

# Commander's Call

## WDVA Program Updates

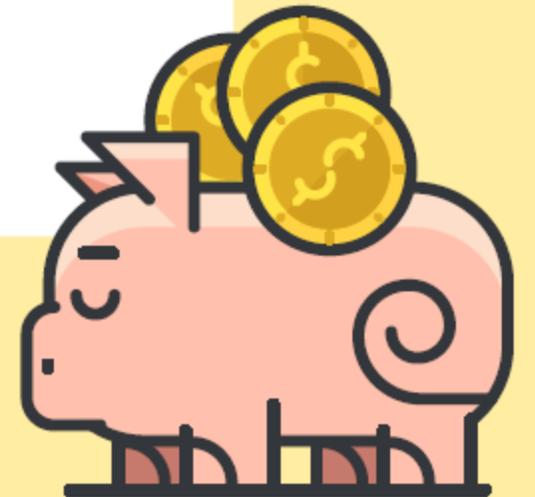
*September 19, 2019*



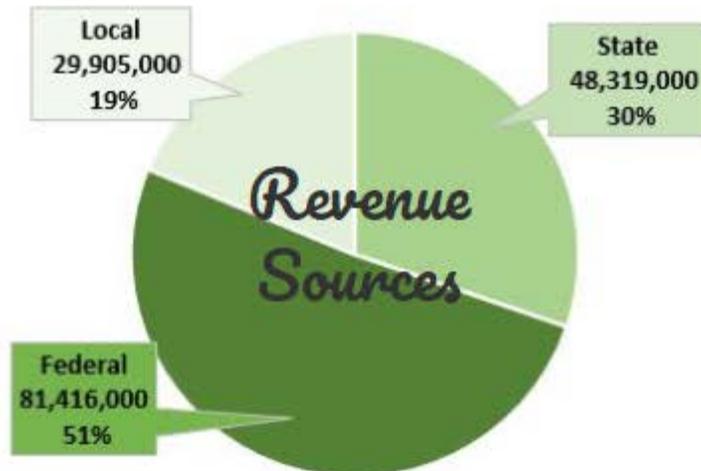
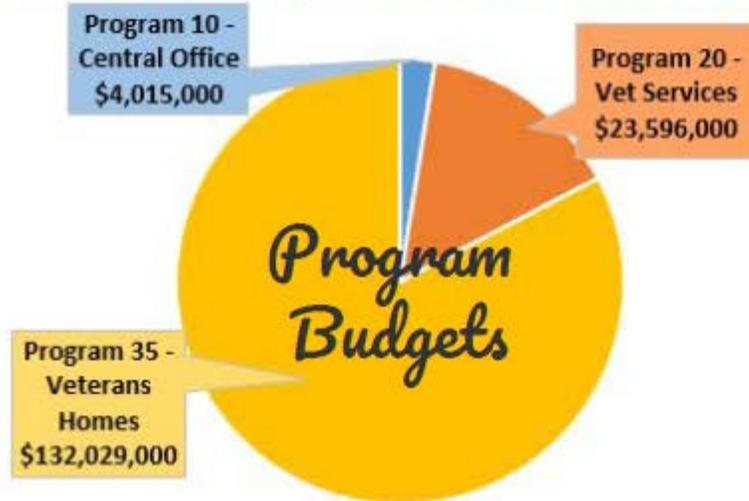
# Budget

Mike Kashmar

*Chief Financial Officer*



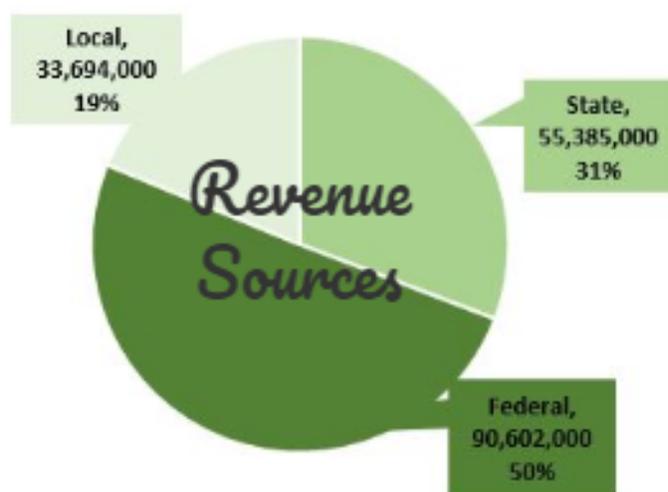
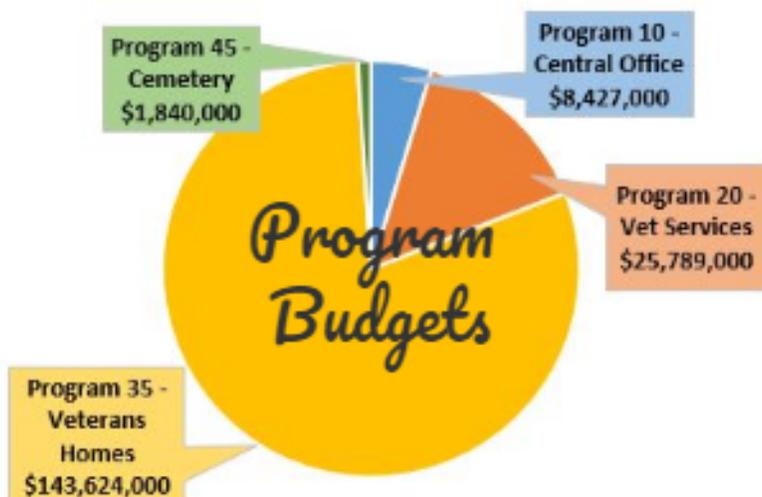
# 2017-19 Biennial Close



