

Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at 12:30 p.m.
Minutes of the Veterans Service Board Meeting
Atlanta, Georgia

Present Mr. Joshua Kopsie, Chair
Mr. Tim Paslawski, Vice Chair
Mr. Steve Mendez, Secretary
Mr. Shawn Hanley, Member
Mr. John Kubinec, Member
Mr. Pete Peterson, Member
Ms. Patricia Ross, Commissioner

Visitors Present: Mr. Kerry Dyer, Deputy Commissioner, Chief Operations Officer, GDVS
Ms. Shelly-Ann Simpson, Executive Director, Field Operations & Appeals, GDVS
Mr. Mark Demers, Chief Development Officer, Chief Finance Officer, GDVS
Ms. Tonya Jarrett, Clinical Director, Health & Memorials Division, GDVS
Ms. Shelley Seinberg, Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's Office
Ms. Amy Sillmon, Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's Office
Ms. Belinda Boldoe, VFW Service Officer, Appeals Division, GDVS
Mr. Lou Zayas, Jr. Vice Commander, Military Order of the Purple Heart
Ms. Carolyn Cagle, Georgia American Gold Star Mothers
Ms. Vivian Greentree, Veterans Service Foundation Board
Mr. Kevin Loncher, Veterans Service Foundation Board
Mr. Don Layne, VECTR Chief Operating Officer
Ms. Lily Snyder, Director, Veterans Education & Training, GDVS
Ms. Charlotte May, Director, Public Information and External Affairs, GDVS
Mr. Steven Fay, Director, Training Division, GDVS
Ms. Sherri Whitfield, Director, Veterans Benefits South Region, GDVS
Mr. Ken Childre, Director, Veterans Benefits North Region, GDVS
Mr. Edwin Berry, Director, Appeals Division, GDVS
Ms. Calandra Ferguson, Coordinator, Suicide Prevention & Outreach, GDVS
Ms. Raven Holstick, Transition and Employment Coordinator, GDVS
Mr. William Wilson, Network Administrator, GDVS
Ms. Camala Ball, Budget Analyst, GDVS
Ms. Irene Mackson, Business Support Analyst, GDVS
Ms. Kaitlin Little, Business Support Analyst, GDVS
Ms. Latoya McCallum, Administrative Assistant, GDVS
Ms. Julie Hammond, Executive Assistant to the Commissioner, GDVS

On Wednesday, May 21, 2025, the Veterans Service Board meeting was held in person and by video/tele-conference.

Mr. Kopsie called the meeting to order at 12:31 p.m. Mr. Mendez gave the invocation. Mr. Kopsie led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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Mr. Paslawski made a motion to approve the May Agenda. Mr. Mendez seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Mr. Paslawski made a motion to approve the April minutes, which were previously distributed for members to review. Mr. Mendez seconded the motion. There were no objections. The motion passed.

The following reports were submitted for the Board meeting:

Ms. Belinda Boldoe, VFW

- The Department Service Officer participated in the Atlanta Regional Office quarterly RVSR and VSR training hosted by Virginia Gager, Assistant Coach RQRS, Craig Hollman, Assistant Coach RQRS, and Veronica Love, HBT. It was held on April 15, 2025, and April 17, at 10AM – 11AM, at 1700 Clairmont Road, Decatur, GA 30033.
- The Department Service Officer attended a monthly VSO VSC Vet Talk hosted by Keyva Dyson, RQRS held on April 23, 2025, at 10AM – 11AM, at 1700 Clairmont Road, Decatur, GA 30033.
 - To conduct a monthly roundtable informational session in collaboration with Veteran Service Officers (VSOs).
 - This meeting aims to foster an inclusive environment and provide current guidance on administering Compensation Benefits.
 - The primary topic: Automobile and Adaptive Equipment Presenter: Natalie Thompson, Atlanta RO AQRS.
- The Department Service Officer attended the VFW Annual Proficiency Training Conference held at the Doubletree Annapolis, 210 Holiday Court, Annapolis, MD 21401. The training was held from April 27-30, 2024. The VFW annual recertification training provided updated information on:
 - VBA matters
 - PACT Act
 - What's New with VA
 - Healthcare and VAVS
 - Foreign Medical Program
 - Chapter 36 and VA Programs
 - Benefits Delivery at Discharge (BDD) Claim and Best Practices
 - Veteran's Help Group
 - MyVets Benefits
 - Other relevant information

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- The Department Service Officer participated in the VFW Annual Proficiency Training end-of-course examination held on April 30, 2024.

Ms. Tonjala Moton-Williams, GDVS, American Legion Service Officer

- May 13 at 9:30 am - 3:00 pm Post Service Officer Training was held at Fairfield Hotel located at 825 Hwy 138 in Stockbridge, GA.
- May 14 at 8:30 am - 4:00 pm Veteran Expo – Augusta WT Johnson Center, 1610 Hunter Street, Augusta, GA.
- May 17 at 7:00 am - 12:00 pm 15th Annual All American 5k/10k Run & Walk – Fundraiser – Peachtree City American Legion Post 50, 201 McIntosh Trail, Peachtree City, GA.
- May 30 - June 1 Willie Pitts Reunion & Banquet – Fundraiser – Columbus, GA American Legion 267 (for sign in) and Post 35 (for Ball), 4027 Cusseta Road, Columbus, GA.

Upcoming events:

- June 8 - June 14 BOYS State – Dept of Georgia – 2025 – Valdosta State University, 1500 N Patterson St, Valdosta, GA.
- June 26 - June 29 Department of Georgia Annual Convention – 2025 Sonesta Place, 1775 Pleasant Hill Rd, Duluth, GA.

Ms. Amy Stevens, Georgia Military Women

I am leaving Georgia this week for the summer but will be back in September. I am still available by email and phone as needed. Georgia Military Women is awesome as usual with over 5,400 members! We continue to have outstanding participation on-line as well as in person at local outreach events and small meetups across the State. If you follow me on Facebook or Linked In, you'll see our most recent event was a Mother's Day Tea in Jackson, GA.

Of note is that we have been providing more support than usual to ladies who have experienced personal emergencies including unexpected loss of family members and difficulties with housing stabilities. As we are not a non-profit, we do not have funding to financially support these ladies but we do the warm hugs and hand-offs to the agencies that can assist them. We have situations like this almost daily. It is a pleasure to be part of the TEAM across Georgia that works to advocate and encourage our military brothers and sisters.

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Ms. Carolyn Cagle, Georgia American Gold Star Mothers

Ms. Cagle reported that they attended an event in Port Wentworth in April and received a donation of \$5,000.

They have had over 200 people sign up for the event at the Georgia Aquarium and have a waiting list. They have received a grant from the National American Gold Star Mothers to help fund 52 of the young people attending the event.

Commissioner Patricia Ross

On Wednesday, April 16, 2025, Commissioner Ross met with Mark Demers, Carrie Steele and Rebecca Krystopa for a Review Requisition and Amendment discussion for the Milledgeville War Veterans Home. She then attended the April Veterans Service Board meeting. Afterwards she attended the NASDVA Executive Committee Conference Call as the newly elected vice president of the southeast region.

