



Governor's Advisory Council on Veterans Services

February 5, 2025 at 1:00 PM
Hartranft Conference Room, Fort Indiantown Gap

AGENDA

1:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / MOMENT OF SILENCE

COUNCIL INTRODUCTIONS

OPENING COMMENTS

OLD BUSINESS

- Review and approval of the minutes from November 6, 2024

AWARDS

- GAC-VS Veteran of the Quarter

DISCUSSION TOPIC: Hard-to-Place Veterans

- **Denials to Veteran Homes**
- **Housing Challenges due to Incarceration**
- **Housing Challenges due to Available Units**

-----short break-----

- **VA Challenges with HUD-VASH Voucher Usage**
- **Housing Challenges for Women/Minority Veterans**

CLOSING COMMENTS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

3:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Next Meeting is scheduled for:
May 7, 2025, at 1:00PM
Dept. of Agriculture, Harrisburg



Governor's Advisory Council on Veterans Services

MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 5, 2025, 1:00–2:59 p.m.
Hartranft Conference Room, Fort Indiantown Gap

COUNCIL MEMBERS/DESIGNEES IN ATTENDANCE

BG (PA) Maureen H. Weigl, Chairwoman, Deputy Adjutant General for Veterans Affairs	Marc Ferraro, DMVA
Tom Foley, Governor's Policy Office	Laurel Harry, Dept. of Corrections
Tammy Ferguson, Member at Large	Micah Snead, Member at Large
Toshua Jarrett, Member at Large	Cheryl Cook, Dept. of Agriculture
Andrew Barnes, Dept. of Human Services	Kory Auch, Office of Administration
Emily Butler, Dept. of Education	Leora Appleby, DCED
Kevin Atkinson, Dept. of Aging	Kara Templeton, Dept. of Transportation
Jamie Dunlap, PA Council on the Arts	Dan Kuba, Dept. of Labor & Industry
Jeffrey Wallace, State Civil Service Commission	Jeff Geibel, Dept. of Drug & Alcohol Programs
Jonathan Swanger, Fish & Boat Commission	Nick Taylor, State Veterans Commission
Nicole Faraguna, Dept. of Conservation/Natural Resources	

COUNCIL MEMBERS/DESIGNEES NOT IN ATTENDANCE

James "Woody" Hogan, PWVC	Joe Shamonsky, Dept. of Health
Wendy Spicher/Tina Kotsalos, Dept. of Banking & Securities	

OTHERS PRESENT

Mike Pipe, Governor's Office	Janette Krolczyk, DMVA
Meghna Patel, Governor's Policy Office	John Noll, DMVA
Orlando Almonte, Governor's Policy Office	Kristin LaVanish, DOE
Joe Batt, DMVA	Stephanie Meyer, DHS
Nate Silcox, ED-Senate VAEP Committee	Alexis Vogan, DOC
Crystal Houser, L&I	Richard Hamp, DMVA
Rachel Guldin, DMVA	Angela Watson, DMVA
Chad Curry, Fish & Boat Commission	Jay Taylor, DOH
Taylor Dippery, DMVA	Shannon Wanyo, DOH
Caroline McCaig, DCED	Marie Miller, DOH
Marilyn Kelly-Cavotta, DMVA	Ally Murr-Curry, VTC Mentor
Jessica Penn-Shires, DOC	Michelle Copeland, DMVA
Mike Wenerowicz, DOC	Barb Raymond, DMVA
Jeremy Schoepner, VA	Keisha Kerr, VISN 4
Bill Cress, VISN 4	Michelle McGinnis, DHS
Amy Capretto, VISN 4	Norm Marden, OAG
Elizabeth Boateng, AOPC	Michael Carrington, DOC
Brendan Auman, DCED	Sarah Herr, DMVA

