

Date: July 23, 2019

To: Oneida County Board of Supervisors

From: Veterans Service Officer

Re: Veterans Service Office 2018 Annual Report

Attached is the 2018 Annual Report for the Oneida County Veterans Service Office. The amount of benefits our veterans and their families and survivors received last calendar year was almost 4% higher than in 2017.

Last year between our daily phone calls, appointments, walk-ins, home visits, and electronic communication (Facebook, email, and texts), we averaged more than 27 veteran contacts each work day. This number includes eight outreach events but does not reflect the number of individuals we talked to at each event.

The VA benefits paid to veterans in 2018 reflected on page 1 (minus treatment at VA facilities) illustrates the direct income received by our veterans through their VA benefits was almost \$29 million. It's reasonable to assume that a majority of that money was spent right here in Oneida County. This income is beneficial to not only our veterans but the county as well. When a veteran's income is increased through federal dollars, that can mean they need less assistance from the state or county, if they needed it in the first place. The \$13.4 million received in treatment at VA healthcare facilities is also beneficial for that reason, but what's most important is many veterans, especially our disabled veterans, wouldn't be able to afford health insurance if it weren't for the VA so having that as an option gives them something more valuable than money. It gives them better health, a better quality of life, and often saves their lives.

The total cost to operate the Veterans Service Office this year was \$158,250; however, we received a \$10,000 grant from the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs which was used toward my salary thus saving the county \$10,000.

