

2022 Annual Report

New York State

Division of Veterans' Services

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About the Division

The Division of Veterans' Services (DVS) since 1945 was tasked with assisting returning World War II Service Members in their readjustment from military to civilian life. This objective soon expanded to encompass New York State's Veterans, Service Members, and their families from all eras. For the past 77 years, the Division has connected generations of Veterans, members of the Armed Forces and Uniformed Services, and their families and dependents to various economic, medical, and social benefits and services earned due to military service.

Mission

The Division assists New York's Veterans, Service Members, and their families the rest of the way. At all times, we provide quality support, advice, and advocacy for New York State's Veterans, Service Members, and their family members, helping them obtain State and Federal benefits earned by their service to New York State and the United States of America.

Director's Welcome Message

Recent years have posed tremendous challenges for all New Yorkers. After enormous disruptions to our lives and services, we at the Division of Veterans' Services have emerged with new ideas, energy, and enthusiasm for our vision ahead. And we have already accomplished much to strengthen that vision. We have ensured service excellence to our Veterans and families across New York State through the mobilization of talent within our team, and we have pursued new innovations and partnerships aimed at benefiting all Veterans across the state. In 2022, we challenged ourselves to push and pursue together, and yielded the power of the collective. As Robert F. Kennedy stated, "[e]ach time a person stands up for an ideal or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring, those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance." The staff at the Division of Veterans' Services aims through their actions each day to improve the lot of all Veterans and their families across our great state.

This past year, we have unveiled innovative digital kiosks across the state, created new approaches to outreach where we find and serve Veterans and their families, and fostered new faith-based Veterans service initiatives. We also expanded partnerships in new directions to promote economic growth and bolster our efforts to house, clothe, and feed our Veterans and families – creating new opportunities while ensuring our team is fortified from the inside out. Thank you to our Executive Deputy Director, Joel Evans, and to everyone at the Division of Veterans' Services for staying the course, to a place that is brighter, better, and befitting our Nation's Veterans, their family members, caregivers and survivors.

It is my pleasure to share this year's annual report, and I encourage readers to learn about the tremendous work accomplished by the Division of Veterans' Services in 2022.

Semper Fidelis,

Viviana DeCohen

By the Numbers: Serving Veterans and Their Families in 2022

Total Number of Veterans in New York	688,611
Division of Veterans' Services (DVS) Offices	50
VA-Accredited DVS Employees	87
Counties under DVS Power of Attorney (POA)	55 and NYC
Money Awarded in Claims Filed under DVS POA (monthly recurring)	\$75 million
Total Number of Blind Annuitants	2,718
Total Amount of Blind Annuity Payments	\$4,151,943.96
Total Gold Star Parents Enrolled in Annuity Program	209
Total Amount of Gold Star Parent Annuity Payments	\$113,614.90

Total Licenses with Veteran Notation Issued	249,363
Businesses Certified as Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Businesses	1,054
Veterans Currently Listed in the State's Veterans Temporary Hiring Portal	466
Veterans Currently Listed in the State's "55-c Program" Hiring Portal	312
Veterans with Disabilities Issued State Parks Lifetime Liberty Passes in 2022	1,856
Recipients of New York State's Veterans Real Property Tax Exemptions	468,000

Annual Budget – FY 2022-23

State Operations	
Administration (General Fund)	\$490,000
Veterans Benefits Advising Program (General Fund)	\$7,646,000
Veterans Education (Special Revenue Federal)	\$2,118,000
Veterans Cemetery (Special Revenue)	\$900,000
Veterans Cemetery (Other)	\$4,000,000
Aid to Localities	
Aid to Localities (not including Community Projects)	\$13,979,000
Special Revenue - Federal	\$500,000
Reappropriations	
State Operations	\$5,293,000
Aid to Localities	\$18,304,000
Total reappropriations	\$23,597,000
Agency Total	\$53,230,000

Division of Veterans' Services Highlights in 2022

I. Direct Agency Services to Veterans and their Family Members

Veterans Benefits Advisors Assisting Veterans and their Families

The most extensive program in the Division of Veterans' Services (DVS) is the Veterans Benefits Advising Program. The agency's Veterans Benefits Advisors, all of whom are Veterans accredited by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), secure and maintain a substantial portion of the federal VA benefits paid annually to Veterans and their dependents in New York State. Veterans Benefits Advisors currently staff 50 field offices located throughout every region of New York.

In 2022, DVS' Veterans Benefits Advisors filed 7,656 claims and generated more than \$75 million in new and recurring monthly VA benefits payments for New York State Veterans and their dependents. DVS continues to file primarily Fully Developed Claims, significantly reducing the VA's processing time and the waiting period before the claimant starts receiving benefits. Additionally, DVS' Veterans Benefits Advisors help Veterans access the VA's network of health care, State Veterans' Homes, and nursing homes, as well as many local public assistance programs and private venues offering initiatives to assist Veterans and their families.

Veterans Education Program

The Veterans Education Program staff, stationed at office locations in Albany and New York City, investigates and approves post-secondary educational and vocational institutions after determining whether they provide a legitimate and quality education. This federally mandated approval process enables Veterans and their dependents to use VA educational benefits at academic institutions and facilities throughout New York.

In 2022, there were 2,716 approved educational facilities in New York State, with around 23,884 Veterans presently utilizing these educational opportunities. These programs currently bring approximately \$400 million into New York State.

Gold Star Parent Annuity Program

New York's Gold Star Parents — mothers and fathers (including adoptive parents and stepparents) of Service Members killed in action, as defined by federal law — are eligible to receive a biannual annuity payment from the State. As of November 2022, a total of 209 New York Gold Star Parents receive this annuity from the State. In 2022, New York State paid a total of \$113,614.90 to Gold Star Parent Annuitants. The current annual Gold Star Parent Annuity payment is \$548.04.

All Gold Star Parents residing and domiciled in New York State are eligible for this annuity, regardless of their household income.

Blind Annuity Program

New York State provides an annuity for legally blind wartime Veterans and un-remarried surviving spouses of legally blind wartime Veterans who reside and are domiciled within New York State. Blindness need not be a service-connected disability to qualify. As of November 2022, an average of 2,718 New York Blind Annuitants received this annuity from the State monthly. For the calendar year up until November 2022, New York State paid a total of \$4,151,943.96 to Blind Annuitants. Each year, the Blind Annuity dollar

amount is eligible to change in accordance with a cost-of-living increase between one and four percent.

Supplemental Burial Allowance

New York State's Supplemental Burial Allowance helps defray funeral and interment costs for Service Members who died in a combat zone or from wounds sustained in combat. This program reimburses family members for up to \$6,000 in documented funeral and interment expenses not covered by federal benefits.

