

Veterans Affairs October Commissioner Meeting



Purpose Statement

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

OUR MISSION:

Cultivating a diverse community that embraces our unique assets positioning our county as a thriving center for all to live, work, and succeed.

OUR CORE VALUES:

Collaboration Service Innovation Efficiency
Accountability
Transparency Financial Responsibility

October 7, 2025

THE BEACON



A Spotlight On
Your VA Health Care

Iowa City VA Health Care System's
Official Newsletter for Patients



New number, same support.

Dial 988 then Press 1.

Dear Veterans, caregivers, family members and other subscribers,

As we face the reality of the absence of appropriations (commonly known as a “Government shutdown”), it is crucial to understand how this will impact our operations and services. Here is the detailed information you need to know:

The Iowa City VA Health Care System will remain open and continue to provide all services as usual.

- The processing and delivery of VA benefits, including compensation, pension, education, and housing benefits, will continue without interruption.
- Burials at VA national cemeteries will proceed as scheduled, and applications for headstones, markers, and burial benefits will continue to be processed.
- The Board of Veterans’ Appeals will continue to make decisions on Veterans’ cases.
- VA’s primary call center (1-800-MyVA411) and the Veterans Crisis Line (Dial 988, Press 1) will remain operational 24/7.
- Additionally, the VA Benefit Hotline (1-800-827-1000) will be available Monday through Friday, from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM.
- Critical programs such as suicide prevention, homelessness services, and caregiver support will continue to operate.

September's Hidden Hero

Thomas Joseph Broell "Cedar Valley do it all Volunteer"

After finishing his tour in Vietnam, he went to work at North American Car Corp repairing Railroad Cars. Then went to work at John Deere, retiring after 32 years of service. Worked part time at South hills golf course for Waterloo Leisure services for 12 years.

Member of the Post 19 and Post 49 Honor Guard.

UAW Veterans Committee

Waterloo American Legion Post 138

Cedar Falls AMVETS Post 49

Veteran Volunteer for BHCVA Picnic and Post 49 for the past 8 years with his spouse (Joyce now deceased)



Thomas Broell : Gilbertville, Iowa, 2 years Active Duty and 4 Years Naval Reserves

Rank: BUCN (E3) Navy Construction Mobile Battalion (CBMU 302) CAM Rahn Bay

Awarded Vietnam Service Medal , Vietnam Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal

Ribbon Cutting Event

Innovation





September Production

Monthly Total: **\$182,842.60 Federal dollars paid to Veterans and Surviving Spouses in September.**



Stacy's Clients Retro	\$36,142.45
Michelle's Clients Retro	\$70,910.00
Director's Clients Retro	\$75,790.15

(Aug \$224,326.43/July \$132,960.70)

- * Combined quarterly total of **\$540,129.73**
- **Changing lives one claim at a time.**

Service and Transparency



Projected 2025 VA Disability Rates

\$175

10% Disabled

Monthly compensation for
minimal impact

\$1,300

50% Disabled

For substantial assistance needs

\$4,225

100% Disabled

Maximum compensation for total
disability

Rates based on 2.5% cost of living increase. Actual figures may vary.



VA Disability Pay Rates



Based on 2025 VA Disability compensation for a Veteran without spouse or dependents. Rates start effective Dec. 1, 2024.

FY 26 1st Quarter LOE's



Accountability and Service

01 October 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 meetings	Albus /Sloyer
Nursing Home Liaison	Interaction with various nursing home Social Workers and Staff. Gift bags have been delivered.	Sloyer /Loveless
Advertisement	WCF Courier and Radio Station to promote Veteran events and Holiday greetings.	Loveless /Sloyer
Scheduling Van Rides	Average 20 per month. 26 in September	Mendoza /Loveless
Food Pantry	Small increase from 4 th Quarter. Averaged 31 per month. 38 provided in September	Albus /Mendoza