Sierra Bilous, DHS	Ralph Roach, L&I
Kristi Brawley, PSU	Randy Wright, DOL VETS
Dusty Durand, DMVA	Joe Butera, DMVA
Sara Gligora, Dept. of Agriculture	Ana Arcs, DHS
Vincent DeMedici, DOL VETS	Erica Moore, DMVA
Tom Applebach, CDVA – Lehigh County	Cory Bender, DMVA
Ed Cherry, DMVA	Karen Olson, DMVA
Tiffany Cleary, DMVA	Brian Natali, DMVA
Maria Tagliaferri, DMVA	Lisa Kaye, CDVA- Monroe County
Samantha Cossman, DMVA	Jennifer Spitler, DMVA
Susan Meighen, DMVA	Shannon D’Agostino, DOH
Jennifer Hagaman, DMVA	Erin Burkett, wesoldieron.org
Chris Clark, DMVA	Catherine Bichler, wesoldieron.org
Karen Scarlett, DMVA	Michael Belcher, DMVA
Zackary Portser, DMVA	Justin Cohen
Chelsea Ellsworth, DMVA	Angel McLaughlin, VOPA
Joann Tresco, DMVA Contractor	

<p>CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS, AND OPENING REMARKS</p>	<p>The Governor's Advisory Council on Veterans Services (GAC-VS) was called to order at 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>Ms. Janette Krolczyk welcomed everyone joining the hybrid meeting and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence.</p> <p>Marc Ferraro, Executive Deputy Secretary for the DMVA, welcomed the audience, explained that BG John Pippy was confirmed as Pennsylvania’s Adjutant General, and shared that the entire leadership team looked forward to working with everyone on veteran issues in 2025.</p>
<p>APPROVAL OF NOV 6, 2024, MINUTES</p>	<p>No questions or corrections occurred on the draft minutes. Mr. Nick Taylor motioned to approve the minutes, which Mr. Jonathan Swanger seconded, and all unanimously approved.</p>
<p>AWARDS</p>	<p>The GAC-VS recognized Mr. Brian Delaney as the February Veteran of the Quarter for his service to SCI Waymart for over 19 years and for the case management and treatment of incarcerated veterans, especially those with serious mental illnesses.</p>
<p>DISCUSSION TOPIC</p>	<p>Hard-to-Place Veterans including housing and homeless challenges.</p>
<p>DENIALS TO VETERAN HOMES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms. Barb Raymond provided background on veteran home resident demographics at the six state facilities and examples of why individuals may need to be denied access to one of these homes. Applicants may have behavioral health issues causing aggressive tendencies, or they may have complex medical needs that require more constant monitoring than the facility can provide.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms. Raymond explained that staffing challenges have led to longer waitlists at some veteran homes as the staff-to-resident ratio must meet certain criteria to uphold their well-known quality of care. ▪ Early in the application process, nursing home staff discuss barriers or challenges to admission and can intervene quickly to troubleshoot issues or assist with finding a location that may accept an individual that the veteran home cannot accept. This is done by contacting community partners/resources, independent living communities, and the federal VA. ▪ Applicants who are incarcerated with a felony conviction will receive early intervention and coordination between the DMVA admissions team and the PA Dept. of Corrections team to discuss suggestions for potential placement if the veteran homes cannot meet their needs. ▪ Denials to the veteran homes seem to be mostly even across the six locations. Waitlists for the two southeastern homes are highest, based on available capacity and staffing shortages. Hollidaysburg Veterans Home may have slightly more denials due to the short waitlist. Applicants may have behavioral challenges due to disease progression, and the short waitlist does not allow time to help those attributes fade, so a denial may be necessary until those behaviors decrease. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In addition to disease progression, denials to the veteran homes could stem from behavioral and mental health challenges that lead to aggressive tendencies requiring one-to-one care that the homes could not provide. ▪ Ms. Raymond shared the total capacity for the veteran homes is about 1,500 with about 1,000 beds filled. Different levels of care are offered within the six first-come first-served veteran homes and none of the homes are operating at 100% capacity due to staffing challenges. ▪ About 250 applicants remain on waitlists and 18-20% of residents are veteran spouses. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The two highest waitlists occur at the Southeastern Veterans Center and the Delaware Valley Veterans Center, both near the Philadelphia region. This is due to staffing challenges. ▪ When looking for suitable locations for denied applicants, the social services team assists with looking across state lines, where available, to suggest appropriate care options. ▪ Each veteran home has contracted behavioral/mental health specialists, but facility limitations can impact care availability. For example, the secure memory area in Southeast Veteran Center only has 30 beds, leading to a long waitlist for that care opportunity. ▪ The veteran homes receive a VA per diem grant which is a stipend for each veteran resident in the homes. Depending on a veteran's service-connected disability, they may be eligible for a prevailing rate and receive a reimbursement significantly higher than the Medicaid rate. The Enhanced Veterans Reimbursement (EVR) program was developed only for the six Pennsylvania veteran homes about 15 years ago and also has a higher reimbursement rate compared to the traditional Medicaid rate.
<p>INCARCERATED REENTRANTS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Michael Carrington introduced Ms. Jessica Penn-Shires, The Dept. of Corrections (DOC)'s hard-to-place coordinator. Ms. Penn-Shires

explained the term "hard-to-place" refers to vulnerable populations including those with medical complexities, and who have behavioral health needs when returning to the community. The nature of certain crimes also creates barriers to placement upon reentry.