In 2022, no reimbursement requests were made from the Supplemental Burial Allowance.

Indigent Burial Reimbursements

All individuals who served in this nation's military merit a dignified final resting place. To ensure this, NYS DVS provides reimbursement of up to \$2,000 to a congressionally chartered Veterans Service Organization or Veterans Service Agency when their county or municipal government requests them to cover the funeral and interment costs of a Veteran who passed away without sufficient funds to pay for these services.

This year, the indigent burial reimbursement program provided over \$150,000 to defray these funeral and interment costs.

Restoration of Honor Act

In 2020, the Restoration of Honor Act took effect in New York State. The Restoration of Honor Act authorizes DVS to restore access to State Veterans Benefits to Veterans who have an Other-Than-Honorable Discharge (OTH) or a General Under Honorable Conditions Discharge due to any of the following:

- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
- Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)
- Military Sexual Trauma (MST)
- Sexual Orientation
- Gender Identity

Those who receive an "honorable" determination for the purposes of state Veterans benefits are able to access over 50 potential benefits and programs that were previously

unavailable to them. This also presents the opportunity for DVS staff to assist these Veterans with upgrading their official discharge status with the Boards of Military Records for their service branch, creating an opportunity for further life-changing programs and benefits.

To date, 39 Veterans have received a favorable Restoration of Honor decision from DVS. These recipients include Veterans who are survivors of military sexual trauma who were then wrongfully accused of misconduct by military leaders unwilling to discipline the perpetrators of the sexual abuse, Veterans who unjustly received less-than-honorable administrative discharges due to the military's biased policies and conduct toward Service Members who identified as members of the LGBTQ+ community, and Veterans whose manifestations of mental health conditions caused or worsened in their service to our nation were ignored or misunderstood by their chain of command. These Veterans are now able to receive State benefits along with the recognition that the State of New York properly recognizes the honorable nature of their military service.

II. Statewide Initiatives and Programs

New York State Discharge Upgrade Advisory Board

In 2022, the New York State Discharge Upgrade Advisory Board received 0 applications for review.

New York State Veterans Cemetery

In 2021, a state-appointed committee selected Sampson Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Seneca County as the location of New York's first State Veterans Cemetery. DVS continues to work with federal and local partners to make this a reality that will allow for continued dignified burial options for New York's Veteran families.

New York State Veterans Human Rights Conferences

DVS is, and will always remain, committed to viewing Veterans' services through a human rights lens. Throughout 2022, DVS partnered with several agencies and organizations to present widely attended programs focusing on the human rights issues, needs, and initiatives of Veterans, Service Members, and Military Families. These programs included:

- Providing multiple Continuing Legal Education and Continuing Education Unit programs for attorneys and medical professionals focusing on military cultural competency and on addressing the needs of historically underserved populations of Veterans and Military Families, including (but not limited to) Veterans and Military Family members with unjustly issued less-than-honorable characterizations of discharge; Veterans and Military Families who identify as LGBTQ+; Veterans and Military Families of racial, ethnic, and religious minority groups; and Veterans and Military Families with disabilities.
- Presenting at the state's Tribal Consultation conference in November 2022, emphasizing the life-changing role that federal and state Veterans' benefits can play for Veterans and Military Families on tribal nations throughout New York. This led to the development of a new "Train The Trainer" initiative that DVS is

providing to Veterans on tribal nations who are interested in becoming accredited as Veterans Service Officers.

- Honoring the legacy of military service of Veterans and Military Families of the Oneida Indian Nation, America's first sovereign allies, in their tribal nation's Veterans Day program.
- Taking part in the program at the New York State Fair organized by the Akwesasne Mohawk tribal nation focusing on the vast history of military service among the tribal nations in New York and beyond.
- Hosting a series of virtual events via Zoom to commemorate Black History Month, Women's History Month, Transgender Day of Visibility, and Mental Health Awareness Month with in-depth conversations highlighting the expertise and lived experiences of diverse leaders within New York State's Veterans communities and offering insights on critical issues and advocacy for women and minority Veterans and their families.
- Speaking at multiple forums, both in-person and online, focusing on federal, state, and local benefits, programs, services, and resources available for Veterans with disabilities and DVS's role in connecting these Veterans with those benefits, programs, services, and resources.
- Presenting at the PFC Joseph P. Dwyer Program's online forum focusing on better-serving Veterans who are survivors of military sexual trauma.
- Providing a program on the widely distributed "Let's Talk Vets" radio program focusing on New York State's Restoration of Honor Act and, more broadly, on the daily advocacy that DVS provides statewide for Veterans with service-related mental illness, Veterans who are survivors of military sexual trauma, and Veterans who identify as LGBTQ+.
- Leading programs with the Alzheimer's Association, with the New York State Office for the Aging, and for the Veterans and Military Families group of AARP focusing on benefits, programs, services, and resources available to older Veterans and Military Families, as well as DVS's efforts to combat the adverse effects of ageism toward Veterans and Military Families.

- Providing a featured workshop at the Long Island Coalition for the Homeless' annual conference focusing on including Veterans' services as part of any comprehensive strategy for addressing homelessness in a community, with an emphasis on benefits, services, and resources available for Veterans with low income and limited assets, Veterans with disabilities, and Veterans who were unjustly given a less-than-honorable character of discharge by the military.

Appellate Advocacy for Veterans in New York State

Throughout 2022, the Division's Appellate Unit provided direct advocacy for New York's Veterans and Military Families whose cases were heard before the United States Board of Veterans' Appeals, the highest level of administrative appeal within the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. For each appeal, the members of the unit developed a thoroughly researched and well-crafted brief, with accompanying exhibits, to present before the Veterans Law Judge assigned to the case. This level of specialized appellate attention permits the Division to bring forward high-quality appeals that maximize the chances of success in each case.

Appellants represented at the Board by the Division have received more than \$4,000,000 in retroactive payments for benefits that the United States Department of Veterans Affairs should have awarded to them long ago. The work of the Appellate Unit in researching and briefing these cases, together with the work of the Veterans Benefits Advisors who addressed the Veterans Law Judges on the appellant's behalf in these hearings, led to these Veterans and Military Family members at last receiving these benefits that the federal government had previously wrongfully denied.

Through these programs, the Division provides strong, high-quality advocacy for New York's Veterans and Military Families who wrongfully were denied access to the federal benefits and services that they had earned through their military service. By providing these services at no cost to the appellant, unlike private sector entities that are permitted to receive a portion of the beneficiary's retroactive payment in a successful case, the

Division ensures that Veterans and Military Families receive a fair and equitable outcome without losing any of the benefits that rightfully are theirs.