FY 26 1st Quarter LOE's



Service, Accountability and Transparency

01 October 25

Benefits LOE #2	Cause and Effect	Primary CVSO
Pension/Compensation/Appeals Applications	Average 33 for 1 st quarter	Loveless /Sloyer
Iowa Trust Fund Application	Completed 9 Applications for the quarter	Albus /Sloyer
Health Care Enrollments	Average 11 applications for the quarter. 19 in September	Loveless /Sloyer
Veteran License Plates/Driver License Applications	As requested by Veterans, normally birthdays drive this request	Mendoza /Loveless
General Relief (Shelter, Utilities, Funeral)	Average 9 in the 1 st quarter	Albus /Sloyer
Homeless Veterans/PTSD	Average 4 claims in the 1 st quarter	Albus /Mendoza
Burial/DIC/Headstone	Average 3 application in the 1 st quarter	Loveless /Sloyer
Veteran Home Applications	Submitted 1 applications in the 1 st quarter	Sloyer /Albus

FY 26 1st Quarter LOE's



Financial Responsibility and Service

01 October 25

Administration and Budgeting LOE #3	Cause and Effect	Primary CVSO
FY Budget	1 st quarter spending is above normal due to move.	Loveless /Albus
Accounts Payable	Submitted weekly to the Auditors Office.	Albus /Loveless
Scheduling Training	Staff participates in quarterly training from Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs	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	We continue to have more walk-in's than scheduled appointments. 108 walk-ins in September.	Mendoza /Sloyer

Donation and Grants

Accountability, Transparency and Financial Responsibility

September Donations

General	\$150.00
Winter Gear	\$120.00
Total	\$270.00

FISCAL YEAR 2026				
PROJECTS SUMMARY				Black Hawk County
PROJECT	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	FUND BALANCE	
AWAR	10,000.00	461.00	9,539.00	
GENERAL	1,650.00	3,935.29	19,703.77	
PICNICS	0.00	0.00	160.03	
PTSD	0.00	0.00	1,376.44	
RAMPS	0.00	0.00	10,381.32	
SDOWN	360.00	0.00	4,521.58	
VCC	5,022.75	0.00	5,022.75	
XMAS	0.00	0.00	201.18	
			50,906.07	

General Service to Veterans



“Veterans helping Veterans” Service, Transparency, and Financial

<u>Transaction</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Percent used</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Prior Yr. Total</u>
Funeral Expense	\$0.0	0%	\$23,000.00	\$11,268.10
Shelter	\$0.0	0%	\$20,303.00	\$5,686.97
Utilities	\$300.00	6%	\$4,700.00	\$871.00
Transportation	\$0.0	0%	\$3,000.00	\$1,140.00
Cemetery Expense	\$0.0	0%	\$400.00	\$745.00
Grave Markers	\$0.0	0%	\$1,000.00)	\$1,238.40
Medications	\$0.0	0%	\$1,000.00	\$1,569.46
Total:	\$0.0		\$53,403.00	\$20,416.05



