLOH 1050 AM
Preston	KV60 FM 104.3 & KFIL FM 103.1
Princeton	WOPM AM 1300
Ramsey	KLCL FM 106.1
Redwood Falls	KLGR AM 1490 & KLGR FM 95.9
Rochester	KROC AM 1340
St. Cloud	WJON AM 1240
Staples	KNSP AM 1430
Twin Cities	News/Talk AM 1130
Wadena	KWAD AM 920
Willmar	KWLM AM 1340 & KWLM FM 96.3
Winona	KWND AM 1230
Worthington	KWOA AM 730 & KWOA FM 100.3

### Recognition



#### Outstanding Member Award

In recognition of MDVA's leadership in building alliances to help end Veteran homelessness in Minnesota and across the country.



#### Abraham Lincoln Pillars of Excellence Award

Recognizes outstanding state programs that support Veterans within their states.



#### Gold Award for Web Video

Tour of the State Veterans Cemetery - Preston



#### 2018 Gold Hermes Award

2017 Annual Report  
"Committed to Everyone"



2018 Annual Photo Recognition:  
Rivertown Multimedia - PAGE 8  
Stephen Geffre / The American Legion - PAGE 10



JULY 6, 2017

#### Medal Presentation by Senator Klobuchar

Six medals earned by WWII Minnesota soldier *Jerry Jacobsen* were presented to his widow, 95 year old *Catherine* by *Senator Klobuchar* and *Major General Nash*. Jerry fought and died shortly after D-Day and had been listed as MIA until documentation was recently discovered identifying his grave.



JULY 10, 2017

#### MDVA Preston Veterans Cemetery Media Day

Minnesota's newest state Veterans Cemetery in Preston hosted media from Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota. The event presented information on Preston's burial options for Veterans and families in the tri-state area.



JULY 19, 2017

#### Admiral Visits MDVA

Navy Vice Admiral *Fritz Roegge* made a welcoming visit to the Minneapolis Veterans Home.



JULY 30, 2017

#### Congressman Visits Minneapolis Home

Congressman *Tom Emmer* paid visit to the Minneapolis Veterans Home for a tour and update on the statewide Veterans Homes operations.

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AUGUST 7, 2017

#### Purple Heart Day

Honoring Minnesota recipients of the medal in its name, the ceremony included remarks from the Commander of Minnesota Military Order of the Purple Heart *Willie Fargo*, and *Mike McElhiney*, Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs Chief of Staff.



SEPTEMBER 28, 2017

#### MDVA Partners with St. Catherine University

The *Minneapolis Veterans Home* has partnered with *St. Catherine University's Henrietta Schmol School of Health* to offer health care students hands-on experience working in the MVH skilled health care units.



OCTOBER 19, 2017

#### Hastings Pheasant Luncheon

Annual event sponsored by the *American Legion* and the *Veterans of Foreign Wars* Hospital Pheasant Fund.



OCTOBER 25, 2017

#### MDVA Dental Clinic Announced

Plans to construct the country's first Veterans Home Dental Clinic were announced by MDVA, in partnership with *Delta Dental of Minnesota Foundation*, *Minnesota Veterans 4 Veterans Trust Fund (V4V)* and the *Disabled American Veterans (DAV) of Minnesota Foundation*. A focus on oral health and restorative dental care will be available to Minnesota Veterans.

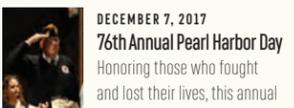
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NOVEMBER 9, 2017

#### Luverne Pheasant Dinner

The Luverne Veterans Home hosted its annual pheasant dinner.



NOVEMBER 11, 2017

#### State of MN Veterans Day

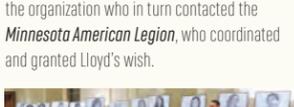
Minnesota's Veterans Day Program honored by the federal VA program as an official, regional site.



DECEMBER 7, 2017

#### 66th Annual Pearl Harbor Day

Honoring those who fought and lost their lives, this annual event featured the *Pearl Harbor Survivors Association*, *Fort Snelling National Cemetery Memorial Rifle Squad*, and the *Minnesota Historical Society*.



JANUARY 26, 2018

#### Soldier's Wish Granted

Hastings Veterans Home Resident *Lloyd Vollmer* was the 'all smiles' recipient of a *Soldier's Wish* grant. Organized to meet the needs of service members, daughter *Lesa* contacted *Soldiers Wish* after hearing of her dad's plan to glue his tooth back together. Looking for other ways to get his dentures repaired properly, *Lesa* contacted the organization who in turn contacted the *Minnesota American Legion*, who coordinated and granted *Lloyd's* wish.

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FEBRUARY 18, 2018

#### MDVA Receives Pillars of Excellence Award

Top honor from U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the prestigious *Abraham Lincoln Pillars of Excellence Award* was presented to MDVA for its work in making it easier for Veterans to search and access military discharge information securely.



MARCH 12, 2018

#### 2018 Veterans Day on the Hill Rally

This annual non-partisan event to announce the joint 2018 legislative agenda was represented by the *Minnesota Commander's Task Force (CTF)*, together with the *United Veterans Legislative Council (UVLC)* and the *Minnesota Association of County Veterans Service Officers (MACVSO)*.