III. DVS Partnerships with Other Government Entities

FreshConnect Checks

The “FreshConnect” program began in 2014 as a collaboration between the Division of Veterans’ Services and the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets. The program gives booklets of “FreshConnect” checks to Veterans, Service Members, and members of their families worth \$2 a piece (\$20 total booklet value), redeemable for fresh food products at New York’s farmer’s markets.

2022 marked the eighth year of DVS’s partnership with the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets to distribute FreshConnect Checks to Veterans, Service Members, and their families. DVS distributed \$72,000 (Western Region) and \$54,000 (Eastern Region) worth of FreshConnect checks during this year’s farmers’ market season. Of note, DVS had a Veterans Benefits Advisor in the Western Region who single handedly distributed \$16,000 worth of FreshConnect checks.

2022 was the first year County Veterans’ Service Agencies (VSAs) and the New York City Department of Veterans’ Services (NYCDVS) were invited to participate in the distribution of FreshConnect checks. \$71,000 in coupons were issued to 31 County VSAs and NYCDVS to distribute. They had great success and are excited to have this opportunity in the future. DVS hopes more County VSAs will join in the distribution of FreshConnect checks in 2023.

DVS and the Department of Agriculture and Markets plan to resume this statewide partnership during the 2023 farmer’s market season.

Governor’s Challenge to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans, and their Families (SMVF)

The Governor’s Challenge, a collaboration between the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administrations (SAMHSA) and United States Department of Veterans Affairs brings state and local entities together along with private and non-profit partners

to work to develop and implement statewide suicide prevention best practices for SMVF, utilizing a public health approach. New York formed a delegation for this initiative in March 2020.

The work of the Governor's Challenge has provided many opportunities for DVS to increase access to information and tools for assisting providers and staff with suicide-prevention. Some of these initiatives include:

- Breaking new ground in family-centric lethal means safety planning. In the spring of 2022, New York's Governor's Challenge delegation launched "*Worried About A Veteran*," a first-in-the-nation interactive online tool that arose from two years of research and development focusing on equipping Military Family members with the knowledge and resources needed to have important conversations with their loved ones regarding lethal means safety. Topics on the site include "Should You Be Concerned," "Check In With Others," "Starting The Conversation," "Getting Help For Your Loved One – And You," "Firearm Storage Options," and "What To Do After The Crisis Is Over." All of the short videos contained on the *Worried About A Veteran* site are based on interviews that Governor's Challenge team members conducted with Military Family members who courageously spoke to our Governor's Challenge team about how they confronted these difficult situations in their own families. To view the *Worried About A Veteran* site, visit <https://worriedaboutaveteran.org/>.
- Gaining funding for a new "Train The Trainer" program where Veterans and Military Family members can receive training, based on evidence-based best practices, on how to train their fellow Veterans and Military Family members about lethal means safety strategies and techniques. The New York Health Foundation awarded the Governor's Challenge a grant in October 2022 to make the creation of this new program possible. Currently, DVS and the Office of Mental Health are working with partners from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to identify and recruit Veterans and Military Families from across New York State who are willing and able to receive this training and serve as trainers for their fellow

Veterans and Military Families. Starting in February 2023, the pilot coalitions of supporters throughout the state will begin to implement their first “Train The Trainer” workshops via this grant funding.

- Facilitating new partnerships between New York State and the ETS Sponsorship program, a new federal effort focusing on training community mentors and connecting these mentors with Service Members who are nearing their date of discharge from the military. The goal of ETS Sponsorship is for each Service Member to be connected with a community mentor on the date of their “Expiration Term Of Service (ETS)” from their branch of service. This connection will provide a smoother glide path for the Service Member who transitions home to the new chapter of their life as a civilian in New York State, with their community mentor serving as the facilitator to link that new Veteran with benefits, programs, services, and resources that they have earned by virtue of their military service while providing a steady, supportive presence. Fort Drum in Watertown, New York, has become one of the nation’s leading military installations in encouraging their Soldiers to opt-in for ETS Sponsorship participation. Already, more than 200 New York State residents have volunteered their time and talents to serve as trained ETS Sponsors, paving a smoother road home for Veterans coming home in every region of New York State.
- Creating and awarding New York State CARES Up Grants for local and regional entities focusing on implementing and sustaining the ETS Sponsorship Program. Recipients of this grant include Western New York Heroes, covering a territory that encompasses fourteen Western New York counties; the Rensselaer County chapter of the Joseph P. Dwyer Program; and a coalition of county and local Veterans’ leaders covering multiple counties throughout Central New York, the Finger Lakes, and the Southern Tier. All of the CARES Up grantees have done an excellent job in recruiting new sponsors, connecting them with the ETS training program, and providing an overall smoother glide path for recently discharged Veterans returning home to New York State.

- The Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale (C-SSRS) is an internationally accepted screening tool that uses basic conversational techniques to accurately and quickly assess an individual's risk of suicide or self-harm. DVS's Governor's Challenge delegation is fortunate to include Dr. Kelly Posner, the creator of the C-SSRS. Accordingly, New York's Governor's Challenge delegation has focused since its inception on increasing the use of the C-SSRS in all possible public sector and private sector touchpoints. This year's expansion of the use of the C-SSRS includes programs with New York State's chapter of the American Gold Star Mothers, multiple chapters of the PFC Joseph P. Dwyer Veteran Peer Support Project, New York State's Division of Service-Disabled Veterans' Business Development, and the Sierra Club's Military Outdoors Program.
- Obtaining cable gun locks, and disseminating those gun locks to Veterans, Service Members, and Military Family members at DVS outreach programs throughout New York State. These gun locks will help the recipients improve their safe firearm storage practices, helping to keep themselves and their families from harm.
- Providing training, assistance, and support to other state delegations at nationwide Governor's Challenge Policy Academies. With the VA and SAMHSA recognizing several of New York State's new suicide prevention initiatives as innovative best practices, members of New York's Governor's Challenge delegation provided workshops – both in-person and virtual – to other state Governor's Challenge delegations at the national Policy Academies throughout 2022.

New York's Digital Veterans Welcome Centers

On Veterans Day 2021, DVS joined with several partners in state government to dedicate New York State's first-ever digital Veterans Welcome Center. With informational screens provided by DVS as well as the New York State Department of Labor, the New York State Division of Human Rights, the New York State Office of Mental Health, the New York State Office for the Aging, the New York State Division of Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business Development, and the State University of New York, the digital Veterans

Welcome Center provides Veterans and Military Families with quick and easy access to information about benefits, programs, services, and resources that are available to them.

