



THE POWER OF VETERAN DIRECTED CARE (VDC) FOR VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTERS (VAMCS)

THE TIME FOR CHANGE IS NOW

Long-Term services and supports (LTSS) are one of the fastest drivers of health care spending and accounts for **11.5%** of all VA Spending in FY2017.

Over **115K** Veterans are projected to receive VA paid or provided nursing home care in FY2030, an increase of **36%** over FY2016.

VA LTSS costs are projected to grow to over **\$15B** in FY2030.

By providing innovative services that address the whole health of Veterans, increasing access to home and community based services (HCBS), providing quality HCBS and partnering with community providers, VAMCs can keep Veterans at home and avoid costly nursing home care costs with the VDC Program.

Data provided by the Veterans Health Administration's Office of Geriatrics & Extended Care

"VDC has helped our VAMC with delaying nursing home placement, increasing Veteran satisfaction, providing Veteran centric care and reintegrating Veterans into the community."

– St. Louis VAMC VDC Coordinator

VDC IS A POWERFUL TRANSFORMATION TOOL FOR VAMCS

VAMCs with VDC Programs have had a positive impact improving Veteran experience with health care, reducing nursing home use and effectively delivering LTSS.

VDC expansion and growth also helps VA achieve goals established in the VA Choose Home Initiative and VA MISSION Act legislation. By investing in VDC, VA is increasing their ability to provide the right care at the right time from the right provider.

VAMCS WITH VDC CAN SERVE MORE COMPLEX, YOUNGER AND RURAL VETERANS AND IMPROVE HEALTH OUTCOMES AND SATISFACTION WITH CARE. VETERANS IN VDC ARE:



MORE SERVICE CONNECTED

35% of VDC Veterans are Priority Group 1 Veterans that VA is required to pay or provide NH care for.



LIKELY TO LIVE IN RURAL AREAS

50% of VDC Veterans live in rural or highly rural areas.



YOUNGER

50% of Veterans are under 75 years old.

CHOICE

An analysis of Veteran satisfaction found that **100%** of Veterans are able to choose who provides their care, **99%** feel that their caregiver does things the way they want and **91%** feel that they control how their VDC budget is spent.

COST

14 Veterans in Chillicothe were able to transition out of VA nursing homes back to their home with VDC. The West Haven VAMC found that VDC saved over **\$600K** per year by enrolling Veterans in VDC and discharging them from a nursing home setting.

ACCESS

The San Diego VAMC found that Veterans receive **415%** more hours in VDC compared to traditional VA Programs.

HEALTH OUTCOMES

A study by VA found that Veterans enrolled in VDC experience a **37%** decrease in nursing home use one year after enrollment, compared to **55%** increase in nursing home use for Veterans enrolled in the Homemaker and Home Health Aid Care Program one year after enrollment.

Statistics reported can be found at nwd.acl.gov/vdc under "VDC Resources"

PERSON-CENTERED COUNSELORS

at the VDC Provider give Veterans the opportunity to have a trusted partner assist them in receiving Veteran-centric care. It also gives VAMCs the resource to enhance community partnerships and promote independent living.

PROVEN BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- ✓ Increased access to HCBS.
- ✓ Link to public LTSS resources.
- ✓ Community relationships for isolated Veterans that desire connection with others.
- ✓ Increased engagement with Veterans, allowing them to establish strategies that address their needs and set goals for independent living.

GOAL

Meet the needs of the evolving Veteran population, while providing greater choice and control, to improve Veterans' experience with aging, satisfaction with VA, and allow Veterans to choose home over nursing home.



"The VDC Program has provided an opportunity for all Veterans to have home care; especially where there are no agencies available to care for them. It has also provided an alternative to nursing home care and decreased wait lists for VA nursing homes."

– Salt Lake City VAMC VDC Coordinator