

Knox County



Veterans Service Office

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Our Mission

The mission of the Knox County Veterans Service Office is to provide eligible veterans and their families with those benefits to which they may be entitled under federal, state, and local law, in accordance with established policies and procedures.

The Knox County Veterans Service Office shall take those steps necessary to ensure a well trained and professional staff that is available to advise and assist veterans, their dependents, and the widows and orphans of those veterans who, by virtue of their service in the military of the United States of America. They may be entitled to benefits provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs or any other benefit available under federal, state, or local law.

The Knox County Veterans Service shall provide temporary financial assistance to those veterans or their dependents who have demonstrated a financial need due to illness, injury, lack of employment, or an unexpected hardship. Determination of financial need shall be made by the Veterans Service Commission in accordance with the guidelines it alone shall establish and oversee, in accordance with Title 59 of the Ohio Revised Code.

The Knox County Veterans Service Commission shall promulgate programs as required by Title 59 of the Ohio revised Code for services not listed above, such as outreach and the transportation of veterans to and from VA medical facilities.



2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Office Closed, Happy New Year	2 Commissioners Meeting - 3 PM - Public Welcome	3	4	5
6	7	8 Radio Show 10A	9	10 Vet Center on Location 9am—4pm. Call for an appointment	11	12
13	14	15	16 Commissioners Meeting - 3 PM - Public Welcome	17 JVC Meeting 7:30p	18	19
20	21 Office Closed, Martin Luther King Day	22	23	24 Vet Center on Location 9am—4pm. Call for an appointment	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

VETERANS MONTHLY

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 1 DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT JANUARY 2019

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK - KEVIN L. HENTHORN



Everyone, please welcome our new Office Coordinator, Corey Hays!

Corey spent 7.5 years in the United States Marine Corps. His specialty was supply chain logistics. He spent one tour of duty in Afghanistan in 2011 where he delivered supplies and gear to both Camp Leatherneck and Camp Bastion. Also he served at both Camp Lejeune NC with the Headquarters Support Battalion and 2nd Supply Battalion and after re-enlisting at Camp Pendleton CA with the 1st Supply Battalion.

Corey has 2 children, a boy and girl, and enjoys spending as much time as possible with them and loves to take them to new and exciting places. Corey also enjoys playing video games, going to the gym and spending time with friends and loved ones.

Corey is a huge Cleveland sports fan and The Ohio State Buckeyes!! ESPN is one of his favorite TV channels to watch or listen too. He also enjoys hunting, fishing and camping, "being outdoors and around nature is so relaxing for me".



Kevin Henthorn,
 Executive Director
 Thank You for all your support and God Bless.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Jan. 1st OFFICE CLOSED, Happy New Year!!
- Jan. 8th — Veteran's Office Radio Program, WMVO 1300, 10am
- Veterans Service Office Commissioners first & third Wed. at 3 p.m. Public Welcome
- Vet Center Counseling on location Jan. 10th & 24th, call for an appointment.
- Jan. 21st OFFICE CLOSED, Martin Luther King Day



Financial assistance for **2018** was another busy year! The Veterans Service Office processed **150** applications for financial assistance. We spent a total of **\$114,124.94** to help our veterans and their dependents with bills such as electric, rent, mortgage, food, heating and other necessary bills. The Veterans Service Commission and office staff are proud to help our area veterans with their financial hardships and to help get them back on their feet. Each application for financial assistance is evaluated on a case by case basis. The Veterans Service Commissioners primary concern is to help the veteran and their dependents that are in need of immediate financial assistance. The financial assistance grants provided are not intended to be on a long term, on going basis. They are designed to provide assistance to those who encounter situations usually of emergent need that threatens their health or safety. An applicant for assistance must utilize all available income and resources. All applicants must provide proof on household income and proof of all bills paid and due for the past 30 days. There are no minimum or maximum levels established for financial assistance. All applicants who are physically capable of work must be actively seeking employment. The financial assistance is for temporary situations and not for month-to-month relief. If you are in need of financial assistance please call our office and set up an appointment. We are open Monday-Friday from 8-4