Governor Hochul announced an expansion of this program as part of her 2022 State of the State Agenda, and the FY2023 Budget included funding to purchase additional kiosks. On Veterans Day 2022, DVS unveiled two new digital Veterans Welcome Centers: one at the Long Island Welcome Center in Dix Hills and one at the Tompkins County International Airport in Ithaca. Already, DVS has received extremely positive feedback from Veterans in both areas about the usefulness of these interactive kiosks. DVS is currently in the processing of programming six more Veterans Welcome Center kiosks, which will be unveiled at other widely visited locations throughout New York State in the future.

Combating Food Insecurity Among New York's Veterans, Service Members & Military Families

Since June 2020, more than one million nourishing meals in total have been distributed to Veterans, Service Members, and Military Families confronting food insecurity throughout several counties where need was high in Western New York, the North Country, and the five boroughs of New York City. Healthy meals have been provided by the HelloFresh corporation, the United States Department of Agriculture's Farmers-To-Families Food Boxes, and the state's Nourish New York program. Western New York Heroes in Williamsville, St. Joseph's Parish in Treadwell Mills in the North Country, and The Campaign Against Hunger in Brooklyn have served as host sites for this program.

Volunteers – who sort, pack, and deliver these meals to their recipients – have come from all of these organizations, as well as from the New York City Department of Veterans' Services, Black Veterans for Social Justice, the National Association of Black Military Women, the New York State Health Foundation, the Joint Council for Economic Opportunity of Clinton and Franklin Counties, the Clinton County Veterans Service Agency, Veterans One-Stop of Western New York, FeedMore Western New York, the Buffalo Police Department, the Niagara County Sheriff's Office, and more. We are eternally grateful to these countless volunteers who have provided their time and talents

every week throughout so many months. Without them, this initiative would not be possible.

November 2022 marked the one millionth meal contributed by HelloFresh to food insecure Veterans, Service Members, and Military Families in New York State since this program began. This milestone was celebrated at The Campaign Hunger headquarters in Brooklyn with a special Thanksgiving meal distribution, attended by Lieutenant Governor Antonio Delgado, New York State Anti-Hunger Policy Coordinator Susan Zimet, HelloFresh CEO Uwe Voss, DVS Director Viviana DeCohen, New York City Department of Veterans' Services Commissioner James Hendon, The Campaign Against Hunger CEO Melony Samuels, Black Veterans for Social Justice CEO Wendy McClinton, and many other leaders who have supported this program steadily since its inception.

At this event, HelloFresh announced that it was renewing its financial commitment to this special program. FeedMore Western New York likewise continues to commit their time, talents, and resources to this work in their ongoing collaboration with Western New York Heroes, which is now distributing more meals than ever before to Veterans, Service Members, and Military Families facing food insecurity within a wide geographic area. As the challenges regarding food insecurity continue to face those who have served our nation, so too does our mission to serve these Veterans and their loved ones through this program.

[Establishing New Partnership With New York State Department of Labor](#)

Beginning in March 2022, DVS and the New York State Department of Labor (DOL) engaged in a new pilot program focusing on sharing data and maximizing services to Veterans and their families. Through this program, Veterans and Military Families receiving services from either agency are asked whether they would like to be referred from DVS to DOL for employment assistance, or from DOL to DVS for Veterans' benefits advocacy. Veterans who opt in then receive a secure referral to the other agency to provide them with additional layers of advocacy and assistance to make the most of the benefits, services, and resources that they have rightfully earned.

DVS and DOL piloted this program at five field offices. The pilot program proved to be successful, leading to more than 200 Veterans receiving referrals at these five locations between March 2022 and October 2022.

Based on this success, Governor Hochul announced the expansion of this pilot program into a full-fledged statewide initiative on Veterans Day 2022. Now, every field office for both DVS and DOL is equipped to ask the Veterans whom they serve whether they would like to be referred to the other agency for further assistance and to make these referrals securely and efficiently. DVS and DOL will continue to track the data from this partnership with anticipation of many more Veterans throughout New York State getting access to more comprehensive services from their state's government.

Developing New Collaborations with Joseph P. Dwyer Program

The PFC Joseph P. Dwyer Veteran Peer Support Project is perhaps the nation's most inclusive peer-to-peer program focusing on serving Veterans, regardless of that Veteran's era of service, length of service, or character of discharge. In 2022, Governor Hochul dedicated \$7.7 million in funding to allow every county in New York State to establish and sustain their own localized Dwyer Program.

After the exciting announcement of this funding, a new working group formed among DVS, the New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH), the State University of New York (SUNY), and the New York State Dwyer Coalition. Working together, this new working group created and released a new set of written tools to assist both new and longstanding Dwyer Program chapters in succeeding in their mission. These tools included:

- A Frequently Asked Questions guide, serving as a quick reference tool for Dwyer Program chapters.
- A Checklist for newly forming Dwyer Programs, serving as a tool for Dwyer Programs to use in their successful creation.

- A suggested Dwyer Program Implementation Guide, focusing on evidence-based best practices for Dwyer Program chapters to utilize in providing their vital services.

All of these resource documents were disseminated to Dwyer Program leaders, County Veterans Service Agencies, and County Mental Health Offices statewide.

DVS, OMH, SUNY, and the Dwyer Coalition then co-hosted a series of four regionally based online Dwyer Program forums. These conversational sessions provided a walkthrough of all of the resource documents described above, as well as engaging in conversations about local, regional, and statewide goals, needs, achievements, and next steps for the Dwyer Program's crucial mission.

Additionally, DVS established in the summer of 2022 a brand-new "Veterans Benefits Basics" training curriculum and delivered that curriculum online in a seven-part training to a group of interested Dwyer Program chapters. The highly interactive seven-session training covered a variety of Veterans' benefits topics (e.g., disability compensation, pension, education benefits, employment preferences, etc.), as well as a client interviewing section and a session on the use of the Columbia Protocol. DVS will continue to offer this training for any and all Dwyer Program chapters that wish to receive it.

Providing Statewide Continuing Education Opportunities

Change remains the only constant within the field of Veterans' Services. Shifts in federal and state law and policy necessitate a sustained statewide continuing education environment through which Veterans' advocates can constantly access the latest information about statutes, regulations, court decisions, procedures, and best practices at the federal, state, and local levels. Only through an environment of continuous education and improvement can New York fully represent the diverse interests of the Veterans, Service Members, and Military Families who call the Empire State their home.