Helping Veterans

- September expenditures helping veterans

- \$100.00
- \$100.00
- \$425.00
- \$100.00
- \$2135.52

Utilities
Utilities
Rent
Utilities
Rent/Mortgage

- Total: \$2860.52

- Donated Funds

- \$20.00
- \$25.00
- \$25.00
- \$50.00
- \$25.00

Gas Card
Gas Card
Gas Card
Walmart Gift Card
Hy Vee Gift Card

- Total: \$140.00

➤ Trust Fund

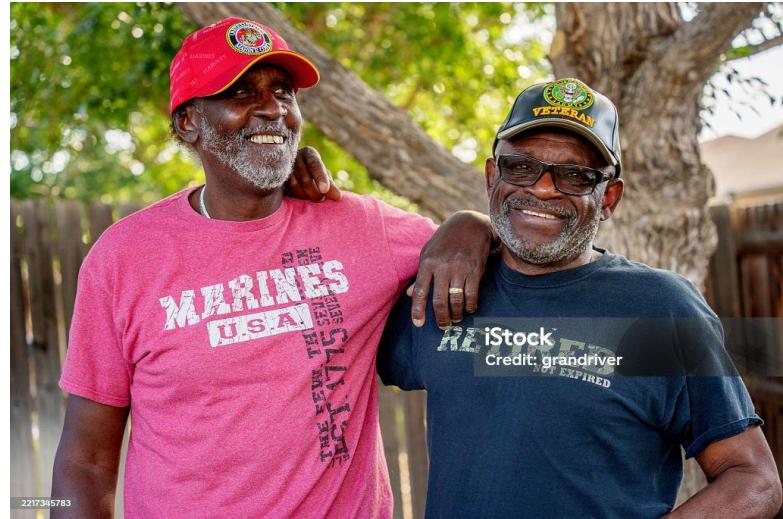
4 applications for Dental totaling \$5997.50



Transparency, Accountability, Service

MONTHLY STATISTICS	JUL 2026	AUG 2026	SEP 2026	AVG 1ST QTR	OCT 2026	NOV2026	DEC 2026	AVG 2ND QTR
TOTAL # VETERANS SERVED ON INITIAL	152	157	152	153				
# VETERANS SERVED ON RETURN	12	11	29	17				
OFFICE VISITS - SERVICE WORK	79	92	86	86				
OFFICE VISITS - RELIEF	34	27	38	33				
OFFICE VISITS - OTHER	35	42	57	45				
HOME VISITS	4	2	0	2				
NEW VETERANS	19	19	27	22				
WALK-INS	85	102	108	98				
FEMALE VETERANS	11	7	5	8				
VAN RIDES	21	12	26	20				
APPLICATIONS COMPLETED								
SERVICE- CONNECTED DISABILITY	33	35	31	33				
PENSION/DIC (SURVIVORS&VETERANS)	4	3	3	3				
HEALTHCARE	7	8	19	11				
BURIAL/GRAVE MARKERS	4	3	3	3				
COLLEGE/EDUCATION	2	0	0	1				
APPEALS	17	16	16	16				
VETERANS HOME APPLICATIONS	0	1	0	1				
TRUST FUND APPLICATIONS	3	3	1	2				
FOOD PANTRY	31	25	38	31				
RELIEF APPLICATIONS	10	8	9	9				
ALL OTHER FEDERAL FORMS	72	131	119	107				
PTSD/MST CLAIMS	3	4	5	4				
MILITARY SERVICE PERIODS:								
WWII	3	5	4	4				
KOREAN WAR	2	3	3	3				
VIETNAM WAR	64	59	58	60				
PERSIAN GULF WAR	26	24	36	29				
POST-9/11	24	30	24	26				
PEACETIME	21	25	27	24				
NON-VETERANS/NG,RES	0	0	0	0				
WATERLOO/BHC VETERANS	91	100	107	99				
CEDAR FALLS VETERANS	29	30	28	29				
OTHER IOWA COUNTIES VETERANS	8	16	17	14				

September Production



Service, Accountability



Top 8 Running Awards for Beneficiaries in Iowa by County



As of August 2025

Transparency

<u>County</u>	<u>Veteran Population</u>	<u>Receiving Benefits</u>	<u>Monthly Grand Total</u>
Black Hawk	7,158	2,082 	\$3,869,450 
Dubuque	5,104	1,626	\$3,096,002
Johnson	5,697	1,618	\$3,159,395
Linn	13,897	3,714	\$7,258,148
Polk	24,300	9,599	\$18,014,963
Pottawattamie	6,224	2,529	\$4,385,433
Scott	11,609	3,515	\$7,143,360
Woodbury	5,584	1,839	\$3,090,391

Service Component

Army	80
Marine Corp	25
Navy	29
Air Force	18
Space Force	00
Coast Guard	00
Total	152



Additional Veterans Stats for September 2025

<u>Other Cities within Black Hawk</u>		<u>Other Counties</u>	
Evansdale	05	Tama	03
Gilbertville	01	Bremer	03
Dunkerton	01	Buchanan	04
Elk Run Heights	01	Butler	01
La Porte	01	Grundy	01
		Benton	01
		Fayette	02