- Ms. Penn-Shires explained that stigmas create barriers when trying to assist someone who has been incarcerated and will need to reenter a community. She continually educates community partners that an individual they see on paper is not necessarily the same person who will reenter a community after serving their time. Educating these partners includes sharing educational programs inmates have completed and what other growth occurred during their stay like developing management and healthy coping skills.
- Nursing home placement is the largest challenge faced by Ms. Penn-Shires. Reentrants who need high medical care have a difficult time getting placed in a facility. Ms. Penn-Shires works across agencies to assist where possible and find creative solutions. Medical assistance is secured on the day of release, but financial support can be challenging in many cases, which leads to additional challenges with apartment rentals.
 - No singular location within the commonwealth experienced more challenges with reentry than any other. The Veteran Service Units (VSU) contain a high percentage of Megan's Law inmates, adding to the challenges faced upon release.
- Allowing eligible inmates to parole for a short time before they max out their sentence is preferred where possible, so inmates have more time to reenter slowly and set themselves up for the best success.
- Mr. Carrington stressed the importance of working with leadership to create new approaches to the challenges facing inmates, particularly veterans. One way that is being done is ensuring DOC programs use one definition of "veteran" to assist the largest number possible.
 - About 50% of these individuals would be VA-eligible and considered "veterans" by the federal definition. The other 50% would not be included in this category, although the DOC still assists them the same.
- Mr. Carrington explained that community providers have been invited into the VSUs to meet prospective veteran inmates with whom they could work upon release.
- Mr. Carrington shared an example of inmates who max out their sentence and are released without sufficient community support, only to return to prison because that was the better option than what was available to them on the outside. Considering the \$60,000 annual cost to house an inmate, the idea of putting funding aside to create programs (including housing options) to assist those upon release was broached.
 - With excess government property, the suggestion of a halfway house was discussed to offer a place for reentrants needing housing stability leading to successful reintegration.
 - The DOC has had conversations about using empty facilities for similar purposes, but the issue comes back to insufficient staffing in many cases. However, pilot programs are an area many were interested in discussing.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Labor and Industry had been working with the DOC on bringing programs to the incarcerated population to better prepare individuals for reintegration, and conversations will continue in this vein. There may be an opportunity to develop a pipeline for veteran reentrants to become trained and fill vacancies faced by agencies (including the DMVA) in critical areas. ➤ Veteran inmates and reentrants consistently look for opportunities to give back to communities, so harnessing that drive can benefit our commonwealth and economy. ➤ Pairing a veteran reentrant with a veteran mentor in the community may also be a helpful tool for successful integration. Having that guaranteed support on many levels will assist someone to stay on a positive track. ▪ Mr. Carrington explained that the DOC will have a designated veteran specialist in each of the field regions. This field supervision will assist veteran reentrants by providing a point of contact in the community. The DOC will also involve the DMVA outreach staff and others who can assist as mentors and other types of support. ▪ The cost of living in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh remains high so inmates leaving the prison system have difficulty affording housing while making minimum wage. Increased apprenticeship or pre-apprenticeship opportunities may be ways to assist reentrants in earning a livable wage.
<p style="text-align: center;">LANDLORD ENGAGEMENT AND AVAILABLE UNITS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Brendan Auman mentioned the Housing Action Plan that Governor Shapiro signed last year. The Dept. of Community and Economic Development (DCED) has been researching Pennsylvania’s housing needs and developing ways to address the challenges. ▪ Mr. Auman shared data for Pennsylvania from the National Low-Income Housing Coalition. About 20% of our renters are “extremely low-income” and there is a shortfall of about 265,000 units to meet the current demand for affordable housing units in PA. ▪ With a lack of available units and the cost of everything going up, the issue of affordable and available housing is a compounding issue. Furthering the issue are landlords who can make more money by not renting to the low-income population who may have risk factors like prior incarceration, low credit, eviction history, etc. ▪ Mr. Auman explained many housing programs have case managers who perform every function needed which is challenging. A common theme in successful housing programs is having a dedicated housing locator position focused on connecting with community landlords, training them on program benefits, and ensuring they have support if challenges arise. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Housing Locators may benefit from working with DVMA and DOC employees to explain to landlords the benefits of renting to veterans. This may reduce landlord worry about renting to someone who has been justice-involved or who is working through behavioral or mental health challenges due to their service. ▪ Mr. Auman highlighted a DCED program in Bucks County that connects 14 different housing locator programs within the county. Working across

