



# **Veterans Affairs April Commissioner Meeting**

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## Mission Statement



“Assist Veterans and their Dependents  
needs to which they are Entitled”

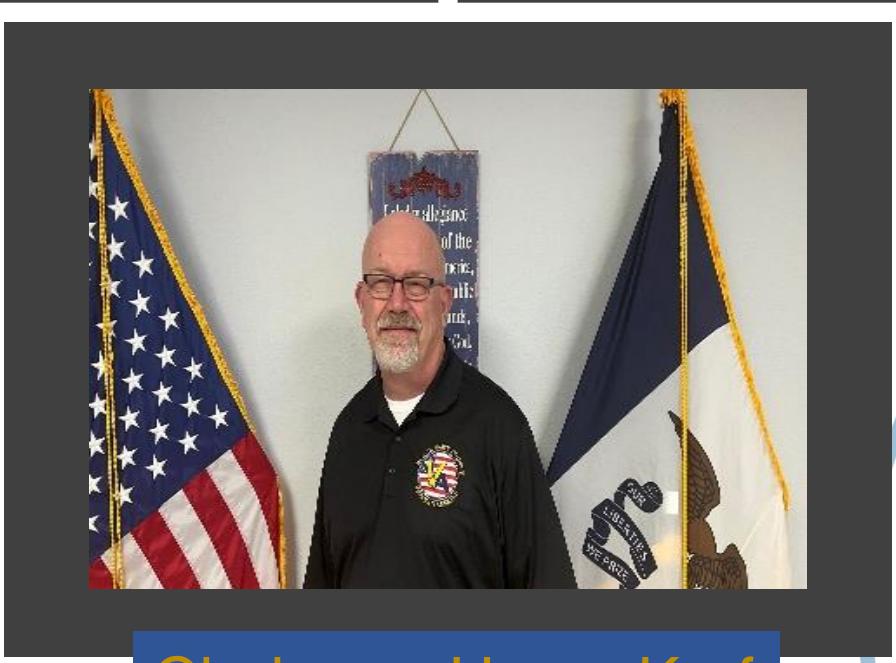
# BHCVA Commissioners



Joy Briscoe  
Second Term



Todd Rosonke  
First Term



Chairman Henry Korf  
First Term



Chuck Wubbena  
First Term



Michael Butler  
Second Term

# In Memory Of

Mr. John Russell Lowe (85 Years old)  
June 24, 1922, to September 1, 2007

Army Veteran was born in Petersburg, Virginia who came to Waterloo in 1955. He joined the U.S. Army during World War II and was awarded the Purple Heart during his combat service. Mr. Lowe worked in residential construction for almost ten years before he started teaching in the Waterloo School District. In 1964, he became the first African-American man to teach in the District. He also worked in administration as the assistant Principal at East High School in 1970. In 1988, he retired from the Waterloo Schools. Shortly after retirement, he served on other important community boards such as Cattle Congress, Waterloo Urban Renewal and Operation Threshold. His service extends to his work as President of the Waterloo Chapter of the NAACP and political activities for the Democratic Party across Iowa.



Russell Lowe | African American Voices of the Cedar Valley  
African American Voices of the Cedar Valley

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# Veterans Affairs Relocation PROJECT TIMELINE



## MILESTONE 1

Design  
Project Team

## MILESTONE 2

Contracts  
Project Team

## MILESTONE 3

Procurement  
Contractor

## MILESTONE 4

Delivery  
Contractor



Proposal	Design Review	Bid Date	Preconstruction Meeting	Foundation insulation	Walk Through
06/5/2024	10/15/2024	11/15/2024	2/20/2024	12/03/2024	TBD
Commence Design	BOS Approval	Award Date	Commence Remodel	Siding Roof	Project Update
06/05/2024	10/15/2024	12/03/2024	1/3/2025	Continues	TBD

STAGE 1

STAGE 2

STAGE 3

STAGE 4

# VA Office Construction





# St Patrick Day Gift Baskets

This month we delivered 17 treat bags to Veterans in a few different care facilities. We enjoy spreading smiles and letting Veterans know they are not forgotten about.



