

2019 Annual Report



Veterans Assistance Commission of McHenry County
McHenry County Government Ctr – Admin Bldg 667 Ware Road, Suite 100 Woodstock, IL 60098
Phone: (815) 334-4229 Fax: (815) 334-4678
Business Hours Monday - Friday; 8:00-4:30
Client Home Visit & Educational Outreach Available by Appointment

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VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION OF McHENRY COUNTY

2200 North Seminary Ave., Admin Bldg
Woodstock, IL 60098

Phone (815) 334-4229 Fax (815) 334-4678 e-mail MAIwanic@mchenrycountyil.gov



Michael Iwanicki
CVSO
Superintendent

January 1, 2019

The Honorable JB Pritzker
Governor of Illinois
State Capital Room 207
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Governor Pritzker,

As required by 330 ILCS 45 (The Military Veterans Assistance Act) I am submitting the Veterans Assistance Commission of McHenry County Annual Report for the Fiscal Year ending November 30, 2019.

History of the Veterans Assistance Commission:

The 1895 Soldiers and Sailors Relief Act was established to provide assistance to injured and/or impoverished Union veteran families or their surviving spouse. Amendments to the law eventually allowed the Military Veterans Service Organizations to petition a County Board to create a central benefits office to be known as the Veterans Assistance Commission of XXX County (VAC). The Superintendent is selected by the Veterans Community through the Commission which is composed of representatives from each of the Military Service Organizations within the County. The Commission and its Superintendent develop a written set of guidelines for the administration of Veterans Assistance which is a form of General Assistance. Emergency Assistance which is included within the Military Veterans Assistance Act is interpreted by the VAC of McHenry County to be equivalent in nature to Emergency Assistance in other Illinois State Statutes.

The intent of the Act also allows for the creation of programs to address unmet needs within the veterans community. This makes it so each VAC may provide services specific to the needs of its local community. To fulfill its mission the Superintendent is tasked with hiring and training staff.

The Veterans Assistance Commission of McHenry County Office came into being in 1989 under Superintendent William Walters. The Military Veterans Service Organizations who had been administering assistance under the Act turned over their files to the Commission office. Among the first programs offered was transportation to the VA hospital for local veteran's medical appointments. In 1998, Superintendent James Doran made the office full time and began offering assistance with VA Claims. Superintendent Michael Iwanicki took the helm in 2003 and emphasis was placed on VA Claims prosecution, and direct client outreach for veterans and survivors who due to disability or work schedule could not otherwise meet with a Veterans Service Officer at the office or during normal working hours.

Routine Functions of the VAC of McHenry County

- **Client Review:** Provide a complete review of every case for any additional programs or benefits to which the applicant may be entitled. This includes working closely with other agencies to ensure that clients receive the tools needed to become or remain independent.
- **Veterans Financial Assistance:** Veterans Assistance is available to eligible low income veterans or surviving spouses. Assistance is paid directly to vendors for Rent or Mortgage, Utilities, Food, and Gasoline. Emergency Veterans Assistance is available to eligible veterans who are not eligible for Veterans Assistance and in need of a onetime assistance for rent, mortgage or utilities in arrears.
- **VA Claims Prosecution:** The Veterans Service Officers (VSO's) for the VAC of McHenry County are recognized by the VA General Council to represent veterans and/or eligible dependents all the way

Veterans for Veterans; It's not just what we do, it's who we are

through the VA Board of Appeals. We assist our veterans with Disability, Pension (Aid & Attendance), Special Monthly Compensation, and VA Healthcare claims.

- **VA Hospital Transportation:** Through the operation of four vehicles the Commission provides free transportation services for veterans and their aide to the Capt. James Lovell Federal Health Care Center (Lovell FHCC). Veterans meet the bus at designated stops in Woodstock, McHenry, and Crystal Lake.
- **Other Advocacy Work:** The VAC of McHenry County continues to educate Local, State, and Federal officials and legislators to support resolutions and legislation that positively impacts the veterans' community. Additionally, the VAC works with numerous local agencies in order to match client needs with the appropriate services.

Summary of 2019 Highlights – McHenry County Taxpayers can be proud in the care and respect of how their money is being used. Our top notch staff filled 2460 transportation requests for our Lovell FHCC Bus Service, addressed 386 requests for financial assistance, and began prosecution on 447 new VA claims. Thanks to an exemplary team, for every \$1 provided by our taxpayers, the VAC has assisted our local veterans and surviving spouses receive \$6.50 in new payments from the US Department of Veterans Affairs. Most of this money is statistically spent locally for goods and services provided by McHenry County businesses.

VA Claims prosecuted by the VAC over 2019 resulted in just under \$2.8M in new claims dollars reaching the pockets of our Veterans and survivors. Overall the VA is investing over \$105M in McHenry County with payments to our disabled veterans and survivors exceeding \$43M annually. The \$105M include other benefits such as VA Health Insurance (CHAMP VA) for dependents, services provided at the VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic in McHenry, Veteran and/or Dependent Education Benefits, and Vocational Rehabilitation.

Working with the Elizabeth Dole Foundation the VAC developed a Caregiver Relief Veterans Assistance (CRVA) program. The program assists with much needed relief for the caregiver of a veteran and/or the veteran's spouse. The Dole Foundation also assisted with making McHenry County a Hidden Hero's County in recognition of caregivers supporting our military veterans. The County Board quietly passed the resolution at the November 2019 meeting.

Our Outreach Education Program proactively reaches veterans and their families through a variety of venues. The goal is to inform McHenry County residents of VA benefits available and how the VAC can help. Over 2019 the VAC participated in community programs including;

Veterans Town Hall at MCC	Caregiver Expo at Lovell FHCC	People in Need Expo
McHenry Expo	Elderwerks Senior Fair	Veteran Student Services at MCC
Veterans Forum at Lovell	Patriot Run for veterans	TLS Veterans Food Truck
Continuum of Care	Housing Authority CDBG Committee	Veterans Conservation Corps
Journey Care Hospice	IL Assn. Of County Officials	Bridges of Law Enforcement
Lovell Patients Advisory	Lovell Mental Health Summit	Task Force On Aging

The goal of the Commission and its programs is to be the Central Benefits Office for our local veteran families, and their survivors. Members of the Veterans Assistance Commission of McHenry County are proud to be serving our military veterans and their families. Working with the Federal, State, and local public and private agencies McHenry County Veterans can expect quality service and assistance valuable to maintaining or reaching independence.

Very Respectfully,

Michael A. Iwanicki

Michael A. Iwanicki
Superintendent / CVSO

2019 VA Claims

The VAC of McHenry County has four persons qualified and accredited to present and prosecute VA claims before the Veterans Benefits Administration. Over 2019 our VSO's helped claimants file 447 different claims. The three most common claims are Service Connected Disability, Veterans & Survivors Pension, and Dependency and Indemnity. The VAC also represents a claimants review or appeal of a denied claim, as well as other less frequent types of VA claims.

A claim for Service Connected Disability is the result of the military veteran developing a chronic illness or physical disability which can be traced back to the veteran's military service. Of the 447 claims submitted 281 (63%) were for service connection. Veterans Service Officers (VSO's) obtain the veterans Military Service Medical Records, civilian health records, and/or Veterans Health Administration records in order to review the Veterans medical history and identify possible links to "In Service Incidents". Upon identifying possible issues a Disability Benefits Questionnaire and supporting evidence is provided to the veteran's doctor to assess the degree of the veteran's injuries and get a medical opinion as to the possible connection to the veteran's military service. Once all the formal applications and supporting evidence is complete the claim is sent to the US Department of Veterans Affairs – Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) for evaluation of completeness, determination of service connection, and if approved degree of disability. Some claims such as Service Connection for 'ALS' are automatically presumed by the VBA to be related to the veteran's military service. Most claims however require considerable development to prove connection to military service. Veterans Service Officers for the VAC are expected to develop keen investigative skills as well as knowledge of medical, military, and legal terminology in order to successfully represent their veteran's claim.

Veterans, and Survivors Pension is a stipend provided by the US Department of Veterans Affairs – VBA awarded to very low income totally disabled veterans whose military service was during a period of hostility. 74 (16.6%) such claims were filed by VAC VSO's over 2019. Unlike Service Connected Disability, Pension evaluates the applicants overall fitness to be employed regardless of the origin of the injury. Individuals aged 65 and older are automatically presumed to be 'Permanently and Totally' disabled. Household income and assets are evaluated by the VA's Pension Center in Milwaukee WI to determine both if the applicant is eligible for the Pension and at what amount. There are three levels of Pension; Regular, Housebound, and Aid & Attendance. On October 18, 2018, the Veterans Benefits Administration issued new regulations for the eligibility of Veterans or Survivors Pension. The new regulations were to address concerns over reorganizing assets to become eligible for the Pension. The new rules allow the VA to look back 3 years and initiate an up to 5 year penalty period for those who transfer assets that otherwise could have been used to support the applicant. VAC Veterans Service Officers must assist the applicant with review of all the household income, countable assets, and reoccurring medical expenses. Additionally, the VSO must gather and review medical information to identify the level of pension which the applicant may be eligible. A well-developed pension claim ready to submit to the VA Pension Center is about 60 pages long.