	<p>agency lines to connect these resources has yielded a 20% decrease in homelessness in the county among many other successes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Finding creative solutions like incentivizing landlords to accept someone hard to place will proactively address challenges and mitigate issues many individuals face. ▪ Changing zoning ordinances to allow for the creation of new units will greatly assist the shortage crisis. Mr. Auman shared that a collaborative approach between local municipalities and community housing development organizations is necessary to find housing projects in your area that can apply for home investment partnerships through DCED and low-income housing tax credits through PHFA. This collaboration can bring available units to local areas over time. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The SHARE program through the PA Dept. of Aging offers individuals a way to connect with someone who has a spare room available and wishes to have assistance around the home or some companionship. This program tracks and matches veterans together where possible and is available in a handful of counties. ➤ The Elder Cottage Housing Opportunity (ECHO) program was mentioned in the chat. This program is a collaboration between the Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) and local housing partners in 14 counties.
<p>VA HUD-VASH VOUCHER USAGE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Bill Cress shared that the HUD-VASH cases at the VA are becoming more acute and difficult to place or maintain. Cognitive, mental health, or substance abuse challenges have contributed to this issue and sometimes lead to repeat cases. ▪ Mr. Cress explained that a national statistic from about two years ago estimated that 60% of HUD-VASH voucher usage was going to veterans over age 60. This presents challenges with finding apartments that are ADA and handicap accessible. ▪ Most VISNs were able to hire a HUD-VASH Geriatric Specialist who could navigate the HUD-VASH program and have knowledge about housing authorities, social security, Medicaid, and geriatric programs. ▪ Referencing the portion of VISN 4 that covers only Pennsylvania, there are 3,487 HUD-VASH vouchers available, with 90% in use. Of the 90%, 83% were currently housed. Although barriers exist, Pennsylvania is doing well with voucher usage. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ HUD communicates with the Housing Authorities and the VA after using the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count to negotiate the number of vouchers each VISN will receive. This is dependent on whether funding is available for the voucher program, as it may not be a guarantee. ➤ HUD-VASH voucher eligibility criteria have been recently relaxed. For some VA homeless programs, a veteran does not need to be eligible for VA services to qualify for a voucher. Under this “expanded criteria” a case manager would work with a veteran to utilize the voucher, but the medical/mental health care/treatment through doctors and programs outside the VA.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Landlords will not know who qualifies for a HUD-VASH voucher under the “expanded criteria” so no discrimination can occur. ▪ Ms. Keisha Kerr shared that limited affordable housing remains a barrier for the VA when assisting veterans needing housing. Vouchers are typically utilized under fair market rent value, although in some higher-priced areas, the housing authorities can allow up to 120% of that value. However, most private landlords will not accept the vouchers as they can earn more money by renting to someone not using voucher assistance. ▪ Landlord engagement fairs have occurred with Pennsylvania's VISN 4 to educate these contacts and encourage them to accept the HUD-VASH vouchers. High-cost areas remain difficult to place those in need and landlords are reluctant to rent to veterans unless there are incentives or guarantees provided. ▪ Ms. Kerr explained that the HUD-VASH vouchers bring together three government entities (the VA, the Housing Authority, and the SSVF partners) which can operate out of sync and create bureaucratic challenges for landlords who may decide not to participate in the program. Other barriers include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ <u>Insufficient support</u>. HUD-VASH case managers sometimes work independently to find community resources and wrap-around services, which is a heavy lift. ➢ <u>Transportation</u>. A veteran using a HUD-VASH voucher must access daily needs, which may require proximity to a bus line. In these