

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Veterans' Trust Fund
Annual Report for SFY 2019
July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020



**“Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow...
Honoring Our Heroes”**

Eric G. Weller, Major General, USAF (Ret)
Deputy Adjutant General for Veterans Affairs

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Veterans' Trust Fund (VTF), administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA), is to assist and support Pennsylvania veterans and their families. The VTF issues grants to statewide charitable organizations that assist veterans, veterans service organizations and county directors of veterans' affairs to assist veterans in need of shelter and necessities of living.

PURPOSES

Monies deposited in the Veterans' Trust Fund will be expended exclusively for purposes described in 51 Pa.C.S. § 1721(c). These purposes include, generally, providing assistance and support to Pennsylvania Veterans and their families. The Department intends to carry out this objective by providing assistance to Veterans in temporary need, awarding grants to statewide charitable organizations that support and assist veterans and making grants to Veterans' Service Organizations and County Directors of Veterans' Affairs.

SOURCES OF FUNDS

The sources of funding for the VTF are established by law under Title 51 Pa.C.S. § 1721. They include:

- Transfer of \$1.7 million into the Fund upon the sale of the former Scotland School for Veterans' Children.
- Proceeds paid by the Department of Transportation under 75 Pa.C.S. § 1320 from voluntary \$3 or \$6 donations from persons applying for or renewing their drivers' licenses and motor vehicle registrations.
- Proceeds paid by the Department of Transportation from the sale of new "Honoring our Veterans" license plates under 75 Pa.C.S. § 1361(b) for motorcycles and 75 Pa.C.S. § 1364(b) for passenger cars and light-duty trucks under 10,000 pounds and 75 Pa. C.S. § 1364(c) "Honoring our Women Veterans" license plate.



- Grants, gifts, donations and other payments from a person or governmental entity.
- Money appropriated to the fund.
- Contributions from the Pennsylvania Individual Income Tax Return
- Monies collected from fines relating to wearing of uniforms and insignia and misrepresentation of military service or honors.

STATUTORY BACKGROUND

The VTF was established by Section 1719-G of the Fiscal Code, act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.343, No.176), as added by the act of July 2, 2012 (P.L., No.87). The act of October 24, 2012 (P.L., No.194) amended the Military and Veterans Code, Title 51 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes and the Transportation Code, Title 75 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, to create the framework for the funding, operation, maintenance and use of the Veterans' Trust Fund.

FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

The VTF is a special, non-lapsing fund under the jurisdiction and control of the DMVA. Money in the fund is authorized to the Department on a continuing basis and will be expended exclusively for the purposes prescribed by 51 Pa.C.S § 1721(c).

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES

July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

Funding Source	Receipts	Expenditures
Cash Balance, Beginning Balance as of June 30, 2019	\$2,381,365	
HOV License Plate	\$1,860	
HOV Motorcycle License Plate	\$180	
HOV Women's License Plate	\$570	
Donations, Contributions and Gifts	\$6,773	
VTF Check Off	\$1,372,040	
On-line Donations	\$738	
SECA Donations	\$6,036	
Interest	\$46,891	
VTF Grant NOFA		\$782,165
Veterans Assistance		(\$0)
VTA		\$701,087
Veteran Programs Training		\$3,800
PENNDOT Costs		\$0
Totals	\$1,428,315	\$1,487,052
Cash Balance, Ending Balance	\$2,322,628	

ACTIVITIES AND MILESTONES

Date	Milestones
12 November 2019	DMVA issues a Notification of Funding Announcement (NOFA) for the SFY 2019-20 VTF Grant Program. The NOFA designates \$650,000 available for awards to 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organizations or Veterans' service organizations and \$150,000 for awards to County Directors of Veterans Affairs.
18 December 2019	Grant applications are received from seventy-six 501(c)(3) charitable organizations or Veterans' service organizations and twenty-one County Directors of Veterans Affairs.
24 January 2020	The VTF Grant Evaluation Committee reviews grant applications and provides funding recommendations to The Adjutant General.
20 February 2020	DMVA awards eight grants to County Directors of Veterans Affairs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allegheny County Office of Veterans Affairs: \$20,000 • Bucks County Office of Veterans Affairs: \$14,812 • Juniata County and Mifflin County Office of Veterans Affairs (joint application): \$28,450 • Lehigh County Office of Veterans Affairs: \$10,180 • Mercer County Office of Veterans Affairs: \$11,387 • Northampton County Office of Veterans Affairs: \$20,000 • Perry County Office of Veterans Affairs: \$5,171 • Snyder County and Union County Office of Veterans Affairs (joint application): \$40,000