Accountability, Transparency, Service



Goal is 200 Initial visits each month



Veterans Stats for 1st Quarter 2025

Service Component

Army	241
Marine Corp	65
Navy	91
Air Force	41
Space Force	00
Coast Guard	00
Total	430



Innovation, and Efficiency

<u>Other Cities within Black Hawk</u>	<u>Other Counties</u>
Evansdale	Tama
Gilbertville	Bremer
Dunkerton	Buchanan
Elk Run Heights	Butler
La Porte	Grundy
Dumont	Benton
Raymond	Fayette
Dewar	Chickasaw
	Johnson
Total	32
Total	36





September Staff and Commissioner's Participation

9/3 Coffee and Camaraderie at the Grout (**Commissioner Butler**)
9/5 Military Honors for Army Veteran Monroe Stevens (**Director Loveless**)
9/6 Commemorating the 80th Anniversary of the end of WWII (**Director Loveless**)
9/7 Vietnam Veterans Vigil at Paramount Park (**Commissioner Butler**)
9/11 Veterans Lunch (**VA Staff**)
Veterans Resource Fair (**CVSO Sara Mendoza**)
9/16 Military Honors for Marine Corp Veteran Rodney Nordbrock (**Director Loveless**)
CF VFW Monthly Meeting (**Commissioner Butler, Director Loveless**)
Waterloo American Legion Meeting (**Commissioner Korf, Director Loveless**)
9/17 Coffee and Camaraderie at the Grout (**Commissioner Butler**)
9/18- 20 Cattle Congress Volunteer (**Director Loveless**)
Veterans Lunch (**VA Staff**)
9/20 District 9 VFW meeting in Decorah (**Commissioner Butler**)
9/23 Military Honors for Marine Corp Veteran Mark Halverson (**Director Loveless**)
9/24 Coffee and Camaraderie at the Grout (**Commissioner Butler**)
9/25 Veterans Lunch (**VA Staff**)
9/26 District 9 American Legion Dinner (**Commissioner Butler**)
9/27 District 9 American Legion Meeting (**Commissioner Butler**)

Collaboration





DRIVE-UP DRUG DISPOSAL



**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 25, 2025
10AM - 2PM**

Questions?
Contact: Pathways Behavioral Services
(319) 235-6571



**Greenwood Pharmacy
and Compounding Center**

Care you can trust

2104 Kimball Avenue, Waterloo

Conveniently pull up, stay in your vehicle while safely disposing of:



ACCEPTED: Prescription and non-prescription pills, creams, patches, sprays, liquids (such as cough syrup) in original-sealed container, and vape pens/e-cigarette devices (**batteries must be removed prior**)



NOT ACCEPTED: Intra-venous solutions, injectables, and syringes

MILITARY APPRECIATION AT UNI FOOTBALL

November 8th at 1pm

UNI PANTHERS VS MURRAY STATE RACERS

Free Ticket

Provided by UNI Athletics

Hotdog, Popcorn & Beverage

Provided by Black Hawk County VA

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS

- UNI Veterans Center Maucker Union Building 111k**
- UNI ROTC Neilsen Field House**
- Black Hawk County Veterans Affairs - Idaho Street**
- AMVETS Post 49 Cedar Falls**
- American Legion Post 138 Waterloo**
- Americans for Independent Living (AFIL) University Ave, Waterloo**
- UNI Athletics Ticket Office**





Save the Date

Thursday, Nov. 20

Friends of MercyOne Cedar Falls Medical Center

Festival of Trees

10th Annual Holiday Breakfast

to Support our Military

9–11 a.m. , Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center

Join us as we pay tribute to the VETERANS and ACTIVE DUTY members of the six branches of the United States Armed Forces – Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Space Force and Coast Guard.

Cost: \$10 Limited seating. RSVP today!

Free seats are available for veterans – please call Stephanie at 319-268-3161 or email her at stephanie.eagan@mercyhealth.com to reserve yours!





Question?

