

# DANE COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

---

210 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard - Room 108  
Madison, Wisconsin 53703  
Telephone: (608) 266-4158  
Fax: (608) 266-4156  
Web: [www.danevets.com](http://www.danevets.com)



Joseph T. Parisi  
Dane County Executive

---

Daniel A. Connery  
Veterans Service Director

## Presentation to Dane County Board of Supervisors – 2019 Budget

**The Dane County Veterans Service Office continues its important mission of advocating for and serving Dane County Veterans and families. Thank you for your ongoing support!**

### 2017 Office Highlights:

- Staff restructured from six FTE to five FTE and two 0.5 FTE. Changes allow for increased flexibility with office coverage and for coverage of outreach events.
- Hiring new Deputy Veterans Service Director – James Quattromani.
- Client contacts up 46% from 2016.
- Instrumental in helping Dane County Veterans/families realize more than \$68M in Federal Compensation and Pension dollars. Accredited veterans service officers file these claims daily.
- Over \$185M in total benefit dollars received by Dane County Veterans/families.
- Aided in eviction and utility disconnect prevention for 73 households through Emergency Assistance funds.
- Provided gas and grocery assistance for 44 individual veterans.
- Roughly 150 regular users of *Vets Ride with Pride* bus pass program. Helps disabled veterans to get to and from work, medical appointments, therapy groups, etc.

### 2018 Initiatives:

- Participating in revising Dane County Veterans Treatment Court policy and procedures manual.
- Ongoing advocacy work for our Dane County veterans and families.
- Continued community collaboration with VA Medical Center, VA Homeless Program Social Workers, HUD-VASH, housing developments, and more.

### Sustainability Efforts:

- Office completely digitized.

- Desktop scanners and electronic submission of VA claims has greatly decreased outgoing mail, saving on mail costs and targeting related resource depletion.
- Human sustainability: Staff provided with standing/raising desks, ergonomic chairs, etc.

### **Racial Equity & Social Justice:**

- Inherent to what we do, as we are local advocates for our client base which consists largely of disabled veterans, including persons of color and women.
- Increased focus on Veterans Benefits Administration needs-based benefits (natural emphasis on low income/marginalized population).
- Non-needs based benefits (service-connected disability) focused on disabled populations.
- Seeking expansion of Veterans Ride with Pride program – METRO passes for disabled/veterans of need.
- Collaboration with Tribal Veterans Service Offices (TVSOs) and Native American veterans.
- Increased focus on outreach: homeless stand-down, disability rights groups, justice-involved veterans, ongoing collaboration with VA social work, homeless program.