MARCH 22, 2018

#### Grand Opening of MDVA Nursing Care Facility

MDVA's Minneapolis Veterans Home hosted the opening of *Building 22*, a new state-of-the-art nursing care facility. Showcasing MDVA's standard of Resident-centered care, the facility features private rooms, bathrooms and community gathering spaces.



APRIL 27, 2018

#### Veterans Needs Result in Bonding Bill Funds

Facility visits hosted by the MDVA Commissioner *Larry Shellito*, and MDA Commissioner *Matt Massman*, sought to bring focus to the urgent repairs needed to the facilities that serve nearly 800 Minnesota Veterans and their spouses. Their efforts resulted in the 2018 *Governor Dayton Bonding Bill* that includes \$13.1 million to fix and upgrade the State Veterans Homes and Little Falls Veterans Cemetery.



MAY 26, 2018

#### Women Veterans Conference

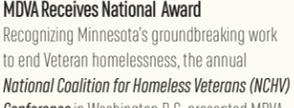
Annual event offered a variety of informative sessions while honoring 2018 MN Woman Veteran of the Year, *Catherine Bauer*. Retired U.S. Army Brigadier General *Pat Foote* was keynote speaker.



JUNE 13, 2018

#### MVH Room Dedication

Minneapolis Veterans Home held a room dedication honoring South Minneapolis native *Wallace R. (Skip) Schmidt*, representing all of Minnesota's Vietnam War Veterans.



JUNE 15, 2018

#### SOT Grant Awarded to Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe

A 2018 Support Our Troops (SOT) Grant was awarded to the *Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe* leaders by MDVA Deputy Commissioner *Brad Lindsay* for the purchase of a handicapped accessible van to transport Veterans to various Veterans Affairs medical facilities in Minnesota.



