



Department of Veterans Services Veteran and Family Support

Overview of Programs and Services



Objectives

- ✓ Learn about the veteran population in Virginia
- ✓ Learn about the Department of Veterans Services
- ✓ Learn about Virginia Veteran and Family Support Program and the services we provide



Veterans In Virginia

Virginia has approximately **725,028** veterans*

Virginia ranks fifth in younger veterans (age 17 – 39)



Virginia has the largest percentage of women veterans to total veterans, 14% (Nationally, females are 9% of the vet pop)

Virginia is currently the 8th largest veteran population in the nation and is projected to have the 5th largest veteran population by 2023



Veterans In Virginia

Total Veterans: 725,028

Total Wartime Era: 605,202

- **Gulf War: 323,532**
- **Vietnam: 216,987**
- **Korean: 42,901**
- **WWII: 21,782**

**Based on VetPop 2016, Sept. 30, 2017*



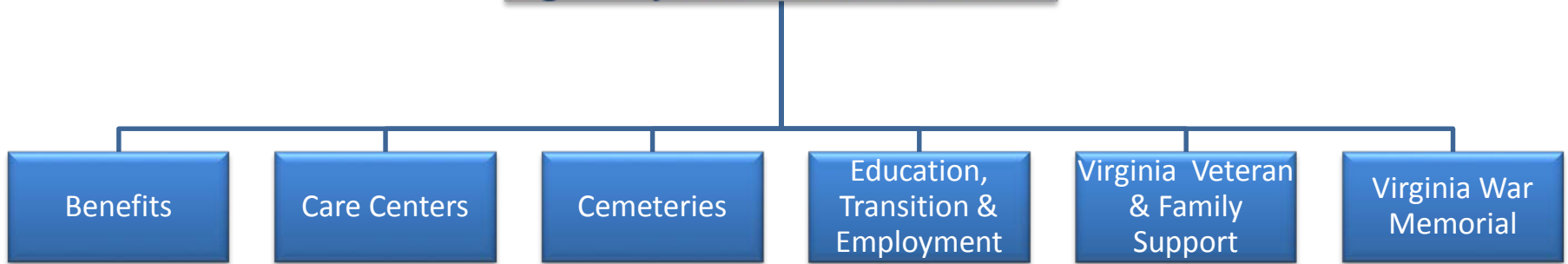
Virginia Department of Veterans Services

Proudly Serving Our Veterans Across the Commonwealth

The Virginia Department of Veterans Services (DVS) connects Virginia's veterans and their families to federal and state benefits, support, quality care, and recognition they have earned



Commissioner John Newby and
Deputy Commissioner Steve Combs





DVS PROVIDES A WIDE ARRAY OF SERVICES



Benefits: *Mission: provide Virginia's veterans and their family members with accurate, timely and ethical education and assistance in obtaining the federal and state benefits they have earned through service and sacrifice to our Commonwealth and Nation*

Education, Transition & Employment: *Mission: augment the new Virginia economy with mission-ready, relevantly-skilled veterans by creating seamless transitions for veterans with high-quality education and workforce services that accelerate career opportunities*





DVS Services (Cont.)

Care Centers: *Mission: provide long-term care, Alzheimer's/dementia care, and short-term rehabilitation to Virginia's veterans.*

*Virginia Veterans Care Center – Salem; Va
Sitter & Barfoot Care Center – Richmond, Va*



New in 2020:

Puller Veterans Care Center – Fauquier County
Jones & Cabacoy Care Center – Va. Beach



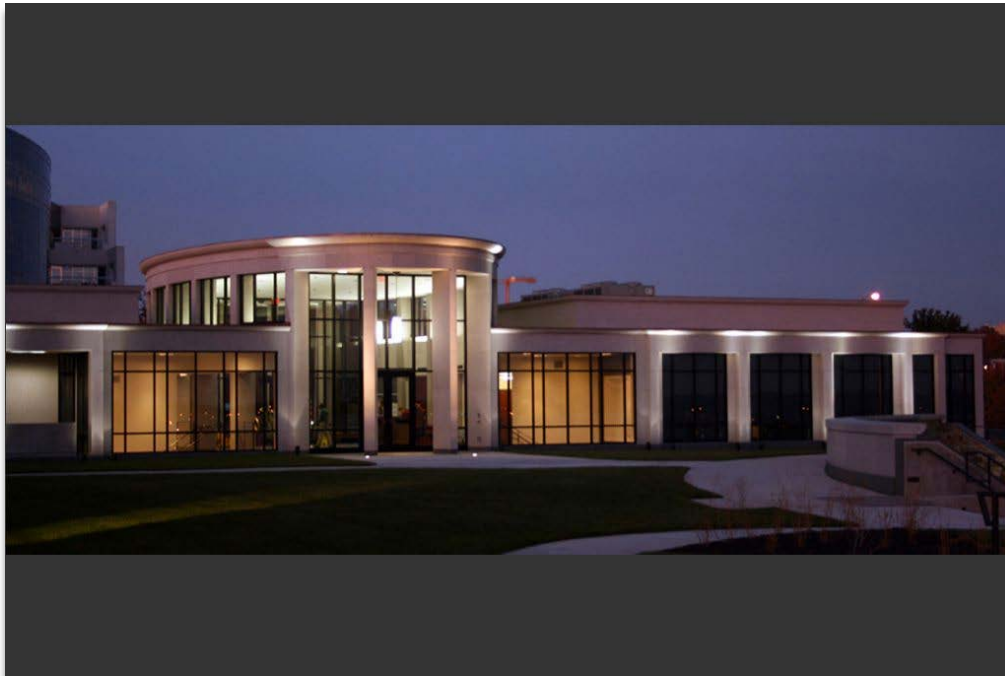
Cemeteries: *Mission: provide final resting for our soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines – places of honor, dignity, respect, and remembrance.*

Virginia Veterans Cemetery (Amelia), the Albert G. Horton, J., Memorial Veterans Cemetery (Suffolk) and the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery (Dublin)



DVS Services (Cont.)

