

MINNESOTA'S



COVID-19 RECOVERY BUDGET



2022-2023 BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS



MINNESOTA'S



COVID-19 RECOVERY BUDGET

Larry Herke | Commissioner

John Powers | Chief Financial Officer

Benjamin Johnson | Legislative Director



Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs



Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs

Mission

Serving Minnesota Veterans, their dependents and survivors by connecting them with the federal and state care and benefits they have earned.

Vision

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



Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs

MDVA FY2022-23 Base Budget

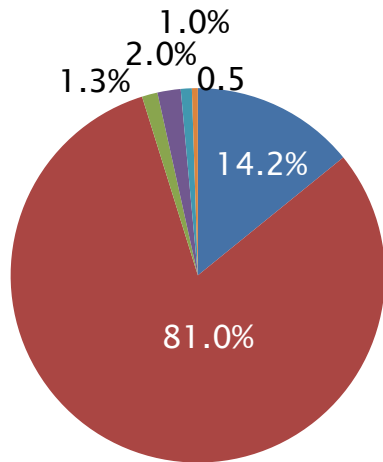
- **\$296.7 million biennial budget, all funds**
- \$151.8 million from direct general fund appropriation
 - *\$115.5 million for Veterans Homes – Transfer to Healthcare Special Revenue Fund*
 - *\$ 36.3 million for Veterans Programs and Services*
- \$125.9 million for Veteran Homes from VA Per Diem, Maintenance, Fees, & Medicare Reimb.
- \$ 2.8 million in Special Revenue Funds from Cemetery Fees & Fed Reimb., SOT License plates
- \$ 5.9 million Federal Construction Funds for reimbursement of new Duluth Cemetery
- \$ 4.3 million in Resident Trust & Gift Accounts
- \$ 6.0 million of \$12 million open appropriation for the MN G.I. Bill



Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs

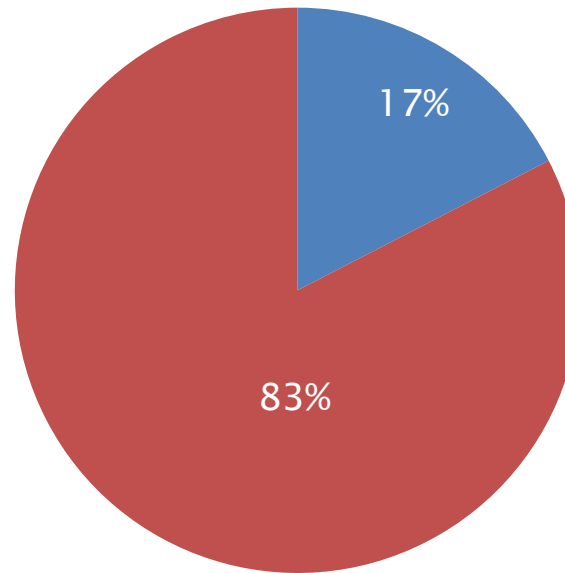
Expenditures by Fund

- General Fund – Veteran Services
- Special Revenue – Vets Homes
- Restricted Special Revenue
- Federal Construction Funds
- Resident Trust
- Gifts & Donations



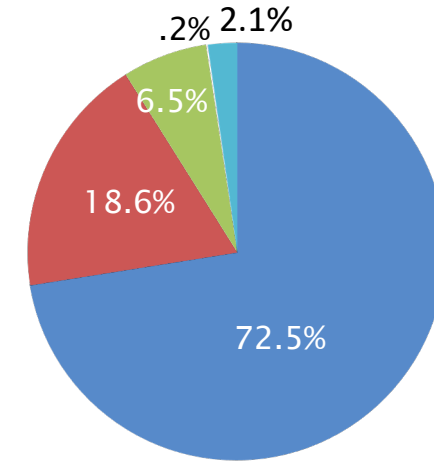
Expenditures by Program

- Veterans Programs & Services
- Health Care/Veterans Homes



Expenditures by Category

- Compensation
- Operating Expenses
- Grants, Aids and Subsidies
- Other Financial Transactions
- Capital Outlay – Minimal