2018 ANNUAL PHOTO RECOGNITION

#### 2018 Annual Photo Recognition

2018 Annual Photo Recognition: Rivertown Multimedia - PAGE 8; Stephen Geffre / The American Legion - PAGE 10



2018 ANNUAL PHOTO RECOGNITION

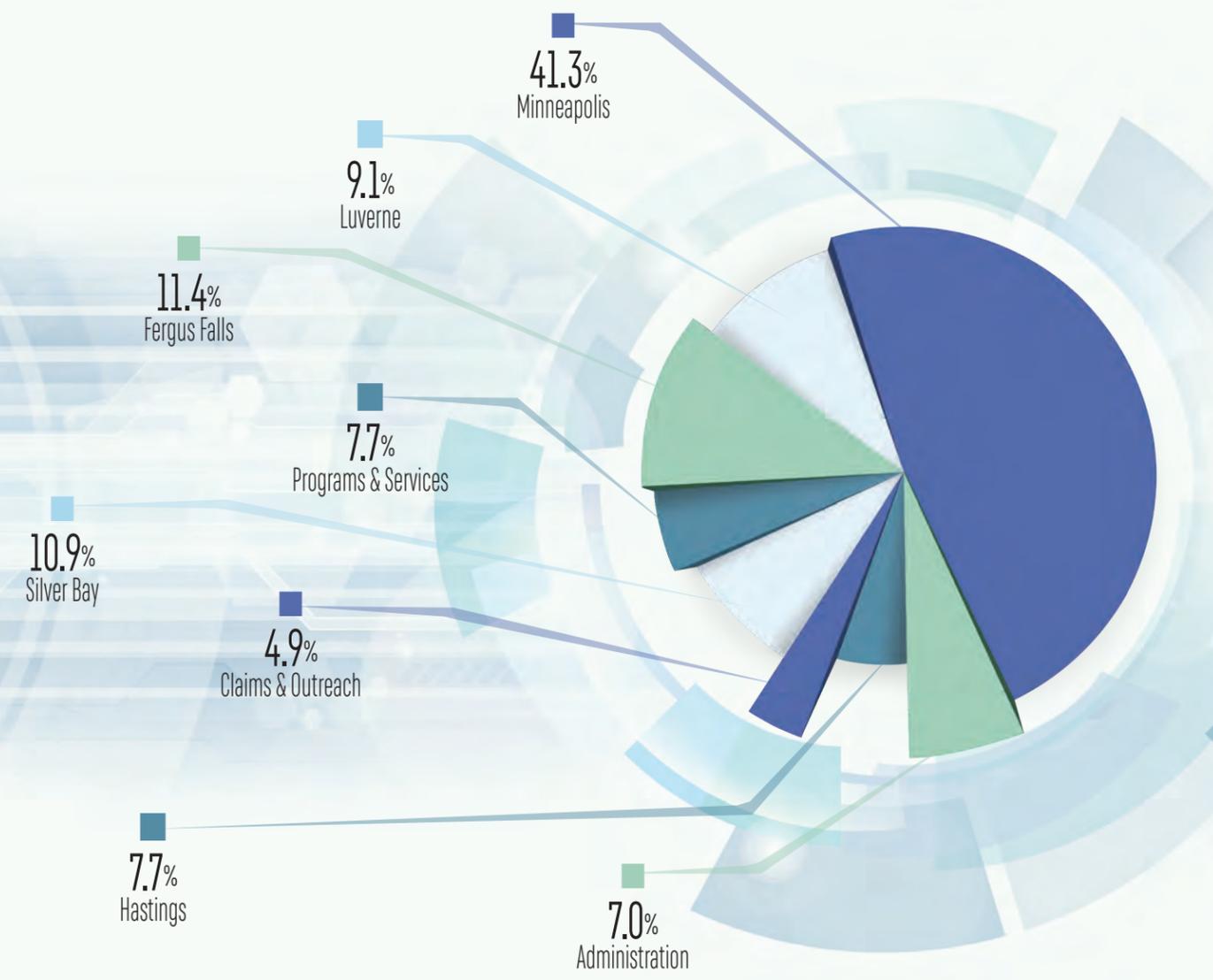
#### 2018 Annual Photo Recognition

2018 Annual Photo Recognition: Rivertown Multimedia - PAGE 8; Stephen Geffre / The American Legion - PAGE 10



2018 MDVA EVENTS

# 2018 FINANCIALS



## EXPENDITURES

Fergus Falls	\$ 14,592,667
Minneapolis	\$ 52,690,900
Silver Bay	\$ 13,934,130
Hastings	\$ 9,841,570
Luverne	\$ 11,610,238
<b>Total Health Care Homes</b>	<b>\$102,669,505</b>
Programs & Services	\$ 9,811,120
Claims & Outreach	\$ 6,191,628
<b>Total Programs &amp; Services</b>	<b>\$ 16,002,748</b>
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>\$ 8,977,061</b>

TOTAL EXPENDITURES\*  
**\$127,649,314**  
 1.5% INCREASE  
 OVER 2017

## CAPITAL BONDING IMPROVEMENTS FEDERAL & STATE

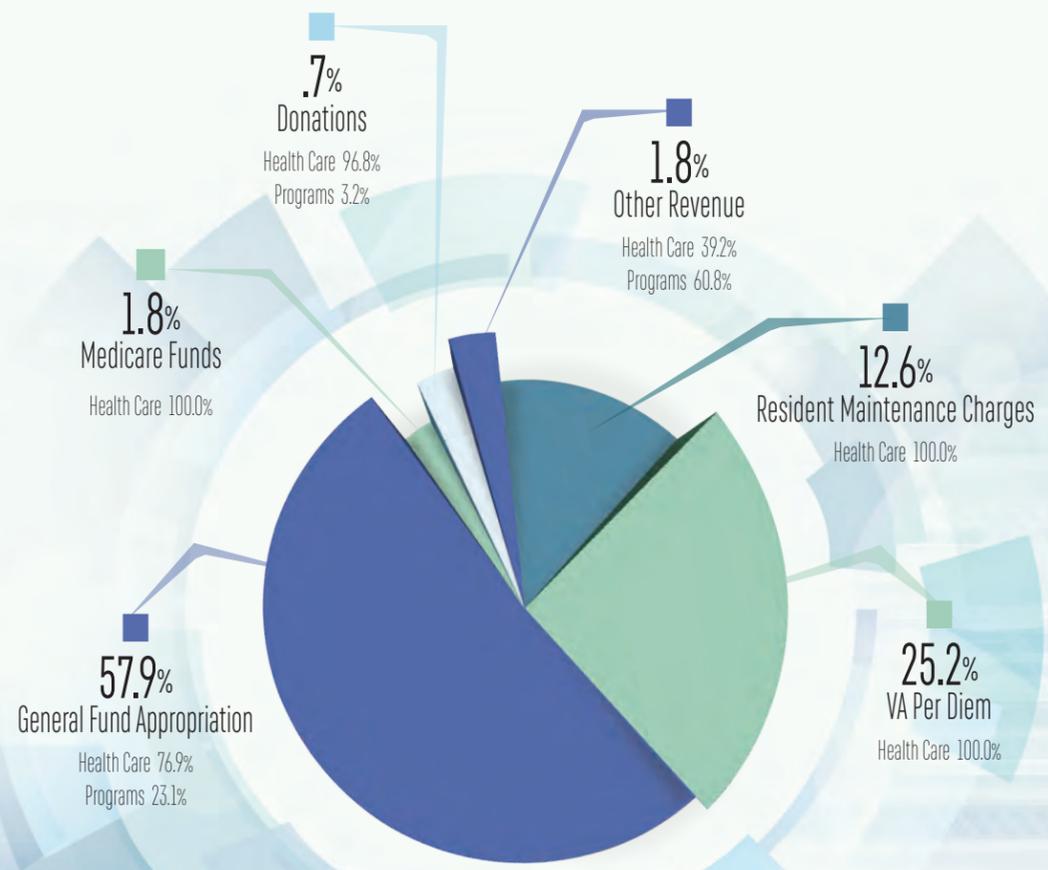
\* Bonding improvements are not included in Expenditures & Receipts totals as they are not considered ongoing operational funds.