## Expenditures by Object

A - Salaries/Wages	89,546,000
B - Employee Benefits	42,043,000
C - Professional Service Contracts	2,111,000
E - Goods and Services	26,836,000
G - Travel	1,251,000
J - Capital Outlays (Equipment)	628,000
N - Client Services	15,693,000
P - Debt Services	366,000
S - Interagency Reimbursements	(18,834,000)
	<b>159,640,000</b>

# 2019-21 Operating Budget



## Operating Expenditures by Object

A - Salaries/Wages	\$ 105,253,000
B - Employee Benefits	\$ 41,773,000
C - Professional Service Contracts	\$ 2,070,000
E - Goods and Services	\$ 29,250,000
G - Travel	\$ 1,474,000
J - Capital Outlays (Equipment)	\$ 1,011,000
N - Client Services	\$ 16,466,000
P - Debt Services	\$ 349,000
S - Interagency Reimbursements	\$ (17,966,000)
	<b>\$ 179,680,000</b>

# 2019-21 Capital Budget

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- Minor Works - **\$3,095,000** (includes **\$570k** re-appropriation)
  - Capital Projects - **\$7,910,000** (includes **\$3.6M** re-appropriation)
    - Demo Bldg. 6 & 7/Grounds Improvement – WVH - **\$3,335,000**
    - HVAC Retrofit – WVH - **\$750,000**
    - Cemetery Road Realignment – WSH - **\$200,000**
    - Internment Vaults & Roadways – Cemetery - **\$3,000,000** (Includes **\$2.7M** in Federal funds)
    - Bldg. 10 Predesign and Design - **\$625,000**
  - **Total Capital Budget - \$11,005,000**
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# *New Vet Services Initiatives*

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Mary Forbes

*Assistant Director*



# 2019-21 *New Initiatives*

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**Due to past performance and legislative trust and confidence, the following programs were funded in Program 20:**

- Vet Corps Internships (was pilot program)
- Military Veteran Peer Network (was pilot program)
- TBI Coordinator
- Suicide Prevention and Training
- County Veteran Service Officer Program

## *Federal Grants*

- Additional 30 Grant & Per Diem transitional housing beds at Orting
  - VA Case Manager for veterans exiting transitional housing program
  - \$630M VA Farm Grant
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# Survivor Benefits

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Venus Bailey

*Olympia Service Center Manager*



# Qualifications for Survivor's Benefits

## Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC)

### Monthly benefit for eligible survivors:

- Surviving Spouse
- Children
- Parent of Veteran

### Eligibility for DIC and Filing Process

**DIC Amounts** (\$1,319.04 - \$1,925.90)  
on or after January 1, 1993

## Survivors Pension Benefit

### Tax-free benefit payable to:

- Unremarried Surviving Spouse
- Unmarried Children of Deceased Wartime Veteran

**Eligibility** - Meet the Wartime Period requirement AND Maximum Annual Pension Rate (MAPR)

**\*\*NEW** Net Worth Bright-Line Limit

**\*\*NEW** Income and Asset Form

# *Transitional Housing Update*

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Dennis Brown

*Transitional Housing Program Manager*



# Transitional Housing

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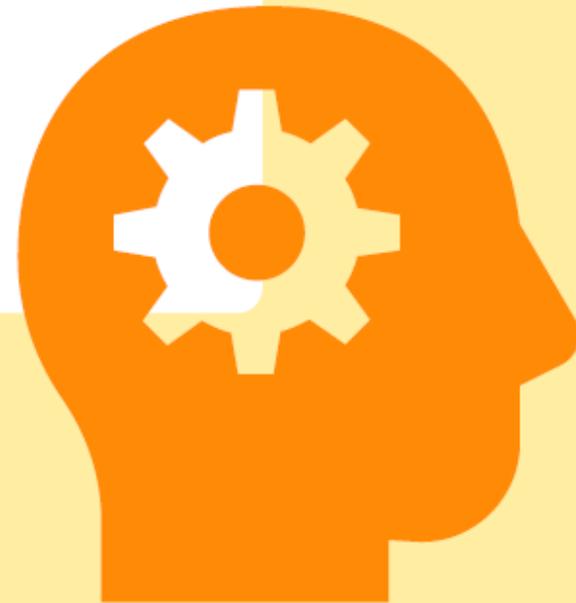
- **30** Service Intensive Grant and Per Diem Beds at Roosevelt Barracks in Orting for a total of **90** beds
  - New VA grant **\$225,000** for Case Manager position
  - Current capacity
  - Challenges
  - Successes
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# *TBI and Suicide Prevention*