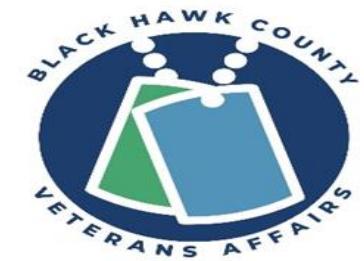
Care Facility (February)

Birdee Cottage	03
Friendship (Wellspring)	15
Mallard Point	24
Oak park Estates	03
Total	45

Care Facility (March)

Friendship Village(Lakeview)	06
Arboreta (CF Health)	05
Pillar	06
Total	17

# March Production



Veterans and Surviving Spouses received the following retro amounts:

**Monthly Total: \$140,958.03 Federal  
dollars paid to Veterans and Surviving  
Spouses in March.**

<b>Stacy's Clients Retro</b>	<b>\$46,477.05</b>
<b>Michelle's Clients Retro</b>	<b>\$19,575.00</b>
<b>Director's Clients Retro</b>	<b>\$74,905.98</b>



# FY 25 3rd Quarter LOE's



02 April 25

Outreach LOE #1	Cause and Effect	Primary CVSO
Outreach Events/Programs	Commissioners and Director actively involved in community events	Loveless /Albus
Local Service Organization Liaision	Commissioners and Director are participating in the monthly meeting	Albus /Sloyer
Nursing Home Liaison	Interaction with various nursing home Social Workers and Staff. Monthly gift bags to Veterans.	Sloyer /Loveless
Advertisement	WCF Courier and Radio Station to promote Veteran events.	Loveless /Sloyer
Scheduling Van Rides	Below the FY24 3 <sup>RD</sup> Quarter average	Mendoza /Loveless
Food Pantry	Below the FY24 3 <sup>RD</sup> Quarter average	Albus /Mendoza

# FY 25 3rd Quarter LOE's



02 April 25

Benefits LOE #2	Cause and Effect	Primary CVSO
Pension/Compensation/Appeals Applications	Below FY24 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter average	Loveless /Sloyer
Iowa Trust Fund Application	Below FY24 3 <sup>RD</sup> Quarter average	Albus /Sloyer
Health Care Enrollments	Same as the FY24 3 <sup>RD</sup> Quarter average	Loveless /Sloyer
Veteran License Plates/Driver License Applications	As requested by Veterans, normally birthdays drive this request	Mendoza /Loveless
General Relief (Shelter, Utilities, Funeral)	Above the FY24 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter average	Albus /Sloyer
Homeless Veterans/PTSD	Above the FY24 3 <sup>RD</sup> Quarter average	Albus /Mendoza
Burial/DIC/Headstone	Above the FY24 3 <sup>RD</sup> Quarter average. 35 Donated Plots in the Garden of Memories and Cedar Valley Memorial	Loveless /Sloyer
Veteran Home Applications	Only 1 application submitted for the quarter	Sloyer /Albus

# FY 25 3rd Quarter LOE's



02 April 25

Administration and Budgeting LOE #3	Cause and Effect	Primary CVSO
FY Budget	FY26 Budget proposal submitted.	Loveless /Albus
Accounts Payable	Submitted weekly to the Auditors Office.	Albus /Loveless
Scheduling Training	5 of 5 Commissioners have completed the required training.	Loveless /Mendoza
Grave Registration Custodian	We hold all grave registrations that are sent to our office.	Albus /Mendoza
Widow's Letters	Continue to send them upon notification.	Albus /Mendoza
Scheduling Appointments	Down from the FY24 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter average	Mendoza /Sloyer

