

Sauk County, Wisconsin
Sauk County Veterans Service Office Annual Report

2018 Mission: In recognition of the special sacrifices that veterans and their families have made, the Sauk County Veterans Service Office is dedicated to providing the highest quality service to Sauk County Veterans and their family members by utilizing all available resources including federal, state, county and civic. We strive to keep veterans and their family members informed of all pertinent information through the use of all available technologies and actively work for the protection of veteran's benefits.

Departmental Program Summary: Assistance: Assist veterans and their families in making application for State & Federal Benefits, including education, loans, compensation, pension, burial & health care. Disperse funds from Veterans Relief Fund.

Informational Services: Produce a newsletter, Facebook, E-Mail & Web Page to keep veterans informed of new and changing benefits, attend events and meetings as appropriate to promote this office and veterans benefits.

2018 Goals Review:

Goal #1: Develop a plan to identify Sauk County Businesses that support Veterans through discounts and hiring preferences then and serve as a conduit to provide information and employment assistance to Veterans.

Goal #2: Develop and implement a system to reach out to disabled veterans whom have not initiated contact with the County Veterans Service Office in the last 5 years to inform them of benefit changes and eligibility requirements. Such changes may include increases in disability rating or new conditions and new ancillary benefits.

Goal #3: Develop a program to increase awareness of the Sauk County Veterans Office through press releases, public service announcements and use of social media.

2018 GOALS REVIEW

OBJECTIVE	WAS THIS OBJECTIVE REACHED IN 2018?
	Yes or No (If no, please provide comment)
When a Veteran comes to us seeking assistance with finding work, we will have a list of area employers that have indicated to us they prefer to hire veterans. To inform Veterans of area businesses that appreciate their service and sacrifice.	YES
Utilizing VetraSpec, the Veterans Service Office staff will identify the disabled veterans that have not been in contact with the Veterans Service Office in the last 5 years.	YES
Contact newspapers and other traditional media outlets and set up regular time and space for articles and announcements. Establish a relationship with a social media consultant to assist with the most effective use of that tool of communication.	YES

Changes / Accomplishments: In 2018, the Sauk County Veterans Service Office (CVSO) continued to serve ever-increasing numbers of veterans and their families. The case complexity, difficulty and time intensity continue to increase. The CVSO Office continues to manage a high number of veterans with mental health issues, both from the current returning veterans, as well as many new claims for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) from our Vietnam veterans as they age and retire. Additionally, the appeals process has completely changed; this transition will take additional time and resources to adjust to, but should, at least be faster for our veterans.

The outreach by this office in 2018 was again significant and useful. We continue to identify veterans that have not used this office previously, in need of services, and they have benefitted greatly from the experience.

During 2018, between the CVSO and Assistant CVSO, we visited 10 different veterans' service organizations to update the members on VA benefits and changes.

In 2018, we processed 39 requests for financial assistance through the Veterans Relief program.

Statistical Summary:

	<i>2016 ACTUAL</i>	<i>2017 ACTUAL</i>	<i>2018 ACTUAL</i>
Veterans Relief	\$11,708	\$4,994.5	\$8,205.88
Applications Approved	66	38	39
Applications Denied	8	6	0
CVSO Web Page views	12,198	8,820	13,757
CVSO Facebooks Likes	158	317	544
CVSO Twitter Followers	40	48	52
County Park Passes given to veterans	15	206	350
Number of AddLife Today! News Magazines Emailed to Veterans	N/A	N/A	1,476

OUTPUT MEASURES

DESCRIPTION	2013 ACTUAL	2014 ACTUAL	2015 ACTUAL	2016 ACTUAL	2017 ACTUAL	2018 ACTUAL
Federal Applications for Veterans Benefits processed	1,291	2,017	2,940	3,145	4,144	3,872
State Applications for Veterans Benefits	95	93	109	193	240	188
Number of Veterans transported by ADRC	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	74	78
# of Veteran Contacts	14,909	14,162	19,330	22,622	27,597	26,417

OUTCOME AND EFFICIENCY MEASURES

DESCRIPTION	2013 ACTUAL	2014 ACTUAL	2015 ACTUAL	2016 ACTUAL	2017 ACTUAL	2018 ACTUAL
Goal 1: Develop a plan to identify Sauk County businesses that support veterans through discounts and hiring preferences then and serve as a conduit to provide information and employment assistance to veterans.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	27
Goal 2: Develop and implement a system to reach out to disabled veterans whom have not initiated contact with the County Veterans Service Office in the last 5 years to inform them of benefit changes and eligibility requirements. Such changes may include increases in disability rating or new conditions, and new ancillary benefits	N/A	N/A	N/A	Contacted 74 Consults 26	Contacted 48 Consults 17	Contacted 24 Consults 8
Goal 3: Develop a program to increase public awareness of the Sauk County Veterans Office through press releases, public service announcements and use of social media.	48 FB followers	57 FB followers	121 FB followers	158 FB followers	317 FB followers	544 FB followers

Monetary Impact to Sauk County

DESCRIPTION	US DVA FY 2013	US DVA FY 2014	US DVA FY 2015	US DVA FY 2016	US DVA FY 2017
<u>Federal</u> Compensation & Pension	\$10,483,000	\$12,463,000	\$13,279,000	\$14,841,000	\$14,917,000
Insurance & Indemnities	\$354,000	\$380,000	\$511,000	\$447,000	\$357,000
Education	\$763,000	\$968,000	\$937,000	\$1,324,000	\$1,037,000
Veterans Affairs Medical Care	\$13,024,000	\$14,501,000	\$16,641,940	\$15,984,000	\$18,852,000
Home Loans	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$20,376,912	N/A
<u>State</u> Veterans Home	\$1,124,550	\$723,336	\$723,336	\$861,232	N/A
Education	\$13,295,000	\$13,295,000	\$13,295,000	N/A	N/A
WI Property Tax Credit **	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$439,000

The United States Department of Veterans Affairs publishes monetary impact in June each year for the prior year. 2018 Monetary Impact will be available in June 2019.

** WI Property Tax Credit Info is put out every two years

State Monetary Impact Information is current