On Thursday, April 17, 2025, Commissioner Ross was a guest speaker for Chattahoochee Valley at their Workforce Development Summit at Columbus State University.

On Monday, April 21, 2025, Commissioner Ross had a discussion with her Leadership Team. She then met with Sen. Ossoff's Office regarding a FY26 Congressionally Directed Spending Submission. She later had a meeting with Qualtrics and a bi-weekly meeting with Unite Us.

On Tuesday, April 22, 2025, Commissioner Ross participated in the first Veterans Suicide Mortality Review Committee along with partners from Kennesaw State University, the Department of Public Health and the Department of Behavioral Health and Development Disabilities. Later that day, she had a quarterly meeting with VA Director Kai Mentzer.

On Wednesday, April 23, 2025, Commissioner Ross had a meeting with Kerry Dyer and John Scocos to discuss the NASDVA Conference in 2026. She also hosted Drew Keenan and the Royal Laotian Army in the GDVS Conference Room. She later met with KSU to discuss the Georgia SMRC Data Use Agreements.

On Thursday, April 24, 2025, Commissioner Ross met with the New York DVS to discuss their informational kiosks distributed throughout state welcome centers. She then hosted a meeting with VA Augusta Healthcare System's Acting Executive Director, Oscar Rodriguez.

On Friday, April 25, 2025, Commissioner Ross attended the Child Fatality Review Quarterly Panel Meeting at the GBI in preparation for the Veteran Suicide Mortality Review Committee.

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On Saturday, April 26, 2025, Commissioner Ross attended the Military Order of the Purple Heart Gala that evening.

On Monday, April 28, 2025, Commissioner Ross held a Director's meeting. She also attended an in-person meeting on the logistics of the upcoming Hire Heroes USA Gala. She later attended the Fox Grant Update meeting.

On Tuesday, April 29, 2025, Commissioner Ross attended the weekly meeting of the Suicide Mortality Review Committee. She then traveled to Jasper to take part in the retirement party for Marie Lundquist.

On Wednesday, April 30, 2025, Commissioner Ross attended a training meeting with Ken Childre for the upcoming VA event in Augusta. She then had a discussion with Shelly-Ann Simpson to discuss annual training. That evening she attended dinner at the invitation of Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick.

On Thursday, May 1, 2025, Commissioner Ross attended the monthly meeting of the Veterans Service Board and their Executive Session. She later met with Mark Demers. In the evening, she attended the Biggest Design Show in the South at Georgia Tech to view the homeless "wash bus" and further discussions with the college of design.

On Friday, May 2, 2025, Commissioner Ross attended the Outer Circle Gala in Dallas, GA.

On Monday, May 5, 2025, Commissioner Ross held Director's meeting. She then spent the afternoon interviewing for the Director of Training position. The panel selected Mr. Steven Fay.

On Tuesday, May 6, 2025, Commissioner Ross attended the Active Shooter Drill class. Later that morning she attended a meeting with Qualtrics to discuss potential data needs. In the afternoon she met with the team from HereNow Help, a software platform provided free to states to connect veterans to other veterans, while supporting wellness and mental/behavioral health. Georgia will roll out the platform in July 2025.

On Wednesday, May 7, 2025, Commissioner Ross attended the Quarterly Business Review with Unite Us. She also discussed plans for Mighty Heroes Homes to build a homeless veteran community with the State Properties Commission. She attended the Governor's Office of Student Achievement's going away and later met with the Veterans Defense Project about possible legislation and alternatives to incarceration. She then attended the Veterans Experience Office training in preparation for the joint event in Augusta.

On Thursday, May 8, 2025, Commissioner Ross spoke to the IBM Quarterly Century Club, and in the afternoon participated in the Behavioral Health Coordinating Committee with DBHDD. Later that evening she was honored as a host at the Hire Heroes USA Empowerment Gala.

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On Friday, May 9, 2025, Commissioner Ross conducted an open forum with the field offices. She then attended the FY2026 budget signing with the Governor, members of the General Assembly and other state agency heads. She also connected with the local technical college and central Georgia resources to promote the job fair for the Milledgeville War Veterans Home.

On Monday, May 12, 2025, Commissioner Ross spoke at the Retiree Appreciation Day at Clay National Guard Base. She later attended the Fox Grant Update meeting.

On Tuesday, May 13, 2025, Commissioner Ross attended the weekly meeting of the Suicide Mortality Review Committee. She then took part in the Southern Legislative Conference planning session. She later had a meeting regarding the NASDVA Conference in 2026, specifically the site destinations and gifts. She also attended the Governor's signing of HB 53 and HB 266.

On Wednesday, May 14, 2025, Commissioner Ross attended the Augusta Veterans Expo and was a panelist presenting the state's perspective on veteran benefits.

On Thursday, May 15, 2025, Commissioner Ross attended the Joint Defense Commission in Valdosta.

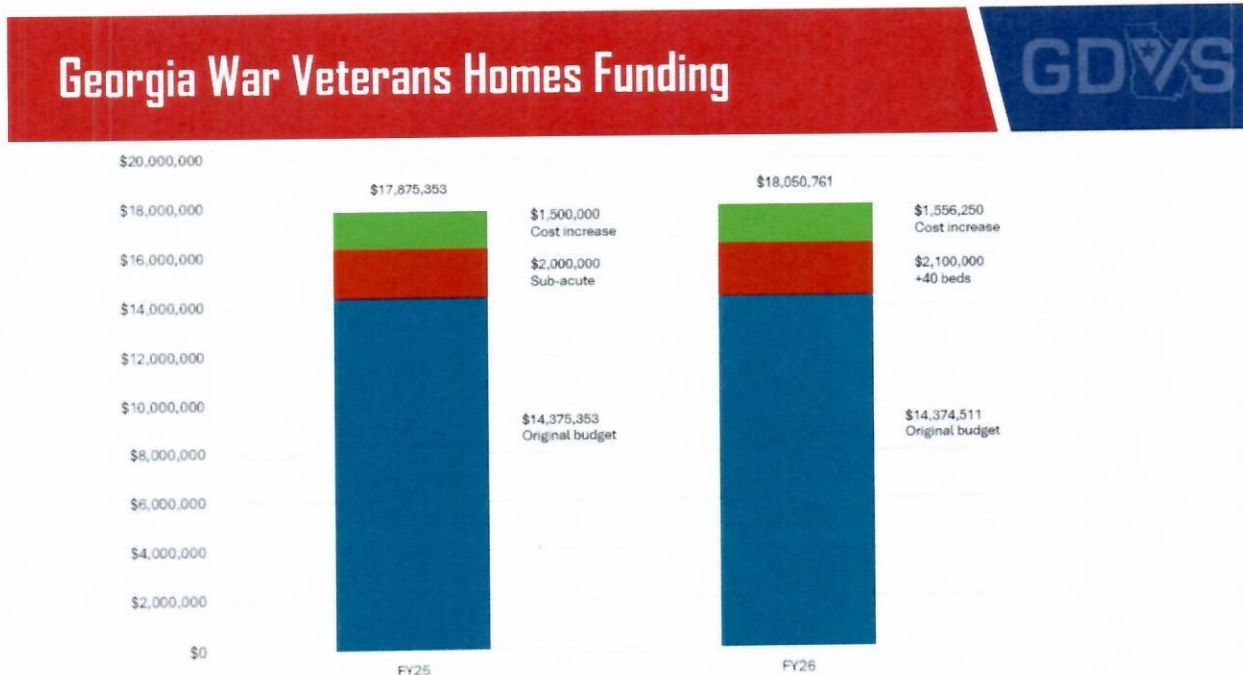
On Friday, May 16, 2025, Commissioner Ross spoke at the Retiree Appreciation Day in Savannah.