Dependency and Indemnity is awarded to the veteran's survivors should it be determined that the cause of the veteran's death was the result of an illness or injury related to the veterans military service. 23 such claims were filed by our office on behalf of surviving spouses. For veterans who were Service Connected for a potentially fatal condition and passed from that condition, the application does not need considerable development and the VA itself often initiates the process on behalf of the survivors. In most cases the VSO must assist the survivor with gathering the evidence, similar to filing a claim for service connection and making the connection to military service post mortem. When successful, the survivor receives a monthly benefit from the VA along with dependents education benefits and health insurance.

2019 VA Claims

Reviews & Appeals under the Appeals Modernization Act (AMA) most frequently occur when the VBA denies a claim for service connection and there exists evidence that the denial is based either on incomplete or inadmissible negative evidence which the VA Rating Specialist relied upon for the negative decision. The Superintendent and VSOII submitted 35 appeals over 2019. The goal of AMA is to reduce the time it takes to decide an appeal from years to 120 days. There are three paths a veteran may choose his/her claim to take; Supplemental Review, Higher Level Review, and Appeal to the VA Board of Appeals in Washington DC.

Supplemental and Higher Level Reviews are performed at the VBA Regional Office Level. A Supplemental Review will examine a previously denied claim when the veteran or eligible family member has new and relevant evidence that (s)he would like the VBA to consider. This is the most common form of review. A Higher Level Review will typically be requested in association with a recently denied claim where there is a question of legal procedure, dismissing positive evidence, or reliance on negative evidence. Where a Supplemental Review requires new evidence, the Higher Level Review is more of a De Novo Review of how the claim was adjudicated.

An Appeal to the VA Board of Appeals (BVA) leaves the VBA Regional Office and goes before a Hearing Judge who will review the case not only in regard to VBA Regulations but also the intent of legislation as it is written in the US Code and the Code of Federal Regulations. Veterans and eligible family members can choose to have a hearing before the Judge, have the Judge review the evidence in the case of record, or review the case with new evidence. Due to the backlog of BVA cases that were outstanding prior to the AMA such appeals are going to take much longer than the 120 day goal. The BVA hopes to be able to decide appeals based on the record alone in less than a year, hearings and evaluation of new evidence will take longer and no time frame was offered.

If the Claim is denied at the BVA the claimant does have the option to appeal to the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims (CAVC). The VAC is not authorized to represent clients before the CAVC. To date, two cases that originated at the VAC had been heard at the CAVC, both claims were awarded. If a client chooses this route we have three firms that are typically referred to; the Pro Bono Consortium, National Veterans Legal Services Program (NVLSP), or Bergman and Moore (American Legion only). Both the Pro Bono Consortium and NVLSP had provided training to the VSO's with the Illinois Association of County Veterans Assistance Commission (IACVAC). NVLSP and Bergman and Moore have provided more advanced training for our VSO II and Superintendent.

There are several other types of less frequently applied for claims which the VAC works with the veteran or survivor to obtain. These include but are not limited to; Application for VA Health Care, 1151 (VA Malpractice), Service Connection for Dental, Appeal for Proposed Reduction in Service Connection, Apportionment, Change in Status of Dependents, Dependents Education, Burial Allowance, Waiver of Indebtedness, appeal VA Denial to pay emergency non-VA Medical Care, and others. Over Fiscal Year 2019, only 36 such claims were filed, 24 of which were for burial benefits.

2019 VA Claims

Over Fiscal Year 2019 the VAC of McHenry County had filed 447 new claims against the US Department of Veterans Affairs (Benefits Administration) covering 631 individual issues. 309 claims were decided for VAC clients over 2019, the average first year benefit including back payments was \$9,077. 629 claims have yet to be decided which includes 35 claims that are currently being appealed.

The VAC also tracks the reoccurring payments awarded to our veterans and survivors. The VAC assumes that the monthly award is granted for four calendar years and then the VA drops the award to 'zero'. Although this method significantly understates the ongoing awards received by McHenry County veterans and their survivors, the conservative figure is an adjustment for veterans or survivors that are no longer living in the County. A more accurate figure would be at least 50% of the total awards granted by the VA Benefits Administration as the VAC historically accounts for up to 75% of the annual award increase. The following table includes figures from 2018. The VA will publish its 2019 expenditures sometime late Spring 2020. The Average Monthly Increase per the VA is the difference between the total paid to McHenry County Veterans in the stated year and what was paid the previous year. The VAC Increase includes VA Compensation and Pension Claims successfully prosecuted by the VAC Office. This includes claims the VAC prosecuted for veterans outside McHenry County.

Year	Per VA – Ave. Monthly Increase	Monthly Increase in VA Awards Prosecuted by VAC	VA Total Compensation Paid To McHenry County Vets.	Average Monthly Total Reoccurring Payment Paid by the VA	Ave. Monthly Pmt. of VA Awards Prosecuted by the VAC (4 yr Formula)	Ave. Monthly Pmt. of VA Awards Prosecuted by the VAC (50% Formula)
2016	\$243,606	\$245,681	\$41,193,127	\$3,432,761	\$758,400	\$1,716,380
2017	\$163,516	\$245,439	\$43,155,318	\$3,596,277	\$874,900	\$1,798,138
2018	\$178,414	\$216,198	\$45,296,280	\$3,774,690	\$883,478	\$1,887,345
2019		\$232,973			\$913,699	

Over 2019 VAC Clients received an additional \$2,795,680 in benefits payments from the US Department of Veterans Affairs. The blank spaces in the above table will be filled once the official expenditures are released by the VBA. Reoccurring monthly benefit payments received by VAC Clients who were initially awarded during fiscal years 2016 – 2019 are receiving a total of \$10,964,387 annually (\$913,699 per month). These monies are likely being used by the veterans and or family members to purchase goods and services locally.

Associated with the VA Disability, the US Department of Veterans Affairs invests a considerable amount in support of our local veterans and their dependents. This amounted to \$106,172,913 or \$1,120,376 over 2017. The following illustrates the VA's local investments for our veterans by category over 2018. The National Average increase over 2018 in VA spending was 0.0068%, in McHenry County VA spending increased 1.066% (Spending in Illinois decreased by 0.1%).

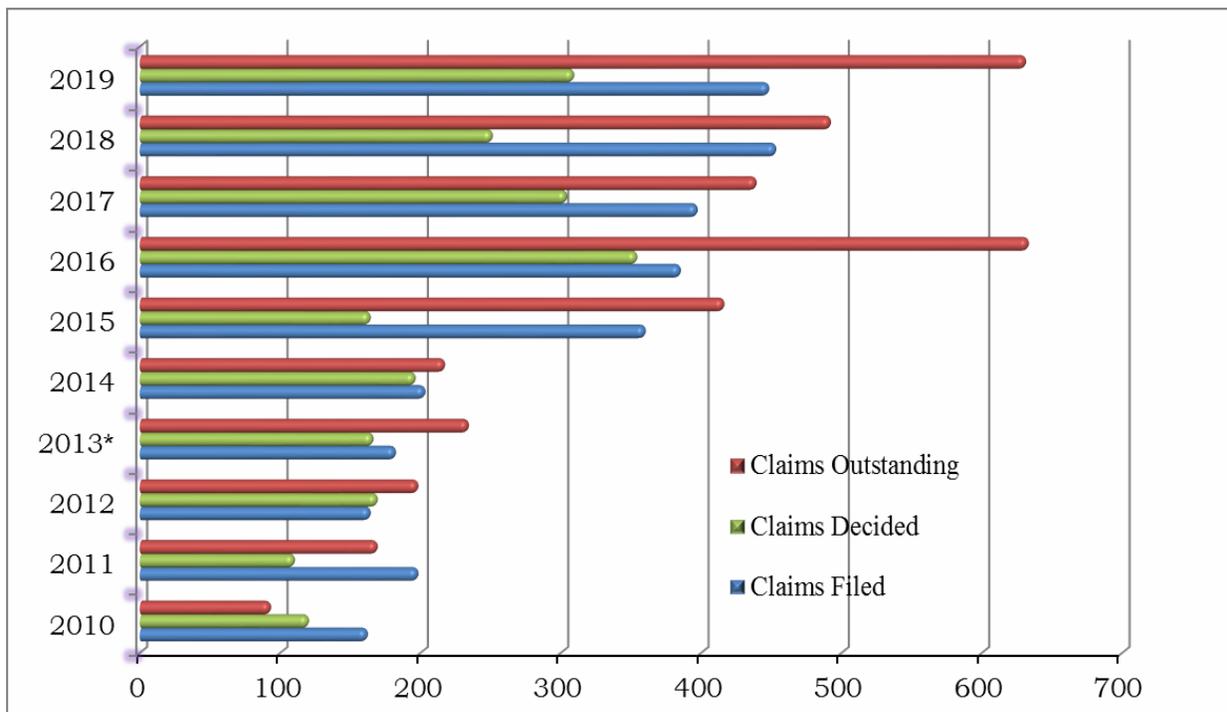
Compensation & Pension	Education	Insurance & Indemnities	Health Care
\$43,296,280	\$7,650,409	\$1,372,699	\$51,853,525