MONTHLY STATISTICS	JAN 2025	FEB 2025	MAR 2025	AVG. 3rd QTR	APR 2025	MAY 2025	JUN 2025	AVG. 4th QTR
<b>Total # Veterans Served on Initial Visit</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>124</b>				
# Veterans Served on Return Visits	21	16	23	20				
Office Visits - Service Work	90	58	92	80				
Office Visits - Relief	22	31	15	23				
Office Visits - Other	42	26	38	35				
Home Visits	5	6	4	5				
<b>Incoming phone calls</b>								
New Veterans	15	8	23	15				
Walk-Ins	79	67	78	75				
Female Veterans	10	4	6	7				
Van Rides	17	20	22	20				
<b>Applications Completed</b>								
Service-Connected Disability	30	15	29	25				
Pension/DIC (Survivors & Veterans)	13	5	9	9				
Health Care	18	15	14	16				
Burial/Grave Markers	3	1	3	2				
College/Education	1	1	1	1				
Appeals	9	5	7	7				
Veterans Home Applications	0	0	1	0				
Trust Fund Applications	2	2	3	2				
Food Pantry	16	25	20	20				
Relief Applications	8	8	5	7				
All other Federal Forms	86	104	120	103				
PTSD/MST Claims	3	4	7	5				
<b>Military Service Periods:</b>								
World War II	6	1	3	3				
Korean War	5	1	3	3				
Vietnam War	63	53	55	57				
Persian Gulf War	23	21	30	25				
Post-9/11	20	13	20	18				
Peacetime	20	16	14	17				
Non-veterans / NG, Res	0	1	4	2				
<b>Waterloo/BHC Veterans</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>72</b>				
<b>Cedar Falls Veterans</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>20</b>				
<b>Other Iowa Counties Veterans</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>14</b>				

## Additional Veterans Stats for March 2025

## Other Cities within Black Hawk

Elk Run	01
Hudson	01
Evansdale	07
Raymond	02
Washburn	02
La Porte City	01
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>

## Service Component

Army	62
Marine Corp	29
Navy	28
Air Force	11
Space Force	00
Coast Guard	00
<b>Total</b>	<b>130</b>



## Goal is 200 Initial visits each month



# FY25 3<sup>RD</sup> Quarter Averages

## Other Cities within Black Hawk

Elk Run	05
Hudson	03
Evansdale	27
Raymond	04
Washburn	03
La Porte City	02
Dewar	01
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>



## Service Component

Army	183
Marine Corp	62
Navy	81
Air Force	41
Space Force	00
Coast Guard	01
<b>Total</b>	<b>368</b>



## Other Counties

Hardin	01
Bremer	08
Buchanan	08
Butler	06
Fayette	03
Franklin	02
Chickasaw	02
Linn	01
Grundy	04
Tama	01
Clayton	01
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>



# Social Media Data



## Service Received by Military Branch March 2025 - 130 Total

- Army - 47.7%
- Marine Corp - 22.3%
- Navy - 21.5%
- Air Force- 8.5%



## Service Received by Geographic Location March 2025 - 130 total

- Waterloo - 63.1%
- Cedar Falls - 13.1%
- Outside BHC - 12.3%
- Evansdale - 5.4%
- Raymond - 1.6%
- Washburn - 1.6%
- Hudson - .8%
- Elk Run - .8%
- LaPorte City - .8%



# Donations and Grants

March Donations:

General \$150.00  
Winter Gear \$120.00

Total \$270.00

FISCAL YEAR 2025				Black Hawk County
PROJECTS SUMMARY				
PROJECT	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	FUND BALANCE	
AWAR	10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00	
GENERAL	7,080.00	13,396.64	23,277.34	
PICNICS	300.00	29.05	300.00	
PANTRY	0.00	2,968.73	0.00	
PTSD	0.00	0.00	1,376.44	
RAMPS	4,000.00	0.00	14,381.32	
SDOWN	1,050.00	215.65	4,041.58	
XMAS	6,701.18	903.41	201.18	
			44,392.52	

## Top 8 Running Awards for Beneficiaries in Iowa by County

***As of February 2025***

<u>County</u>	<u>Veteran Population</u>	<u>Receiving Benefits</u>	<u>Monthly Grand Total</u>
Black Hawk	7,158	2,017 	\$3,606,342 
Dubuque	5,104	1,549	\$2,892,009
Johnson	5,697	1,561	\$2,918,487
Linn	13,897	3,612	\$6,764,751
Polk	24,300	9,349	\$16,936,099
Pottawattamie	6,224	2,475	\$4,143,100
Scott	11,609	3,361	\$6,611,659
Woodbury	5,584	1,786	\$2,876,573

