



# Veteran Directed Care Program Newsletter

Friday, May 12, 2023

## Biden-Harris Executive Order to “Improve Access to Home-Based Community Care for Veterans”

In a statement released by The White House, [it was announced](#) that President Biden will sign an executive order (EO) that directs the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to consider Veteran Directed Care (VDC) program expansion. As highlighted in the Administration for Community Living’s (ACL) most recent newsletter, *“this exciting EO creates new momentum for ACL’s work to strengthen the care infrastructure that helps people with disabilities and older adults live and fully participate in their communities.”*

### VDC Program Expansion

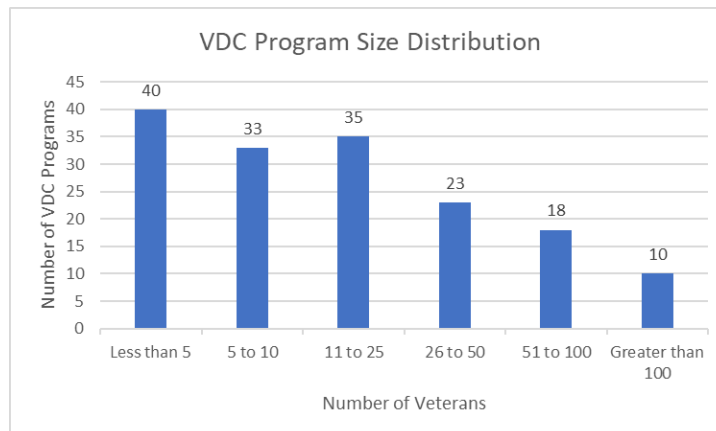
As part of VDC program startup, Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMCs) identify their criteria for both target geographic area, as well as Veteran population based on their clinical needs. The Birmingham, Alabama VAMC is focusing on enrolling Veterans who are at highest risk of institutionalization, as well as Veterans who require ventilator support to ensure that Veterans’ care needs can be met in their homes. With their VDC partner Middle Alabama Area Agency on Aging (M4A), the Birmingham VAMC began to support Veteran enrollment in VDC in early 2023. M4A has worked closely with their first successful referral from the VAMC and the Veteran’s family to create a needs-based assessment identifying his needs, goals, and preferences. The M4A counselor, in partnership with the Veteran and his family, has developed a person-centered plan of care that gives the Veteran control over who provides the care, the way their budget is spent, and what services they deem appropriate. M4A reflected recently that this program, *“is a way to empower the Veteran and give control back to the individual in need.”*

### VDC Operations Office Hour Series

Save the date for the June VDC Operations Office Hour Session on **Wednesday, June 7 at 2:00PM ET**. This will be the last VDC operations office hour in the series and will cover monitoring quality. Additional details will be included in a separate email invitation from the ACL VDC Federal Technical Assistance Team at [veterandirected@acl.hhs.gov](mailto:veterandirected@acl.hhs.gov).

### VDC Program Current Status

The ACL VDC federal technical assistance team monitors monthly Veteran census for the VDC program through the [VDC Monthly Reporting Tool](#) to track each VDC provider’s Veteran census. A snapshot of the current VDC program distribution representing VDC providers who report to the VDC Monthly Reporting Tool is highlighted in the chart below.



If you are a VDC provider and are **NOT** currently reporting your program's Veteran census, please reach out to the ACL VDC federal technical assistance team ([veterandirected@acl.hhs.gov](mailto:veterandirected@acl.hhs.gov)) and a team member can provide one-on-one support for learning how to use the tool. To those who are already using the [VDC Monthly Reporting Tool](#), we would like to thank you for submitting your program's data. We look forward each month to continued program growth!

### **Technical Assistance**

Have a question? Need guidance? Want to share good news about your VDC program? Reach out to the VDC Federal Technical Assistance Team at [veterandirected@acl.hhs.gov](mailto:veterandirected@acl.hhs.gov). We look forward to hearing from you!

### **VDC Email Distribution List**

If you or other VDC program staff are not already on the VDC email distribution list, [please enter your information using this link](#) to make sure you don't miss out on important news!