2019 VA Claims

Ongoing changes in the law as well as ongoing changes in Veterans Benefits Administration regulations require VAC Veterans Service Officers to undergo annual training and maintain a high level of attention to detail to spot changes within VA Correspondence to the veteran, VA Fast Letters, and alerts from the State and National Organizations. Often the changes are related to court cases where the Department of Veterans Affairs is instructed to act immediately. In such cases it may take a couple of months for the proper instruction to reach the veterans service officers. Recent examples of changes included the implementation of the Appeals Modernization Act, and new reporting standards for State VAC reporting effective in 2020. Also in 2020, the VAC anticipates a sizeable increase in claims as a result of the Blue Water Navy Act which recognizes Sailors, Coast Guard, and Marines service aboard ship off the coast of Vietnam.

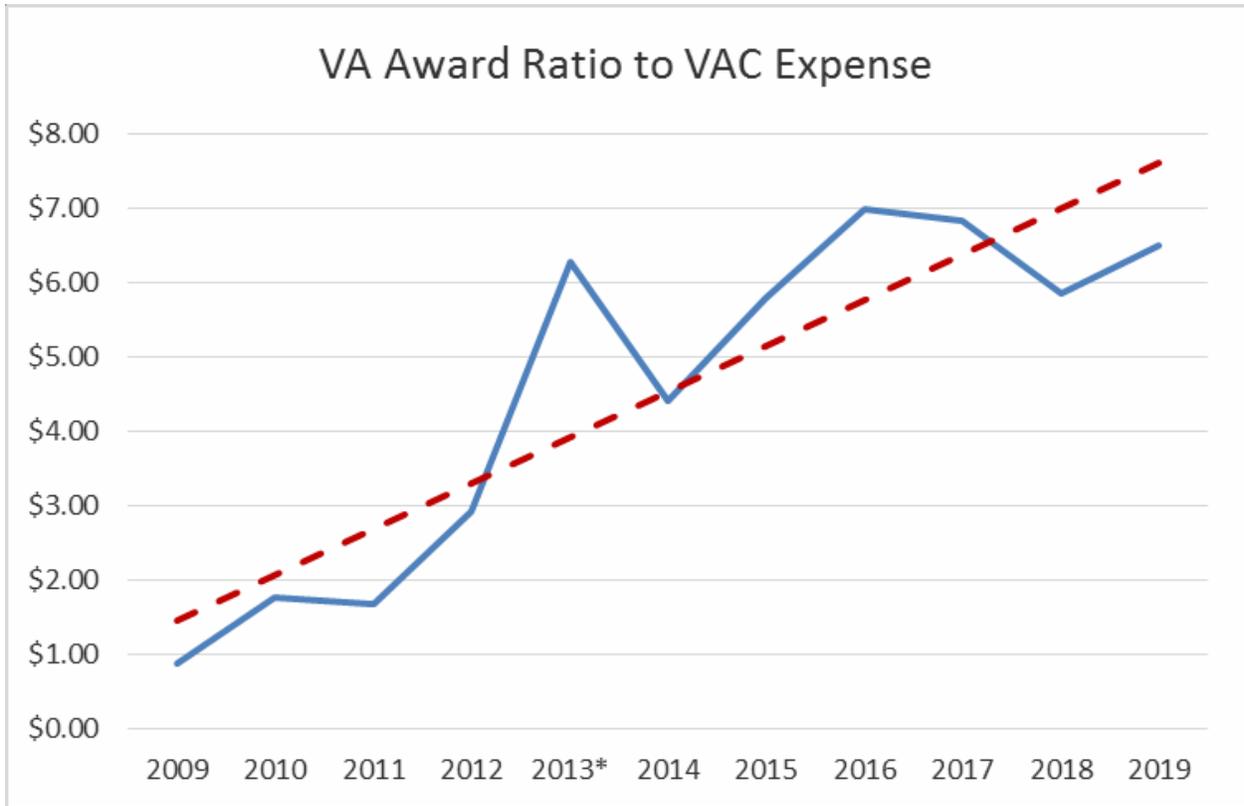
Related to disability payments is an Illinois State Law that went into effect in 2015. Veteran homeowners who have been rated by the VA 30% or greater are eligible for a property homestead exemption ranging from \$2,500 off the equalized assessed value to totally exempt from property taxes for veterans rated at least 70%. This benefit has saved McHenry County veterans and surviving spouses a combined total of about \$6 million. The savings has not only kept veterans in McHenry County but in many cases has allowed the veteran to pay for needed upgrades and repairs to their homes. Like the VA Cash benefits awarded, monies saved the veteran from the Disabled Veterans Homestead Exemption are very likely being reinvested in the community through the purchase of goods and services. Over 2018 0.68% of the total assessed value of McHenry County was waived. Together with the VA's investment, McHenry County Veterans benefits exceeded \$112,000,000.

The following illustrates the Claims filed, awarded, and awaiting a decision.

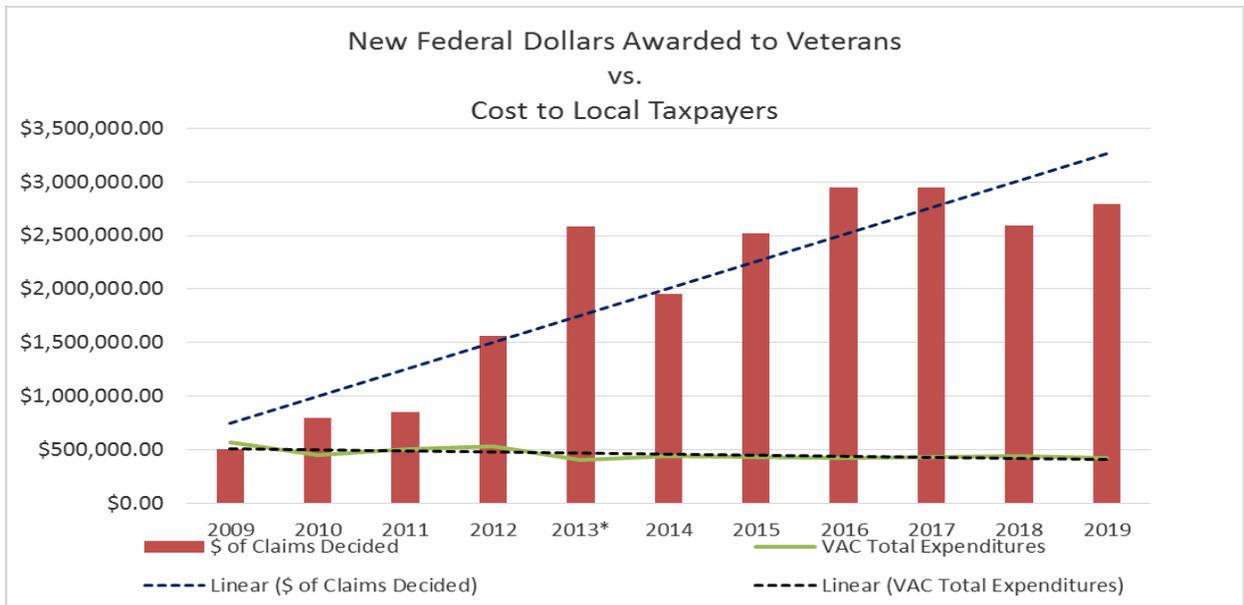


2019 VA Claims

The following illustrates the new VA Benefit Awarded to VAC Clients over 2019 compared to each McHenry County Taxpayer dollar spent by the VAC.



The following shows the McHenry County taxpayers total cost of VAC operations compared to the total new VA Compensations Awards granted to VAC clients.