<b>Capital Bonding Total</b>	<b>\$25,964,825</b>
Minneapolis Veterans Home	
Federal	\$ 13,757,018
State	\$ 7,407,625
Duluth Cemetery	
Federal	\$ 3,798,337
Asset Preservation	
State	\$ 1,001,845

## RECEIPTS

<b>General Fund Appropriations</b>	<b>\$74,909,979</b>
Health Care	\$57,575,000
Programs	\$17,334,979
<b>Federal Medicare Funds</b>	<b>\$ 2,328,739</b>
<b>VA Per Diem</b>	<b>\$32,521,231</b>
<b>Resident Maintenance Charges</b>	<b>\$16,222,257</b>
<b>Donations</b>	<b>\$ 938,343</b>
Health Care	\$ 907,927
Programs	\$ 30,416
<b>Other Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 2,303,376</b>
Health Care	\$ 902,175
Programs	\$ 1,401,201

TOTAL RECEIPTS\*  
**\$129,223,925**  
 3.2% INCREASE  
 OVER 2017



## MINNESOTA RANKS 23RD POPULATION

22	New Jersey	369,962	\$ 3,530,305
21	Wisconsin	68,719	\$ 692,369
20	Alabama	507,706	\$ 4,094,393
19	Maryland	222,286	\$ 2,224,770
18	South Carolina	1,681,730	\$ 15,979,540
17	Colorado	403,327	\$ 3,611,824
16	Indiana	184,302	\$ 1,294,090
15	Missouri	71,845	\$ 475,088
14	Tennessee	27,875	\$ 3,526,384
13	Arizona	1,525,400	\$ 13,406,124
12	Washington	697,127	\$ 6,441,820
11	Illinois	112,304	\$ 1,013,846
10	Georgia	122,067	\$ 998,236
9	Virginia	628,254	\$ 4,588,188
8	North Carolina	409,836	\$ 2,958,929
7	Ohio	206,430	\$ 1,448,876
6	Florida	194,186	\$ 1,505,276
5	New York	295,390	\$ 2,624,526
4	Pennsylvania	284,074	\$ 2,661,855
3	Illinois	114,020	\$ 1,062,791
2	Texas	389,640	\$ 3,007,129
1	California	323,253	\$ 2,850,783
	<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>589,326</b>	<b>\$ 4,087,748</b>

## MINNESOTA RANKS 26TH EXPENDITURES

25	Oregon	191,411	\$ 1,814,226
24	Massachusetts	442,579	\$ 3,720,062
23	Wisconsin	91,336	\$ 787,579
22	Indiana	130,126	\$ 1,210,793
21	Maryland	218,406	\$ 2,062,288
20	Oklahoma	105,390	\$ 763,530
19	District of Columbia	355,766	\$ 2,268,207
18	Alabama	158,994	\$ 1,597,862
17	Colorado	776,522	\$ 6,359,408
16	Missouri	730,357	\$ 7,153,003
15	South Carolina	51,677	\$ 405,950
14	Michigan	774,935	\$ 8,652,675
13	Arizona	303,205	\$ 3,281,758
12	Washington	303,689	\$ 2,842,535
11	Tennessee	819,185	\$ 5,663,674
10	Illinois	63,250	\$ 575,316
9	Pennsylvania	402,596	\$ 3,828,891
8	Virginia	65,335	\$ 680,744
7	New York	470,390	\$ 4,420,981
6	Georgia	1,584,844	\$ 16,874,116
5	North Carolina	134,313	\$ 1,186,426
4	Ohio	43,191	\$ 332,093
3	Florida	725,028	\$ 5,946,631
2	California	560,200	\$ 4,317,006
1	Texas	142,694	\$ 1,955,284
	<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>363,898</b>	<b>\$ 2,866,806</b>
		<b>47,220</b>	<b>\$ 449,087</b>
		<b>79,322</b>	<b>\$ 1,613,330</b>
		<b>10,026</b>	<b>\$ 109,409</b>