On Saturday, May 17, 2025, Commissioner Ross was a guest chef at an event supporting the Plummer House in Columbus.

On Monday, May 19, 2025, Commissioner Ross attended the Veteran Legislative Breakfast at the Buckhead Club, a fundraiser for the Veterans Service Foundation. She then met with Russell Feagin and Tonya Jarret to discuss the Dublin VAMC. She later attended the Unite Us bi-weekly meeting and also met with Steven Fay, the new Director of the Training Division for GDVS.

On Tuesday, May 20, 2025, Commissioner Ross attended the weekly meeting of the Suicide Mortality Review Committee. She then met with the Georgia Pathways to Coverage Outreach Team about the Pathways Program. She also met with Jordan Christian from Sync MD to discuss their medical records portal. For lunch she met with Kevin Miller from the Georgia Veterans Day Association to discuss upcoming events.

Thank you! Through the support of the VSB and countless Veteran organizations, the department was successful advocating to fund the Georgia War Veterans Homes to include being able to open the sub-acute therapy unit, grow an additional 40 beds in Milledgeville and provide much needed funding to both homes due to health care cost increases. This was a very successful budget and legislative session for the Department.



Commissioner Ross reported that we had a Memorial Day ceremony with Governor and First Lady Kemp and the Georgia National Guard earlier today. The event went well.

Commissioner Ross reported that the Legislative Breakfast on Monday of this week also went very well. We had a packed house in the Buckhead Club and a total of 8 legislators from the House and Senate. They discussed the bills they promoted during this last legislative session and what they plan to support in next year's session. We sold 72 tickets at \$30 dollars each. A special thank you to Dr. Vivian Greentree for sponsoring the breakfast through Fiserv.

Commissioner Ross reported that we fared well in the budget cycle. The Georgia Veterans Mental Health Grant is now part of our baseline budget. We will serve as a passthrough for \$1 million in grant funds to Emory University for PTSD research.

Ms. Shelly-Ann Simpson, Executive Director, Field Operations and Appeals

GENERAL

- On April 22, I had an introductory meeting with Tunnel 2 Towers regarding VSOs from GDVS providing claims assistance periodically to residents.

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- On April 29, we attended the retirement celebration for Marie Lundquist of the Jasper office. Marie has been a dedicated employee of GDVS for 10 years.
- **DD 214's and Welcome Home Letters: 250** Welcome Home Letters were mailed out in March 2025.

Projected Positions:

- 2 Openings in Appeals
- 1 Opening in Jasper
- 2 openings in Atlanta VAM

Ms. Simpson reported that she did a brief this past Monday at Norfolk Southers for the employees there and explained veteran's benefits.

Mr. Edwin Berry, Director of Appeals Division

- The total number of hearings conducted by the Appeals Division for **April 2025** was **65**.
- As of **April 30, 2025**, the Isakson VA Regional Office processed benefits as follows for GDVS and the Service Organizations represented by GDVS during the month of April 2025:

Types of Claims	Number of Awards	Benefits paid
Compensation	110,572	\$263,953,350
DIC	4,508	\$7,928,469
Survivor Pension	633	\$624,999
<u>Veteran Pension</u>	<u>1,260</u>	<u>\$1,485,849</u>
<u>Grand Total</u>	<u>116,973</u>	<u>\$273,992,668</u>

YTD through 04/30/2025 Total Compensation, Pension and other benefits paid: **\$1,085,170,661** for the veterans that we represent who receive VA Compensation or Pension benefits.

Mr. Kenneth Childre, Director Veterans Benefits North Region

Retro Awards: \$1,983,589.24

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Director Site Visits/Inspections: 3

Community Involvement:

4/11/2025-See attached photo. Participated in Newnan Veterans Fair sponsored by Warrior Alliance. 425 Veterans in attendance. GDVS had communications with 119 Veterans/family members and assisted with 68 claims.

4/16/2025-Christina Williams (Gwinnett Tech) Lunch and Learn at Gwinnett Tech with VA where we answered basic questions regarding benefits for about 25 Veterans that were in attendance.

4/16/2025-Nick Gavalas (Canton)-Spoke at the Tim D. Lee Center. 18 Veterans in attendance to listed to GDVS brief and ask questions about benefits.

4/23/2025-Bill Smith (Lafayette)-Selected to participate as a team member of the Walker County Hazard Mitigation Plan. He is assisting with reviewing the plan that has to be submitted to FEMA every 5 years.

4/29/2025-Tanya Rogers (Gainesville)-Spoke at the Blue Star Family Lunch in Dahlonega, GA.

North Area Gains/Losses:

Corey Tanner-Jasper-New Hire-4/1/25
 Corey Tanner-Jasper-Resigned-4/21/25
 Marie Lundquist-Jasper-Retired-4/30/25

Average Visits Per VFSO

Average Claims Submitted to VA Per VFSO

Region:

North

Month:

April-25

A	B	C	D	E	D / E F	G	G / E H
Office Name	Veterans' Field Service Officer (VFSO) Last Name	#	Total Monthly Office Visits	Work Days In Month	Average Office Visits Per Day	Total Claims Submitted To VA Monthly	Average Claims Submitted By VFSOS To VA Daily
	Number of VFSOs:	53	6,334	21	301.62	2,452	116.76
Number of Offices:	31	Average Visits/Office:		204.32	Average Claims/Office: 79.0967742		

*Total monthly office visits include: 2,379 In-person and 3,955 phone calls/emails.

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Back (L/R): Rob Johnson (Griffin), Ken Childre, Danny Moreno (Zebulon), Commissioner Ross, Fred Young (Ft Mac), Randy Gray (Ft Mac), Veda Brooks, Roger McDonald (Newnan), ShellyAnn Simpson, Terrance Leggon (Conyers)

Front (L/R): Joseph White (LaGrange), Maxine Brock (Conyers), Sherri Whitfield, LaSaundra Hester (Columbus), Veronica Dailey (Carrollton), Randy Brown (Newnan), Amber Haire (LaGrange), Roderica Stewart (Decatur CBOC), Barbara Serrano (Newnan)

Mr. Childre reported that 8 VSOs worked at the Augusta Veterans Expo last week. 685 veterans attended the event. GDVS spoke with 57 veterans and filed 51 claims.