urban settings, rents tend to be high, making voucher utilization difficult. ➢ <u>Stigma and discrimination</u>. Those who have experienced homelessness and/or incarceration are not looked at favorably by those with the ability to house them. ▪ Ms. Kerr shared the VA is working with various state agencies and the LIFE program and will possibly develop a partnership with PACE due to the recently passed Dole Act. If a veteran has a 70% disability rating or higher, they may be able to use a HUD-VASH voucher to pay for personal care home services. ▪ Voucher utilization compliance is challenging as recipients have 90 days to find housing and existing barriers delay finding suitable options. This leads to extension requests and finding other funding sources to incentivize landlords. In rare cases, the voucher can expire, requiring reprocessing, which adds time and further delay for the veteran. ▪ Landlord outreach events have been performed with more occurring in the future. The 2024 virtual event included over 400 audience members, which included almost 180 landlords. Efforts are still needed to allow the vouchers to be utilized above fair market rent to assist in finding suitable, safe housing in higher-cost areas. ▪ In the "one team" approach, the VA medical center locations have been working on cross-collaboration to bring all housing programs together for a more unified, systematic effort to house veterans. ▪ The FY 2025 Federal VA Homeless Goals were discussed, and the information will be shared for GAC-VS distribution.
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<p>CHALLENGES OR CONSIDERATIONS FOR WOMEN & MINORITY VETERANS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms. Marilyn Kelly-Cavotta provided some women's veteran data. Although overall veteran homelessness decreased from 2020-2023 by 4.5%, homelessness for women increased 24%, and women veterans who were unsheltered increased by nearly 48%. ▪ As the percentage of women in the military continues to grow, programs to support them must meet current needs and anticipate future needs. More women's shelters, especially those accepting children, are needed. Challenges occur when a single woman with a teenage son cannot enter a shelter together. The teenage son would be separated, leading to trauma and possibly additional unsafe conditions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Shelters receiving federal funding must comply with family involuntary separation where parents and children of different genders cannot stay together. ▪ Women veterans experience sexual assault at a higher rate, leading to significant trust issues, and making a co-ed shelter an uncomfortable or unacceptable option. ▪ Of the 13% of veterans who have reported military sexual assault, 90% received an “involuntary” discharge separation code, rendering them ineligible for VA benefits. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ideas for communication plans were discussed to ensure those interacting with women, and who identify they have served, can share the information on resources, discharge upgrades, and additional supports that may not have existed before. ➤ Many women's veteran resources were requested to be added to the DMVA webpage. ▪ Due to the repeal of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” the VA proactively went back through the records and automatically upgraded the dishonorable discharges to “honorable”. A similar idea was raised for the military sexual assault victims, but nothing has passed through the legislature. ▪ Women veterans may feel betrayed by the federal government due to treatment or lack of assistance, making them more invisible and harder to reach. ▪ Due to the gender pay gap and the frequency of single parents being women, our women veterans also have a harder time obtaining affordable housing and other needed supports. ▪ Women veteran suicide rates have increased by lethal methods as they are comfortable using firearms. Someone with children will likely not obtain behavioral or mental health services from an in-patient facility, which may create dangerous situations that do not get properly resolved.
<p>LINKS SHARED THROUGH CHAT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CARE COORDINATION: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Right at Home ➤ VCCHC ▪ HOUSING AFFORDABILITY DATA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ National Low Income Housing Coalition ▪ REGIONAL/LOCAL NEEDS ASSESSMENTS Large amounts of data are available on the healthcare and human services viewpoint explaining local barriers and needs. State, county, and