COUNTY / CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT	VETERAN POPULATION*	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	COMPENSATION & PENSION	CONSTRUCTION	EDUCATION REHABILITATION/ EMPLOYMENT	GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES	INSURANCE & INDEMNITIES	MEDICAL CARE	UNIQUE PATIENTS**
AITKIN	1,820	\$ 17,200	\$ 7,914	\$ -	\$ 245	\$ -	\$ 123	\$ 8,917	914
ANOKA	21,911	\$ 160,308	\$ 70,514	\$ -	\$ 8,063	\$ -	\$ 1,639	\$ 80,092	7,238
BECKER	2,962	\$ 25,037	\$ 11,279	\$ -	\$ 471	\$ -	\$ 175	\$ 13,113	1,258
BELTRAMI	3,036	\$ 29,615	\$ 16,226	\$ -	\$ 1,092	\$ -	\$ 209	\$ 12,088	1,322
BENTON	2,968	\$ 33,718	\$ 11,286	\$ -	\$ 705	\$ -	\$ 118	\$ 21,608	1,504
BIG STONE	429	\$ 4,087	\$ 2,213	\$ -	\$ 41	\$ -	\$ 87	\$ 1,747	270
BLUE EARTH	3,691	\$ 28,943	\$ 14,058	\$ -	\$ 2,466	\$ -	\$ 585	\$ 11,834	1,309
BROWN	1,822	\$ 15,209	\$ 8,495	\$ -	\$ 482	\$ -	\$ 291	\$ 5,940	819
CARLTON	2,838	\$ 24,734	\$ 15,440	\$ -	\$ 965	\$ -	\$ 121	\$ 8,209	1,015
CARVER	4,599	\$ 25,689	\$ 12,121	\$ -	\$ 1,425	\$ -	\$ 449	\$ 11,695	1,292
CASS	2,961	\$ 30,762	\$ 14,503	\$ -	\$ 395	\$ -	\$ 155	\$ 15,710	1,636
CHIPPEWA	790	\$ 7,464	\$ 2,887	\$ -	\$ 136	\$ -	\$ 23	\$ 4,419	450
CHISAGO	3,926	\$ 35,438	\$ 17,233	\$ -	\$ 1,913	\$ -	\$ 486	\$ 15,807	1,268
CLAY	3,797	\$ 40,686	\$ 15,580	\$ -	\$ 1,825	\$ -	\$ 437	\$ 22,843	1,632
CLEARWATER	849	\$ 7,874	\$ 3,740	\$ -	\$ 105	\$ -	\$ 49	\$ 3,981	412
COOK	444	\$ 3,154	\$ 1,714	\$ -	\$ 42	\$ -	\$ 47	\$ 1,351	125
COTTONWOOD	779	\$ 6,469	\$ 2,976	\$ -	\$ 76	\$ -	\$ 29	\$ 3,388	354
CROW WING	5,742	\$ 60,574	\$ 30,295	\$ -	\$ 1,581	\$ -	\$ 712	\$ 27,986	2,954
DAKOTA	25,094	\$ 194,186	\$ 85,739	\$ -	\$ 12,393	\$ -	\$ 2,839	\$ 93,215	7,377
DODGE	1,319	\$ 7,423	\$ 3,688	\$ -	\$ 396	\$ -	\$ 144	\$ 3,194	402
DOUGLAS	3,021	\$ 28,099	\$ 14,494	\$ -	\$ 628	\$ -	\$ 385	\$ 12,991	1,517
FARIBAUT	1,147	\$ 7,849	\$ 4,029	\$ -	\$ 259	\$ -	\$ 49	\$ 3,513	409
FILLMORE	1,431	\$ 10,142	\$ 5,398	\$ -	\$ 410	\$ -	\$ 77	\$ 4,257	492
FREEBORN	2,440	\$ 19,992	\$ 8,008	\$ -	\$ 253	\$ -	\$ 126	\$ 11,605	1,129
GOODHUE	3,636	\$ 24,707	\$ 11,244	\$ -	\$ 1,157	\$ -	\$ 256	\$ 12,049	1,050
GRANT	487	\$ 5,130	\$ 2,540	\$ -	\$ 84	\$ -	\$ 61	\$ 2,444	198
HENNEPIN	53,454	\$ 505,454	\$ 153,353	\$ 125	\$ 27,004	\$ 91,750	\$ 8,675	\$ 224,546	15,525
HOUSTON	1,354	\$ 9,036	\$ 5,169	\$ -	\$ 389	\$ -	\$ 74	\$ 3,404	602
HUBBARD	2,012	\$ 18,010	\$ 9,028	\$ -	\$ 375	\$ -	\$ 53	\$ 8,554	918
ISANTI	2,818	\$ 24,217	\$ 10,954	\$ -	\$ 758	\$ -	\$ 87	\$ 12,418	1,253
ITASCA	4,229	\$ 38,009	\$ 20,524	\$ -	\$ 674	\$ -	\$ 528	\$ 16,284	1,904
JACKSON	731	\$ 5,145	\$ 2,028	\$ -	\$ 301	\$ -	\$ 248	\$ 2,567	298
KANABEC	1,390	\$ 14,283	\$ 5,694	\$ -	\$ 175	\$ -	\$ 66	\$ 8,347	682
KANDIYOHI	2,427	\$ 23,050	\$ 11,479	\$ -	\$ 537	\$ -	\$ 233	\$ 10,801	1,276
KITSON	304	\$ 2,215	\$ 1,044	\$ -	\$ 23	\$ -	\$ 3	\$ 1,144	161
KOOCHICING	1,142	\$ 9,359	\$ 5,570	\$ -	\$ 105	\$ -	\$ 34	\$ 3,651	472
LAC QUI PARLE	582	\$ 5,555	\$ 2,154	\$ -	\$ 73	\$ -	\$ 65	\$ 3,262	373
LAKE	1,060	\$ 7,743	\$ 4,699	\$ -	\$ 80	\$ -	\$ 67	\$ 2,897	431
LAKE OF THE WOODS	365	\$ 2,719	\$ 1,407	\$ -	\$ 68	\$ -	\$ 214	\$ 1,029	125
LE SUEUR	1,914	\$ 12,142	\$ 5,231	\$ -	\$ 505	\$ -	\$ 106	\$ 6,301	699
LINCOLN	469	\$ 3,202	\$ 1,196	\$ -	\$ 52	\$ -	\$ 21	\$ 1,933	189
LYON	1,441	\$ 9,367	\$ 4,615	\$ -	\$ 402	\$ -	\$ 78	\$ 4,272	522
McLEOD	2,639	\$ 18,511	\$ 8,336	\$ -	\$ 664	\$ -	\$ 170	\$ 9,341	1,124
MAHONMEN	365	\$ 3,815	\$ 1,770	\$ -	\$ 75	\$ -	\$ 1	\$ 1,969	182
MARSHALL	604	\$ 5,643	\$ 2,905	\$ -	\$ 147	\$ -	\$ 31	\$ 2,561	320
MARTIN	1,559	\$ 12,921	\$ 6,889	\$ -	\$ 376	\$ -	\$ 194	\$ 5,463	707
MEEKER	1,742	\$ 16,147	\$ 7,432	\$ -	\$ 279	\$ -	\$ 157	\$ 8,279	908
MILLE LACS	2,239	\$ 26,451	\$ 13,519	\$ -	\$ 520	\$ -	\$ 295	\$ 12,117	1,163
MORRISON	2,690	\$ 36,448	\$ 17,373	\$ -	\$ 769	\$ -	\$ 85	\$ 18,221	1,689
MOWER	2,624	\$ 19,071	\$ 9,976	\$ -	\$ 636	\$ -	\$ 175	\$ 8,284	839
MURRAY	696	\$ 4,998	\$ 1,872	\$ -	\$ 89	\$ -	\$ 41	\$ 2,995	306
NICOLLET	1,935	\$ 14,504	\$ 6,975	\$ -	\$ 1,236	\$ -	\$ 256	\$ 6,036	790