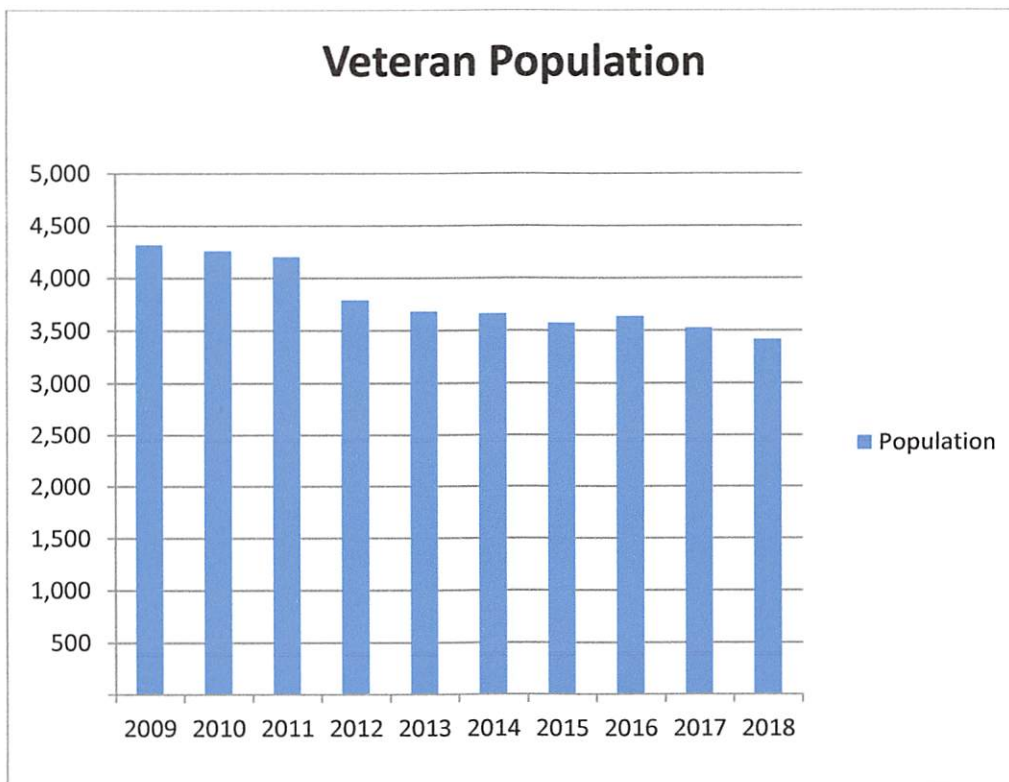
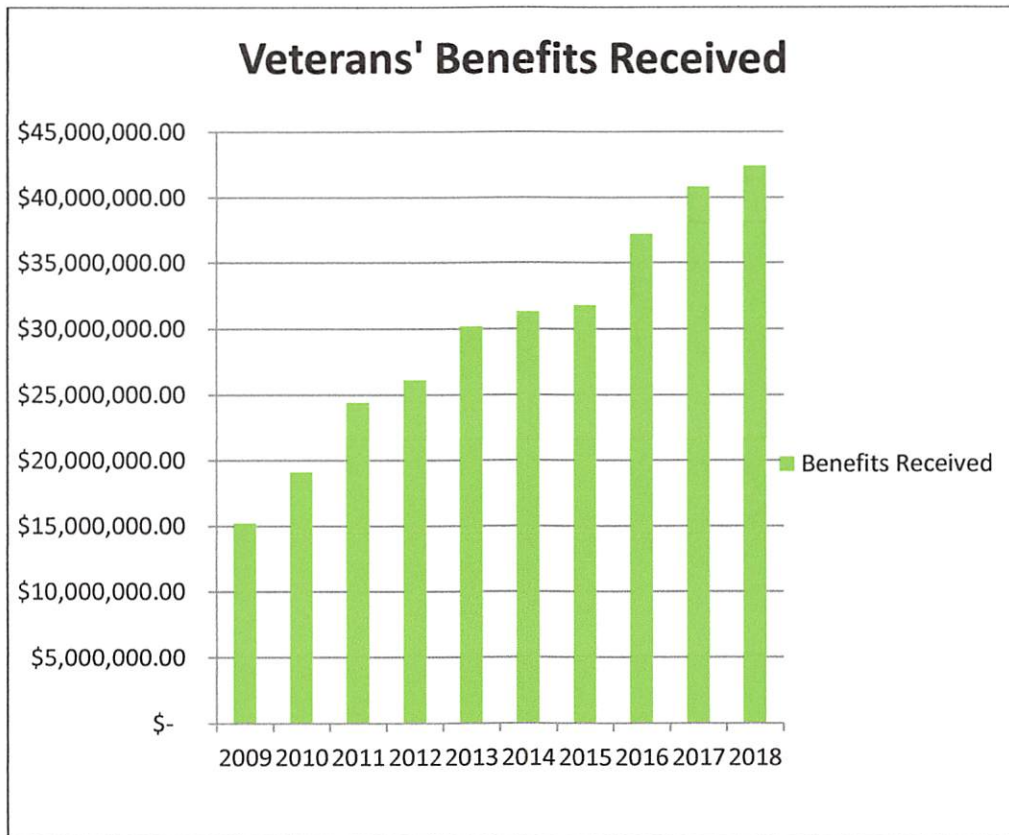
Jason and I always strive to do better for our veterans than we did the year before and we certainly reached that goal this year. We are proud to serve those who have served along with their family members and survivors.

Respectfully submitted,


Tammy Cavenkoski

VA BENEFITS PAID TO VETERANS

<u>Program</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Disability Compensation and Pension	\$14,659,000
Education and Vocational Rehabilitation	604,000
Insurance and Indemnities	326,000
WI Property Tax Credit	282,641
VA Loans	13,097,995
Treatment at VA facilities (cost of)	13,435,000
Revenue brought into Oneida County by veterans	\$42,404,636
Total office personnel and operating expenses	148,250
Rate of return	28,603%