One measure of this success was the widespread participation at the Annual Training hosted in hybrid form by DVS in September 2022. The five days of highly interactive training averaged more than 180 participants daily – the largest attendance for any

Annual Training recorded in DVS's history. This included not only the full roster of DVS personnel but also Veterans Service Officers from 60 counties, the Military Family Foundation, Black Veterans for Social Justice, VetsFirst, two not-for-profit organizations providing free legal services to Veterans and their families, and the American Legion Department of New York. Training sessions during these five days included a mock hearing with a Veterans Law Judge of the Board of Veterans' Appeals, two trainings with medical professionals who used to be VA Compensation & Pension Examiners, a session on winning toxic exposure cases with one of the newly enacted federal PACT Act's leading advocates, a full morning focusing on contemporary human rights issues affecting Veterans and Military Families, and several other sessions with nationally renowned subject-matter experts.

Another measure of this success is the continually high attendance at other online training programs the Learning Team delivered throughout the year, sustaining that necessary environment of continuous education. Throughout the year, DVS solicited requests from Veterans' advocates statewide and then researched, prepared, and presented trainings on these requested topics. Areas covered in these trainings included financial transactions and non-service-connected pension cases, supportive services for caregivers of Veterans with severe disabilities, advocacy strategies for Veterans and Military Families under the newly enacted PACT Act, extra-schedular ratings to maximize benefits for Veterans in disability compensation claims, VA debt waiver appeals, Department of Defense survivor's benefit plan cases, substitution claims for surviving spouses of Veterans, clothing allowance benefits for Veterans, and much, much more.

Over the course of this year, these online trainings averaged an attendance of 137 participants per program. All of these programs were made available free of charge not only to DVS employees but also to colleagues at all of the county and municipal Veterans Service Agencies across New York State.

A third measure of success is the unprecedented number of County Veterans Service Agencies that have received accreditation to represent Veterans, Service Members, and Military Families under DVS's Power of Attorney. In September 2019, when the Learning

Team formed, only 4 County Veterans Service Agencies in New York State were accredited by DVS. Today, a total of 55 County Veterans Service Agencies and New York City hold accreditation with DVS. Additionally, DVS has provided training to, and accreditation of, the New York City Department of Veterans' Services, Black Veterans for Social Justice, VetsFirst, the Military Family Foundation, and members of the Family Readiness program of the New York State Division of Military and Naval Affairs.

Accreditation through DVS is available to any and all interested county and municipal Veterans Service Agencies in New York State. Neither the local governments nor the Veterans Service Officers themselves pay any costs to take part in the accreditation trainings that DVS provides. There are no restrictions that prevent Veterans Service Officers from being simultaneously accredited by DVS as well as other congressionally recognized Veterans Service Organizations.

Accreditation with DVS provides the accredited party with a wide range of special opportunities in the realm of training, tools, and technologies, including access to VetOps, DVS's secure web-enabled case management system, through which a Veterans Service Officer can electronically prepare, sign, and file a claim or appeal with the VA on behalf of a client without ever printing a sheet of paper. For agencies and organizations that were abruptly forced into remote work environments due to the COVID-19 pandemic, access to this web-enabled case management system played a crucial role in shifting to virtual methods of representing claimants and appellants. Additionally, all agencies and organizations accredited by DVS gain access to the Defense Personnel Information Retrieval System via DVS's agreement with the federal Defense Manpower Data Center, providing a way for users to easily obtain discharge paperwork and other military personnel documents for their clients.

Lastly, DVS launched a new training initiative in the last quarter of 2022 focusing on serving Veterans and Military Families in New York's sovereign tribal nations. Through new partnerships formed this year, DVS now has been welcomed to some of the tribal nations of New York State to train interested Veterans in becoming VA-accredited Veterans Service Officers. Through this accreditation process, these Veterans will receive

the same package of training, tools, and technologies described above to utilize on behalf of their fellow Veterans and Military Family members within their tribal nation. Native American Veterans historically have served in the United States Military at the highest per capita rate of any demographic group, but often do not receive the full measure of benefits that they earned by virtue of their service. These efforts will help to increase the number of Veterans and Military Families in tribal nations in New York receiving the benefits and services that are rightfully theirs. DVS began this work with accreditation training for members of the Akwesasne Mohawk tribal nation, with accreditation training already scheduled in January 2023 for members of the Shinnecock tribal nation. This offer is, and will remain, available for any Veterans on any tribal nation in New York who would like to utilize this opportunity.

IV. Outreach Events and Activities

In 2022, the Division continued to make outreach to local Veteran communities a priority by participating in more than 425 in-person and virtual events. DVS brochures and materials were displayed at numerous additional events.

In 2022, DVS participated in 224 outreach events in the Western Region and 201 in the Eastern Region.

A significant outreach initiative that continues in the Western Region is the food distribution that takes place at the WNYHeroes location in Buffalo. Bi-weekly, up to 1,500 food insecure Western New York Veterans receive dairy products, baked goods, pies, and salads. Several DVS personnel have volunteered to assist in this endeavor. In 2022, this equated to more than 150,000 pounds of food distributed to Veterans in Erie, Niagara, Genesee and Wyoming counties.

In the Eastern Region, notable outreach events in New York City included multiple workshops at Lehman College, CUNY, in the Bronx to connect with student Veterans as well as joining the Kings County American Legion Family Day Picnic at Canarsie Pier in Brooklyn. In Long Island, DVS joined the VFW and the Nassau Vet Center to celebrate Military Women Veterans Recognition Day in Valley Stream and in Suffolk County

attended Pearl Harbor Memorial Day at the Long Island National Cemetery in Farmingdale. In the Capitol Region, DVS recognized Women Veterans with three days of events in June which included a ruck walk. In the North Country, outreach included attending the Clinton County Veterans Advisory Group in Plattsburgh to work to address the needs of senior Veterans, Veterans at risk of homelessness, and Veterans facing food insecurity.

Staff, family, and friends from around the state again marched proudly in the New York City Veterans Day Parade where rainy weather could not dim the spirits of those walking up Fifth Avenue, joined for the first time this year by Veterans working at the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision and the New York State Department of Labor.

New York State Legislation Directly Affecting Veterans

These new laws directly affect New York State's Veterans and their families:

New Medals for Korean and Vietnam War Veterans

Vietnam and Korean War Veterans served with uncommon valor and courage. Often, their reception upon return home was muted, insufficient, and in some unfortunate cases, outright hostile. They deserve proper respect and recognition for their honorable service and sacrifices. The New York State commemorative medals offer a form of recognition and appreciation to those who served in these wars.

Chapter 582 of the Laws of 2022. Authorizes the Governor to present the Vietnam War Commemorative Medal to members of the armed forces and organized militia serving abroad in the Vietnam War between November 1955 and May 1975.

Chapter 583 of the Laws of 2022 Authorizes the Governor to present the Korean War Service Medal to members of the armed forces or organized militia serving abroad in the Korean War between June 1950 and January 1955.