VBA adjusts Veteran Signals survey of education beneficiaries

WASHINGTON – Today the VA announced that it will adjust its Veteran Signals survey of education beneficiaries schedule to ensure thorough analysis of its recently completed 2018 survey. In 2018, the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), conducted a Veteran Signals (VSignals) survey of Education beneficiaries. More than 23,000 beneficiaries were surveyed, and VBA received over 2,000 responses. VBA is reviewing the results of the survey and exploring process improvements based on the results. This survey cycle is complete. A new education survey is scheduled to deploy in early 2020, in conjunction with the implementation of the remaining Forever GI Bill provisions. VBA suspended the Veterans Signal Education Service survey for 2019 while it analyzes the 2018 results, develops an internal service recovery plan, refines the instrument, and ensures appropriate resourcing. This suspension corresponds to the period of time in which VBA will complete the implementation of the Forever GI Bill. This ensures that the new survey instrument incorporates the Veterans experience with the complete Forever GI Bill benefits. “Rest assured the VBA continues to listen actively and often to Veterans on the department’s important education issues through various venues, including a dedicated call center where we receive approximately 10,000 calls per day,” said VA Acting Deputy Secretary Jim Byrne. “Our customer service agents handle these calls and help Veterans with their education claims and issues. We listen to Veterans and address their concerns in real time. We have found that this is the most efficient and expeditious way to handle Veterans’ issues.” VBA also obtains feedback from Congress and VSOs, including VSOs whose primary mission is in the education arena, through monthly meetings.



VA announces moratorium on discharges and decreases from comprehensive caregiver program

WASHINGTON – The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced today that it will temporarily suspend discharges and decreases in level of support from its Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers because of continued concerns expressed by Veterans, caregivers and advocates about inconsistent application of eligibility requirements by VA medical centers.

“It is essential that we get this right,” said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. “This affects one of our most vulnerable Veteran populations and we need to make sure we have consistency on how we process and evaluate benefit applications across VA.”

The suspension does not impact the current application process. VA medical centers are continuing to accept and approve applications to the family caregivers program based on current eligibility criteria along with processing appeals and monitoring eligible Veterans’ well-being at least every 90 days, unless otherwise clinically indicated.

Termination of benefits exempted from the suspension include those made at the request of the Veteran or caregiver, by the local Caregiver Support Program for cause or noncompliance or due to death, permanent institutionalization or long-term hospitalization of a Veteran or caregiver.

In addition to initiating an internal review, VA will continue to solicit feedback from external stakeholders. VA is reviewing policy changes as well as pursuing long-term legislative and regulatory changes.

The VA Caregiver Support Program has aided more than 38,000 family caregivers since 2011. Participating families receive an average monthly stipend ranging from \$660 to \$2,600, based on the level of assistance required by the Veteran and the geographic location of the Veteran and caregiver.

Participating caregivers also receive access to health care if the caregiver does not have insurance, assistance with travel related to care of the Veterans, mental health care and additional service and support. For more information about the VA caregiver program, visit www.caregiver.va.gov.



Free PTSD / Combat related counseling !!!!

The Columbus VA Vet Center will be here at your Knox Co. Veterans Office EVERY * 2ND and 4TH THURSDAY OF THE MONTH. *****

Please call our office ASAP with any questions about this fantastic service. This is a wonderful opportunity to come into a local, comfortable, welcoming environment to just sit and share with a professional about issues you or your family may be dealing with. Not only could this make a huge difference in your quality of life, but will aid this office in the filing and advancement of disability claims. Dr. Scott Johnson has already been in the office and seen numerous veterans and is excited and eager to see more Knox County Veterans !

PLEASE HELP US HELP YOU !

CALL NOW for an appointment 740-393-6742