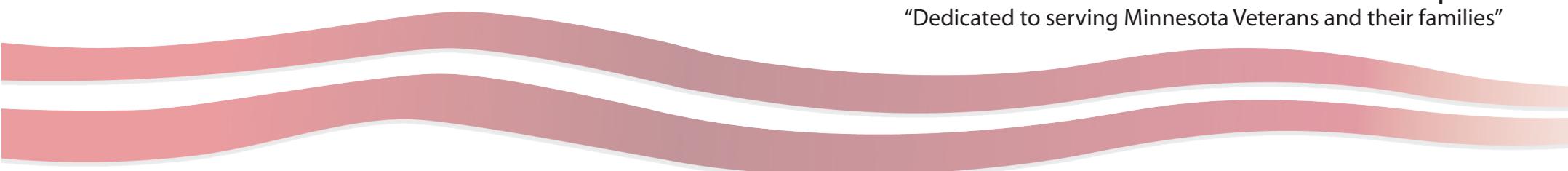




Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs
2010 Annual Report
"Dedicated to serving Minnesota Veterans and their families"





Leadership:

Michael Pugliese
Commissioner

Gilbert Acevedo
*Deputy Commissioner,
Veteran Health Care*

Reggie Worlds
*Deputy Commissioner,
Programs and Services*

Mission:

Dedicated to serving
Minnesota Veterans and
their families.

Vision:

Fulfilling the needs of Min-
nesota Veterans and their
families by providing proven
and innovative programs
and services to
maximize quality of life.

Who we are

The Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) is a cabinet-level state agency serving Minnesota Veterans and their families. MDVA was established by the Minnesota Legislature in 1943. The original service program offered by the Department was the State Soldiers Assistance Program (SSAP), which is still in existence today. Since then, MDVA has enhanced the lives of Minnesota heroes through the development and implementation of new Veteran-focused services. The services have been tailored to meet the current and ongoing needs of Veterans, service members and their families.

What we do

- promote self-sufficiency and personal responsibility through a safety net of benefits and services
- supply representation to clients pursuing claims for federal Veterans benefits
- ensure a smooth transition for Veterans from military service to civilian life
- provide the highest quality programs for housing, health care and supportive services to Residents of the five Minnesota Veterans Homes
- ensure the most timely, cost-effective delivery of benefits and services
- provide dignified and compassionate burial services at the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery
- provide leadership and direction to the Veterans community by collaborating with public and private service providers

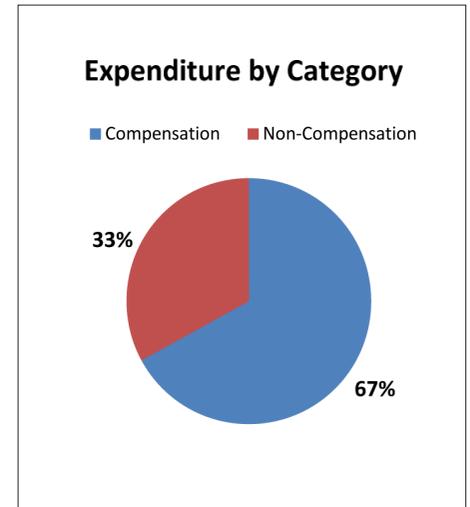
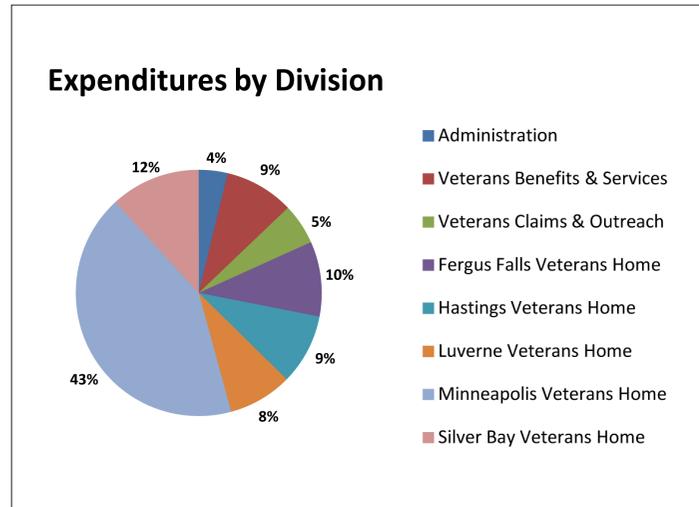
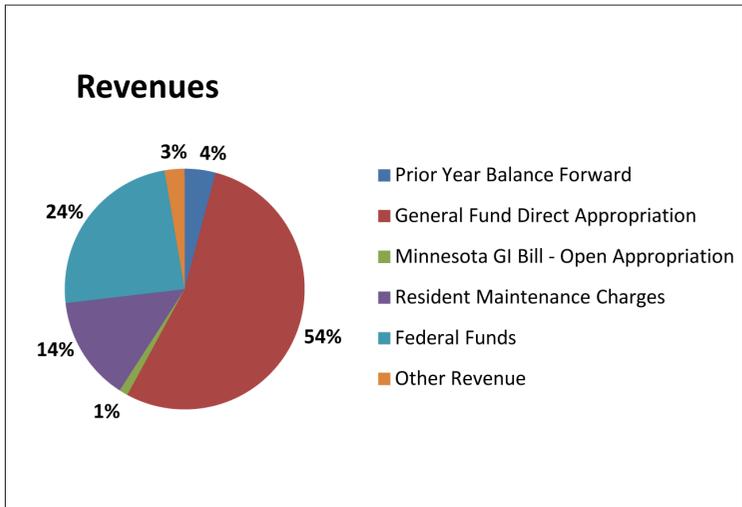