Ms. Sherri Whitfield, Director Veterans Benefits South Region

- On April 30th, Mr. Dennis Boothe in the Hinesville office attended the Second Chance event at the Long State Prison. He saw about forty incarcerated veterans and addressed their questions about benefits.
- On May 4th, Ms. Aneesa Sparks from the Hinesville office and Ms. Sheri Shellman from the Savannah office attended a VFW Day of Service, Post 660 in Savannah, GA. This was a community-wide veteran and family resource fair. They provided a resource table and advised and offered guidance and assistance with VA claims and benefits.

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- On May 14th, Mr. Jamaal Lemon and Mr. Antrell Hunt from the Perry office attended the Guardsman for Life Retiree Appreciation Day event in Macon. There were several vendors and GDVS provided a resource table. Mr. Lemon gave a short briefing on benefits and the services provided by GDVS.
- On May 16th, Mr. Miguel Rivera from the Savannah office attended the Guardsman for Life Retiree Appreciation Day event in Savannah. There were several vendors and GDVS provided a resource table. Mr. Rivera gave a short briefing on benefits and the services provided by GDVS.
- On May 22nd, Mrs. Debra Thomas will attend the Goodwill Mega Career and Resource event at the Columbus Conference and Trade Center. Ms. Thomas will provide a resource table and will advise on benefits and answer questions.
- Since the last board meeting, South region offices reported total lump sum payments of \$1,278,920.36, with the highest single payment of \$164,892.17 reported from the Warner Robins office.
- South Region opened a new office in King's Bay, effective May 16th.
- South Region Personnel Gains/Losses:
 - Mr. Michael Lawson – Warner Robins, new hire effective May 1st
 - Mr. Baxter Lee – King's Bay, new hire effective May 16th
 - Mr. Vershawn Moses – resigned, effective April 30th
- South Georgia Region Veterans Population: 239,553.

Average Visits Per VFSO
 Average Claims Submitted to VA Per VFSO

Region: SOUTH

Month: APRIL-2025

# of Offices	# of VFSOs	Total Monthly Office Visits	Workdays in Month	Average Office Visits Per Day	Total Claims Submitted to VA Monthly	Average Claims Submitted by VFSO to VA Daily
24	39	610	21	29.05	1,152	54.86

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Average Visits/Office	25.42
Average Claims/Office	48.00

Ms. Veda Brooks, Women Veterans Coordinator (WVC)

- April 10, 2025, Ms. Brooks participated in the Worksource Georgia Outreach Event held at the American Legion Post 66.
- April 12, 2025, Ms. Brooks participated in the Riverdale Veteran Women Coalition meeting.
- April 14, 2025, Ms. Brooks participated in the Let's Connect Summit Planning Meeting.
- April 21, 2025, Ms. Brooks participated in the National Association of State Women Veteran Coordinator Executive Meeting.
- April 22, 2025, Ms. Brooks facilitated her monthly virtual Coffee Break. The guest Speaker was the 2025 Woman Veteran of the Year Raquel Durden and the Georgia Woman Veteran Impact Award 2025 recipient, Anisa Palmer. Both were well received. Ms. Brooks participated in the VSMR Meeting.
- April 28, 2025, Ms. Brooks participated in Mental Health First Aid Training.
- May 2, 2025, Ms. Brooks participated in the Southern Crescent Technical College Annual Veteran Outreach. Ms. Brooks participated in a logistical meeting for the Let's Connect Summit Outreach Committee meeting.
- May 7, 2025, Ms. Brooks participated in the CVVAMC Outreach Committee meeting, the highlights were:
 - June 23rd, 4:30 – 6:30pm - Women Veterans Public Forum highlighting safety and self-defense.
 - June 25th, 4:30pm - Quarterly Focus Group, seeking feedback on the Maternity Care Program. Please refer/invite female veterans to participate in this focus group.
 - Marla Roche: Office of Women's Health is in a communication campaign to increase the need for colon cancer screening among women; has materials to share with any staff upon request.
 - American Red Cross has now opened an office across Veterans Blvd. from the VA. Staff are invited to go over and check out their office and get acquainted with the services they have specific to veterans.

Current committees:

- Violence Prevention Task Force

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- VA/SAMHSA Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans, and their Families Georgia Team
- The Birdwell Foundation Board Member
- Coweta County Race, Equity, and Justice Committee Unite Georgia Community Advisory Committee

Ms. Calandra Ferguson, Suicide Prevention and Outreach Coordinator

- April 15, 2025, Ms. Ferguson conducted her monthly Governor's Challenge TF Meeting.
- April 17-18, 2025, Ms. Ferguson conducted a Site-Visit and Final Walk through for 2025 Let's Connect Summit.
- April 21-25, 2025, Ms. Ferguson was ordered to serve on Jury Duty.
- April 29, 2025, Ms. Ferguson attended the weekly Suicide Mortality Review Committee meeting.
- May 13, 2025, Ms. Ferguson conducted Suicide Prevention Training for AL PSO.

Ms. Ferguson reported that the Suicide Prevention Summit will be in Savannah on June 9-11. We have 119 confirmed registrations and 26 vendors.

Ms. Raven Holstick, Transition and Employment Coordinator

- April 22, 2025 –Transition and Employment Coordinator met with several employers via Teams with a collaboration with Goodwill of Smyrna, GA. During this meeting, T&E coordinator was able to connect employers with veterans seeking employment.
- April 24, 2025 – Transition and Employment Coordinator attended Department of Community Supervision Second Chance Resources fair to assist justice involved veterans with their benefits and employment.
- April 26, 2025, Transition and Employment Coordinator held an empowering boxing class designed for veterans who are transitioning into the workforce. The event focused on building resilience, confidence, and career readiness while engaging in an active and motivating environment.
- April 29, 2025 – Transition and Employment Coordinator attended Military Transition Assistance Committee Q3 Meeting. This committee is with the state approving agency.

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- May 1, 2025, Transition and Employment coordinator met and toured space in the Atlanta VA Hospital to plan a Job Readiness seminar planned for ATL VA CWT Veterans.
- May 13, 2025, Transition and Employment Coordinator spoke at the Annual American Legion Training.

Upcoming events:

- Meeting with Stride Ahead discuss upcoming event (reoccurring)
- Annual Training
- Trinaty House visit
- Women Veteran Leadership Cohort
- June Career Readiness events

Ms. Holstick reported that she will be meeting with the Fulton County Sheriff's Office tomorrow at 11:00 a.m.

Ms. Jarelle Thompson, Homelessness Coordinator

- April 14, 2025 - I attended OAC to complete my monthly engagement with their homeless population and provided resources and hygiene packets.
- April 15, 2025- I completed a site visit to Sparrow's Nest. This is a day agency that works with the homeless in Athens. They have been servicing veterans, and we collaborated on how to capture the data and collaborate on future events for the fall.
- April 21, 2025- Participated in a virtual meeting with Senator Ossoff's office to talk about a housing opportunity in Milledgeville that would give shelter and provide longevity for more permanent housing.
- April 24, 2025- I attended a DCS 2nd chance resource event. I was able to provide hygiene packets and assist two veterans with SSVF programs that were at the event.
- May 6, 2025- I participated in a virtual meeting with HeroNowhelp. This company has funds to launch an app that would allow veterans to get resources and chat within their community.
- May 14, 2025- I participated in a veteran benefit and hiring fair roundtable event. I will be speaking regarding how we can promote and improve homelessness.