2019 VA Claims

The Following is a summary of 2018 VA Claims expenditures (Source of original data: US Department Veterans Affairs, includes VAC Counties only). *Veterans Population was determined using predictive analytics, the 2020 census should provide a more accurate count.

Bold = Above State Average **Red Number** = Above National Average **Red and Bold** = Above State & National Average

Region	2018 Veteran Population*	2017 Veteran Population*	% Change in Veterans Population	Rank in Veteran Population Retention	2018 Total Expenditure	2017 Total Expenditure	Total Dollar Increase in VA Expenditure	% Change in Total VA Expenditure	Rank By % Change in Total VA Expenditure
MCHENRY	14,809	15,194	-2.53%	41 of 102	\$ 106,173,913	\$ 105,053,537	\$ 1,120,376	1.066%	30 of 102
Illinois	609,881	628,254	-2.92%	44 of 52	\$ 4,583,447,172	\$ 4,588,188,390	\$(4,741,218)	-0.10%	24 of 52
National	19,508,946	19,902,577	-1.98%		\$180,603,860,644	\$180,591,466,363	\$12,394,301	0.0069%	

Region	2018 Compensation & Pension	2018 Rank By Total Comp & Pen.	2017 Compensation & Pension	Total Dollar Increase in Comp & Pen. Over 2017	% Change in Compensation & Pension	Rank in % Change in Comp & Pen.
McHenry	\$ 45,296,280	8 of 102	\$ 43,155,318	\$ 2,140,962	4.96%	7 of 102
Illinois	\$ 1,826,990,947	17 of 52	\$ 1,847,960,390	\$ (20,946,443)	-1.13%	18 of 52
National	\$ 82,776,199,272		\$ 84,028,286,713	\$ (1,252,087,441)	-1.49%	

Region	2018 Average Compensation per Veteran Pop.	2018 Ranking Comp & Pen. Per Veteran Pop.	2017 Average Compensation per Veteran Pop.	% Change in Average Compensation per Veteran Pop.	Rank by % Change in Comp & Pen. Per Veteran Pop.
McHenry	\$ 3,058.68	50 of 102	\$ 2,840.34	7.69%	7 of 102
Illinois	\$ 2,995.65	52 of 52	\$ 2,941.42	1.84%	12 of 52
National	\$ 4,242.99		\$ 4,221.98	0.50%	

Veterans Financial Assistance Programs

Per 330 ILCS 45, the Military Veterans Assistance Act, (hereafter referred to as “The Act”) the Veterans Assistance Commission of McHenry County provides financial assistance to low income veterans and their eligible survivors. The Act refers to both Veterans Assistance and Emergency Assistance, which the Commission believes indicates that the VAC is to offer both. With the establishment of a VAC the Commission provides a written set of guidelines for the administration of Veterans Assistance. Emergency Assistance is defined in other State statutes but as with Townships and other administrators of General Assistance, Emergency Assistance requires a budget and a set of written guidelines. In addition to Veterans General Assistance and Emergency Assistance, the VAC of McHenry County also provides Veterans Disaster Assistance which has very specific guidelines.

Because of the legal relationship between General Assistance and Veterans Assistance the VAC communicates with each Township within the County monthly to ensure that recipients of Veterans Assistance are not also receiving Township General Assistance. Per Section 3.07 of the General Assistance Handbook an applicant who seeks assistance from a Township will be presumed ineligible if the applicant may be eligible for Veterans Assistance from a County VAC. In cases where an applicant is referred by the Administrator of General Assistance from a Township the County VAC shall make a determination of eligibility for Veterans Assistance.

The written guidelines for the administration of Veterans Assistance can be found on our website and are reviewed at least each odd numbered year or if there is a significant legal change. The guidelines have been reviewed by an attorney and were provided to the Illinois Attorney General’s Veterans Rights Bureau.



Veterans General Assistance is provided as a Flat Grant. Once eligibility is determined the recipient may direct funds to pay necessary expenses such as Mortgage, Rent, Independent Living, Telephone (max \$40.00), Heat, Electric, Water & Sewer, Garbage, Transportation, or Food. In the case of Mortgage or Rent the VAC will only send payment in full. Commitments from other agencies or funds from the applicant must be included to assure full payment is sent. This is done because most mortgage companies will not accept a partial payment and the landlord is not obligated to keep a tenant that only makes partial or late payments. Independent Living is services provided to assist an applicant to stay in their home, or services that assist an applicant with transitioning from

homelessness, drug or alcohol abuse, etc... Services provided by TLS Veterans would fall into this category as would adult day care provided by Family Alliance. Food is provided as a voucher to Aldi and is provided at a max of two \$25.00 vouchers for a single applicant and up to one additional voucher from each eligible person in the household.

Veterans Financial Assistance Programs

Veterans Emergency Assistance is provided in accordance to State Statutes. Were it is voluntary for a Township to provide Emergency, it appears that it is expected that VAC provide Emergency Assistance. Per the Guide of Services Provided Rules and Eligibility Standard (Revised 2017), Veterans Emergency Assistance can be provided to applicants who are not eligible for Veterans General Assistance and fall below 250% of the poverty level. The granting of Emergency Assistance must resolve the financial issue which if not for the problem the applicant could otherwise manage. Recipients receiving Veterans Emergency Assistance can only use the funds for Rent, Mortgage, or Utilities in arrears. In the case of rent or mortgage, the assistance along with other social service agency commitments and the applicant's resources must bring the recipient current. Utilities need only be sufficient to avoid disconnection. Each recipient of Emergency Assistance is required to attend a budgeting class at Consumer Credit Counseling. Additionally, should the applicant become eligible for Veterans General Assistance within 24 months of receiving Emergency Assistance, the Emergency Assistance is prorated monthly and the resulting amount is subtracted from the Veterans General Assistance each month until 24 months had passed since receipt of Emergency Assistance.

The Veterans Assistance Commission also provides Veterans Disaster Assistance in cases where the applicant lost their housing due to a disaster not of their own causing. For example, if their apartment building burned down. This is granted once in a lifetime and is coordinated with other recognized agencies such as the McHenry County Housing Authority to assist a family with temporary housing. The client's income is not a consideration for Veterans Disaster Assistance.

December 2017 a special category of Veterans Assistance was created at the request of the US Department of Veterans Affairs that would provide up to 3 weeks of transitional housing assistance for homeless veterans who have been approved for the Housing and Urban Development - Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH). This allows the VAC Office to put a veteran and family in a motel while appropriate residence is identified by the VA and Housing Authority. The VA must provide the request in writing and the veteran must claim their residency within McHenry County. This was later extended to assist veterans waiting to get into TLS Veterans New Horizons Transitional Facility.

A new program started in 2019 is the VAC's Caregiver Relief Veterans Assistance (CRVA pronounced 'serve-ah'). The program will assist those caring for a veteran or surviving spouse by providing much needed time off. CRVA can be used for help housekeeping, time off for the caregiver to go to appointments, or just have a break with friends. The VAC is partnering with Elderwerks, Senior Care Volunteer Network, and Senior Services to identify the needs of CRVA clients. The CRVA program also exposes families to other services that can assist.

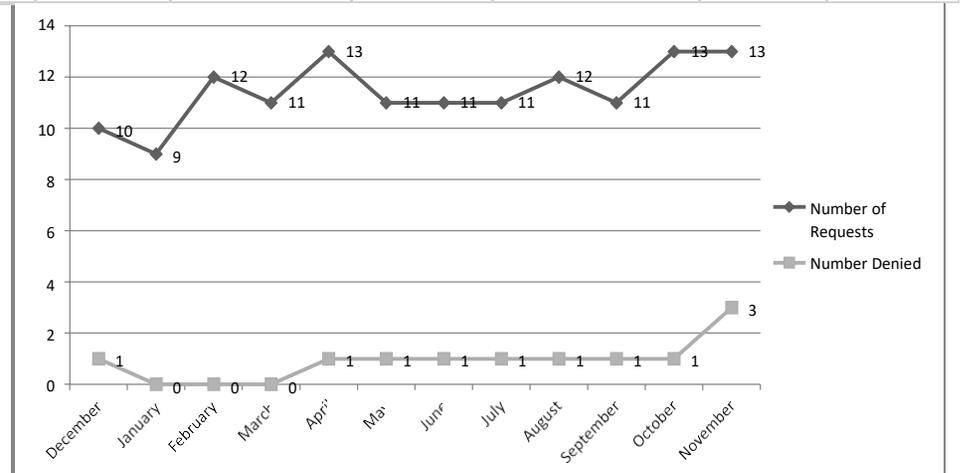
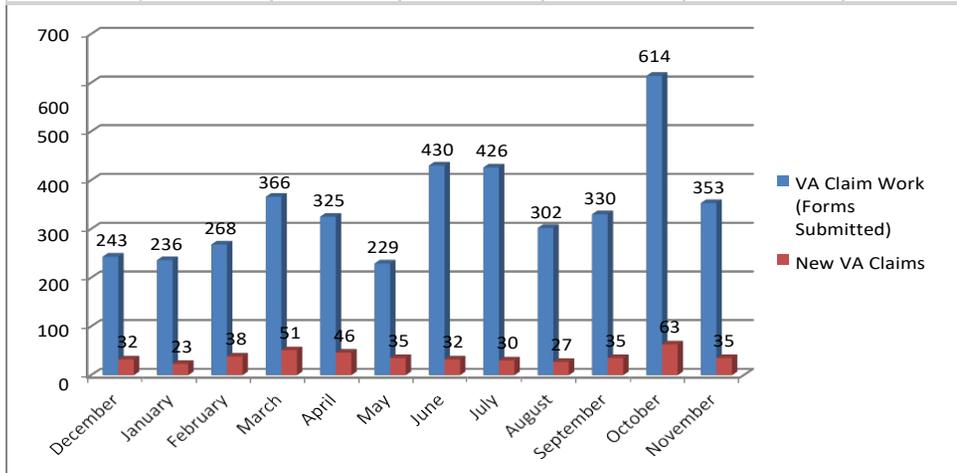
Since the 2005 commitment by the Veterans Assistance Commission to focus resources on the presentation and prosecution of claims against the US Department of Veterans Affairs there has been a considerable reduction in the local contribution to financially assist local veterans and their eligible family members. The following charts illustrate the impact successful prosecution of VA Claims has had on the veterans' community and their families.