2010 Financial Summary

The Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) fiscal year 2010 revenue budget is approximately \$108 million. The revenue budget consists of state general fund dollars, general fund open appropriation, resident maintenance fees (private pay), federal reimbursements, and miscellaneous funds.

The Department has two core program areas – Veterans Services and Veterans Health Care. The Veterans Services fiscal year 2010 budget is approximately \$17 million or 16 percent of the Department’s budget. The Veterans Service program activities are funded through state general fund appropriations; general fund-open appropriation; other revenue generated by State Cemetery burial fees and license plate fees; State Approving Agency federal program funds; and donations.

The Veterans Health Care program budget for fiscal year 2010 is approximately \$84 million or 84 percent of the Departments budget. The Veterans Health Care activities are funded through state general fund appropriations, departmental earnings generated by Resident maintenance charges, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs per diems, and donations. The revenue from the per diem payments and Resident maintenance charges, when combined with the general fund appropriation, finance the operations of the program’s five state Veterans Homes.



Charting a Strategic Course

Over the past three years, the Department has experienced tremendous growth and change, including the merger of the five Minnesota Veterans Homes with the Department in November 2007. As a result, a comprehensive strategic plan and direction was needed.

In March 2008, MDVA began the process of creating a five year strategic plan. The 2008-2013 plan acts as a road map guiding the Department and allowing MDVA to effectively carry out its mission of “serving Minnesota Veterans and their families.”

The strategic planning process for the Department was filled with energy and a strong desire to improve the care and service for Minnesota Veterans. The planning process was divided into phases and was used to solidify the Department and build a strong leadership team with one purpose - caring for Veterans.

The complete plan was delivered to the Minnesota Legislature in January 2009. The plan and periodic updates are posted for public viewing at www.mdva.state.mn.us/reports.





The Minnesota Veterans Homes

The Minnesota Veterans Homes provide a continuum of long-term care for Residents with a strong emphasis on remembering and recognizing the service and sacrifices of all Veterans. There are five Veterans Homes operating in Minnesota, located in Fergus Falls, Hastings, Luverne, Minneapolis and Silver Bay. These five Homes provide a combination of skilled nursing care, domiciliary programs and Alzheimer's units.

Quality is Our Standard: MDVA is committed to fulfilling the needs of Minnesota Veterans and their families by providing programs and services that maximize quality of life.

To fulfill this vision, the Department established a Quality Program to identify strategic quality initiatives within each Home. This program organizes, coordinates, evaluates and oversees the implementation of MDVA's plan.

In 2010, the program:

- Started the planning for implementation of the Centralized Pharmacy. Implementation date is July 2011.
- Implemented a pilot behavior process improvement project for the Hastings and Minneapolis Veterans Homes focused on illness, management and recovery relapse prevention program.
- Participated in the Minnesota Aging Services Falls best practice initiative which included all of our Veterans Homes.
- Implemented several network-wide process improvement teams focused on: Diabetes best practice, Blood pressure best practice and a Healthy living project.

- Completed 2 Kaizen events at the Hastings Veterans Home focused on referrals and consult redesign along with medication administration and nursing design project.
- Based on the second year customer and employee satisfaction surveys, each Veterans Home identified customer and employee satisfaction initiatives to improve our processes.
- Analyzed electronic medical record and financial program implementation and tools.
- Leadership team with representation from all five Homes in place
- Hosted the second annual MDVA Quality Retreat.
- Training plans for core staff is in place.
- Conducted the annual agency-wide employee satisfaction survey
- Started the center for Medicare and Medicaid services implementation plan.