Upcoming Events:

- VA2K Dublin resource event

- Circular City and Podway for Ga.

Mr. Mark Demers, Chief Development Officer/Chief Financial Officer

Accounting/Procurement/Compliance:

- Routine operations are continuing. We are continuously working to improve all accounts payable processing, to apply proper coding, accountability, organization of purchase orders, and on-time payments.
- We are continuing to work with the SAO Shared Services to prepare the procurement and accounting data in Team Works for migration to GA@Work.
- Mark Demers and Kerry Dyer completed the Sole Source request for Unite Us for FY 2026 on April 25, 2025, it was approved by DOAS and is now being advertised for 15 days.
- Camala Ball established FY 2026 chart fields needed for the upcoming budget upload.
- Camala Ball attended Vendor Liaison Training.
- Kirsten Dennis ordered, inventoried and paid over 500 supply items as well as created POs for the Sub-Acute Therapy Unit valued at \$2.4 million dollars.

GA@Work/NextGen Updates

- Mark Demers attended the NextGen Change Network Meeting on April 22, 2025.
- Mark Demers attended the GA@Work Security Role Mapping session on April 22 and 29, 2025.
- Mark Demers attended the NextGen agency review working session on May 1, 2025.
- Mark Demers attended the NextGen Halftime report session on May 16, 2025.
- Mark Demers and Kirsten Dennis attended the GA@Work Monthly Procurement Huddle on April 23, 2025.
- The entire team worked on multiple suspense's associated with GA@Work over the course of the month.
- All of the testing is essential to a solid product by the go-live date on October 1, 2025.

Budget/Travel:

- Highlights include:

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- AFY2025- HB 67 (Final Signed by Governor on March 6, 2025)
 - Reduce funds not utilized for Subacute Therapy Unit Nursing Recruiting – (\$250,000) – Funds returned within the \$2,000,000 final version below
 - Provide one-time funds to support the opening of Subacute Therapy Unit- Final version \$2,000,000
 - Increase funds to address rising costs in healthcare at Homes- Final version \$1,500,000
 - Funds to replace expiring federal funds with state funds to sustain wraparound services- Unite Us- Final version \$1,750,204
- FY2026- (Final Signed by Governor on May 9, 2025)
 - Adjustment to agency premiums for DOAS administered programs- (\$59,587) across all programs- Final version (\$59,587)
 - Adjustment to TeamWorks billing- \$3,128 across all programs. Final version \$3,128.
 - Increase for TRS and health insurance premium increases- \$63,638 – Final version \$63,638
 - Increase funds to address rising costs of healthcare \$1,556,250- Final version \$1,556,250.
 - Increase funds for 40 additional beds and submit a plan to reach maximum occupancy \$2,120,000- Final version \$2,120,000
 - Addition- Increase funds for research on treatment for PTSD and wraparound services to benefit GA veterans and their families. Final version \$1,000,000.
- Camala Ball continued daily monitoring of general ledgers, purchase orders, and budget projection updates. She prepared amendments to record revenue collections in PBCS.
- Camala Ball prepared and briefed 3rd Quarter budget review.
- Camala Ball is working on establishing the FY 2026 budget and met with the new OPB analyst to review amendments needed to cover projected expenditures.
- There have been a lot of login issues since Concur switched to a two-factor email based authentication. We are still working on issues with new employee access in preparation for Annual Training.

Grant Program:

- SSG Fox Suicide Prevention Grant Program- (\$722,747 year 3)
 - We submitted draw#3 for year 3 for \$42,284.70 on May 7, 2025.
 - SSG Fox Grant Notice of Funding Opportunity for FY 2026 was posted on May 8, 2025.
 - Mark Demers attended the Fox Grant Conference in Seattle, WA on May 12-15, 2025.
 - Irene Mackson attended the National Academy of Sciences Best Practice and Implementation and Evaluation of Suicide Prevention on April 29, 2025.
 - Upcoming: Fox Grant Summit in Savannah, GA on June 8-11, 2025.

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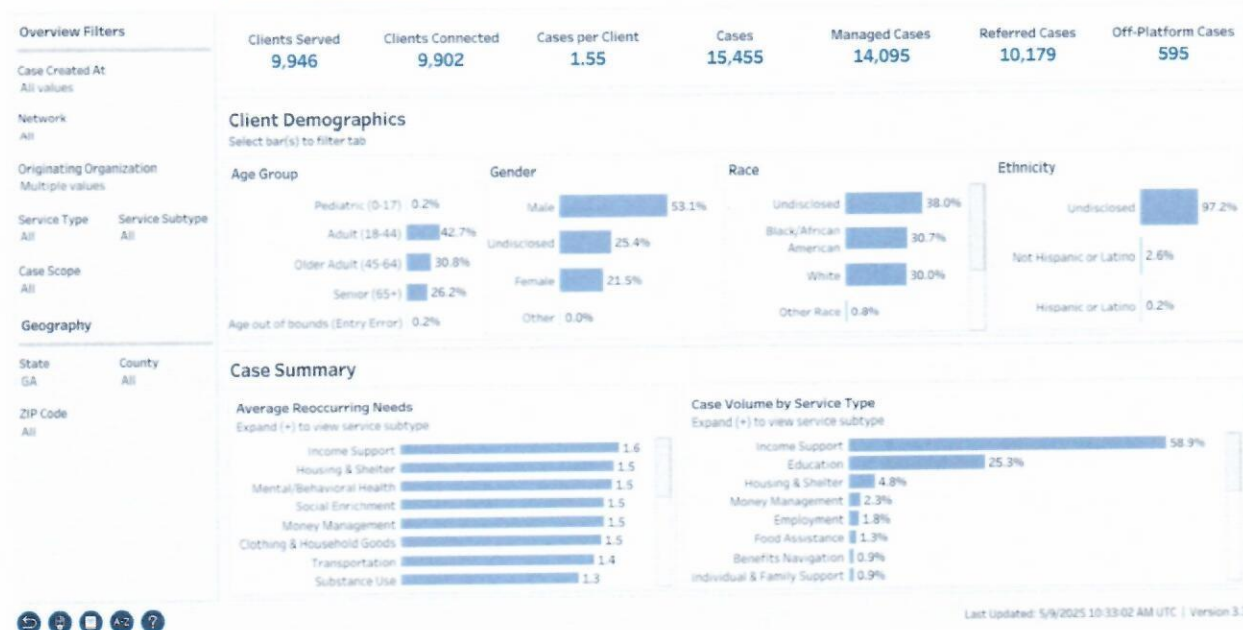
- Unite-Us Grant- (American Rescue Plan-Negative Impact Grant)- (\$20,047,782.70 total)
 - Grant extended for a partial year 4. Carrying over \$1,729,196.19 to partial year 4 until expended. Year 4 agreement signed on February 10, 2025, with OPB Grant Management. The remainder of the 4th year will be funded via State Appropriated funds which was approved on March 6, 2025. We are awaiting the results of the sole source request to proceed.
 - Data ingestion and secure data transfer for the platform and social connector are moving forward. As of May 9, 2025, we have 280,217 veterans in the system. The last SFTP data transfer was on May 9, 2025. Next will be June 2025.
 - We currently have 658 community partners on the Unite Georgia network.
 - We received the advance payment request for the entire year on September 16, 2024, for \$6,088,640.28. We continue to pay invoices from this advance until June 2025.
 - Since the Public Resource Directory has gone live on March 22, 2024, there have been 4,360 site visits, 3,067 visitors with 561 distinct programs viewed. The leading search term as of March 7, 2025, was "Housing". There have been 387 Assistance Request Form Submissions (self-referrals) in just the last two quarters with an 89% case resolution rate.
 - Campaign 8 began March 7, 2025, and is centered on Food Insecurity servicing 40 veterans and family members. The top needs were food assistance 28%, legal 23%, housing and shelter 20%, utilities 10%, clothing and household goods 8%, physical health 5%, income support 5%, and mental and behavioral health 3%.
 - Because of the results of campaign 8, campaign 9 will also focus on food insecurity. This campaign started April 4 and will run through late May 2025.
 - Campaign 10 theme is Summer is for kids. Which will focus on food insecurity of children of veterans during summer months when school free lunches are scarce. This campaign will begin on June 20, 2025.
 - The Quarterly Report for the 3rd quarter was submitted via Survey Monkey on April 1, 2025. Next quarterly report will be the year end closeout due in July 2025.
 - Mark Demers attended the Unite Quarterly Business Review on May 7, 2025.
 - Irene Mackson completed the Unite Us Platform Certificate on April 24, 2025.
 - Upcoming: Unite Us One Continuum Georgia event on June 17, 2025.
 - Below is an activity snapshot from Unite Us Insights:

