Veterans Services is committed to assisting all Ramsey County veterans and their families in obtaining the benefits they are entitled to through the Minnesota and U.S. Departments of Veterans Affairs.
Ramsey County is home to more than 23,000 veterans of four conflicts and other military service. Our team of six veterans service officers (VSOs) and assistants serve more than 13,500 of these men and women. In 2018 we took the important step of adding a Veterans Court Mentor Program staff team, in addition, we recruit and train veteran volunteers to act as mentors for Veterans Court participants. A specialized volunteer mentor program serves veterans struggling in the criminal justice system. Twenty-six veteran mentors were paired with court participants, dedicating 1,024 hours in 2018 to assist justice-involved veterans with setting a new course for their lives.

Justice System Partnership
Veterans Services promotes community stability and public safety as part of the Ramsey County Veterans Court staff team. In addition, we recruit and train veteran volunteers to act as mentors for Veterans Court participants. A specialized volunteer mentor program serves veterans struggling in the criminal justice system. Twenty-six veteran mentors were paired with court participants, dedicating 1,024 hours in 2018 to assist justice-involved veterans with setting a new course for their lives.

Advocating and Assisting Veterans
Our team provides advocacy and assistance to help veterans and their dependents and spouses navigate and understand complex eligibility and application processes for accessing benefits:
- Education.
- Housing.
- Utilities.
- Disability compensation.
- Supplemental pension.
- Job placement.
- Discharge upgrades.
- Burial allowance.
- Mental health services.
- VA medical system enrollment.
- Healthcare including dental and optical.

Outreach and Engagement
Many veterans are not aware of benefit eligibility. Our VSOs understand the unique needs of veterans and connecting them through family members, caregiver networks, community events, social and traditional media and outreach. We seek new ways to reach veterans from Ramsey County’s diverse communities.

The activity on our website – ramseycounty.us/veterans continues to climb with a 185 percent increase over 2017.

Did you know? In 2018, Veterans Services assisted Ramsey County veterans with accessing $160,177 in grants from the State Soldiers Assistance Program.

Serving Homeless Veterans
We work with our federal, state and local partners to serve at-risk and homeless veterans. In 2018 we added a Social Worker to our team to provide hands-on assistance to veterans facing eviction, as well as elderly veterans and surviving spouses in need of longer term case management. Working with our partners, we provide veterans with direct support to find housing and access resources.

President Eisenhower signed legislation reinstituting Armistice Day as Veterans Day to honor veterans of all wars. Today, Veterans Day provides the citizens of our great country with the opportunity to reflect on the price we pay for war and to recognize the service and sacrifice of all veterans.

There are approximately 18.5 million veterans living in the U.S. Of those, 9.2 million are over age 65 and served our country during World War II and the Korean and Vietnam War eras. Here in Ramsey County, that trend is the same with about half of our 23,000 veterans of retirement age.

The names of Ramsey County soldiers and sailors serving in the United States military who lost their lives in eras of World War I and II, Korea and Vietnam are engraved in Memorial Hall within the Saint Paul City Hall - Ramsey County Courthouse. This memorial honors these individual service members who paid the ultimate sacrifice to protect the freedoms that all of us hold dear.

VETERANS DAY
100 YEARS

VETERANS DAY
100 YEARS

RAMSEY COUNTY VETERANS BY ERA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Era</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peacetime</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World War II</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gulf</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>OIF</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>23,137</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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2018 Overview

HOW WE SERVE

2,475 IN-OFFICE OR AT HOME
33,853 BY PHONE OR EMAIL
73 AT COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENTS

VETERANS AFFAIRS FINANCIAL DISTRIBUTION IN RAMSEY COUNTY

$174,645,000 Total

- 52% Value VA Medical Care
- 39% Compensation and Pension
- 8% Education
- 1% Insurance

LEARN MORE
ramseycounty.us/veterans
651-266-2545