Visit the Minnesota Veterans Homes at www.mvh.mdva.state.mn.us.

Resident Profile:

Total - 334

Type of Care

Domiciliary 49

Skilled Nursing 198

Skilled Special Care unit 87

Gender

Male 297

Female 37

Resident Makeup

Veteran 301

Spouse 33

Era of Service

WWII 115

Korean War 70

Vietnam War 58

Gulf War 2

Peacetime 56

Minnesota Veterans Home – Minneapolis established in 1887, this Home was once known as the Old Soldiers Home and served needy Veterans of the Civil War. Founders of the Home intended for it to be a peaceful, beautiful and comfortable community for Minnesota Veterans who required care during their “golden years.” The Home sits on bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River near picturesque Minnehaha Falls.

The current Minneapolis campus consists of 291 skilled nursing care beds and 50 licensed domiciliary beds. The Home provides 24 hour skilled nursing care to include wound care, diabetes and cardiac care, Alzheimer’s and dementia care, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Speech Therapy, as well as other clinical services such as nutritional services, psychology and social services to Veterans and their spouses.





Minnesota Veterans Home – Hastings in 1978, the State Hospital in Hastings was converted into a domiciliary residence (board and lodge) for Veterans. The Home is located 21 miles south-east of St. Paul on 128 beautiful wooded acres along the Vermillion River. Today, the Veterans Home has 200 licensed domiciliary beds and provides person-centered care to Veterans needing medical, psychosocial and vocational rehabilitation support services. The Home has successfully piloted an illness, management and recovery therapeutic care model for individual and group therapy. Pet therapy has also been introduced providing a facility therapy dog which provides psychosocial support for Veterans.

The Home also provides a supportive housing program. This transitional opportunity is designed to support Veterans being discharged from the Home. The five bedroom home located in a residential Hastings neighborhood has a large living room, two spacious living room areas and laundry and garage facilities. The program offers Veterans independence and support by connecting Veterans to community based psychosocial, vocational and recreation services, as needed.



Resident Profile:

Total - 175

Type of Care

Domiciliary 169

Supportive Housing 6

Gender

Male 166

Female 3

Resident Makeup

Veteran 169

Spouse 0

Era of Service

WWII 2

Korean War 13

Vietnam War 66

Gulf War 12

OIF/OEF 1

Peacetime 75

Resident Profile:

Total - 79

Type of Care

Skilled Nursing 55

Skilled Special Care unit 24

Gender

Male 63

Female 16

Resident Makeup

Veteran 63

Spouse 16

Era of Service

WWII 32

Korean War 18

Vietnam War 6

Peacetime 7

* Census was adjusted to accommodate renovation.

Minnesota Veterans Home – Silver Bay is located on the scenic North Shore overlooking Lake Superior. The Silver Bay Veterans Home was opened in 1991 after being converted from a school building to a skilled care facility. The Home is licensed for 83 skilled nursing care beds and has two special care households for Residents requiring memory support.

Silver Bay has a town center with a barber shop, café, post office, Resident exercise gym, game room / pool hall, Resident craft room, four season porch and a great room.

The Home also has four households that focus on Resident directed care. Each household has an independently staffed kitchen with open dining hours, a living room, household dining room, and a private family gathering room.





The Minnesota Veterans Home - Luverne was opened in 1994, and provides skilled nursing care for 85 Residents in a friendly small town environment in southwest Minnesota. The staff at Luverne follows the Eden Philosophy social model of care to help provide spontaneity and make life worth living for Residents in their care. The Home has a 42 bed cognitive loss care wing with 17 of those beds designated to care for Residents with dementia. Staffing is based on a primary care model with focus on person-centered care. Local community groups from churches, schools, and local businesses play an integral part in the activities and programs that are provided for the Residents living at the Home.



Resident Profile:

Total - 85

Type of Care

Skilled Care Nursing 43
Skilled Special Care Unit 42

Gender

Male 73
Female 12

Resident Makeup

Veteran 73
Spouse 12

Era of Service

WWII 40
Korean War 18
Vietnam War 9
Peacetime 5

Resident Profile:

Total - 85

Type of Care

Skilled Nursing 85

Gender

Male 73

Female 12

Resident Makeup

Veterans 74

Spouses 11

Era of Service

WWII 43

Korean War 14

Vietnam War 9

Peacetime 8

Minnesota Veterans Home - Fergus Falls this 85 bed skilled nursing care facility opened in 1998. The Home has special features that portray a main street of a small town. These features include a barber shop, general store, library, family inn and clinical exam rooms.