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Network Activity Overview

Monitor critical network metrics over time.



- Veterans Mental Health Services Program Grant (HB 414)-
 - AFY2024- The grant was awarded to two vendors: \$1,000,000
 - Aspire (Cohen Veterans Network) for \$776,132
 - Emory Healthcare for \$212,500
 - The second quarter reporting was completed on January 31, 2025 for both awardees. Next reporting period will be April 2025.
 - This fiscal year's reporting will close on June 30, 2025.
 - FY2025- \$1,000,000 (competitive grant)
 - The grant was awarded to 3 vendors:
 - Cohen Veterans Network - \$776,132
 - KSU-AMES - \$173,868
 - About Face USA - \$40,000
 - The funds for Cohen and About Face were distributed on February 7, 2025. The funds for AMES will follow soon – the agreement is now set; we are awaiting the invoice from KSU.
- VA Suicide Mortality Review Cooperative Agreement - (\$502,124.68)
 - We submitted draw #6 for \$12,432.77 on May 7, 2025.
 - The agreement with DBHDD was completed and we are awaiting the invoice for quarters 1-2.
 - The Suicide Mortality Grant subcontractors are KSU, DPHDD and Dr. Lynn Tison.

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- The second quarterly report was submitted to the VA on April 29, 2025. Next due in July 2025.

Veterans Service Foundation:

- The next board meeting is on April 3, 2025, at 1000.
- IRS 990 form for the last CY is in progress and must be submitted to the IRS by May 15, 2025.
- New Officers were appointed: CEO- Jarelle Thompson and COO- Raven Holstick.

Events/Other:

- Kirsten Dennis, Camala Ball and Mark Demers attended Active Shooter Training on May 6, 2025.
- Irene Mackson completed address correction of 26,000 lines of GDAC.
- Next Leadership Institute session to be held on May 16, 2025, at The VECTR Center-Warner Robins. Subject: Lessons from the Field. Irene Mackson and Kirsten Dennis are attending. Both have completed assignments in preparation for presentation at Annual Training.
- Upcoming: Governors Memorial Day Ceremony at the Capital on May 21, 2025.
- Upcoming- Leadership Offsite teambuilding at the Georgia War Veterans Home in Milledgeville on May 30, 2025.

Mr. Russell Feagin, Executive Director, Health & Memorials Division, GDVS

State Veterans Homes

State Veterans Homes Census (Through May 9, 2025) +

Current Month	Augusta	Milledgeville	Total
Regular Patients	94	113	207
Service Connected *	30	42	72
Total Patients	124	155	279
Last Month	Augusta	Milledgeville	Total
Regular Patients	95	114	209
Service Connected *	29	41	70
Total Patients	124	155	279

* One hundred percent of the cost of these services is paid by the VA. No state funds are involved.

+ The numbers reported to the VSB are the total numbers from April 5, 2025, through May 9, 2025.

Governor Kemp signed the State Appropriations Bill. This bill included additional funding for rising medical costs as well as enough to fund an additional forty beds.

Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home

Normal operations continue.

Georgia War Veterans Home

The extension for STGi to continue operating the Home for the next fiscal year has been approved.

Normal operations continue.

State Veterans Cemeteries

Burial Statistics (through May 9, 2025)+

State Veterans Cemetery	Cumulative Last Month	Cumulative Current Month	Increase
Glennville	2,735	2,751	16
Milledgeville	5,783	5,817	34
Total	8,518	8,568	36

+ The report to the VSB is the total numbers from April 5, 2025 through May 9, 2025.

Governor Kemp signed House Bill 53 which authorized the interment of certain Guard and Reserve members who are not eligible to be interred in a national cemetery. This includes their eligible family members. Because the VA does not provide funding for this category of people, there will be a fee for their interment which must be paid prior to the interment. The effective date is July 1, 2025.

Georgia Veterans Memorial Cemetery – Glennville

Cemetery expansion projects continue with an expected completion in the summer of this year.

Cemetery operations continue as normal.

Georgia Veterans Memorial Cemetery at Milledgeville

Phase 4 expansion has been completed. This included additional columbarium spaces, and improvements to the existing columbarium.

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The cemetery expansion project adding additional in-ground interment space continues with an expected completion in the summer of this year.

The cemetery has been approved for the NCA Organizational Excellence Award. The actual presentation will be at a later date.

Cemetery operations continue as normal.

Mr. Kerry Dyer, Deputy Commissioner, Chief Operations Officer

On Thursday, April 17, 2025, Kerry Dyer contacted Mark Meeks, DOAS Procurement Manager, to discuss the process of posting a Sole Source for the UniteUs Grant. He also contacted Scott Duncan, President of Carrollton Furniture about punch item installation. Later that day he spoke to Leslie Davis, State Properties Leasing Specialist, about the Atlanta Tech College site visit.

On Friday, April 18, 2025, Kerry Dyer spoke with Cheryl Talley, Hyatt Regency Savannah, Senior Sales Manager about the contract for the FY26 National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs Training Conference (NASDVA). He also contacted John Scocos, NASDVA Executive Director, to discuss the seating arrangements. Later that day he processed the lease for the Marietta Field Office.

