# 2023 Year in Review

In 2023, WDVA published a new Strategic Plan that aligns agency goals and objectives with the Governor's strategic framework. This plan outlines **four primary goals** to define both our successes of the last year and our intentions for 2024 and beyond.

#### **WDVA Saves & Transforms Lives**

- \$10,478 raised for Suicide Prevention Community Grants through License Plate Emblems
- 72 LEARN Suicide Prevention trainings provided to 609 participants
- 40 Suicide Prevention Peer Support Interventions
- 1200+ Veterans and Families received 10,646 counseling hours (WDVA Counseling Program)
- **52** Veterans in **8** rural counties received direct services (SSG Fox Suicide Prevention Program)
- 115 Veterans placed into permanent housing through the Transitional Housing Program
- \$500,000 Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program Grant
- \$826,650 AmeriCorps Grant supporting 41 Vet Corps Members. 311 volunteers recruited and 449 Veterans completed a mutually-agreed upon goal through peer support
- 2,540 pounds of fresh, organic produce grown and donated from 16 leased Orting Veterans Farm plots
- **54** Veterans Training Support Center events with 1164 attendees
- 350 participants in the annual Serving Those Who Served Conference

### WDVA Respects, Empowers, & Inspires Everyone

- 6% reduction in WDVA Nursing Assistant Certified (NAC) vacancy rate for permanent positions
- **Six** graduates from the **WDVA NAC Academy**, a 100% first-time pass rate for skills exams
- 28 staff completed NAC training through local college/training partnerships
- **150** WDVA NAC's received Recruitment & Retention incentives
- **Military Spouse Liaison Program** published research on Childcare for Military Families in WA, quantifying families' needs in the state.

## WDVA Will be a Leading State in Veteran Service Delivery & Outcomes

- **398** State Veterans Home Census, up from 385 in 2022.
- **WWVH** received a deficiency-free health survey
- WSH & SVH both received 4-star quality ratings
- 6 nonprofit VSOs

• 23 county VSOs

These partners work with WDVA Field Services to submit VA claims to ensure quality claims are filed.

• 7 Indian tribes

- 12,378 VA Disability, Pension, and Survivor Claims filed
- \$153.7 million in new VA funds received by Veterans and their families in 2023, total of \$3.4 billion statewide (FY22)
- **56** Veterans assisted through LGBTQ+ Program with access to benefits and services
- **2,338** Veteran-owned businesses certified through 2023
- **\$200,000** in funds received from DOH for Tobacco Cessation for Veterans
- **828** interments at the State Veterans Cemetery.
- \$604,000 provided for State Veterans Cemetery Operations, programs for Veterans without homes and other vital services, through the Armed Forces License Plate sales.
- 1213 Veterans assisted with Digital Navigator Program

### WDVA Operates Effectively & Efficiently

- **\$13.1 million** in CARES Capital Construction, funding **20** projects.
- **Two** VA grant per diem construction projects totaling **\$6 million**. An additional **\$31.1 million** in ARPA grants applied for.
- 24 team members certified as PROSCI change practitioners and 38 WDVA Lean Six Sigma Yellow Belt certifications.
- Established a 15-member Operational Leadership Team.