Over 2019 the VAC provided \$50,390.07 in financial assistance to an average of 11.4 families per month. All financial assistance grants are paid directly to the vendor. The following illustrates how the funds were distributed.

Financial Assistance and Claims by Month

The following is a summary of financial assistance and claims work done by month. The Claims work only includes the number of new claims started and the number of VA Forms completed and submitted. The Claims work does not reflect medical documents reviewed and submitted.

Requests for Assistance												
County Veterans Assistance and Emergency Assistance												
Per VetraSpec			Per County Auditor							Per VetraSpec		
Month	Number of Requests	Number Denied	Emergency	Shelter	Independent Living	Utilities	Gasoline	Transportation	Food	VA Claim Work (Forms Submitted)	New VA Claims	Townships
December	10	1	\$0.00	\$1,677.13	\$550.26	\$548.14	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75.00	243	32	6
January	9	0	\$0.00	\$1,501.00	\$720.00	\$628.22	\$0.00	\$300.20	\$150.00	236	23	6
February	12	0	\$0.00	\$3,218.07	\$360.00	\$577.84	\$0.00	\$85.20	\$50.00	268	38	7
March	11	0	\$0.00	\$2,995.71	\$360.00	\$526.48	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$100.00	366	51	5
April	13	1	\$0.00	\$3,732.36	\$0.00	\$827.81	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	325	46	6
May	11	1	\$0.00	\$3,786.51	\$0.00	\$167.37	\$0.00	\$106.86	\$25.00	229	35	4
June	11	1	\$2,484.70	\$1,851.85	\$0.00	\$661.15	\$0.00	\$198.36	\$50.00	430	32	6
July	11	1	\$2,404.50	\$2,136.84	\$0.00	\$536.68	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	426	30	5
August	12	1	\$0.00	\$3,778.68	\$0.00	\$368.97	\$0.00	\$242.28	\$50.00	302	27	6
September	11	1	\$0.00	\$4,181.73	\$0.00	\$333.10	\$0.00	\$36.90	\$50.00	330	35	6
October	13	1	\$771.00	\$2,010.07	\$0.00	\$1,155.93	\$0.00	\$58.26	\$125.00	614	63	7
November	13	3	\$462.48	\$2,268.43	\$0.00	\$523.88	\$0.00	\$180.12	\$100.00	353	35	6
Total	137	11	\$6,122.68	\$33,138.38	\$1,990.26	\$6,855.57	\$0.00	\$1,408.18	\$875.00	4122	447	



2019 VAC Transportation Service to the Lovell FHCC

The VAC has been providing some form of transportation service to the VA hospital in North Chicago since we opened the doors in December 1989. Initially the drivers were volunteers who used their own vehicles and were provided a stipend for mileage. Under Superintendent William Walters the VAC and the local Military Service Organizations raised enough funds to purchase a van. Since that time the VAC had hired drivers and provided regular service to North Chicago (Lovell FHCC). The Lovell FHCC is approximately 35 miles from Woodstock IL, with traffic getting heavier as a driver gets closer to North Chicago. Allowing the VAC to continue providing the transportation service helps protect the veteran who may otherwise be distracted by illness or disability. This lines up with the purpose of the program, to assist our ill and disabled veterans get to their medical appointments at the VA safely.

The VAC fleet includes two leased 13 passenger Champion mini-busses and two five passenger mini-vans. The 2017 minivan was purchased thanks to public donations to the VAC Bus Fund. The 2018 minivan was purchased using a combination of donated funds and a Senior Services Grant. Both vehicles were purchase to replace older vehicles that were no longer fit for service.

In February of 2019 the 2017 minivan was totaled in a traffic accident. Fortunately nobody was injured. The driver of the other vehicle was found responsible for

the collision and insurance was prompt with paying, however, the County suggested that the VAC could not justify replacing the vehicle and held up the funds for six months. Between insurance and donations from the general public, The Patriot Run, and the Veterans Help Corps, the 2019 minivan was placed in service in September. Also, after auditing our transportation program, Pace Suburban Bus authorized replacing of the 2009 Champion Busses with 2019's.

The VAC picks up clients from designated Bus Stops within McHenry County. Thanks to assistance from Senior Care Volunteer Network, and Senior Service Associates those veterans who are unable to drive receive free transportation to and from the VAC Bus Stops. The typical veteran using the service requires service to the Lovell FHCC approximately three times annually. A number of our disabled veteran clients require services one or more times a week.

Over 2019 the VAC took 2,505 appointment requests and of those 2,460 were filled. The most common reason for not transporting a veteran to his or her appointment is the veteran canceling the appointment due to illness or injury. Over 2019, an average of 32 clients were provided a total of 209 transportation appointments per month.



2019 VAC Transportation Service to the Lovell FHCC

	Total	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Unique Count	384	29	33	22	31	29	34	35	38	35	35	28	35
Total Rides	2509	190	186	152	178	220	266	210	266	229	226	208	178
Ave Appts per Rider	6.53	6.55	5.64	6.91	5.74	7.59	7.82	6.00	7.00	6.54	6.46	7.43	5.09

The VAC reports its transportation information to Pace Suburban Bus and the McHenry County Department of Transportation. A transportation appointment is defined as the transportation of a



passenger from pick up to destination so a round trip to Lovell FHCC and back would be two appointments. All VAC drivers and safety sensitive staff are required to meet US Department of Transportation physical standards and be subject to random drug and alcohol testing.

Also over 2019, one of our loyal drivers announced his retirement Ron Nickles had been serving the veterans in that capacity since