Unique to the facility is its U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) community-based outpatient clinic (CBOC). The clinic is maintained under a shared use agreement with the VA and is the first nurse practitioner nursing home-based clinic in the nation. The CBOC provides on-site medical care for eligible Veterans and access to care within the VA system. The Home has also introduced a new concept of nursing care with the innovative "universal worker position." This approach increases the accountability of nursing personnel and expands their influence over the care of the Residents.





Providing Innovative Programs and Services

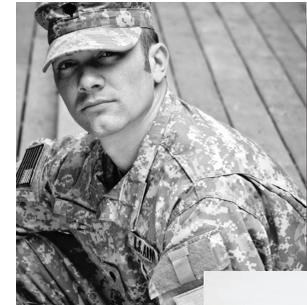
Programs and Services Division: Creates and administers nation-leading programs to address Veterans' needs including: the State Soldiers Assistance Program, Grants to Counties, Operational Improvement Grants, MDVA surviving spouse/dependent education benefit, LinkVet, Minnesota GI Bill, the Higher Education Veterans Program, Tribal Veterans Service Officers, outreach, a women Veterans coordinator, funding to Veterans Service Organizations and Support Our Troops license plates.

The Claims Division represents Veterans and their dependents who seek benefits from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) with regards to compensation, non-service connected pension, vocational rehabilitation, and educational benefits. The division also participates in hundreds of community events each year, educating Veterans about the benefits they have earned.

The Division has offices located at the St. Paul VA Regional Office (VARO) in the Bishop Henry Whipple Federal Building, and at the Fargo VA Regional Office in North Dakota.

The St. Paul Office represented 9,346 new clients and submitted 15,119 claims on behalf of these Veterans and their dependents in 2010. The office received 8,903 rating decisions. Throughout the year the staff served 4,418 walk-in clients.

The Fargo office served 564 new clients and submitted 2,256 claims. The office received 538 rating decisions and assisted 876 walk-in clients.





The Outreach Division educates and assists underserved Veterans on how to access federal and state benefits, and provides referrals to other agencies for additional services. In 2010 the Outreach Division gained 324 new clients, and served 672 walk-in clients. The Division participated in 216 events.

These events included:

- Multiple Women Veterans specific events including Coffee Talk meetings, Boot Camp to Veteran, and the Women's Veterans Brunch.
- Regular appearances on KMOJ 89.9 FM "Know Your Options," Radio show.
- Two Getting to know Claims and Outreach sessions.
- Partnered with Community Action of Minneapolis and distributed a mail-out to Minneapolis Veterans.
- Administered benefits presentations for numerous counties and community contacts.

Tribal Veterans Service Officers (TVSO) provide community outreach to locate and serve as a Veterans advocate to traditionally underserved Native American Veterans and their dependents.

This year the program assisted over 600 Native American Veterans and brought in over \$400,000 in monthly and one-time federal compensation payments to Minnesota Veterans. The Program participated in over 200 community and tribal events and outreach initiatives. TVSO's also established a partnership between the Bois Forte TVSO office and the Itasca CVSO office.



The Minnesota Veteran's Preference Act (VPA) grants most Veterans a limited preference over non-Veterans in hiring and promotion for most Minnesota public employment positions. VPA also provides protection against unfair dismissals. The Department helps Veterans pursue relief when their Veteran's preference rights have been violated and/or denied. In fiscal year 2010, the Department closed 14 VPA cases, with three active cases pending and 13 still open.

The Department provides enforcement of the Minnesota Veteran's Preference in Hiring Act (VPA). In 2010, the Department provided information and assistance to 84 Veterans who received a "notice of intent to terminate" and were offered a local VPA hearing. In addition, MDVA provided information to over 60 public employers regarding their role in the termination hearing process.

MDVA ensures that service providers, employers and Veterans are aware of Veteran employment rights and protections through outreach and educational activities. This year, MDVA provided five VPA educational and informational presentations.

During the 2010 legislative session, MDVA provided testimony for bills (which became law) that expanded VPA employment protection rights and employment rights to recently discharged Veterans (military active duty service since Sept. 11, 2001) who apply for Minnesota state civil service positions. In addition, this group of recent Veterans was also granted Veteran's preference in small business contracts with the state of Minnesota.