Change from Division to Department and Updated Definition of "Veteran"

The 2022-2023 Budget included legislation, which takes effective April 1, 2023, that changes the name of the New York State Division of Veterans' Services to the New York State Department of Veterans' Services. This change will be seamless and will not directly affect Veterans who will continue to receive no cost assistance in filing claims for the federal (VA) and state benefits they earned due to their service. This bill also moves the Veterans' laws section from the Executive Law to its own section titled the Veterans Services Law. This legislation also updates the definition of Veterans under New York State Law so that it will match the federal definition for the first time in almost 50 years.

Making Veterans' Benefits More Accessible

Legislation (S1961B/A3913B), Chapter 584 of the Laws of 2022. Our Veterans have risked their lives to protect our freedoms and way of life. To ensure that when they return home, the federal and state benefits they earned due to their service are more easily available, Governor Hochul signed legislation that requires employers to display a poster containing information on Veterans' benefits and services. The Department of Labor will create and distribute the poster which must be displayed in an area accessible to all employees by employers with over 50 full-time equivalent employees.

Chapter 483 of the Laws of 2022. Many National Guard members are unaware of the benefits available to which they are entitled. This legislation mandates that the Division of Military and Naval Affairs (DMNA) must share information about benefits for members of the National Guard on both the DMNA website and in printed form. This will provide National Guard members and their families easier access to information about Veterans' benefits.

Chapter 75 of the Laws of 2022. This legislation requires certain temporary shelters, nursing homes, residential health care facilities, and adult care facilities, among others, to ask existing and new residents, "Have you or anyone in your household ever been in the United States military?" The adult care entity must advise Veterans or spouses of Veterans in writing that DVS, and local Veterans' service agencies exist to help Veterans obtain the benefits they earned. The law also requires the DVS to encourage all temporary shelter providers to share information to increase Veteran access to benefits. As December 2022, this legislation enabled DVS to reach out to over 1,000 Veterans to connect them with the federal and state benefits they earned through their service.

Expanding the Restoration of Honor Act

Chapter 585 of the Laws of 2022. During the 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' era, LGBTQ+ Veterans were other-than-honorably discharged, robbing them of a career and important retirement benefits under state law. The 2019 Restoration of Honor Act restored many of New York State benefits denied to those discharged during the 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' era. On Veterans Day 2022, Governor Hochul signed legislation making Veterans whose

access to state benefits are restored through the Restoration of Honor Act to be eligible to participate in the State's military buyback program for retirement and pension benefits.

Statute of Limitations Removed from Agent Orange Claims

Chapter 506 of the Laws of 2022. This legislation permanently eliminates the time period to file court claims for an injury or death caused by contact with Agent Orange. Since the Vietnam War, phenoxy herbicides such as Agent Orange have been the source of numerous health issues for Veterans who served in Indochina. Between 1962 to 1971, the U.S. military sprayed herbicides over Vietnam to strip the thick jungle canopy that could conceal opposition forces, to destroy crops that those forces might depend on, and to clear tall grasses and bushes from the perimeters of U.S. base camps. These chemicals had adverse effects on Veterans, causing cancer, heart disease, Parkinson's Disease, as well as many other diseases and disabilities. Although this impact was largely acknowledged during the Vietnam era, Agent Orange has harmed a much larger portion of Veterans outside of the restrictive time frame that was enforced by previous legislation. On August 17, 2022, Governor Hochul took an important step towards combating the lasting and devastating effects of Agent Orange when she signed legislation permanently eliminating the court filing deadline for actions related to an injury or death caused by contact with or exposure to phenoxy herbicides such as Agent Orange.

Homeless Veterans Assistance and the Veterans' Remembrance and Cemetery Maintenance and Operation Funds Report

This is the report for the calendar year 2022, required by New York State Consolidated Laws State Finance, Article 6, § 99-V, and § 97-mmmm regarding the utilization of funds for the Homeless Veterans Assistance and the Veterans' Remembrance and Cemetery Maintenance and Operation funds.

The total dollars in the Homeless Veterans Assistance Fund as of November 2022 is \$1,275,805.83. No funds were disbursed in the calendar year 2022.

The total dollars in the Veterans Cemetery Maintenance Fund as of November 2022 is \$804,709.93. No funds were disbursed in the calendar year 2022.

Supplemental Burial Allowance Report

This report is submitted per the requirements contained in Section 354-b(4)(i) of New York State's Executive Law.

During the calendar year 2022, there were no payments of the \$6,000 Supplemental Burial Allowance paid out by DVS, as DVS did not receive any applications from individuals eligible for Supplemental Burial Allowance

There were no new rules or regulations promulgated in the calendar year 2022 related to the supplemental burial allowance.

Gold Star Parent Annuity Program Report

This report is submitted per the requirements contained in Section 367(4) of New York State's Executive Law.

New York State's Gold Star Parent Annuity continues to recognize the ultimate sacrifice paid by New Yorkers during military service. While no amount of money can ever replace the loss of a child in combat, New York provides this annuity in honor of the deceased Service Member and their family and in recognition of their tremendous sacrifice.

As of November 2022, New York State paid a total of \$113,614.90 in 418 Gold Star Parent Annuitant payments.

Women Veterans and Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Report

DVS is committed to honoring the service and sacrifice of all those who have served in the United States Armed Forces and New York State Militia – and is likewise committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in all agency programs and outreach to ensure no Veteran is left behind in New York State. New York State’s Veterans population is broadly diverse: of the state’s approximately 688,611 Veterans, 29.2% are racial and ethnic minorities, and 9.2% are women.

Throughout 2022, DVS worked to renew and expand outreach and services to ensure all Veterans and their family members are served equitably, regardless of age, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, sex, marital status, disability, branch or era of service, or discharge status. The role of the Deputy Director for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) has encompassed the duties and responsibilities of the Women Veterans Program Coordinator (WVPC) in addition to implementing DEI outreach and initiatives.

The Division’s daily work includes our continuous efforts to improve our cultural competency and our overall understanding of the unique needs that historically underrepresented populations of Veterans, Service Members, and their families face, using this as the foundation for developing strategies to gain the trust of these populations and to serve their needs successfully. These populations include (but are certainly not limited to):

- 82,236 - Black or African American, only
- 64,145 - Hispanic or Latino, of any race
- 20,436 - Two or more races
- 19,034 - Some other race, only
- 12,081 - Asian, only
- 3,227 - American Indian and Alaska Native, only

- 366 - Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, only

This report offers some of the many highlights of 2022 in the Division's ongoing efforts focusing on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. The Division's commitment to fulfilling its mission to serve all Veterans, Service Members, and Military Families remains stronger than ever, affirming our commitment to providing sensitive, culturally competent, high quality services every day.

