

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

We herewith submit our Annual Report for the Veterans Service Office from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017.

During the past year, 2017, this office has continued to experience a high level of activity across many different functions. We look at this as a positive indication that we have been successful at bringing awareness to the veteran population of this county about the services we provide and have them take advantage of the programs that are of benefit to them and to our county.

The following is a summary of the activities of our office for the past year.

During the period, this office affected approximately **2908** personal and telephonic contacts; 3,357 in 2016. and handled a total of **10,387** pieces of correspondence in the course of providing aid and assistance to the veterans, their dependents and their survivors of this county; 10,642 in 2016.

Providing transportation to the veterans of this county to various VA Hospitals and clinics has been an important service of this office and is vital in securing cost-effective health care for these veterans. Transportation were provided to VA facilities primarily at Madison & Milwaukee with some trips to Appleton, Green Bay, and Tomah. 147 veteran transports were made to VA facilities for outpatient and hospitalization appointments with an expenditure of **922** driver hours. In 2016, there were 167 transports with 1,003 driver hours. The reimbursement to the county for transportation that was received from the VA hospitals and veteran's contributions total **\$4,206.35** as compared to \$5,597.25 in 2016

This office also provides veterans, their dependents and their survivors with assistance regarding Social Security, SSI, Medicare, insurance forms, Champus/ChampVA, Social Service programs, Retirement Benefits, Nursing Home applications and many other services when the need arises in conjunction with information needed to obtain veterans benefits.

Green Lake County CVSO Budget Analysis – Based on VA & WI DOR 2016 & 2017 Data

VA Expenditures \$9,686,000.00 (\$10,062,000 in 2016)

CVSO Expenditures \$114,417 (\$111,053 in 2016)

FEDERAL BENEFITS AND SERVICES:

The following Federal benefits were received by the Green Lake County veterans, their dependents and their survivors.

Compensation Payments (for service-connected disabilities), Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, Survivor Benefit Plan Payment, Disability Pension (Non service-connected causes), Death Pension (Non service-connected causes), Servicemen's Government Life Insurance, Education Benefits, Vocational Training and/or Rehabilitation, and Burial Benefits.

Total = \$4,484,000.00 (\$4,699,000 in 2016)

Veterans Administration Hospital Benefits, which include inpatient and outpatient appointments at VA Hospitals and clinics and prescriptions for Green Lake County veterans. **\$4,776,000** (\$5,271,000 in 2016)

STATE BENEFITS AND SERVICES:

The following State benefits were received by the Green Lake County veterans, their dependents and their survivors.

Housing Loans, Home Improvement Loans, Personal Loans, Medical Aid Grants, Part-Time Study Grants, Subsistence Aid Grants, Claims processing assistance, Appeals counsel, Discharge Reviews and other various benefits, programs and services. (This does not include services/benefits received through cooperating agencies or service organizations.)

The Veterans Service Office received the 2017 Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs County Veterans Service Office Grant in the amount of **\$5,898**, for the purpose of extending and strengthening service to the veterans of this county which was \$8,500 in years past and will return back to the \$8,500 block grant in 2018.

The Veterans Service Office also received a grant for **\$1,933** from the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs to assist in transporting veterans to VA Healthcare appointments. \$2,507 was granted in 2016

The Wisconsin Veterans Home provides a retirement community and nursing home care for veterans and their families. Green Lake County currently has **8** members residing at the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King WI.

COUNTY BENEFITS AND SERVICES:


The County Veterans Service Commission consists of Victor Shrock, Chairman; Robert Burdick and Anthony Soda, members; and Jon Vandeyacht, Secretary. Quarterly meetings were held to review grant applications and policy. The Annual Veterans Service Commission Conference at King, WI was attended by commission members. The Veterans Service Commission provided \$3,370 Emergency Aid Grants to veterans and/or their families and also provided Holiday Meals to 9 families again this last year. The CVSO and his family personally provided Christmas gifts to 4 families for a total of 12 children and 8 adults in 2017 with 1 family of 4 children and 2 adults in 2016. They felt it was his way to give back to the community that keeps him employed.

Total Service Commission Grants and Expenses = \$4,305 (\$1,926.82 in 2015)

There were no funds granted to cover burial of indigent veterans in the past year.

Care of veterans' graves: (including providing of flag holders and rods.) **Total = \$1,930** (\$1,142 in 2016)

Respectfully submitted,



Jon D. Vandeyacht
County Veterans Service Officer
Green Lake County