On Monday, April 21, 2025, Kerry Dyer attended the weekly Directors meeting. He also processed one resignation packet. Later that day he spoke with Karen Edelen, Senior State Contract Manager for Tyler Technologies regarding the Veterans Benefit Contract renewal.

On Tuesday, April 22, 2025, Kerry Dyer along with Joe Baker, Decatur VAMC Office Manager, conducted a site visit at Atlanta Tech College. He also attended the NextGen Change Network meeting virtually. Later that day he posted the Training Division Director vacancy internally.

On Wednesday, April 23, 2025, Kerry Dyer contacted Larry Price, Career and Support & Retention Supervisor at Kings Bay Naval Base to discuss the date change for the new hire. He also attended the monthly Procurement Huddle along with Kirsten Dennis. Later that day he processed 1 new hire packet for the Warner Robins Field Office.

On Thursday, April 24, 2025, Kerry Dyer along with Commissioner Ross, Charlotte May and Mark Demers met virtually with the New York Veterans Affairs Director to discuss a potential Kiosk machine in GA. He also, along with Commissioner Ross and Julie Hammond, conducted a site visit to CFC furniture Group to discuss office chairs.

On Friday, April 25, 2025, Kerry Dyer dropped off the Employee of the Quarter and Employee of Year Trophies off at Victory Trophy for engraving. He also along with Shareka Monday-Robinson reviewed

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the NextGen Supervisory Organizational Chart. Later that day he reviewed the updated version of the Department Directives.

On Monday, April 28, 2025 – Kerry Dyer attended the weekly Directors meeting. He also processed 1 new hire packet. Later that day along with Will Wilson they dropped the IT Van off for Semi- Monthly service at Allan Vigil Ford in Morrow, GA.

On Tuesday, April 29, 2025, Kerry Dyer along with Commissioner Ross and Shareka Monday-Robinson attended Marie Lundquist retirement ceremony in Jasper, Ga. He also processed 1 resignation packet. Later that day he posted the Atlanta Tech and Balcony Field Office vacancies internally.

On Wednesday, April 30, 2025, Kerry Dyer along with Shareka Monday- Robinson attended the NextGen Supervisory Organizational Chart training. He also attended the NextGen Projects Costing & Billing training. Later that day he updated and distributed the Agency Alpha Roster to the Senior Leaders.

On Thursday, May 1, 2025, Kerry Dyer contacted Leslie Davis, State Properties Leasing Specialist, to discuss the relocation of the Lafayette Field Office. He also submitted a lease cancellation packet for the Thomasville Field Office. Later that day he processed two promotion packets.

On Friday, May 2, 2025, Kerry Dyer posted the Business Analyst 3 vacancy externally and internally. He also contacted GBA to coordinate the placement of the Flash Bronze American Braille Flag on the West Tower Plaza level. Later that day he spoke with Ken Childre regarding the Facility Inspection Sheet for the Griffin Field Office.

On Monday, May 5, 2025, Kerry Dyer attended the weekly Directors meeting. He also took part in the interview panel along with Commissioner Ross, ShellyAnn Simpson and Mark Demers for the Training Director vacancy.

On Tuesday, May 6, 2025, Kerry Dyer Kerry Dyer along with all Central Office employees attended the Active Shooter Drill Training given by State Trooper Corporal Brantley. He also spoke with Leslie Davis, State Properties Leasing Specialist, regarding the relocation of the Griffin Field Office. Later that day he processed 2 promotion packets.

On Wednesday, May 7, 2025. Kerry Dyer along with Will Wilson, Mark Demers and Shareka Monday-Robinson met to discuss NextGen Security Role Mapping Templates. He also along with Commissioner Ross attended Ms. Joy, Office Student of Achievement, Executive Director retirement luncheon. Later that day he processed 1 new hire packet.

On Thursday, May 8, 2025, Kerry Dyer along with Commissioner Ross, Jarelle Thompson and Raven Holstick attended the Hire Heroes USA Empowerment Gala. He also canceled the Business Analyst 3 acquisition. Later that day along with Will Wilson went to Allan Vigil Ford to pick up the IT Van.

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On Friday, May 9, 2025, Kerry Dyer contacted Karen Elden, Senior State Contract Manager, Tyler Technologies, to discuss the UniteUs contract. He also contacted Austin Taylor, Grovetown, Landlord to discuss the roof leak in the Grovetown Field Office. Later that day he spoke with Austin Rapp, Edge Copier Marketing Director, about the interview for the Edge success story.

On Monday, May 12, 2025, Kerry Dyer along with Commissioner Ross attended the Retiree Appreciation Day at the Clay National Guard Center. He also virtually attended the site visit for a potential field office at Costal Pines Technical College. Later that day

On Tuesday, May 13, 2025, Kerry Dyer spoke to Patrick Bean, TAP Manager, at Fort Stewart regarding the utilization of the Field Office located on Fort Stewart. He also contacted GBA to discuss the light replacement on the 9th floor suite. Later that day he spoke with Brandi Lafayette to discuss the contract renewal for the Verizon Cellular Phones.

Below are the Personnel Actions Kerry Dyer and Shareka Monday-Robinson processed from April 16, 2025 – May 16, 2025.

Location	Position	Status	Name	Date
Jasper CBOC	Office Manager	Resigned	Corey Tanner	4/17/25
Central Office	Training Director	Resigned	Ramona Roper	4/21/25
Warner Robins	VFSO 1	Resigned	Vershawn Moses	4/30/25
Jasper CBOC	Office Manager	Retired	Marie Lundquist	4/30/25
Warner Robins	VFSO 1	New Hire	Michael Lawson	5/1/25
Kings Bay	Office Manager	New Hire	Baxter Lee	5/16/25
Atlanta Balcony	Office Manager	Resigned	Dawn Donaldson	5/16/25
Central Office	Business Analyst 3	New Hire	Kaitlin Little	5/19/25

Ms. Lily Snyder, Director, Veterans Education and Training Division (State Approving Agency)

- The approval, risk-based surveys, and supervisory visits of educational institutions, training establishments and training programs approved for veterans training is continuing with no significant problems in any area being noted.

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- Approval of new veteran's On-The-Job training sites (OJT) continues to increase. As of this date the State Approving Agency (SAA) has granted approval to 2,223 educational institutions and training establishments where Georgia veterans may attend school or job training and utilize their GI Bill® educational benefits.

Item *	Number
Approved Educational Institutions	508
Approved Training Establishments	1,715
VA Education Beneficiaries for April 2025	20,972
VA Education Beneficiaries for March 2025	21,867
VA Education Beneficiaries for February 2025	20,289
VA Education Beneficiaries for January 2025	17,775

* Source: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Benefits Administration, Education Division, WEAMS, Salesforce, RCS 20-0259-260, Oracle BI CH33 Enrollment

Ms. Charlotte May, Director, External Affairs & Communications

INFORMATION OUTREACH

Division Updates

1. GDVS Newsletter – The department’s monthly e-newsletter features top stories from the month at <https://veterans.georgia.gov/newsletter>.
 - a. The April edition of the department newsletter celebrated the selection of Georgia’s Woman Veteran of the Year, Rachel Darden, and the recipient of the GDVS Veteran Impact Award, Anisa Palmer. The monthly update also included a recap of the efforts of GDVS staff from north and South Georgia at a Veterans Resource Fair in Newnan, a request for women veterans to join the Military Women’s Memorial’s digital repository, information on the relocation of the GDVS Albany office, and shared information on a Georgia WWII veteran receiving a French Legion of Honor for his courageous service.
2. Veterans Legislative Breakfast – worked cooperatively with Commissioner Ross and ATLVets to promote and coordinate the GVSVF Veteran Legislative Breakfast on Monday, May 19, 2025. EAC created materials to promote registration and the participation of key legislative partners.

