

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

Budget



Fiscal Year 2012

Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor

The Agency

Department of Veterans' Affairs

Agency Operations

The Department of Veterans' Affairs serves eligible Rhode Island Veterans, their surviving spouses, and dependents. Benefits include a comprehensive program of social, medical and rehabilitative services. The Department is comprised of the Rhode Island Veterans' Home, the Rhode Island Veterans' Memorial Cemetery, and the Rhode Island Office of Veterans' Affairs

Veterans' Affairs is confronting a growing challenge as a result of a rapidly aging veteran's population. Rhode Island has a population of approximately 93,000 veterans. Although the total number of war service veterans is declining, the growth in the proportion of aging (World War II and Korean) veterans is escalating.

The purpose of the Veterans' Home is to provide quality nursing and domiciliary care to the veteran. Social, medical, nursing, and rehabilitative services for eligible Rhode Island veterans, their survivors, and/or dependents, are available to improve their physical, emotional, and economic well-being. The Rhode Island Veterans' Home has an operational bed capacity of 339 beds (260 nursing and 79 domiciliary/sheltered care beds). Within the 339 bed complement is a 36-bed unit for veterans who suffer from dementia type illnesses. The Veterans' Home admits war service veterans who have been honorably discharged and have resided in the State at least two years prior to admission and/or were inducted into the military service from the State. Residential care is available to eligible veterans who require a sheltered care environment. The Veterans' Transitional Supportive Program (VTSP) is a program operated in concert with the federal Veterans Administration. VTSP offers a multitude of psychological/social counseling, substance abuse treatment, and contract work therapy opportunities provided on a short-term basis to assist veterans with reintegration to their communities.

The Veterans' Memorial Cemetery, located on 280 acres of the former Ladd School in Exeter, provides internment services for Rhode Island veterans meeting eligibility criteria as set forth in departmental regulations and RIGL 30-25-14.

Lastly, the Office of Veterans' Affairs, collocated with the Veterans' Home, supplies a range of consultative social services for the State's veteran population, including eligibility determination for state and federal programs, general counseling, family relations, and technical assistance.

Agency Objective

To continue to improve the physical, emotional, and economic well-being of Rhode Island veterans.

Statutory History

Chapter 233 of the Public Laws of 2009 set forth Chapter 152 of Title 42 of the General Laws, repealing the statutory authority for the Division of Veterans' affairs within DHS and establishing the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA), effective July 1, 2011 (FY 2012).

The Budget

Department of Veterans' Affairs

	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Enacted	FY 2011 Revised	FY 2012 Recommended
Expenditures by Subprogram					
Veterans Affairs	-	-	-	-	28,688,112
Total Expenditures	-	-	-	-	\$28,688,112
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	-	-	-	-	23,065,489
Operating Supplies and Expenses	-	-	-	-	3,403,523
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	-	-	-	-	24,100
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	-	-	-	-	\$26,493,112
Capital Purchases and Equipment	-	-	-	-	2,195,000
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	-	-	-	-	\$28,688,112
Expenditures By Funds					
General Revenue	-	-	-	-	19,039,528
Federal Funds	-	-	-	-	8,005,072
Restricted Receipts	-	-	-	-	1,643,512
Total Expenditures	-	-	-	-	\$28,688,112
Program Measures					
Persons Completing the Veteran Transitional Supportive Program & Securing Housing Within Six Months	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	92.0%