Resources:

The current VPA Minnesota statutes are located at www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us

To view reports and other documents helpful to Veterans and employers, visit <http://www.mdva.state.mn.us/vetspref.htm>

The Minnesota VPA Statutes do not have authority related to U.S. federal employment. Questions regarding rights relative to federal positions should be directed to the U.S. Department of Labor Veterans' Employment & Training Service (VETS) office in Minnesota at (651) 259-7511.



The State Soldiers Assistance Program (SSAP) provides financial assistance to Veterans, their dependents and survivors. Assistance is provided for shelter, utilities, cash grants, optical and dental benefits including extractions and dentures, once-per-lifetime special needs grant for assistance during a time of hardship, surviving spouse/dependents and Veteran education benefits, the HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH), and flood assistance.

During 2010, the program received 3,697 applications for assistance and allocated over \$6.2 million in funds to needy Veterans and their dependents. SSAP helped keep 615 Veteran families in their homes through special needs assistance.

<u>Benefit</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Dental	\$999,075.88
Extractions	\$385,457.00
Dentures	\$1,046,253.51
Optical	\$508,973.52
Subsistence Shelter	\$282,031.32
Special Needs Shelter	\$971,048.63
Total Special needs	\$1,846,865.36



Minnesota Higher Education Veterans Program Contacts:

Veterans	11,071
Current Military	2,650
Former Military	256
Family of Military	1,117
Status Not Declared	1,530

The Minnesota Higher Education Veterans Program is a nation-leading program that provides assistance to Veterans at all public and private higher educational institutions in Minnesota.

The program has twelve regional coordinators who work with educational institutions to support the success of Veterans, current military members and their families by providing on-campus Veterans Resource Centers, information about benefits and resources as well as creating institutional readiness in support of the unique needs of these students.

In 2010 the Higher Education Veterans Program had 5,733 first time visitors, and a total of 57,116 contacts.

The Minnesota State Approving Agency (SAA) is responsible for the approval of education and training programs, ensuring that each program meets the requirements of Titles 38 and 10 of the United States Code.

For Veterans to receive GI Bill education benefit payments, the education or training program in which they are enrolled must be approved by the SAA.

SAA approved 6,998 institutions, non-college degree, apprenticeship, on-the-job-training, flight training programs and license and certification programs. SAA assisted over 9,000 students in fiscal year 2010.



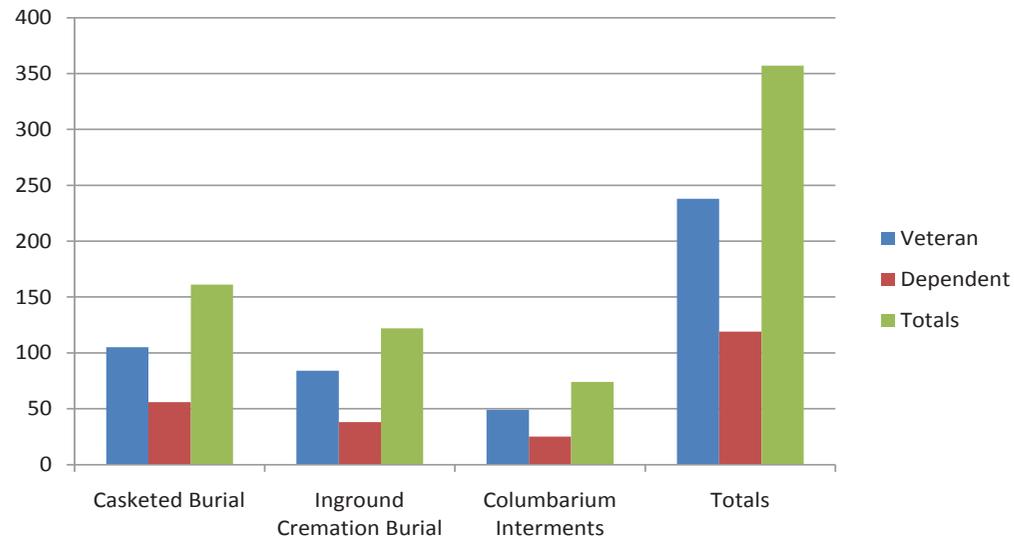


Final Honors for Heroes

Burial in the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery is open to all Veterans discharged from active military service under conditions other than dishonorable. Their spouses, minor children, and under certain conditions, unmarried adult children are eligible for burial. Eligible spouses may be buried, even if they predecease the Veteran. Also eligible for burial are members of the reserve components of the U.S. Armed Forces, the U.S. Army, National Guard and the Reserve Officer Training Corps who die while on active duty for training or performing service, or who have 20 years of service in reserve components of the U.S. Armed Forces creditable for retired pay.