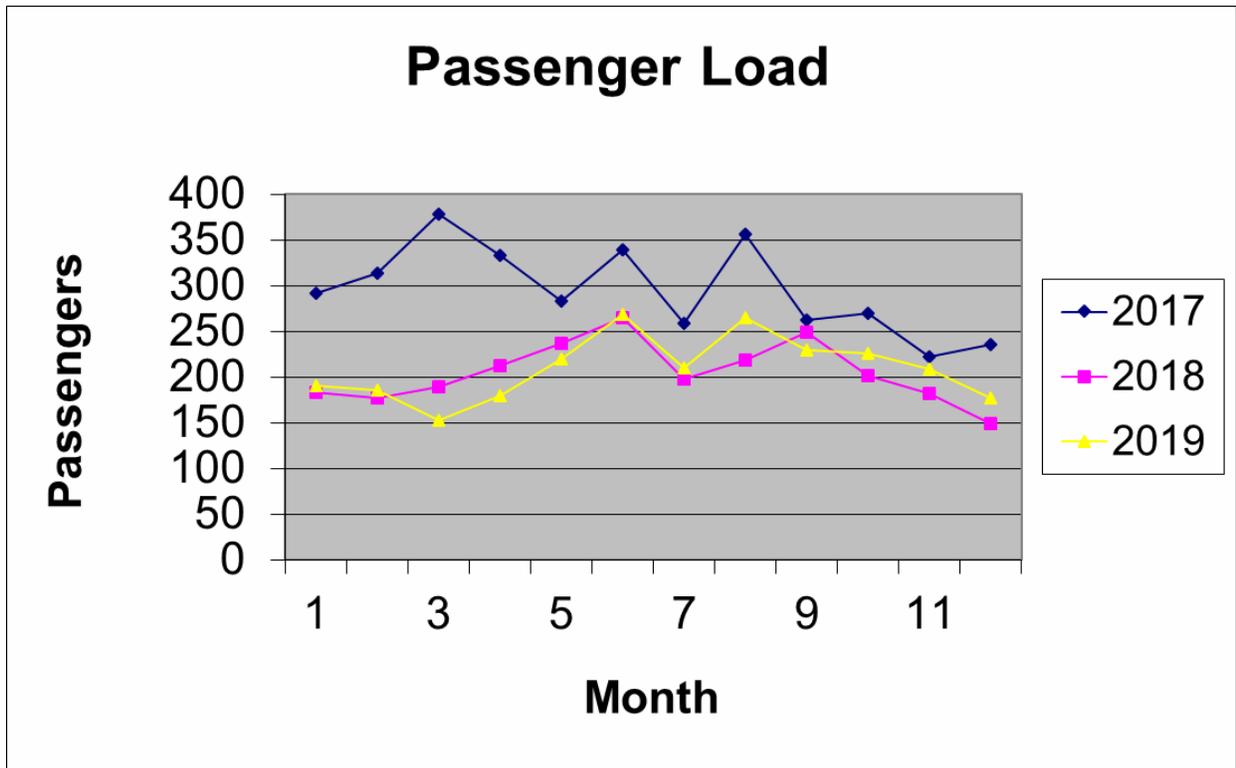
2008. The position Ron filled has been held open pending feedback from the Veterans community regarding the VAC transportation to VA Contract Health Providers. A survey was sent out to the veterans' community at the end of the fiscal year to get a better picture of where service may be needed. It is the opinion of the Superintendent that whatever the amended transportation program, the VAC will not likely need two busses. Replacing one of the busses with a minivan would be more practical should the Commission approve transportation to facilities outside the Lovell FHCC.

In addition to transportation of veterans to the Lovell FHCC, the VAC assists its local Military Veterans Service Organizations with transporting groups to the FHCC for special events for inpatients and parades. Such events included patient Christmas Parties, and Pizza Parties as well as parades on Veterans Day and other patriotic holidays. Also included is an annual Rotary event in Milwaukee which provided patients of the FHCC, Milwaukee VAMC, and the Madison VAMC tickets to a tailgate party and Cubs v Brewers game.

The US Department of Veterans Affairs Benefits Administration, in an effort to speed up the Service Connected Claims process, has contracted with an outside coordinator. In the event the VA Health Administration is unable to provide a Compensation and Pension Examination in a timely manner, the outside coordinator sets up the appointment with a contracted provider within 50 miles of the veteran. Some of our clients have requested assistance with transportation to VA contracted providers. The Commission is completing its examination of the transportation services it provides our veterans.

2019 VAC Transportation Service to the Lovell FHCC

The chart illustrates the change in transportation appointments over three years.



The below illustrates the cost of the program including the labor and administration costs to the VAC. Some of the fixed costs include the wages for the VAC Clerk, cost of vehicle lease, Workers Compensation Insurance, and a portion of the general liability insurance. The bus fund balance reflects community donations in support of the VAC's VA Hospital Transportation Service.

VAC Lovell FHCC Transportation Service

VA Hospital Applications Year to Date 70

	Month	Annual
Miles	2552	29459
Passengers	177	2511
Driver Cost	\$ 6,164.89	\$ 50,332.14
Dispatch-Adm	\$ 2,287.78	\$ 27,453.36
Vehicle Cost	\$ 1,816.58	\$ 8,698.90
Total	\$ 10,269.25	\$ 86,484.40
Cost per Rider	\$ 58.02	\$ 34.44
Goal Cost per Rider is <		\$ 35.00
Bus Fund	\$ 10,108.77	

Other Accomplishments, Events, and Staff Bio's

Caregiver Relief Veterans Assistance (CRVA)

One of the outcomes of the 2018 service survey was an identified need for in home assistance. The US Department of Veterans Affairs has in home care for patients of the VA, however, there was little assistance for surviving spouses or caregivers supporting our veterans and/or surviving spouses. Working with Senior Advocate Agencies such as Elderwerks, Senior Care Volunteer Network, and Senior Service Associates, the Commission developed a program

Recognition as a Hidden Hero's County

The Elizabeth Dole Foundation had reached out to the VAC regarding participation in the Foundations Hidden Hero's Program, a program that recognizes the sacrifices made by those caring for our elderly and disabled veterans. We discussed the newly created CRVA program and its planned implementation before the end of the year. The VAC presented a resolution to the McHenry County Board to make the County a Hidden Hero's County. The County Board quietly passed the resolution.

VAC Inc. Emergency Assistance and Scholarship Program

The Commission's Not for Profit established a fund to assist veterans or surviving spouses with needs that can't be addressed by the Office. Typical needs include auto repair and coordinating with other agencies for home repairs. Funding for the program is determined annually and is thanks to donations from the community.

The VAC Inc. had partnered with the McHenry County Community Foundation to establish a scholarship for the children or grandchildren of McHenry County Veterans. Four \$500.00 scholarships were awarded to local students over 2019.

Journey Care Hospice, IACO & Bridges of Law Enforcement

The VAC Office had been working with Hospice to recognize veterans under Hospice care. VAC staff has provided a formal pinning ceremony for those veterans who are passing. The program is proving to be a great comfort to the family.

The Illinois Association of County Officials (IACO) elected Superintendent Iwanicki as 2020 President of the organization. Mike Iwanicki is the first County Official from McHenry County to serve as President of the state wide organization.

The FBI Office in Chicago had reached out to the VAC Superintendent to participate in the creation of a Not For Profit focused on community outreach by law enforcement agencies. Superintendent Iwanicki was asked to serve as President of the new organization. Additionally, Iwanicki was invited to attend the FBI's Citizens Academy. The Superintendent graduated from the Academy in October 2019

HONOR 200 – Illinois Bicentennial

Honor 200 recognized 200 Illinois Veterans as part of the State's Bicentennial. Honorees were selected based on submissions from the community. The VAC's Veterans Service Officer Victor Somoza was among those veterans selected to be recognized and attend a program in Springfield IL. The program included meeting the governor and governor elect.

VSO I's completion of Phase III Training

With the loss another veterans service officer, the VAC was fortunate to have a former VSO apply for the open position. Keith had been out of the country but continued to use the training he gained to assist veterans overseas. Both VSO I's successfully completed the final phase of their training before years end.

Other Accomplishments, Events, and Staff Bio's

Digital Presence

The VAC continues to work with the County IT Department to put more information such as assistance applications on the VAC Website. This would assist clients in better understanding of the documentation necessary for the office to provide assistance. The Office continues to use Social Media to provide information and updates to the veterans community. The VAC also contracted with Shaw Media to provide sponsored articles covering various veteran related topics. The stories appear monthly both in print and on line.

The VAC Also Participated in the following:

Veterans Town Hall at MCC	Caregiver Expo at Lovell FHCC	People in Need Expo
McHenry Expo	Elderwerks Senior Fair	Veteran Student Services at MCC
Veterans Forum at Lovell	Patriot Run for veterans	TLS Veterans Food Truck
Continuum of Care	Housing Authority CDBG Committee	Veterans Conservation Corps

VAC Staff

VAC Chairman Joseph Kersten – Joe was inducted into the US Army on 20 January 1969. After training he served in the 213th Engineer Detachment in Vietnam from June 1969 thru August 1970 before being honorably discharged. Mr. Kersten served as the Commission's first Chairman which he served from 1989 to 1998. Joe reengaged with the Commission in 2008 and has served as the Chairman since 2010.

Superintendent Michael Iwanicki – Michael joined the US Navy in September 1980 and became an Electricians Mate. Mike served aboard the USS Elliot DD-967 where he earned the rate of EM1(SW), and was later Honorably discharged from the Navy in 1986. Mr. Iwanicki was hired by the Commission in 1998 as a Veterans Service Officer and was selected as the Superintendent in 2003. Michael also served as the President of the Illinois Association of County Veterans Assistance Commissions from 2011 through 2017, and was elected as President of the Illinois Association of County Officials in November 2019.

Veterans Service Officer II (Deputy) Jane Dorfner – Jane is the spouse of a US Navy veteran. She joined the VAC in 2008 and served as the Administrative Specialist before becoming a Veterans Service Officer in 2010. Jane was promoted to the Lead Service Officer (Deputy) in 2015 and manages the claims flow, training of new VSO's, assists the Superintendent with Outreach Education, and coordinates with various agencies during the holidays to provide food and gifts to local veteran families in need. Mrs. Dorfner represents the VAC as a member of the Continuum of Care, the Lovell FHCC Patient Advisory Council, and the Task Force on Aging.