COUNTY / CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT	VETERAN POPULATION*	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	COMPENSATION & PENSION	CONSTRUCTION	EDUCATION REHABILITATION/ EMPLOYMENT	GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES	INSURANCE & INDEMNITIES	MEDICAL CARE	UNIQUE PATIENTS**
NOBLES	1,103	\$ 7,207	\$ 2,791	\$ -	\$ 170	\$ -	\$ 11	\$ 4,235	487
NORMAN	474	\$ 6,554	\$ 2,559	\$ -	\$ 91	\$ -	\$ 24	\$ 3,880	261
OLMSTED	9,323	\$ 45,129	\$ 23,896	\$ -	\$ 3,673	\$ -	\$ 1,256	\$ 16,303	2,225
OTTER TAIL	4,813	\$ 44,822	\$ 20,458	\$ -	\$ 668	\$ -	\$ 301	\$ 23,395	2,329
PENNINGTON	926	\$ 6,608	\$ 3,209	\$ -	\$ 285	\$ -	\$ 160	\$ 2,954	365
PINE	2,486	\$ 24,139	\$ 12,662	\$ -	\$ 399	\$ -	\$ 210	\$ 10,868	925
PIPESTONE	632	\$ 2,916	\$ 1,296	\$ -	\$ 84	\$ -	\$ 54	\$ 1,482	200
POLK	2,191	\$ 15,624	\$ 7,545	\$ -	\$ 821	\$ -	\$ 160	\$ 7,099	890
POPE	867	\$ 7,485	\$ 3,358	\$ -	\$ 113	\$ -	\$ 97	\$ 3,916	421
RAMSEY	24,155	\$ 181,113	\$ 70,421	\$ -	\$ 13,054	\$ -	\$ 3,420	\$ 94,218	6,824
RED LAKE	249	\$ 2,139	\$ 942	\$ -	\$ 17	\$ -	\$ 5	\$ 1,175	122
REDWOOD	1,058	\$ 8,812	\$ 4,808	\$ -	\$ 181	\$ -	\$ 74	\$ 3,749	397
RENVILLE	1,032	\$ 9,734	\$ 5,294	\$ -	\$ 169	\$ -	\$ 71	\$ 4,199	466
RICE	4,012	\$ 21,749	\$ 11,326	\$ -	\$ 1,032	\$ -	\$ 472	\$ 8,919	983
ROCK	653	\$ 5,775	\$ 2,338	\$ -	\$ 177	\$ -	\$ 58	\$ 3,202	296
ROSEAU	1,116	\$ 6,878	\$ 3,368	\$ -	\$ 138	\$ -	\$ 135	\$ 3,237	386
ST. LOUIS	15,704	\$ 111,132	\$ 62,186	\$ -	\$ 7,227	\$ -	\$ 1,187	\$ 40,532	5,689
SCOTT	6,649	\$ 52,123	\$ 24,378	\$ -	\$ 3,246	\$ -	\$ 773	\$ 23,726	2,243
SHERBURNE	5,854	\$ 57,071	\$ 28,497	\$ -	\$ 2,635	\$ -	\$ 544	\$ 25,395	2,658
SIBLEY	868	\$ 7,677	\$ 3,613	\$ -	\$ 122	\$ -	\$ 32	\$ 3,911	366
STEARNS	10,021	\$ 160,895	\$ 52,803	\$ 3,784	\$ 3,388	\$ 1,176	\$ 1,017	\$ 98,727	5,956
STEELE	2,411	\$ 14,263	\$ 7,403	\$ -	\$ 637	\$ -	\$ 146	\$ 6,077	702
STEVENS	530	\$ 2,898	\$ 1,686	\$ -	\$ 92	\$ -	\$ 50	\$ 1,071	207
SWIFT	654	\$ 5,419	\$ 2,783	\$ -	\$ 166	\$ -	\$ 52	\$ 2,418	316
TODD	1,878	\$ 19,532	\$ 7,055	\$ -	\$ 141	\$ -	\$ 85	\$ 12,251	1,082
TRAVERSE	309	\$ 2,789	\$ 1,484	\$ -	\$ 23	\$ -	\$ 3	\$ 1,279	132
WABASHA	1,765	\$ 14,845	\$ 7,377	\$ -	\$ 473	\$ -	\$ 144	\$ 6,850	693
WADENA	1,190	\$ 16,047	\$ 9,256	\$ -	\$ 415	\$ -	\$ 163	\$ 6,213	579
WASECA	1,251	\$ 8,893	\$ 4,301	\$ -	\$ 323	\$ -	\$ 157	\$ 4,112	463
WASHINGTON	14,188	\$ 97,274	\$ 46,638	\$ -	\$ 7,490	\$ -	\$ 1,927	\$ 41,219	3,652
WATONWAN	762	\$ 6,703	\$ 3,012	\$ -	\$ 189	\$ -	\$ 241	\$ 3,262	338
WILKIN	449	\$ 5,072	\$ 1,459	\$ -	\$ 73	\$ -	\$ 62	\$ 3,477	201
WINONA	2,806	\$ 18,477	\$ 8,784	\$ -	\$ 1,302	\$ -	\$ 83	\$ 8,309	1,012
WRIGHT	7,793	\$ 58,866	\$ 26,069	\$ -	\$ 2,292	\$ -	\$ 401	\$ 30,104	2,750
YELLOW MEDICINE	735	\$ 7,737	\$ 3,268	\$ -	\$ 145	\$ -	\$ 122	\$ 4,201	355