The Cemetery is located in Little Falls, Minn., adjacent to Camp Ripley. This year the cemetery laid 238 Veterans and 119 dependents to rest.

2010 Burials





Minnesota



Through a partnership with Lutheran Social Service (LSS) of Minnesota, MDVA launched Minnesota C.O.R.E. (Case Management, Outreach, Referral and Education) in 2008. This program is designed to bring essential, community-based services directly to Veterans, military members and families at no cost to them.

In response to a long-standing need identified by MDVA and County Veterans Service Officers, the program was developed to provide counseling and case management services to Veterans and family members.

Due to its unique structure, this program also provides resources to previously underserved rural areas around the state. By working with LSS, Minnesota C.O.R.E. provides comprehensive assistance through an existing statewide network of resources. In fiscal year 2010, a total of 2,777 clients were served by the Minnesota C.O.R.E. program.

Services Provided;

- Individual and family counseling
- Financial counseling
- Debt management
- Addiction counseling
- Disability services
- In-home counseling

LSS case staff are based in field offices located strategically throughout the state, including the Twin Cities, Alexandria, Brainerd, Detroit Lakes, Duluth, Fergus Falls, Mankato, Moorhead, St. Cloud and Willmar.

Minnesota "Month of the Military Child"



Children of service members deal with many issues unique to their situation. Some move frequently, worry about a loved one in harm's way or just feel the stress of being separated from a parent for extended periods of time. All of these issues can make normal childhood activities, such as going to school, watching TV, and playing with friends more difficult. It is estimated that over 15,000 children in Minnesota have been affected by a parent's deployment.

In partnership with the Governor's Council on Faith and Community Service Initiatives, MDVA takes time each April to recognize the Month of the Military Child, which emphasizes the important role military children play while a parent or important adult is serving. In 2010 Governor Tim Pawlenty sent military children a letter of gratitude in honor of their service and sacrifice. MDVA also offers an extensive list of resources to those caring for military families.





Partnerships

Working to Strengthen the Support Network for Veterans and Their Families

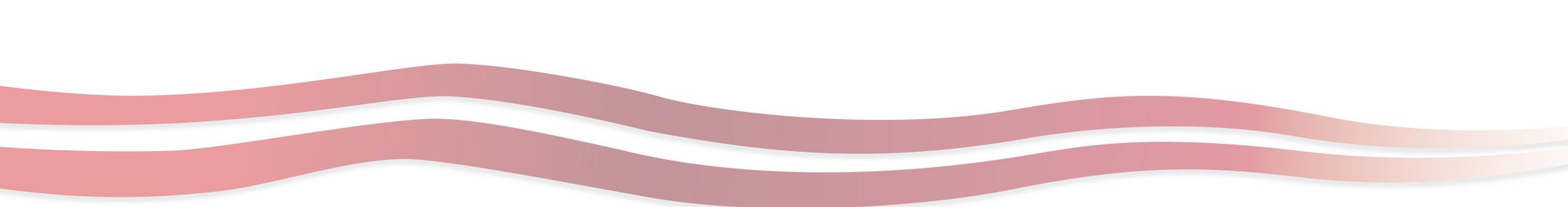
MDVA works with many organizations in order to best serve this state's Veterans. Through collaboration, MDVA works to strengthen the support network available to Minnesota Veterans. The goal is to offer the most complete support, care and advocacy network as possible. Here are a few of MDVA's close partner organizations:

Office of the Governor: As a cabinet level agency, the Commissioner has a direct and consistent line of communication with the Governor's office. The Governor's office provides support through initiative and policy development. The Commissioner provides the Governor's office with timely and relevant updates on Veteran-related issues at the state and federal level.

Minnesota National Guard: The Minnesota National Guard is the largest source of Veterans in the state. MDVA works closely with the Minnesota National Guard on reintegration, raising awareness on Veteran-related issues, legislation relating to Veterans, service members and their families, promotion of the Minnesota C.O.R.E. program and various marketing and communication projects. MDVA also partners with the National Guard on Veterans events, forums and roundtables.

Minnesota State and Federal Elected Officials: MDVA works closely with state and federal elected officials on legislation to better the lives of Minnesota's Veterans and their families. The Department works with elected officials to raise awareness of Veteran-related issues in their communities. Upon request, the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs attends in-district Veterans events, town-hall meetings, forums and roundtables.

Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans (MACV): Is a non-profit organization that serves Veterans and their families affected by homelessness. This valued partner provides and coordinates clean, safe, drug-free supportive housing; transitional homes for use during extended medical care; job skills training; assistance in finding permanent housing, food resources and health care; mortgage assistance; chemical dependency treatment and sobriety aftercare; and counseling and legal assistance.