Programmatic highlights of the Division's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion work in 2022 include:

- Language Access Program - In 2022, DVS met new legislative requirements that broadened access of documents vital to DVS's services to speakers of New York State's 12 most-spoken languages: Spanish, Chinese, Russian, Yiddish, Bengali, Korean, Haitian Creole, Italian, Arabic, Polish, French, and Urdu. Translated documents can be found listed by language in the menu at the bottom right corner of the DVS website. All DVS staff continue to make services available in any language preferred by the Veterans and family members we serve using contracted language translation services.
- Gender Recognition Act Implementation - In her 2022 State of the State agenda, Governor Hochul advanced a proposal for NYS agencies to ensure gender diverse New Yorkers had the option to identify themselves using "X" as their gender or sex marker when interacting with state agencies. In March 2022, DVS was among the first agencies to fully implement this option for the Veterans we serve to have their gender marker reflect "X" in our VetOps client management system. This action was announced on Transgender Day of Recognition as part of the Veterans program DVS held to commemorate that day.
- Outdoor Rx Coalition - Following the Outdoor Rx Act of 2020 and the Outdoor Rx Committee Report of 2021, this year Sierra Club Military Outdoors and DVS launched the Outdoor Rx Coalition to advance efforts in New York State to connect Veterans and their family members with the healing and restorative

properties of outdoor activities on New York's public lands. As co-chair of the Coalition, DVS has contributed toward further understanding and identifying the barriers preventing Veterans and family members, especially those who are disabled, women, LGBTQ+, or other minorities, from participating in outdoor recreation, promoted awareness and involvement in the Coalition, participated in numerous virtual membership and committee meetings, and collaborated with Sierra Club Military Outdoors on launch of an informational website at outdoorrcoalition.org.

Event highlights of DVS's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion work include:

- Women Veterans Recognition Days at Empire State Plaza - On June 12, 13, and 14, DVS welcomed women Veterans from across the state to commemorate and celebrate the contributions of New York women in military service spanning from the American Revolution to the present. Partnering with the NYS Office of General Services Curatorial and Visitor Services team, the Outdoor Rx Coalition, and numerous community partners, DVS hosted three days of public events at Empire State Plaza, including a display of historic New York women and gender minority Veterans, performances by women Veterans, a tour of the New York Capitol, a "ruck march" through downtown Albany, a resource fair, a commemorative sunset ceremony at the New York State Women Veterans Memorial, and a roundtable with the DVS Director.
- Pride Exhibition at NYS Capitol - In collaboration with the NYS Office of General Services Curatorial and Visitor Services, DVS contributed to the curation of the exhibit "With Dignity and Pride: Photography by Vincent Cianni" which for the first time featured LGBTQ+ Veterans in the NYS Capitol's War Room during the months of June and July for Pride. The exhibit featured photographs by Vincent Cianni of Veterans discharged under the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, as well as historical context of the military's history of unjust treatment of LGBTQ+ servicemembers more broadly, and the work of LGBTQ+ Veterans to bring awareness and change. It also featured DVS's work to implement the NYS Restoration of Honor Act for Veterans discharged less than honorably

under discriminatory policies. DVS's contributions to this exhibition also included a virtual panel discussion with the exhibition curator, photographer Vincent Cianni, and Navy Veteran Monica Helms, creator of the Transgender Pride flag.

- DEI Virtual Events - Featuring numerous Veterans and service providers as speakers, panelists, and moderators, DVS hosted a series of virtual events via Zoom to commemorate Black History Month, Women's History Month, Transgender Day of Visibility, and Mental Health Awareness Month with in-depth conversations highlighting the expertise and lived experiences of diverse leaders within New York State's Veterans communities and offering insights on critical issues and advocacy for women and minority Veterans and their families. Event partners included the VA Center for Women Veterans, Minority Veterans of America, SAGEVets, Gender Equality New York, and the National Association of Black Military Women. Programs were attended by hundreds of community members and are permanently available for public viewing on DVS's YouTube channel.