Office Clerk / Dispatcher James Koch – James Koch served honorably in the US Navy Veteran, from 1965 to 1968 at US Naval Air Station Twin Cities in Minneapolis, MN. Jim worked thirty four years at Sprint/Centel in various positions in the telephone industry and retired from Sprint in 2002. Jim came to the VAC in 2008 as a Transportation Specialist transporting Veterans to and from the James A. Lovell FHCC in North Chicago. Mr. Koch started in the office as the VAC's Clerk / Dispatcher in 2010.

Veterans Service Officer I Cecelia Gaines (Resigned) – Cecelia served honorably in the US Navy from 1993 – 1997 as a Dispensing Clerk. She has a background in the medical field which is useful when speaking to veterans about potential service connected injuries. She had an excellent reputation with clients and was a valuable Service Officer. It is believed that she resigned her position for an opportunity out of State.

Other Accomplishments, Events, and Staff Bio's

Veterans Service Officer I Victor Somoza – Victor served honorably in the US Army from 2008 – 2015. Victor is a combat veteran having served in Iraq. He was helping veterans with their education benefits at Lake County College when he was referred to the VAC by the VAC of Lake County. He quickly picked up on the needs of our local veterans and completed accreditation. He is successfully presenting and prosecuting claims on behalf of local veterans. He will be attending training specific to VA

Veterans Service Officer I Keith Duggan (USMC Retired) – Keith rejoined the VAC staff after living out of the country for the last 10 years. He continued to use his training in Japan to assist retiring service members navigate the Veterans Benefits Administration.

Transportation Specialist Dave Ayers – Dave is a veteran of the US Marine Corps serving from 1956 – 1958 as a small arms specialist. After the military Dave worked as a Commercial Truck Driver until his retirement. He joined the VAC in 2004 as a Transportation Specialist.

Transportation Specialist Roy Allsup – Roy is an honorably discharged veteran of the US Marine Corps (1968-1970) where he served in artillery and was in country Vietnam from 1968- 1969. After the military Roy was self-employed in the flooring industry until his retirement. Mr. Allsup joined the VAC as a Transportation Specialist in 2009.

Transportation Specialist Frank Guignon – Frank served honorably in the US Army from 1967 – 1971 as a radio and tape player repairman. He also served in country Vietnam from 1967 – 1968. After the military Frank worked as a Telecommunications Sales Engineer until his retirement. Mr. Guignon joined the commission as a Transportation Specialist in 2016.

Transportation Specialist Larry Emricson – Larry served honorably in the US Army from 1959 - 1962 as a combat engineer. He had served overseas in Germany and after returning home built his own manufacturing business. After making the decision to retire Larry sold his business and in 2018 started driving for the Veterans Assistance Commission.



2019 Upcoming Challenges

Employee Retention:

Over 2019, the VAC lost another VSO without explanation. It is believed that the VSO accepted another higher paying position out of state. The Commission and its Superintendent continue to struggle to adjust wages to be more in line with the market and other McHenry County employees.

Blue Water Navy Presumptions:

The VBA is recognizing Agent Orange exposure of those who served off the coast of Vietnam. The veterans' service organizations and the VA are working to get the word out to the former service members, however, reaching surviving spouses tends to be more challenging. The VAC had already started a large number of claims but must wait until after January 2020 to better understand how the VA plans on adjudicating the claims.

Changes to the VAC Transportation Service:

At the end of the fiscal year 2018 approximately 4000 surveys went out to local veterans to get an idea of the service needs in the veterans' community. Transportation was included in the focus. Comments made by passengers suggested a need to provide transportation to; VA Contract Providers, Milwaukee VA Medical Center, VA Benefits Administration hearings, and appointments made by the VA Regional Office for Compensation and Pension Examinations. As a result we have provided service getting to C&P Examinations and VBA hearings. Unrelated to transportation, the survey also illustrated demand for services to help veterans who need additional services to stay in their homes.

Between the services offered by the Lovell FHCC and the Community Based Outpatient Clinic the VA has become much better and efficiently scheduling appointments for the veteran. Add in the growing number of veterans choosing telehealth, and authorized care from local providers one would believe that the number of requests for transportation would decline. However the VAC has experienced an increase in ridership. This is likely due to the expanded specialty clinics offered at the Lovell FHCC.

VAC Budget Concerns

The VAC ended FY2019 with the County Board voting to make permanent the VAC's fund levy of \$325,000. The VAC's annual budget has historically been in excess of \$550,000. 2020 will likely see the exhaustion of the VAC's reserves.

Continued issues with VA Claim "Experts"

The VAC continues to address issues created by internet VA Claim & Pension "Experts". The VAC office not only had found itself working to correct problems from poorly developed claims, but also overcoming the misinformation spread by others. One such agency filed the claim for the family making the agency the recipient of the funds which it collected a large monthly fee from the VA Award in exchange for arranging some in home care for the veteran. Other such agencies have suggested specific language to use in a claim to assure a rating without explaining the medical documents required to support the claim. Not only does the VAC fight to correct such claims, but also overcome the misinformation provided to the veteran or survivor.

VAC 2019 Unaudited Budget and Expenditures

The following information is available on the McHenry County Website

Fund 10 Veterans Assistance Commission Fund – Created to provide and coordinate services and assistance to help eligible veterans and/or their families overcome obstacles and become independent

Fund 11 Veterans Assist. Commission Bus Fund – Created to accept donations towards the purchase of new vehicles for the VAC.

SPECIAL REVENUE FUND	Appropriation	Non-Levy Revenues	Tax Levy Revenues	Surplus or (Use of Cash):
Veterans Asst. Commission Fund	\$ 670,477	\$ 15,000	\$ 400,000	\$ (255,477)
Veterans Bus Fund	\$ 0	\$ 560	\$	\$ 560

VETERANS ASSISTANCE FUND

Revenues	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Actual	FY 2018 Actual	FY 2019 Per VAC	FY 2020 Estimated
Tax Revenue (Tax Levy)	399,064	399,004	324,574	400,810	325,900
Utilization of Reserve Fund	0	53,670	118,410	29,036	270,531
Intergovernmental	0	0	15,000	0.00	0
Interest Income	0	0	0	0.00	0
Total Department/Fund	\$399,064	\$452,674	\$457,984	\$429,846	\$595,531
Expenditures Personnel Services	358,205	397,421	330,819	333,561	379,763
Contractual Services	75,818	83,749	87,995	80,800	192,068
Commodities	15,272	11,909	14,802	15,485	22,800
Capital Outlay	0	8,000	24,368	0.00	900
Total Department/Fund	\$449,295	\$452,674	\$457,984	\$387,875	\$595,531

Table 1- Abatement by Levy (temporary reduction in property taxes)

Tax Levy Fund	2018 Budgeted	2019 Budgeted	2020 Budgeted*
<i>Veterans Asst. Commission Fund</i>	<i>\$400,000</i>	<i>\$400,000</i>	<i>\$325,900</i>
Amount Abated	\$75,000	\$0.00	0.00
Amount Received	\$324,574	\$400,810	

* November 2019 the County Board voted to make the reduction to the VAC Levy permanent even though it is below historical expenditure trends

County Reserve Fund Goal is 5 Months

Veterans Assistance Commission	2018	2019	2020(Estimate)
Reserve Account (Beginning of Year)	\$428,053	\$309,683	\$287,619
Months Reserve (Goal 12 months)*	12.24	8.65	6.44

The Veterans Assistance Commission has long held to maintaining a 12 month reserve as a hedge against economic change to allow the Commission to continue providing service without having to request additional tax funds.