MINNESOTA	327,629	\$2,766,904	\$1,193,130	\$3,909	\$125,375	\$92,926	\$35,328	\$1,316,235	118,775
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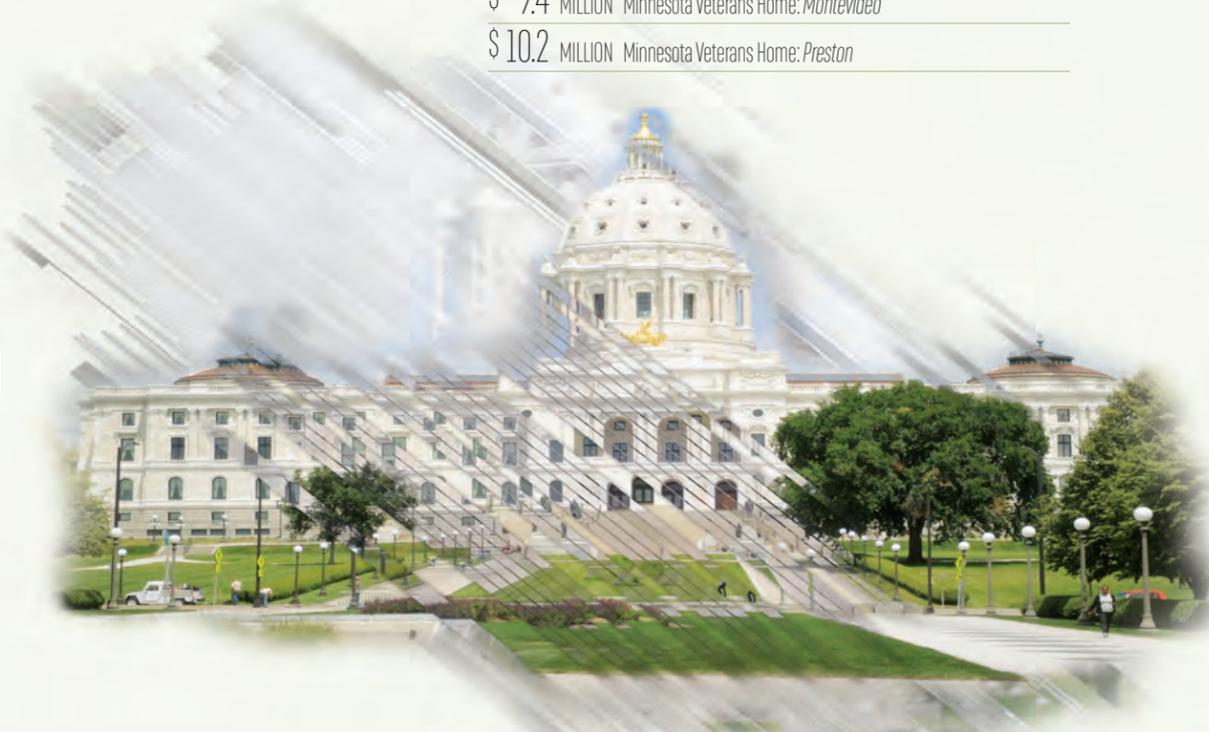
CONG DIST (01)	43,096	\$ 284,382	\$ 140,623	\$ -	\$ 14,875	\$ -	\$ 4,595	\$ 124,289	14,771
CONG DIST (02)	41,431	\$ 313,890	\$ 142,191	\$ -	\$ 19,160	\$ -	\$ 4,569	\$ 147,971	12,388
CONG DIST (03)	35,056	\$ 230,711	\$ 101,440	\$ 84	\$ 16,621	\$ -	\$ 5,151	\$ 107,415	9,771
CONG DIST (04)	32,819	\$ 238,508	\$ 98,973	\$ -	\$ 17,626	\$ -	\$ 4,596	\$ 117,314	8,966
CONG DIST (05)	28,747	\$ 345,397	\$ 83,659	\$ 41	\$ 14,066	\$ 91,750	\$ 4,366	\$ 151,515	9,040
CONG DIST (06)	43,439	\$ 422,276	\$ 167,663	\$ 3,714	\$ 15,541	\$ 1,176	\$ 3,483	\$ 230,699	17,791
CONG DIST (07)	47,135	\$ 422,547	\$ 193,520	\$ 43	\$ 10,412	\$ -	\$ 4,066	\$ 214,506	21,913
CONG DIST (08)	55,906	\$ 509,192	\$ 265,061	\$ 28	\$ 17,075	\$ -	\$ 4,502	\$ 222,526	24,135