Addenda A - County Veterans Service Agencies

Albany County Veterans Service Agency

162 Washington Ave, 7th Floor

Albany , NY 12210

Phone: (518) 447-7710

Allegany County Veterans Service Agency

6085 State Route 19N

Belmont , NY 14813

Phone: (585) 268-9387

Cattaraugus County Veterans Service Agency

County Office Building

1 Leo Moss Drive, Suite 6510

Olean , NY 14760

Phone: (716) 701-3298

Cayuga County Veterans Service Agency

County Office Building

95 Genesee Street, 3rd Floor

Auburn , NY 13021

Phone: (315) 253-1281

Chautauqua County Veterans Service Agency

567 Fairmount Ave.

Warwick Plaza,

Jamestown , NY 14701

Phone: (716) 661-8255

Columbia County Veterans Service Agency

389 Fairview Avenue, Suite 8

Hudson, NY 12534

Phone: (518) 828-3610

Cortland County Veterans Service Agency

60 Central Avenue Box 5590

Cortland , NY 13045

Phone: (607) 753-5014/5015

Delaware County Veterans Service Agency

97 Main Street, Suite #4

Delhi , NY 13753

Phone: (607) 832-5345

Dutchess County Veterans Service Agency

85 Civic Center Plaza Suite 105

Poughkeepsie , NY 12601

Phone: (845) 486-2060

Erie County Veterans Service Agency

Rath Office Building

95 Franklin Street Suite 800

Buffalo , NY 14202-3919

Phone: (716) 858-6363/4834

Franklin County Veterans Service Agency

355 West Main Street, Suite 200

Malone , NY 12953-1826

Phone: (518) 481-1540

Fulton County Veterans Service Agency

19 North William Street

Johnstown, NY 12095

Phone: (518) 548-6651

Genesee County Veterans Service Agency

3837 West Main Street Road

Batavia , NY 14020

Phone: (585) 815-7905

Hamilton County Veterans Service Agency

102 County View Drive

Lake Pleasant, NY 12108

Phone: (518) 736-5651

Herkimer County Veterans Service Agency

109 Mary Street Suite 1103

Herkimer , NY 13350-2925

Phone: (315) 867-1127

Jefferson County Veterans Service Agency

175 Arsenal Street, 2nd Floor

Watertown , NY 13601

Phone: (315) 785-3086

Lewis County Veterans Service Agency

Court House

7660 North State Street

1st Floor, Room 120

Lowville , NY 13367

Phone: (315) 376-5316

Livingston County Veterans Service Agency

7 Murray Hill Drive

Mt. Morris , NY 14510

Phone: (585) 243-7960

Madison County Veterans Service Agency

County Office Building #4

138 North Court Street P.O. Box 546

Wampsville , NY 13163

Phone: (315) 366-2395

Monroe County Veterans Service Agency

125 Westfall Road

Rochester , NY 14620

Phone: (585) 753-6040

Montgomery County Veterans Service Agency

Montgomery County Office Building

PO Box 1500 - 64 Broadway

Fonda , NY 12068-9802

Phone: (518) 853-8152

Mount Vernon Veterans Service Agency

City Hall, Room 4

1 Roosevelt Square

Mt. Vernon , NY 10550

Phone: (914) 665-2319

Nassau County Veterans Service Agency

2201 Hempstead Turnpike, Building Q

East Meadow , NY 11554

Phone: (516) 572-6565

Hempstead Veteran Services

1 Washington Street

Hempstead , NY 11550

Phone: (516) 812-3506

Glen Cove Office of Veterans' Services

City Hall

9 Glen St, 2nd Floor

Glen Cove , NY 11542

Phone: (516) 695-1812

NYC Department of Veterans' Services

1 Centre Street, Suite 2208

New York , NY 10007

Phone: 212-416-5250

Niagara County Veterans Service Agency

175 Hawley St

Lockport, NY 14094

Phone: (716) 438-4090

Oneida County Veterans Service Agency

125 Brookley Road

Rome , NY 13441

Phone: (315) 336-4270

Onondaga County Veterans Service Agency

421 Montgomery Street 10th floor

Syracuse , NY 13202

Phone: (315) 435-3219

Ontario County Veterans Service Agency

3010 County Complex Drive

Canandaigua , NY 14424-9505

Phone: (585) 396-4185

Orange County Veterans Service Agency

111 Craigville Road

Goshen , NY 10924

Phone: (845) 291-2470

Orleans County Veterans Service Agency

13996 Route 31

Albion , NY 14411-9303

Phone: (585) 589-3219

Oswego County Veterans Service Agency

200 North 2nd Street

Fulton , NY 13069

Phone: (315) 591-9100

Otsego County Veterans Service Agency

140 County Highway 33W

Cooperstown , NY 13326

Phone: (607) 547-4224

Putnam County Veterans Service Agency

110 Old Route 6 BLDG 3 – Room 45

Carmel , NY 10512

Phone: (845) 808-1620

Rockland County Veterans Service Agency

20 Squadron Boulevard Suite 480

New City , NY 10956

Phone: (845) 638-5244

St. Lawrence County Veterans Service Agency

80 State Highway 310 Suite 5

Canton , NY 13617-1495

Phone: (315) 386-4754

Saratoga County Veterans Service Agency

2144 Doubleday Avenue, Suite 15

Ballston Spa , NY 12020

Phone: (518) 884-4115

Schoharie County Veterans Service Agency

County Office Building

284 Main Street 3rd Floor

Schoharie , NY 12157

Phone: (518) 295-2053

Schuyler County Veterans Service Agency

Human Services Complex

323 Owego Street Unit #2

Montour Falls , NY 14865

Phone: (607) 535-2091

Seneca County Veterans Service Agency

1 DiPronio Drive

Waterloo , NY 13165

Phone: (315) 539-1798

Steuben County Veterans Service Agency

7001 County Route 113

Bath , NY 14810-1510

Phone: (607) 664-2528

Suffolk County Veterans Service Agency

H. Lee Dennison Executive Office Building

100 Veterans Memorial Highway P.O. Box 6100

Hauppauge , NY 11788

Phone: (631) 853-8387

Sullivan County Veterans Service Agency

County Government Center

100 North Street P.O. Box 5012

Monticello , NY 12701

Phone: (845) 807-0233

Tioga County Veterans Service Agency

1062 Route 38, Room 1145 P.O. Box 84

Owego , NY 13827

Phone: (607) 687-8228

Ulster County (NY) Veteran Services Agency

5 Development Court

Kingston , NY 12401

Phone: (845) 340-3190

Warren County Veterans Service Agency

1340 State Route 9

Lake George , NY 12845

Phone: (518) 761-6342

Washington County Veterans Service Agency

Municipal Center

383 Broadway

Ft. Edward , NY 12828

Phone: (518) 746-2470

Wayne County Veterans Service Agency

7376 Route 31, Suite 1300

Lyons , NY 14489

Phone: (315) 946-5993

Westchester County Veterans Service Agency

10 County Center Road, 2nd floor, Suite 204

White Plains, NY 10607

Phone: (914) 813-5145/5146

Wyoming County Veterans Service Agency

5362 Mungers Mill Road Building A

Silver Springs , NY 14550

Phone: (585) 786-8860

Yates County Veterans Service Agency

417 Liberty Street Suite 2120

Penn Yan , NY 14527

Phone: (315) 536-5196

Yonkers Veterans Service Agency

120 New Main Street

Yonkers , NY 10701

Phone: (914) 377-6700

Addenda B - Women Veterans by County

Albany, NY	1,653
Allegany, NY	226
Bronx, NY	3,273
Broome, NY	735
Cattaraugus, NY	435
Cayuga, NY	349
Chautauqua, NY	629
Chemung, NY	537
Chenango, NY	232
Clinton, NY	498
Columbia, NY	294
Cortland, NY	238
Delaware, NY	216
Dutchess, NY	904
Erie, NY	4,601
Essex, NY	216
Franklin, NY	345
Fulton, NY	306
Genesee, NY	269

Greene, NY	274
Hamilton, NY	28
Herkimer, NY	380
Jefferson, NY	2,258
Kings, NY	5,218
Lewis, NY	166
Livingston, NY	273
Madison, NY	344
Monroe, NY	3,047
Montgomery, NY	272
Nassau, NY	2,579
New York, NY	3,415
Niagara, NY	1,353
Oneida, NY	1,230
Onondaga, NY	2,213
Ontario, NY	783
Orange, NY	1,844
Orleans, NY	216
Oswego, NY	614
Otsego, NY	337
Putnam, NY	175

Queens, NY	4,535
Rensselaer, NY	768
Richmond, NY	906
Rockland, NY	1,070
Saint Lawrence, NY	548
Saratoga, NY	1,451
Schenectady, NY	725
Schoharie, NY	167
Schuyler, NY	121
Seneca, NY	201
Steuben, NY	649
Suffolk, NY	4,281
Sullivan, NY	328
Tioga, NY	293
Tompkins, NY	306
Ulster, NY	719
Warren, NY	415
Washington, NY	373
Wayne, NY	428

Westchester, NY	1,939
Wyoming, NY	239
Yates, NY	138

Thank you for reading the
2022 Annual Report of the
New York State
Division of Veterans'
Services.