Tax Levy by Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Veterans' Assistance	0.005	0.003	0.004	0.004	0.005	0.006	0.006	0.000	0.005	0.004

Rates are per \$100 of assessed value

VAC 2019 Unaudited Budget and Expenditures

Taken from VAC Records 2019 Budget and Expenses

Personnel					100.00%	
Line No.	Line Item	Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.
301010	Salaries	\$ 215,130.00	\$ 209,686.49	\$ 5,443.51	97.5%	2.5%
302010	Part Time	\$ 0.00	\$ -	\$ 0.00	0.0%	100.0%
302510	Holiday Pay	\$ 11,323.00	\$ 4,218.07	\$ 7,104.93	37.3%	62.7%
303010	Per Diem	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 39,451.03	\$ 10,548.97	78.9%	21.1%
304010	Over Time Salaries	\$ 750.00	\$ -	\$ 750.00	0.0%	100.0%
305010	Merit Pool	\$ 0.00	\$ -	\$ 0.00	0.0%	100.0%
310010	Uniform All.	\$ 350.00	\$ 29.00	\$ 321.00	8.3%	91.7%
310510	Social Security	\$ 17,598.00	\$ 15,578.21	\$ 2,019.79	88.5%	11.5%
310610	Medicare	\$ 4,116.00	\$ 3,608.11	\$ 507.89	87.7%	12.3%
311010	IMRF	\$ 17,998.00	\$ 17,435.21	\$ 562.79	96.9%	3.1%
314610	Health Insurance	\$ 37,584.00	\$ 43,555.31	\$ (5,971.31)	115.9%	-15.9%
Personnel		\$ 354,849.00	\$ 333,561.43	\$ 21,287.57	94.00%	6.00%
Contractual & Assistance		Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.
400100	Contract Service	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 1,899.00	\$ 1,851.00	50.6%	49.4%
400500	Dues/Memberships	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 670.00	\$ 330.00	67.0%	33.0%
400600	Training	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,695.00	\$ 305.00	84.8%	15.3%
400800	Subscriptions	\$ 250.00	\$ 174.20	\$ 75.80	69.7%	30.3%
402300	Professional Services	\$ 0.00	\$ -	\$ 0.00	0.0%	100.0%
403034	Specific Insurance	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 9,284.00	\$ 1,716.00	84.4%	15.6%
403050	Directors Insurance	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 5,230.00	\$ 270.00	95.1%	4.9%
404915	PreEmp Physical	\$ 700.00	\$ -	\$ 700.00	0.0%	100.0%
405500	Contract Printing	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 294.83	\$ 2,205.17	11.8%	88.2%
406000	Legal Note/Adv.	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,104.00	\$ (104.00)	103.5%	-3.5%
409600	Telecommunications	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 872.40	\$ 377.60	69.8%	30.2%
420000	Veterans Assistance	\$ 180,000.00	\$ 50,515.07	\$ 129,484.93	28.1%	71.9%
420010	Vets Asst - Emergency	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 6,122.68	\$ 11,377.32	35.0%	65.0%
420020	Vets Asst - Shelter	\$ 102,000.00	\$ 33,138.38	\$ 68,861.62	32.5%	67.5%
420025	Vets Asst - Indp Living	\$ 13,700.00	\$ 1,990.26	\$ 11,709.74	14.5%	85.5%
420030	Vets Asst - Electric	\$ 14,200.00	\$ 2,008.78	\$ 12,191.22	14.1%	85.9%
420031	Vets Asst - Heat	\$ 9,200.00	\$ 1,855.38	\$ 7,344.62	20.2%	79.8%
420032	Vets Asst - Telephone	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 359.84	\$ 1,840.16	16.4%	83.6%
420033	Vets Asst - Trash	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 735.03	\$ 514.97	58.8%	41.2%
420034	Vets Asst - Water/Sewer	\$ 7,800.00	\$ 1,896.54	\$ 5,903.46	24.3%	75.7%
420040	Vets Asst - Gasoline	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	0.0%	100.0%
420041	Vets Asst - Transportation	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 1,408.18	\$ 2,791.82	33.5%	66.5%
420045	Vets Asst - Food	\$ 7,450.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 6,450.00	13.4%	86.6%
424800	Medical Service	\$ 700.00	\$ 775.00	\$ (75.00)	110.7%	-10.7%
430600	Vehicle Maint	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 4,541.32	\$ 2,958.68	60.6%	39.4%
432100	Software Support	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,745.00	\$ 55.00	96.9%	3.1%
437000	Legal Services	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,427.00	\$ (1,427.00)	242.7%	-142.7%
Contractual		\$ 221,950.00	\$ 80,799.82	\$ 138,723.18	36.40%	62.50%
Supplies & Equipment		Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.
501000	Office Supplies	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 694.37	\$ 505.63	57.9%	42.1%
501010	Promotional Items	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 65.00	\$ 1,435.00	4.3%	95.7%
504000	Mileage	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,403.24	\$ 96.76	96.1%	3.9%
505000	Meeting Expense	\$ 8,500.00	\$ 5,672.79	\$ 2,827.21	66.7%	33.3%
511400	Office Equipment	\$ 700.00	\$ 2,141.75	\$ (1,441.75)	306.0%	-206.0%
512000	Computer Software	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	0.0%	100.0%
516000	Fuel, Oil, Grease	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 3,757.58	\$ 1,242.42	75.2%	24.8%
521000	Publications	\$ 150.00	\$ -	\$ 150.00	0.0%	100.0%
525100	Promotional Events	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 500.00	60%	40%
Equipment		\$ 21,300.00	\$ 15,484.73	\$ 5,815.27	72.70%	27.30%
Other		Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.
602000	Vehicle	\$ 0.00	\$ -	\$ 0.00	0.0%	100.0%
681000	Fund Bal. Enhancement	\$ 810.00	\$ -	\$ 810.00	0.0%	100.0%
Totals		\$ 598,909.00	\$ 429,845.98	\$ 166,636.02	71.77%	27.82%

McHenry County Military Veteran Service Organizations

Delegates and Alternates from each of the County's Posts make up the Commission. The Veterans Assistance Commission provides oversight of the VAC office and works to the Superintendent to identify and address the unique needs of the McHenry County veteran's community.

Organization Name	Address	Meeting Location
American Legion Post #119	218 Gladys Avenue Fox River Grove IL 60021	1st Wed 7:30pm - FEB, APRIL JUNE, AUG, OCT & DEC 305 Illinois St Fox River Grove IL 60021
American Legion Post #1231	1101 W Algonquin Rd. Lake In The Hills, IL 60156	3rd Mon 7:30pm 1101 W. Algonquin Rd Lake In The Hills IL 60156
American Legion Post #171	PO Box 1713 Crystal Lake, IL 60039	3rd Mon 7:30pm 406 W WOODSTOCK ST CRYSTAL LAKE IL 60014
American Legion Post #192	P.O. Box 192 Marengo, IL 60152	3rd Mon 7:00pm Marengo Park District 825 Indian Oaks Trail Marengo IL 60152
American Legion Post #253	PO Box 14 Richmond, IL 60071	3rd Thur 7:00pm Nippersink Library 5418 Hill Road Richmond IL 60071
American Legion Post #265	PO Box 36 Harvard, IL 60033	2nd Tue 7:00pm Sportsman's Club 21226 US Route 14 Harvard IL 60033
American Legion Post #276	404 Crest Dr. Cary, IL 60013	2nd Mon 7:30pm Algonquin Township Bldg 3702 US 14 Crystal Lake IL 60014
American Legion Post #412	P.O. Box 162 Woodstock, IL 60098	2nd Mon 7:00pm 240 N. Throop St. Woodstock IL 60098
American Legion Post #491	P.O. Box 447 McHenry, IL 60050	2nd Mon 7:30pm 1331 N Riverside Dr McHenry IL 60050
American Legion Post #606	P.O. Box 36 Hebron, IL 60034	3rd Mon 7:00pm United Methodist Church 9811 Main St. Hebron IL 60034
American Legion Post #673	P.O. Box 389 Huntley, IL 60142	3rd Thur 7:30pm 11712 W Coral St Huntley IL 60142
AmVets Post #245	P.O. Box 741 Cary, IL 60013	2nd Monday 7:00pm 3702 US Hwy 14 Crystal Lake IL 60014
AmVets Post #269	PO Box 742 Woodstock, IL 60098	3rd Tue 7:30pm 12320 Davis Road Woodstock IL 60098
Marine Corps League	PO Box 311 Woodstock, IL 60098	
Military Order of the Cooties	3002 West Route 120 McHenry, IL 60050	First Tuesday of each month
Polish Legion of American Veterans #188	1304 North Park St. McHenry, IL 60050	4 Sunday 10:00am at the Post
Student Veterans of America	McHenry County College 8900 US Route 14 Crystal Lake, IL 60012	
VFW Post #11496	2315 Church Street Suite A Johnsburg, IL 60051	2nd Tue 7:00pm 3960 N Johnsburg Rd. Johnsburg IL 60051
VFW Post #12014	PO Box 446 Crystal Lake, IL 60039	4th Wed 7:00pm 5689 NW Highway Crystal Lake, IL 60014
VFW Post #4600	3002 West Route 120 McHenry, IL 60050	1st Mon 7:30pm 3002 W IL Rte 120 McHenry, IL 60051
VFW Post #5040	240 N Throop St Woodstock IL, 60098	3rd Mon 7:00pm 201 Main Street Woodstock, IL 60098-3225

Veterans Assistance Commission

of McHenry County

McHenry County Government Center Admin Bldg
667 Ware Road Suite 100
Woodstock IL 60098

Ph (815)334-4229

Fx (815)334-4678

E-mail veterans@mchenrycountyil.gov

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