Date	Milestones
20 February 2020	<p data-bbox="524 268 1349 338">Eighteen 501(c)(3) charitable organizations and veterans service organizations are selected to receive grant funding:</p> <ul data-bbox="573 359 1386 1633" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="573 359 1187 394">• 3P Ride, Inc., York (York County): \$50,000 <li data-bbox="573 401 1338 470">• American Legion Post 210, Harrisburg (Bucks County): \$12,500 <li data-bbox="573 476 1325 546">• Central Pennsylvania Food Bank, Harrisburg (Dauphin County): \$50,000 <li data-bbox="573 552 1365 588">• David’s Drive 831, Coatesville (Chester County): \$20,000 <li data-bbox="573 594 1349 663">• For the Love of a Veteran, Inc., Hanover (York County): \$45,000 <li data-bbox="573 669 1235 739">• Greenforge, Inc (PA Veterans Farming Project), Greensburg (Westmoreland County): \$4,250 <li data-bbox="573 745 1295 814">• Jarett Yoder Foundation, Fleetwood (Berks County): \$50,000 <li data-bbox="573 821 1284 890">• Operation Homefront, Doylestown (Bucks County): \$10,000 <li data-bbox="573 896 1289 966">• Operation Touch of Home, Brodheadsville (Monroe County): \$40,000 <li data-bbox="573 972 1333 1041">• Operation Troop Appreciation, McKeesport (Allegheny County): \$45,000 <li data-bbox="573 1047 1325 1144">• Pennsylvania American Legion Housing for Homeless Veterans, Harrisburg (Dauphin/Cumberland Counties): \$40,304 <li data-bbox="573 1150 1370 1220">• Pennsylvania Wounded Warriors, Camp Hill (Cumberland County): \$45,000 <li data-bbox="573 1226 1386 1295">• Second Harvest Food Bank of NW Pennsylvania, Erie (Erie County): \$50,000 <li data-bbox="573 1302 1321 1371">• Travelers Aid Society, Pittsburgh (Allegheny County): \$50,000 <li data-bbox="573 1377 1300 1446">• Veteran Community Initiatives, Johnstown (Cambria County): \$39,746 <li data-bbox="573 1453 1321 1488">• Veterans Helping Hand, York (York County): \$38,200 <li data-bbox="573 1495 1338 1564">• Veterans Leadership Program of Western Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh (Allegheny County): \$50,000 <li data-bbox="573 1570 1295 1640">• Victory Therapeutic Horsemanship, Bellwood (Blair County): \$10,000
16 April 2020	<p data-bbox="524 1671 1341 1780">The VTF is approved for inclusion in the 2020 State Employees Combined Appeal (SECA) campaign as a member under the umbrella of the United Way of the Capital Region.</p>

FUTURE PLANS AND PROGRAMS

The Department will reserve approximately \$800,000 for direct assistance to Veterans and their families in accordance with the Veterans' Temporary Assistance Program.

The Department will reserve approximately \$650,000 for grants to 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organizations and Veterans' service organizations. Priority areas for grant consideration will be Veteran homelessness, behavioral health initiatives and Veteran Court initiatives.

The Department will reserve approximately \$150,000 for grants to County Directors of Veterans Affairs for new, innovative and expanded outreach activities or programs that increase awareness or improve delivery of services to Veterans in their county, region or across the Commonwealth; Veterans' Courts; and programs and services that address newly identified, unmet or emerging needs of Veterans and their families.

The Department will issue a Notice of Funding Announcement (NOFA), grant guidelines, grant application and timeline for the receipt, consideration and award of grants during the 2020-21 grant season.

The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs will continue to update its marketing plan to attract funding to the VTF. This plan will encourage ALL Pennsylvanians to purchase "Honoring Our Veterans" license plates for passenger cars, light duty trucks and motorcycles and "Honoring Our Women Veterans" license plates. The plan will focus on voluntary donations to the Veterans' Trust Fund through the \$3 or \$6 check off donation that motorists may select when purchasing or renewing drivers' licenses or vehicle registrations. The plan will also address efforts to attract funding for the VTF from grants, gifts, donations, appropriations, individual income tax returns, fines resulting from stolen valor and other payments from individuals, corporations, foundations and governmental entities.