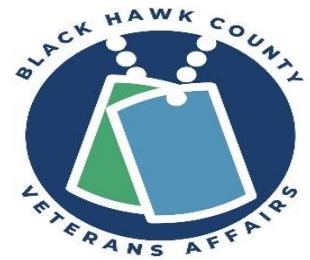
# General Service to Veterans



“Veterans helping Veterans”

<u>Transaction</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Percent used</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Prior Yr. Total</u>
Funeral Expense	\$10,508.14	46%	\$12,491.86	\$8,230.00
Shelter	\$3,371.79	17%	\$16,931.21	\$2,470.00
Utilities	\$371.00	7%	\$4,629.00	\$1,487.75
Transportation	\$0.0	0%	\$3,000.00	\$1,140.00
Cemetery Expense	\$745.00	186%	(-\$345.00)	\$298.50
Grave Markers	\$1,116.96	112%	(-\$116.96)	\$1,238.40
Medications	\$0.0	0%	\$1,000.00	\$94.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$16,112.89</b>		<b>\$34,052.07</b>	<b>\$14,958.65</b>





## March Helping Veterans

Gas Card	\$25.00
Gift Card	\$60.00
Gas Card	\$20.00
Opening/Closing Plot	\$900.00
Cremation	\$1,395.00

Total amount: **\$2,400.00**

## March Iowa Trust Fund disbursement:

• Home Repairs	\$10,000.00
• Auto Repairs	\$1,395.00
• Dental	\$4,046.00

Total amount: **\$15,441.85**



## March Staff and Commissioner's Participation

03/1 Military Honors for Peacetime Airforce Veteran (**Director Loveless**)

03/8 Military Honors for Korean War Army Veteran (**Director Loveless**)

Military Honors for WWII Army Veteran (**Director Loveless, Commissioner Korf**)

03/12 Military Honors for Vietnam Army Veteran (**Director Loveless**)

03/14 Meet and Greet with new Social Work at Waterloo Outpatient Clinic (**VA Staff**)

03/17 Delivered St Patrick's Day Gift Bags to Health Care Centers (**Michelle, Stacy, Sara**)

03/18 American Legion Post 138 Monthly Meeting (**Commissioner Korf, Director Loveless**)

03/20 Military Funeral for Vietnam Veterans (**Stacy**)

03/26 UNI PTSD Conference (**Commissioner Korf, Director Loveless**)

IDVA Quarterly CVSO Training (**Staff**)

03/27 Mercy One Heroes Among Us Award Event (**Director Loveless**)

Military Honors for Vietnam Army Veteran (**Director Loveless**)





# Question?

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# MEMORIAL DAY - REMEMBER AND HONOR

Seeking Volunteers to place flags for  
Memorial Day at Garden of Memories

3669 Logan Ave, Waterloo

## Flag Placement

May 21 Wednesday @ 5:00 PM  
May 22 Thursday starting  
@ 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM

## Flag Pick up

May 27 Tuesday @ 4:00 PM  
May 28 Wednesday @ 9:00 AM



If you or your organization would like to honor our fallen Veterans by putting flags at the grave sites of 5089 fallen Veterans at the Garden of Memories Cemetery, we would love your help in creating the field of flags for Memorial Day.

Please contact us to let us know when you plan on participating:

- James Lentfer [lentferjames@gmail.com](mailto:lentferjames@gmail.com)
- Yolando Loveless [yloveless@blackhawkcounty.iowa.gov](mailto:yloveless@blackhawkcounty.iowa.gov)
- Henry Korf [henry.korf@uni.edu](mailto:henry.korf@uni.edu)

Please wear appropriate footwear, come prepared for all types of weather and please stay hydrated.  
Portable rest room will be available on-site.



## Are you a Veteran diagnosed with PTSD?

Studies show exercise can help with PTSD symptoms

**Funding is available for:**

Gym  
Memberships

Bicycle  
Purchase

# Call (319) 291-2512

This program is made possible through funds generously  
raised by Cycling for Veterans.



# EXERCISE FOR VETERANS WITH PTSD