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3. Memorial Day – worked with GVMC Milledgeville and Glennville to produce programs for their upcoming Memorial Day programs. Additionally, EAC plans to attend the Governor’s Memorial Day ceremony on Wednesday, May 21, 2025.
4. Attended the Veterans Service Foundation board meeting on Thursday, May 1, 2025.
5. Attended the GDVS/Unite Us Quarterly Business Review meeting on Wednesday, May 7, 2025.
6. Attended GOVTalks 2025 on Tuesday, May 13, 2025. GOVTalks is hosted by the Georgia Technology Authority’s Digital Services office and is an annual event for state employees who are responsible for their organization’s website or applications. This year’s conference focused on web accessibility and compliance with the upcoming new federal accessibility rule which will take effect on April 26, 2026. EAC continues to work on ensuring the department’s website and resources will comply by the effective date.
7. Annual Training – the division is actively working with the Training Division to provide support for the department’s upcoming training week in July.
8. Benefits outreach – External Affairs and Communications continues to work with GDVS staff and partners to educate Georgia’s veterans and families on the availability of benefits and resources.
 - a. Careers and Employment – continued to share information from organizations and partners hosting career readiness events across the state for veterans and their families.
 - i. STGi and GWVH Milledgeville Job Fair – shared information provided by STGi to help spread awareness of job openings to support the GWVH.
 - ii. Shared information from the office of Congressman Mike Collins on the Green and Gold Congressional Aide program for qualified veterans, military spouses, and Gold Star families.
 - b. Suicide Prevention and Awareness – marketing for the Let’s Connect Suicide Prevention Summit in June 2025 continues to promote and encourage registration across multiple platforms.
 - c. VA Claims Clinic – shared information for veterans to connect directly with VA staff for one-on-one help with claims on April 24, 2025.

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Veterans Legislative Breakfast

19 MAY 7:30 - 9 AM

BUCKHEAD CLUB
3344 PEACHTREE RD NE #2600
ATLANTA, GA 30328

Get informed about the latest legislative updates impacting Georgia's military service members and veterans and their families, caretakers, and survivors at a panel discussion and breakfast with state and federal officials.

RESERVE YOUR TICKET
\$30
(INCLUDES \$11 PARKING FEE)

SCAN ME!
HTTPS://ATLVETS.ORG/EVENTS

GDVS GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICE

Sponsored by **Fleet Salutes**

Hosted by the **GEORGIA** VETERANS SERVICE FOUNDATION

The poster features an illustration of a large quiche, a cinnamon roll with strawberries, and a cup of coffee.



GDVS GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICE

Join Us

LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

SOCIAL

Are you thinking about applying for the **GDVS Leadership Institute**?

Join our recent graduates for a social and light refreshments to learn more about the program and how it can help you at the GDVS!

4 JUNE 5:30 - 7 PM

BEST WESTERN PLUS EXECUTIVE RESIDENCY
1056 GA HIGHWAY 98
WARNER ROBINS, GA 31088

SCAN ME!

What are the benefits of the Leadership Institute?

- Enhance your leadership skills
- Develop effective communication strategies
- Learn how to solve problems creatively and strategically
- Gain a deeper insight into how the department functions
- Strengthen your interpersonal skills - teamwork, adaptability, conflict resolution, and more

Have questions? Ready to RSVP?
Reserve your spot by emailing:
raven.holstick@vs.ga.gov

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Kopsie announced that they will approve the language for Home's application forms at the next VSB meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mr. Zayas announced that Pine Lake will become a Purple Heart City on May 27th. He also announced that the annual Golf Tournament will be on August 4th. He has been named the new Department Commander.

Mr. Loncher thanked Commissioner Ross for serving as a celebrity chef at the Plummer House fundraiser for homeless veterans and said the next event will be a 200-mile bike ride for homeless vets. More details will be forthcoming.

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Commissioner Ross announced that Columbus Tech received their final \$3 million they needed to break ground for a VECTR Center. It will be the Colonel Ralph Puckett VECTR Center, right outside of Fort Benning.

Mr. Hanley announced that his organization is sponsoring two people in the upcoming Wheelchair Games in Minneapolis and can sponsor more, if anyone knows someone interested.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Hanley asked if the department would be affected by the grant funding process taking place now. Commissioner Ross answered that we aren't concerned about our grant status. We've already received the request to renew the Fox Grant for the fourth year. She then asked anyone with connections to county coroners to make an introduction for us to assist with the SMRC grant so that we can collect more data on suicide mortality rates among veterans. The one area that seems impacted by cuts is with the Small Business Administration. They are planning to shutter the 22 veteran business outreach centers that support all of our states with entrepreneurship training and pull that into the Small Business Development Center. Mr. Layne from the VECTR Center announced that they are losing 4 positions there related to this grant.

Mr. Kopsie asked some questions about the Homes:

1. Are we advertising to fill the beds for the sub-acute unit? Ms. Jarrett answered that STGi is currently doing a two-day job fair on site. Once they complete the job fair, we will know how many people they interviewed, how many people they made offers to, and how many people accepted.
2. How are we advertising to our veteran community that we have additional beds available? Ms. Jarrett answered that STGi's corporate marketing department has been working with admissions to develop the marketing materials and to be able to highlight the sub-acute unit. They are explaining that we are not a Medicare/Medicaid facility, so veterans don't have to worry about losing their assets. They are also putting together promotion packets.
3. Are we being assessed for the beds that are not filled? Commissioner Ross answered that we were able to recalculate and reassess with the VA. We are at 262 beds in Milledgeville now 192 in Augusta.

Board elections were held:

- Mr. Paslawski made a motion for Mr. Mendez to serve as Secretary from June 1, 2025 through May 31, 2026. Mr. Peterson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

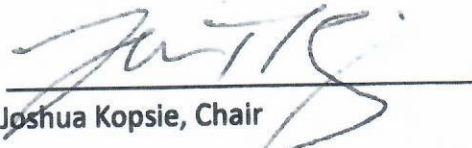
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- Mr. Hanley made a motion for Mr. Paslawski to serve as Vice-Chair and Mr. Kopsie to serve as Chair from June 1, 2025 through May 31, 2026. Mr. Mendez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The next Board meeting was scheduled for July 23 at 12:30pm. It will be a combination virtual and in-person meeting, set up at the GDVS.

Mr. Paslawski made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Swan seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:18 p.m.

SIGNED:


Joshua Kopsie, Chair

ATTEST:



Steve Mendez, Secretary