Veterans Service Organizations: The Commanders' Task Force is comprised of the nine congressionally-chartered Veterans organizations, including: the Disabled American Veterans, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Vietnam Veterans of America, Jewish War Veterans, American Ex-Prisoners of War, Marine Corps League and the American Veterans (AM-VETS). During the legislative session, the group acts as a strong lobbying force for Veterans issues. In addition, the group collaborates with the Department to cosponsor the state's annual Veterans Day program.

Minnesota Veteran 4 Veteran (V4V) Trust Fund Board of Trustees: The Big Island Veterans Camp of Minnetonka Board of Governors, comprised of representatives from several state-wide Veterans organizations, sold the Big Island Veterans Camp on Lake Minnetonka to the city of Orono in January 2006. The \$5 million proceeds from the sale were placed in a trust fund to be used for grants to address the needs of Veterans across the state.

MDVA works closely with the V4V Trust Fund Board of Trustees, comprised of appointed representatives from the American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, Military Order of the Purple Heart, and Veterans of Foreign Wars. The trust provides grants to help Minnesota Veterans integrate into society and lead healthier, independent lives by funding recreational, employment, health, education and social programs for Veterans, their families and caregivers. The MDVA commissioner is involved in the approval of these grants.

County Veterans Service Officers: County Veterans Service Officers (CVSOs) are a vital part of the overall success of MDVA's mission to serve Veterans. The Department partners with them on many programs and events, including reintegration, outreach events and initiatives to heighten awareness of programs and services available within the Veterans community. CVSOs are the first stop for Veterans in their community for services and benefits.



Assisting Minnesota Counties

The Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) currently administers two grant programs to counties.

The Operational Improvement Grant awards counties a set dollar amount – triennially – based on Veteran population. The grant’s purpose is to assist the County Veterans Service Officers with costs of purchasing office equipment that will improve the delivery of services to their county Veterans. In 2010, Operational Grants to counties totaled over \$88,000.

The Enhancement Grant is an annual, open, competitive grant process for which all 87 counties are eligible to apply. The Enhancement Grants are an opportunity for the County Veterans Service Offices to augment the benefits, programs and services provided to Veterans. Counties may apply under one or all of the following categories:

- Outreach to Veterans
- Reintegration of combat Veterans
- Collaboration with social service agencies, educational institutions and other relevant community resources
- Reduction of homelessness among Veterans
- Digital Records Management
- Transportation program
- Marketing/advertising
- Staff management and training

During the 2010 cycle, the Department received 131 applications from 74 individual counties totaling \$3.3 million in requests. MDVA was able to award 47 grants with the \$750,000 allocated to the grant program.

In the Community

Throughout the year MDVA hosts and participates in community events in order to honor, celebrate and educate Veterans and the Minnesota community about the accomplishments of those who have served this country and the issues they and their families face.



Pearl Harbor Remembrance

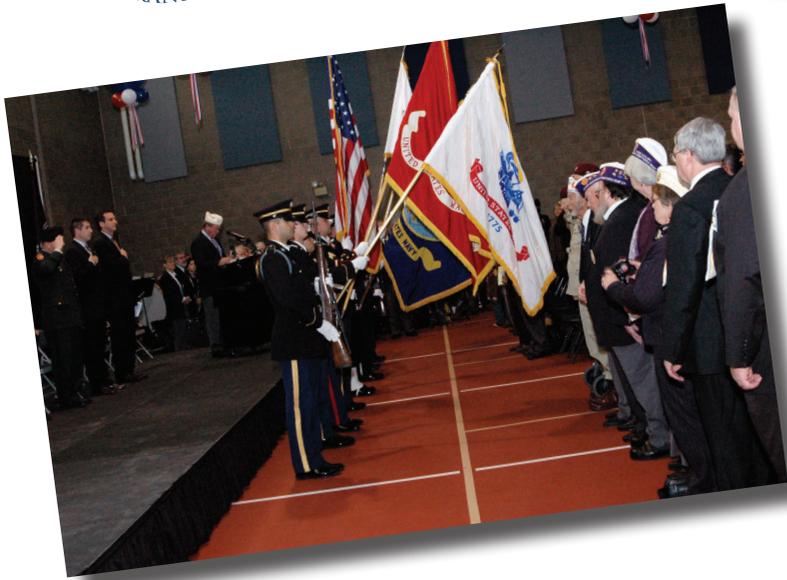
Day: MDVA and the Fort Snelling National Cemetery Memorial Rifle squad hosted the annual Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Veterans Service Building. Survivors of the attacks on Pearl Harbor Herman Hinrichs, Ed Wentzlaff and Richard Thill attended the event.