\* Veteran population estimates, as of September 30, 2017, are produced by the VA Office of the Actuary (VetPop 2016).  
 \*\* Unique patients are patients who received treatment at a VA health care facility. Data are provided by the Allocation Resource Center (ARC).

## SUMMARY OF FEDERAL EXPENDITURES

BY MINNESOTA COUNTY  
As of September 30, 2017

EXPENDITURES IN \$000s



# 2018 LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS



\$41 MILLION

- \$ 9.0 MILLION MDVA Asset Preservation *To repair MDVA Veterans Homes infrastructure*
- \$ 12.4 MILLION Minnesota Veterans Home: *Bemidji*
- \$ 9.4 MILLION Minnesota Veterans Home: *Montevideo*
- \$ 10.2 MILLION Minnesota Veterans Home: *Preston*

Veteran status collected by Minnesota Secretary of State's office for state agency appointments

This law allows the Secretary of State's office to include Veteran status on applications for appointments to state agencies, boards, councils, commissions and task forces. This information can be shared voluntarily by applicants. Other voluntary information includes: sex, political party preference or lack thereof, race and national origin. *This law amends Minnesota Statutes 2016, sections 15.0597, subdivisions 2, 5 and 7; 15.0599, subdivision 4.*

Designating July 16 Atomic Veterans Day in Minnesota

This day will honor the service of Atomic Veterans each year. These Veterans were exposed to radiation during their service, particularly those who took part in atmospheric nuclear tests and those that were stationed in Hiroshima and Nagasaki immediately after World War II. The date was chosen because in 1945 the atom bomb was successfully tested.

Purple Heart city and Purple Heart County designation authorized

This law allows local governments the ability to designate their entity a Purple Heart City or a Purple Heart County. The local governments may also create a prominent parking space at city hall or county government centers, reserved specifically for Purple Heart recipients. It also allows for the local government to accept donations to pay for a sign that honors this Purple Heart designation.

Designating June 29 General John Vessey Day in Minnesota

Each year, the life and accomplishments of General Vessey will be honored on his birthday. Vessey served as the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from 1982-1985, distinguishing himself as the highest ranking military member native to Minnesota. General Vessey passed away in 2016 and was buried at the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery in Little Falls, MN.

Counties competitive bidding for Veteran-owned small businesses modified

This law authorizes Hennepin County to directly negotiate with firms that are certified as a small business enterprise, or a small business that is majority owned and operated by a Veteran or disabled Veteran.

Minnesota GI Bill statutory language re-codified and technical corrections made

This law amends Minnesota Statute 197.791 by adding subdivision 5b under Section 3 which clarifies additional uses of Minnesota GI Bill benefits. The new uses include various licensing, professional and education exams, as well as fees associated with the pursuit of a professional or educational objective.

Military pay / benefit assignment prohibited

Minnesota prohibits, and added penalties and remedies, to the violation of Federal law prohibiting the assignment of military pay or military benefits earned as a result of service in the armed forces of the United States. The prohibition includes, but is not limited to agreements to buy, sell or otherwise transfer those pay or benefits.



MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT



THANK YOU  
VETERANS

*Amy Stevens*

We present this 2018 report with **pride and honor...**  
as each of MDVA's 1,426 staff members remain  
dedicated to our **evolving mission to serve**  
Minnesota Veterans and their families... **one by one.**



MDVA Central Office

20 West 12th Street - St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

651-296-2562

1-888-LinkVet (546-5838)

[MinnesotaVeteran.org](http://MinnesotaVeteran.org)