OUTREACH, SPEAKING EVENTS, AND OTHER EVENTS

- January 3: ACVSO attended Northwoods Community Outreach Prevention and Education (COPE) training/meeting, and Suicide/Depression subcommittee meeting, Rhinelander
- January 30: CVSO attended Committee on Transportation, Veterans and Military Affairs meeting regarding Veterans Outreach and Recovery Program (VORP), Madison
- February 1: CVSO was interviewed by WJFW, Channel 12
- February 7: CVSO testified in front of the Joint Finance Committee regarding VORP, Madison
- March 1: CVSO was guest speaker at American Legion Post 318 meeting, Lake Tomahawk
- March 7: CVSO was interviewed by WJFW, Channel 12
- March 7: CVSO was interviewed by WRJO Radio
- March 12: CVSO was guest speaker at American Legion Riders meeting, Lake Tomahawk
- March 13: CVSO was interviewed by the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs for Women's History Month article
- March 14: CVSO attended VA Medical Center Town Hall meeting, Rhinelander
- April 25: CVSO attended briefing on the new National Cemetery coming to Oneida County
- May 4: CVSO met with VA Regional Office leadership, Milwaukee
- May 14-18: CVSO and ACVSO attended spring conference, Fond du Lac
- May 28: CVSO attended Memorial Day Ceremony, Rhinelander
- June 20: CVSO met with the Secretary, Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs, Rhinelander
- July 11: ACVSO attended Northwoods Community Outreach Prevention and Education (COPE) training/meeting, and Suicide/Depression subcommittee meeting, Rhinelander

OUTREACH, SPEAKING EVENTS, AND OTHER EVENTS, CONT.

- July 13: CVSO and ACVSO hosted Northeast CVSO meeting, Nokomis
- August 14: CVSO was guest speaker at I-team meeting, Rhinelander
- August 23: CVSO attended Board of Veterans Affairs meeting, King Veterans Home, Waupaca
- August 24: CVSO met with State Commander, Disabled American Veterans, De Pere
- September 7: CVSO attended Wisconsin State Association of County Veterans Service Commissions meeting/training, King Veterans Home, Waupaca
- September 21: ACVSO escorted WWII veteran and ex-POW to POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremony, Iron Mountain, MI
- Sept 24-28: CVSO and ACVSO hosted and attended fall conference, Minocqua
- October 3: ACVSO attended Northwoods Community Outreach Prevention and Education (COPE) training/meeting, and Suicide/Depression subcommittee meeting, Rhinelander
- November 5: CVSO attended Veterans Day kick-off event at the governor's mansion, Madison
- November 11: CVSO and ACVSO attended Veterans Day ceremony, James Williams Middle School, Rhinelander. CVSO was guest speaker.
- November 11: CVSO and ACVSO attended Veterans Day ceremony, Rhinelander. CVSO was MC.
- November 11: CVSO attended WWII veteran event, Rhinelander High School
- December 20: ACVSO attended Northwoods Community Outreach Prevention and Education (COPE) training/meeting, and Suicide/Depression subcommittee meeting, Rhinelander

VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE BUDGET

The following is a report of the Oneida County Veterans Service Office and Veterans Service Commission budget for January through December 2018.

Receipts

Non-personnel appropriations	\$15,079.00
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Expenses

Wages - Limited Term Employee	\$ 2,554.34
Telephone and Fax	514.20
Postage and Box Rent	288.19
Printing and Duplication	342.92
Central Purchasing	830.24
Subscriptions	25.00
Membership Dues	160.00
Training/Conference Fees	320.00
Employee Auto Allowance	3,157.75
Meals - Taxable	24.00
Meals, Lodging and Travel	936.18
Gravemarkers & Flags	1,338.41
Direct Payments	4,561.09
<u>Direct Payments-Transportation</u>	<u>20.00</u>
Total	\$15,072.32

ONEIDA COUNTY DAV VAN

The Veterans Service Office coordinates the DAV van which in 2018, served 146 veterans from five different counties. This service is free to Oneida County and free to the veterans. If we paid mileage at the VA rate to the Oneida County veterans who used the van, we would pay them \$.415 per mile for an annual total of \$6,465.70. That amount can also be regarded as an annual savings to the county.

Month	Oneida County	Forest County	Lincoln County	Vilas County	Langlade County	Cost Savings (Oneida County only)
January	8	0	3	5	0	\$544.48
February	10	0	2	3	0	\$680.60
March	10	0	0	4	0	\$680.60
April	8	0	0	2	1	\$544.48
May	11	0	0	1	4	\$748.66
June	8	1	1	1	0	\$544.48
July	9	0	0	4	1	\$612.54
August	6	0	1	3	1	\$408.36
September	6	0	1	2	0	\$408.36
October	6	0	0	3	0	\$408.36
November	6	1	0	3	0	\$408.36
December	7	0	0	3	0	\$476.42
Total	95	2	8	34	7	\$6,465.70