Medal of Honor Day: March 25 is National and Minnesota Medal of Honor Day. Members of the Korean War Veterans Association held a ceremony to commemorate the day on the state capitol grounds in St. Paul.



The Minnesota Twins Visit

Luverne: The Minnesota Twins Winter Caravan made a stop in Luverne for a private visit with Veterans, their spouses and staff at the Minnesota Veterans Home - Luverne. Twins pitcher Jeff Manship, outfielder Denard Span, Twins announcers Bert Blyleven and John Gordon, and Twins mascot T.C. Bear visited the Residents.



Veterans Day: The Official State of Minnesota Veterans Day Program, presented by MDVA and the Minnesota Commanders' Task Force, was held at the Veterans Memorial Community Center in Inver Grove Heights. Over 300 Veterans, family and community members gathered to honor those who have served. The morning began with a breakfast and music by the Richfield Symphonic Band and was followed by remarks from Gov. Tim Pawlenty.

Commanders' Task Force Chair and Disabled American Veterans Department Commander Al Holtan, MDVA Commissioner Michael Pugliese, Adjutant General of the Minnesota National Guard Major Gen. Larry Shellito, U.S. Senators Amy Klobuchar and Al Franken, U.S. Congresswoman Betty McCollum and Stan Kowalski all shared remarks.

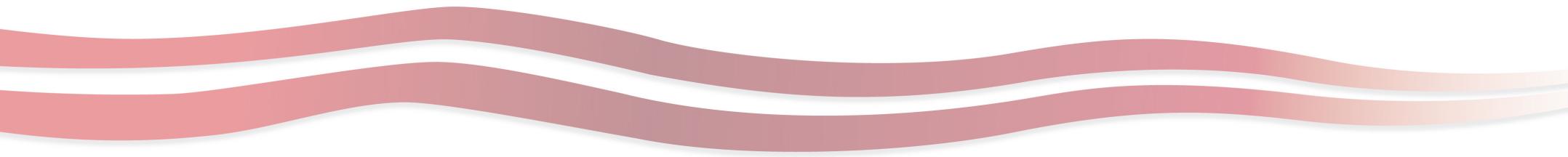
State Fair: Each year the Department hosts a booth at the Minnesota State Fair. Many visitors stop by to learn about state and federal Veterans benefits and programs.



Quality Fair: The leadership council made up of employees from the Minnesota Veterans Homes including nurses, administrators, and front line employees were recognized for their hard work at the 2010 Quality Fair hosted by the University of Minnesota. Quality council representatives Babette Thorsen, Senior RN - Fergus Falls; Christen Latvala, Assistant Director of Nursing - Minneapolis and Pat Smedstad, Director of Nursing - Silver Bay represented the council at the fair.



Women's Summit: The inaugural Minnesota Veteran and Military Women's Summit was held Oct. 16-17. Over 200 women service members, Veterans, female spouses and caregivers gathered to learn and share.



Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs

20 W. 12th St.

St. Paul, MN 55155

(651) 296-2562

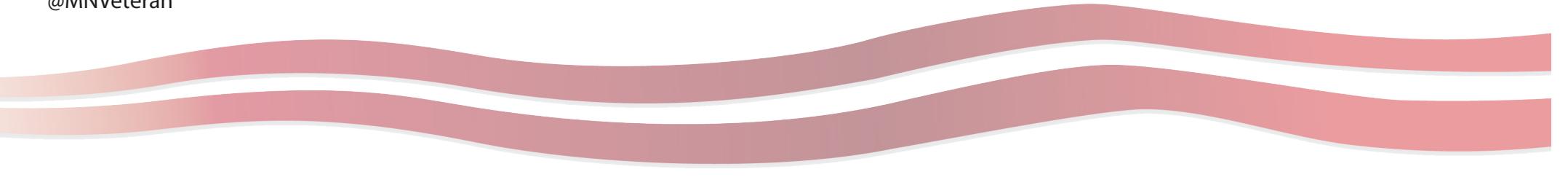
1-888-LinkVet (546-5838)

www.mdva.state.mn.us

www.MinnesotaVeteran.org

WWW.FaceBook.com/MinnesotaDepartmentOfVeteransAffairs

@MNVeteran

The bottom of the page features two decorative, wavy horizontal lines in a reddish-pink color, extending across the width of the page.