



County of Orleans
VETERANS SERVICE AGENCY
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Program Budgeting

The Orleans County Veterans Service Agency exists to serve all of our veterans, widows and dependents in Orleans County. The budget for this department has remained steady over the years with only slight increases in our indigent burials and this varies from year to year. The benefits that our veterans have earned include service connected compensation, non-service connected pension, education, vocational rehabilitation and burial benefits. We also provide assistance to widows and children of 100% disabled veterans for education and medical benefits. This office has nearly 1000 contacts per month. I am also the executive director of the Orleans County Joint Veterans Council which is operated by an all volunteer staff that work from this building. We have six vehicles that are maintained by the VA. We transport over 1500 veterans per year to their scheduled medical appointments at any VA medical center at no cost to the county. The Joint Veterans Council also assists our veterans with emergency financial needs as necessary. The benefits paid to our veterans, in Orleans County, by the VA totals over 12 million dollars per year. This is money that is, for the most part, spent here in our County. With the number of young men and women returning from active duty, many with multiple combat tours constantly increasing, it is absolutely necessary that we continue to assist them with the benefits that they have earned. A veteran is someone who, at one point in his life, wrote a blank check made payable to "The United States of American" for an amount of "up to and including his life".

*"To Care For Him Who Shall Have
Borne The Battle, And For His
Widow And Orphan."
- Abraham Lincoln*