Virginia War Memorial: *Mission: honor our veterans by preserving our history, educating our youth, and inspiring patriotism in all.*





Virginia Veteran and Family Support

In response to the growing need to improve and expand services to our nation's veterans and service members, the Commonwealth of Virginia established the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program (VWWP) in 2008.

On Oct. 1, 2015, the program name changed to Virginia Veteran and Family Support.





Virginia Veteran and Family Support

Mission: *VVFS provides resource referrals, care coordination and supportive services to Virginia's Veterans, National Guard, Armed Forces Reserves, caregivers and family members.*



Who We Serve

- ✓ Any Virginia Veteran, no matter the discharge status, in need of behavioral health support
- ✓ Members of the Virginia National Guard not on active federal service
- ✓ Virginia residents in the Armed Forces Reserves not on active federal service
- ✓ Family members and caregivers of these Veterans and service members



Headquarters

Carol H. Berg
(Interim Director)

Operations Manager

Operations Specialist

Director of Training & Outreach

Director of Housing

Criminal Justice Coordinator

North

Caleb Johnson

VRS = 6

VPS = 1

VJS = 1

Central

Ben Shaw

VRS = 4

VPS = 3

VJS = 1

East

Carol Berg

VRS = 6

VPS = 1

VJS = 1

CGC = 1

West

Leanna Craig

VRS = 7

VPS = 1

VJS = 1



Roles and Responsibilities



Resource Specialist

The purpose of the **Veteran Resource Specialist (RS)** position is to identify the behavioral health, rehabilitative, and other services needs of service members, veterans and/or their dependents/family members (SMVF).

Based on those identified needs the **VRS** develops a coordinated services plan, connects the individual with appropriate service providers, offers care coordination support/assistance, and monitors for the successful resolution of the identified needs.



Veteran Peer Specialist

The purpose of the **Veteran Peer Specialist (VPS)** position is to provide individualized peer coaching and advocacy services to veterans, members of the National Guard and Reserves, and transitioning service members throughout an assigned VVFS Region.

The **VPS** works alongside veteran peers to inspire and support individuals in their personal management of daily living and behavioral challenges. The **VPS** provides hope, support, knowledge, coaching, role modeling, connection, navigation, and more via the connection of similar personal experience as a military service member or veteran.



Veteran Justice Specialist

The purpose of the **Veteran Justice Specialist (VJS)** position is to provide direct services to justice-involved veterans and service members interfacing with courts and diversion/veteran docket programs, during incarceration in jails and prisons, and upon re-entry to the community.

The VJS identifies needs, develops a coordinated services plan and connects veterans/servicemembers involved in the criminal justice system to community resources.



Caregiver Coach

The purpose of the **Caregiver Coach** position is to provide individualized peer coaching and advocacy services to veterans, members of the National Guard and Reserves, and transitioning service members.

The **Caregiver Coaches** are specially trained through the Rosalyn Carter “Operation Family Caregiver” program. OFC is a personalized program, tailored specifically to the struggles of each family. Through proven methods, the program teaches military families how best to navigate their challenges, resulting in stronger and healthier families



Spectrum of Services



Care Coordination

Comprehensive Needs Assessment & Care Coordination Planning
Linkage to **Behavioral Healthcare, Rehabilitative and Supportive Services**



Family Services

Care Coordination Services
Mission: Healthy Relationships Workshops
Mission: Healthy Families Retreats
Operation Family Caregiver



Homeless Services

Prevention resources
Rapid Re-housing Assistance
Energy Share



Peer Services

Vet to Vet Support
Peer Groups
Individualized and relationship-based support
Encourages, inspires and assists in achieving hope and goals



Justice Involved Services

Capacity Building to Expand use of Veteran Dockets/Courts
Re-Entry Councils
Jail/Prison Visits
Resource Connections for Incarcerated



Outreach & Community Education

Resource Tables
Community Event Coverage
Military Culture Training
Crisis Intervention Training
PTSD/TBI Training
V3 Employer Training

Spectrum of Services



Virginia Department of Veterans Services



Program Contact Information



Central Headquarters Office

101 N. 14th Street,
Richmond Va, 23219

804.371.4675

Toll Free: 1-877-285-1299

www.dvs.virginia.gov



Virginia Department of Veterans Services

www.dvs.virginia.gov

Get the DVS App

Now you can get information from The Virginia Department of Veterans Services (DVS) on your smartphone or tablet devices. The Virginia DVS app is currently available on the Android Market and Apple's App Store





QUESTIONS?

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Virginia Department of Veterans Services
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