FY21 FTE Total = 1,286

Programs & Services = 110

Health Care/Veterans Homes = 1,176



Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs

Governor Walz's Recommended Budget Change Items for MDVA



Serving Veterans with Programs & Services and Healthcare



Preventing Veteran Suicide



Ending Veteran Homelessness



9/11 and Global War on Terrorism Task Force



Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs



Serving Veterans with Programs & Services and Healthcare

MDVA is seeking an Operating Adjustment of \$8.2 million to ensure we continue to deliver on our Mission and Vision to those Minnesotans who have served our country and provide the highest quality healthcare, especially during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

MDVA includes two divisions: Programs & Services and Healthcare

- The Programs and Services Division assists Veterans from all eras of conflict in securing the important benefits and resources they have earned through their service. Through MDVA's State programs, Minnesota Veterans and their families can access support for housing, education, employment and other financial assistance.
- The Healthcare Division operates Minnesota's five State Veterans Homes located in Fergus Falls, Hastings, Luverne, Minneapolis and Silver Bay. Our vision is to provide safe, dignified and compassionate healthcare in a nurturing and engaging home environment. We also operate an Adult Daycare Program on the Minneapolis campus and recently launched a mobile dental clinic that travels to our four skilled nursing facilities.



Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs



Preventing Veteran Suicide

Funding of \$1.65 million in the FY22/23 biennium will support a state-wide initiative for Veteran Suicide Prevention.

- More than 100 Minnesotan Veterans die by suicide each year
- MDVA has made preventing Veteran death by suicide a priority.
- In 2020, we joined the “Governor’s Challenge”.
 - The Governor’s Challenge calls for collaboration of federal VA, State, local, non-profit, service, and military partners to reduce Veteran death by suicide by 20% by 2025 and further towards zero by 2035.
- The Veterans Suicide Prevention initiative aligns with current MDVA, MN Department of Health and MN Department of Agriculture suicide prevention efforts, as well with the MN Suicide Prevention Task Force and other local Veteran Suicide Prevention Coalitions across the State of MN.



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Ending Veteran Homelessness

We are seeking \$6.3 million in FY22/23 to support and expand Veteran Homelessness efforts.

- Every Minnesotan, and especially those who have served our country, should have a safe and stable place to call home.
- MDVA is committed to ending homelessness among Veterans in Minnesota. Specifically, we are dedicated to becoming the fourth state in the nation to reach functional zero statewide.
- Through our Homeless Veteran Registry database, we have made significant progress towards addressing the problem.
- To achieve the goal of functional zero for Veteran homelessness, the program needs housing vouchers and wrap-around services for Veterans and former Service members who are not eligible for federal housing assistance.

COVID-19 has made the issue even more urgent.



Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs



9/11 and Global War on Terrorism Remembrance Task Force

MDVA is seeking \$500,000 in FY22 to fund the 9/11 Task Force.

The Global War on Terror is America's longest war and a conflict that has evolved over the last 20 years.

- The State of Minnesota is home to more than 40,000 Post-9/11 Veterans. Unlike prior conflicts, the families of many of these Veterans have endured multiple activations and deployments.
- MDVA has convened an Advisory Task Force of statewide stakeholders who will address the needs of post-9/11 Veterans, their families and the general public.
- In anticipation of the 20th anniversary of the September 11 terror attacks, the Task Force will use funds to:
 - (1) Publish a definitive history of the Global War on Terror
 - (2) Develop a traveling exhibition to share these stories statewide, and
 - (3) Host a remembrance program in September 2021.



Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs

MDVA FY2020-21 Governor Recommended Base Budget Changes

Change from \$ 151.8 million direct general fund appropriation to \$168.5 million = 11% Increase

- Change from \$115.5 million for Veterans Homes to \$ 124.8 million = 8% Increase
- Change from \$36.3 million for Veterans Programs and Services to \$ 43.7 million = 20% Increase

Agency Operating Adjustment	\$ 8,224,000
Preventing Veteran Suicide	\$ 1,650,000
Ending Veteran Homelessness	\$ 6,330,000
<u>9/11 & Global War on Terrorism Remembrance</u>	<u>\$ 500,000</u>
<u>Total General Fund Increase</u>	<u>\$16,704,000</u>

Change from 1,286 to 1,288 FTE's

Face a Reduction of 36 FTE's without Agency Operating Adjustment



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Veterans Affairs – FY2022-23 Biennial Budget Book, Governor’s Recommendations (January 2021):

<https://mn.gov/mmb-stat/documents/budget/2022-23-biennial-budget-books/governors-recommendations-january/veterans-affairs.pdf>



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