	<p>local governments all perform needs assessments for various types of funding and should be able to supply data on what was collected.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ DCED- Consolidated Plan ➤ DOH- Healthy PA Partnership ➤ DOH- Statewide Health Assessment ➤ UPMC- Community Health Needs Assessment
CLOSING COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BG (PA) Weigl thanked everyone for joining and looks forward to working on some projects for 2025. ▪ VETCon 2025 will occur October 22-25th in Valley Forge. ▪ Ms. Krolczyk reminded all participants to share the information for the "Safeguarding our Veterans" training she and Michelle Copeland would provide through the White Deer Run Treatment Network on February 12th. She also reminded the group to review the following resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ DMVA website for the approved meeting materials. (www.dmva.pa.gov) ➤ GAC-VS Webpage: (Governor's Advisory Council on Veterans' Services (pa.gov)) <p>Veterans Registry is where service members, veterans, family members, and caregivers can sign up for the "Together We Serve" publication. (www.register.dmva.pa.gov).</p>
	<p>Next Meeting:</p> <p>May 7th, 2025, 1:00–3:00 p.m.</p> <p>Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg</p>
ADJOURNMENT	The meeting adjourned at 2:59 p.m.

NEW ACTION ITEMS

#	ACTION	STATUS
1	Ms. Krolczyk to connect with Mr. Auman about a possible educational campaign for housing locator employees to use when engaging with landlords who may rent to veterans.	Completed
2	Mr. Cress to share materials from the 2024 landlord engagement event to share with the GAC-VS distribution list.	Completed
3	Mr. Auman to share the FY 2025 Federal VA Homeless Goals with information broken down for VISN 4 in Pennsylvania	Completed
4	Ms. Krolczyk to connect Ms. Kerr and Ms. Alexis Vogan on the topic of "expanded eligibility" for the HUD-VASH vouchers in use.	Completed
5	Ms. Kelly-Cavotta to connect with Ms. Houser to start discussing the women veteran information that can be shared through the PA Dept. of Labor & Industry.	Completed

OLD ACTION ITEMS

#	ACTION	STATUS
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WELCOME

Feb. 5, 2025

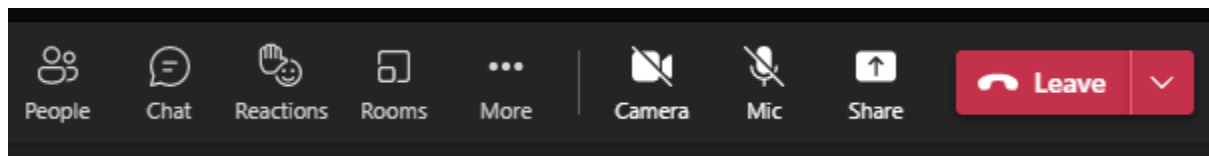
Governor's Advisory Council on Veterans Services
Hartranft Conference Room, Fort Indiantown Gap
Annville

**This meeting, and all content, is being recorded for executive documentation only.
Your continued participation is acknowledgement and approval of recording.**

--We will begin at 1:00pm--



Chat function is used to submit comments or questions



*Please enter your **full name and agency** for attendance purposes





INTRODUCTIONS & OPENING COMMENTS



OLD BUSINESS

VETERAN OF THE QUARTER



Pennsylvania
Department of Military
and Veterans Affairs

Mr. Brian Delaney

- Mr. Delaney has been an employment of SCI Waymart for over 19 years.
- Mr. Delaney prides himself on the treatment and case management of incarcerated veterans.





- 37 partners represented through seven committees (43 committee meetings in 2024)
- Recognized about 1,000 employees through the State Employee Military Service Recognition Campaign
- Increased sharing partners on the annual Pension Poaching Awareness Campaign to 68
- Jury donations exceeded \$22,000 for the Veterans Trust Fund from five participating counties
- Assisted with the Women Veterans Magazine for Pennsylvania



DISCUSSION TOPIC

Hard-to-Place Veterans



Denials to Veteran Homes



Challenges due to Incarceration



Challenges due to Available Units



Governor's Advisory Council on Veterans Services

--SHORT BREAK--



HUD-VASH Voucher Usage



Challenges for Women/Minority Veterans



CLOSING COMMENTS / ANNOUNCEMENTS




White Deer Run
Treatment Network



SAFEGUARDING OUR VETERANS

**Presented by Pennsylvania Department of Military
Affairs: Michelle Copeland & Janette Krolczyk**

Wednesday, February 12, from 10:00AM–11:00AM

Live Zoom Webinar, 1 Credit

1. Understand the challenges with assisting veterans in PA and why DMVA seeks assistance from community professionals.
2. Understand Protective Services and the reporting process.
3. Identify the various types of scams targeted toward veterans and older adults.
4. Know which state agencies to contact regarding the Pension Poaching Awareness Campaign, or information/materials on financial literacy.
5. Understand where to find necessary resources based on the veteran or older adult need.



[Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)



- **DMVA website: www.dmva.pa.gov**
- **Visit the [GAC-VS webpage](#) for meeting materials**
- **Sign up for the [Veterans' Registry](#) and the “*Together We Serve*” online monthly newsletter**



NEXT MEETING:

May 7 at 1:00PM

Dept. of Agriculture, Harrisburg