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Peter Schmidt

*Counseling and Wellness Director*



# NEW TBI Coordinator for EWA

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## Responsibilities Include:

- **Outreach and education** to participants
- **Case management**
- **Customer service** assistance with TBI resources
- **Respond** to legislative inquiries
- **Prepare** for and deliver presentations to a wide variety of audiences
- **Manage** the mobile App, MAX Impact

Supervised by and collaborates with:

TBI Program Specialist - Dan Overton, M.C., LMHC, CBISS

Traumatic Brain Injury Council

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# NEW Suicide Prevention and Training

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*"The department shall develop and implement a statewide plan to reduce suicide among service members, veterans and their families."*

- **Collaborate** with government and non government agencies and organizations to establish promising best practice for suicide awareness prevention materials, training and outreach programs
- **Cultivate** peer-led organizations serving Vets in transition and recovery
- **Create and deliver** statewide suicide awareness and prevention training programs
- **Provide** Safer Homes materials and trainings and distribute safe firearms storage devices to Guard, state patrol and affiliated groups serving and employing vets, following the recommendations of the Safer Homes, suicide aware task force

Codie Garza, MPH  
Suicide Prevention  
Program Specialist 5

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# *New CVSO Contract*

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Steve Gill

*Vet Services Administrator*



# NEW CVSO Contract

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- HSB 1448 - County Veteran Service Officer Program
  - Eligible counties with populations of 100,000 or less
  - RFP closed - in process of selecting 2 counties
  - Will add 2 CVSO's in addition to current 13
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# Peer to Peer, Vet Corps, and Vets in Agriculture

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Jason Alves

*VCC/Vet Corps Program Manager*



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***Peer to Peer***

Upcoming trainings:

- 9/28/19 - American Legion in Renton
- 10/4/19 - NW Veterans Resource Center in Port Angeles
- 10/25/19 - GRuB in Olympia
- 11/15/19 - Port Townsend
- 11/18/19 - Richland

***Vet Corps***

The latest group was trained the end of August and is serving across the state. We are expanding service sites this year and have members in Pierce, Spokane, and Chelan counties and are still recruiting for Okanagan and Yakima counties

***Vets in  
Agriculture***

We are working out the final contract with the federal VA for our \$630,000.00 award to support our Vets in Agriculture program which includes hiring a full time farm manager in Orting

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# Legislative Update

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Heidi Audette

*Communications and Legislative Director*



# 2019 Legislative Session Military/Veteran Bills

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*SHB 1197*  
*C 210 L 19*  
*Eff 7/28/2019*

*Riccelli*

**Gold Star License Plates** - Requires Gold Star license plates to be issued for certain eligible applicants (widow/ers, parents) without payment of any vehicle license fees and motor vehicle excise taxes. Allows widow/ers who are eligible to receive the Gold Star license plates but choose instead to receive a standard license plate or any other qualifying special license plate to be exempt from payment of motor vehicle excise taxes.

*HB 2058*  
*C 139 L 19*  
*Eff 7/28/2019*

*Callan*

**Purple Heart License Plates** - Requires Purple Heart license plates to be issued to all eligible applicants without payment of any vehicle fees, license plate fees, and motor vehicle excise taxes for one motor vehicle

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2SHB 1448  
C 223 L 19  
Eff 7/28/2019

Maycumber

**Veterans Service Officer (VSO) Program** - Creates the VSO Program to provide funding for counties to establish Veteran Service Officers. The substitute bill allows WDVA to provide funding to eligible counties to maintain, in addition to establish, a VSO. The substitute bill allows WDVA to provide funding for no more than one FTE equivalent VSO per eligible county. Budget Proviso for 2SHB 1448: VSO Program one-time funding is provided pursuant to 2SHB 1448, which creates the VSO Program. Funding is for the establishment of pilot programs in two counties (General Fund State).

SHB 1210  
C 72 L 19  
Eff 7/28/2019

Kilduff

**School Enrollment/Military** - Provides that children of military families will comply with school district residency requirements if their parent is transferred or pending transfer to a military installation in the state while on active duty. Requires school districts to conditionally accept applications for enrollment and course registration by electronic means in such circumstances.

ESSB 5160  
C 453 L 19  
Eff 7/28/2019

Dhingra

**Seniors, Disabled Veterans/Property Tax Exemption** - Modifies the qualifying income thresholds for the property tax exemption and deferral programs for low-income senior citizens, individuals with disabilities, and veterans beginning with taxes levied for collection in 2020. Adjusts the disability rating qualification for the disabled veterans property tax exemption to 80%.

# 2020 Legislative Session Potential Legislation

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- Nurse Licensure Compact
  - Employment Opportunities for Spouses of Military Members
  - Suicide Awareness and Prevention
  - Housing & Supportive Services for Homeless and At-Risk Rural Veterans
  - Veteran Owned Business Linked Deposit Expansion
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# Thank You

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*"Serving Those Who Served"*

1-800-562-2308

[www.dva.wa.gov](http://www.dva.wa.gov)