

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Veterans' Trust Fund
Annual Report for SFY 2020
July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021



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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 \$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).

Funding Source	Receipts	Expenditures
Cash Balance, Beginning Balance as of June 30, 2020	\$2,322,628	
HOV License Plate	\$1,500	
HOV Motorcycle License Plate	\$270	
HOV Women's License Plate	\$390	
Donations, Contributions and Gifts	\$6,377	
VTF Check Off	\$1,278,298	
On-line Donations	\$220	
SECA Donations	\$2,733	
Interest	\$4,869	
VTF Grant NOFA		\$807,317
VTA		\$466,888
Totals	\$1,294,657	\$1,274,205
Cash Balance, Ending Balance	\$2,343,080	

ACTIVITIES AND MILESTONES

Date	Milestones
15 December 2020	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.
27 January 2021	Grant applications are received from one hundred 501(c)(3) charitable organizations or Veterans' service organizations and sixteen County Directors of Veterans Affairs.
30 March 2021	The VTF Grant Evaluation Committee reviews grant applications and provides funding recommendations to The Adjutant General.
15 April 2021	DMVA awards eight grants to County Directors of Veterans Affairs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bedford County Office of Veterans Affairs: \$20,000 • Cambria County Office of Veterans Affairs: \$17,416 • Fayette County Office of Veterans Affairs: \$20,000 • Franklin County Office of Veterans Affairs: \$20,000 • Mercer County Office of Veterans Affairs: \$20,000 • Montgomery County Office of Veterans Affairs: \$8,176 • Northumberland County Office of Veterans Affairs: \$20,000 • Snyder/Union Counties Office of Veterans Affairs: \$40,000 (Joint Application)

Date	Milestones
15 April 2021	<p>Twenty 501(c) (3) charitable organizations and veterans service organizations are selected to receive grant funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3P Ride, Inc. (York County): \$49,900, Veteran Transportation Program. • Alpha Bravo Canine (Philadelphia): \$10,132, Veteran Service Dogs. • Building Bridges Foundation at Anderson Farms (Lancaster County): \$25,000, Equine Assisted Therapy. • Central Pennsylvania Food Bank (Dauphin County): \$50,000, Military Share Food Distribution. • Clinical Outcomes Group (Schuylkill County): \$47,840, Veteran Mental Health Community Outreach Program. • Community Food Warehouse of Mercer County: \$32,762, Military Share Food Distribution. • Dog T.A.G.S Program (Cumberland County): \$49,995, Veteran Trained Service Dogs. • Meghan’s Shortt Wilent Foundation (Bucks): \$11,100, Veteran Behavioral Health Outreach Program. • Montgomery County Community College: \$28,585, Veteran Resource Center Modernization. • Operation Troop Appreciation (Allegheny County): \$45,000, Welcome Home Veteran Support Program. • Outreach Center for Community Resources (Lackawanna County): \$34,100, Veteran Outreach and Workforce Development. • PA Lions Beacon Lodge Camp (Mifflin County): \$22,845, Project New Hope Behavioral Health Program. • Pennsylvania Outdoor Veterans Inc. (Carbon County): \$23,436, Veteran Outdoor Rehabilitation Program. • Robin’s Home Inc. (Butler County): \$23,750, Fire Escape Renovation. • Steven A. Cohen Military Family (Philadelphia): \$49,490, Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Program. • Travelers Aid Society of Pittsburgh (Allegheny County): \$50,000, Veterans Transportation Assistance Program. • United Disabilities Services Foundation (Lancaster County): \$19,000, UDS Service Dog Program. • Valhalla Veterans Services (Lackawanna County): \$50,000, Veteran Behavioral Health Program. • VALOR Clinic (Monroe County): \$12,155, Veteran Homelessness and Behavioral Health Program. • Victory Therapeutic Horsemanship (Blair County): \$15,000, Equine Behavioral Health Program.

Date	Milestones
21 June 2021	The VTF is approved for inclusion in the 2021 State Employees Combined Appeal (SECA) campaign as a member under the umbrella of the United Way of the Capital Region.

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 transportation, mental health, employment initiatives and programs and services that address newly identified, unmet or emerging needs of Veterans and their families.

The Department will reserve approximately \$150,000 for grants to County Directors of Veterans Affairs for expanded outreach efforts that increase awareness or improve delivery of services to Veterans; transportation, mental health, employment initiatives and programs and services that address 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 2021-22 grant season.

The Department will continue to bring awareness to VTF by educating potential donors on the myriad of channels donations can be made to the fund. Such as:

- Proceeds from the voluntary \$3 donations from people applying for or renewing their driver’s license
- Pennsylvania driver’s license or photo ID and renewing motor vehicle registrations
- Proceeds from the sale of the “Honoring Our Veterans” standard/motorcycle license plate
- Proceeds from the sale of the “Honoring Our Women Veterans” standard license plate
- Private/Corporate donations

Donations to the VTF may be completed online at www.donate.dmva.pa.gov or by mail to: PA Veterans’ Trust Fund, Bldg. 9-26, Fort Indiantown Gap, Annville, PA 17003.