

Monterey County Veterans Issues Advisory Committee (VIAC)

Report to Del Rey Oaks City Council

Date of Meeting: August 25, 2022

The following is an overview of issues reported to, and considered at, the August meeting:

Veterans Transition Center (VTC)

- Currently 99 veterans are living in VTC sponsored housing. Over the last past six months the VTC has averaged 2,200 bed days per month. This reflects a current occupancy rate of 92%, with no wait list to enter most VTC programs.
- Lightfighter Village is projected to break ground on 1 November of this year.
- An Enhanced Use Lease for the old VA Clinic will hopefully be attained by the end of the year, with the goal of locating two sites in the old clinic, veteran housing and the new Center for Excellence office spaces.

California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery (CCCVC)

- Since its opening in 2016, the cemetery has served 2022 veterans and 580 dependents, for a total of 2602 internments. Please note, the cemetery is open to serve all United States Armed Services Veterans, and is not restricted to only California veterans.

Cemetery Foundation

- Letters will be going out from the Foundation regarding the Donor Wall to individuals and families that have donated money to the finance the Wall, in order to update all, and ensure accountability, as construction of the wall moves through approval and implementation.
- The next priority for the Foundation is to envision and construct a structure for services that won't be affected by the weather.

Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense Clinic (VA-DoD)

- The clinic is initiating a new check-in by phone. Assistance will be available for patients in need of help navigating the process. Veterans will receive notification two days before their scheduled appointment.
- Flu shots will be available at the clinic again this year.
- COVID-19 vaccines continue to be available at the clinic.

Military and Veterans Affairs Office (M&VAO)

- The office received a CALVET grant for \$135,000 over two years through the Mental Health Services Act.
- The Coastal Office improvement project is moving forward with a projected opening date of 10 November.
- The Veteran of the Year tickets are available for purchase. They can be purchased online at UVC-MC.com. This year's speaker will be the Acting Adjutant General of the California National Guard Major General Matthew Beevers.

Please note: The monthly Military & Veterans Affairs Office Activity Reports are attached for July and August 2022, showing satisfaction survey rates of 95% and 90% from veterans and their families during these two months.

If anyone has questions about the Monterey County VIAC meetings, or about the benefits and support available for military service veterans, please contact me through the Del Rey Oaks Administrative Office, or email me directly at rlj.dro@gmail.co.

And, above all, to every military veteran and active duty service member, thank you for the courage you have demonstrated in answering the call to service.

-Rick Johnson



County of Monterey Military & Veterans Affairs Office



MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICE

MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT

July 2022



12

Outreach Events

179

New Contacts



604

Phone Calls

356

Vet Rep Appointments

494

 Claims Actions

268

 Unique Veterans

184

 Compensation Awards

61

 College

Fee Waivers

\$406,554

New Disability Compensation Awards



\$448,776

Retroactive Payments

\$80,218

Recurring Monthly Payments



Customer Satisfaction Survey

95% Very Satisfied!

www.mvao.org

Serving those who served

(831) 647-7613



County of Monterey
Military & Veterans Affairs Office



MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICE



MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT

August 2022

8

Outreach Events

151

New Contacts



810

Phone Calls

444



Vet Rep Appointments

742 Claims Actions

357 Unique Veterans

283 Compensation Awards



71 College

Fee Waivers

\$393,690

New Disability Compensation Awards

\$408,923

Retroactive Payments

\$66,740

Recurring Monthly Payments



Customer Satisfaction Survey

90% Satisfied or Better!

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