Veteran Directed Care Program Newsletter

November 20, 2026

Celebrating Veterans Day

This Veterans Day, we thank you for your continued support of our Veterans and the Veteran Directed Care (VDC) program.

In a recent blog post, the Administration for Community Living (ACL) highlights how the VDC program helps Veterans live with independence, dignity, and connection to their communities. VDC gives Veterans a flexible budget to develop a care plan that fits their lives, including hiring family members, friends, or neighbors to provide support at home.

The post spotlights the program's steady growth, from 11,611 Veterans served in 2025 to 16,510 as of July 2026, and shares stories from families who note the life-changing impact of VDC. It also highlights the Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act (Dole Act) which codifies VDC within the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), making it a permanent program that must be offered at every VA Medical Center (VAMC). You can read the blog post here.

In Case You Missed It: October VDC Educational Webinar

Thank you to everyone who attended the October VDC Educational Webinar held on Wednesday, October 21, from 12:00-1:00pm ET. The session included announcements from ACL and the Veterans Health Administration (VHA), an overview of new updated VDC resources, a spotlight on the Center for People with Disabilities' (CPWD) annual survey, and a question-and-answer session.

All resources and materials shared during the session are available on the VDC Technical Assistance (TA) Community, including:

- VDC Operations Guide
- VDC Billing and Medical Claims Guide
- FY 2027 VDC Budget Calculator
- CPWD: 2026 Satisfaction Survey

VA Caregiver Support Program Resources and Training

The VA Caregiver Support Program offers a range of practical resources, tools, and training opportunities designed to help caregivers support Veterans while also promoting their own well-being. Caregivers can access guidance on safe transfers, medication management, communicating with health care providers, and staying organized, as well as top sheets, checklists, videos, and other helpful tools.

The program also provides free online education and training on topics such as navigating VA benefits, caregiving basics, stress and burnout, mental health, suicide prevention, aging, trauma, chronic conditions, and family caregiving. Additional self-paced learning opportunities are available through PsychArmor Institute and the VHA TRAIN platform.

Explore the caregiver resources and tools and training and education materials.

Reminders

ACL's No Wrong Door (NWD) Website VDC Page: Visit the VDC page on the NWD website for program resources. If you do not find a resource, please email veterandirected@acl.hhs.gov.

VDC Monthly Reporting Tool: Please continue to submit your program's data at the end of each month using this form. These submissions support accurate reporting of the program's impact. If your VDC provider or VAMC is missing from the tool, email veterandirected@acl.hhs.gov with the correct details.

Veteran Success Stories: Please use the Veteran Success Story form to share inspiring VDC success stories, including positive Veteran stories from their VDC enrollment experience, promising practices from VDC providers, or other successes that you've heard from the Veterans you serve. We welcome these stories and may feature them in future newsletters.

VDC Technical Assistance (TA) Community: VDC providers can share peer-created resources, join discussions, and find information on VDC related events through the VDC TA Community. Create an account at www.ta-community.com or email veterandirected@acl.hhs.gov for assistance with obtaining access.

Technical Assistance: For questions, guidance, or news about your VDC program, contact the VDC Federal Technical Assistance Team at veterandirected@acl.hhs.gov. We look forward to hearing from you.

VDC Email Distribution List: Ensure you and your team receive important updates. If you are not yet subscribed, add your information here: VDC Email Distribution List form. Thank you for your continued partnership and dedication to supporting Veterans through the Veteran Directed Care program.