

Veterans-Directed Home and Community-Based Services Program  
San Diego Veterans Independence Services At Any Age

# SD-VISA

## WHAT

San Diego Veterans Independence Services at any Age (SD-VISA) gives Veterans greater choice in the services they can receive in their home to live safely and independently while reducing nursing home costs.

## WHO

The program serves Veterans of any age who are enrolled in the Veterans Administration San Diego Healthcare System (VASDHS) and are at risk of nursing home placement. Veterans in SD-VISA suffer from multiple chronic diseases. SD-VISA is administered by Aging & Independence Services, the local Area Agency on Aging (AAA), in partnership with the VA Medical Center. Referrals to SD-VISA are made directly by the VA Medical Center.

## WHY

The SD-VISA program helps Veterans in need of long-term supports avoid institutionalization and continue to live in their communities by arranging consumer/self-directed services.

### Veterans' choices include:

- ◆ Receive an assessment, options counseling, and care planning assistance
- ◆ Decide what mix of goods and services will best meet their care needs
- ◆ Receive assistance managing a flexible, individual budget
- ◆ Hire and supervise their own workers, including family or friends
- ◆ Purchase items/services needed to live independently in the community

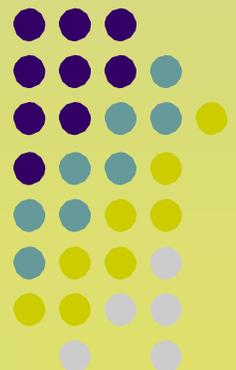


\*VASDHS costs includes Homemaker/Home Health Aide Program (HHA) and respite services received by SD-VISA Veterans prior to enrollment.

SD-VISA has successfully:

- Decreased hospital admissions of SD-VISA Veterans by 51%
- Assisted 20% of SD-VISA Veterans to avoid skilled nursing home placement
- After two years of operation SD-VISA will conservatively save the **VASDHS \$1.6 Million.**

\*Calculations based on program cost and actual utilization data.



## Demographics

### *On average, participants*

- Have 6 ADL Dependencies
- Have an average budget of \$3,111 per month
- 50% referred meet criteria for “High Needs”
- 50% referred have Dementia

### *Who are we serving?*

- 42% served in the Korean War
- 29% served in WWII
- 25% served in Vietnam
- 4% served in the Post Korean War



*“Because of the SD-VISA Program, I know that the VA is 100% behind me.”*

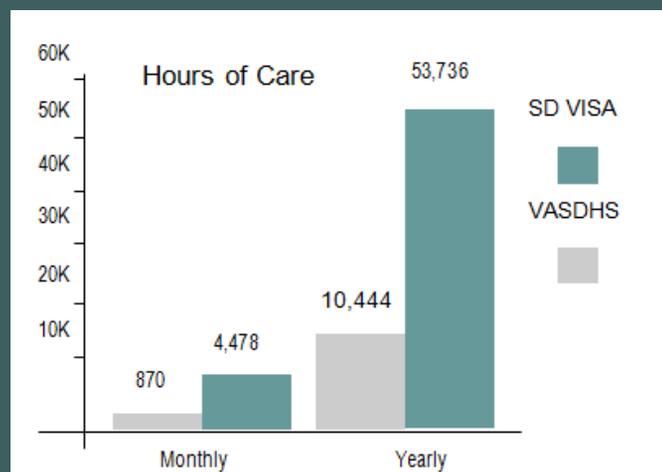
*~Veteran, Michael Adams*



### *Survey Outcomes*

- 90% were satisfied with all aspects of the SD-VISA program
- 100% indicated that this program has allowed them to remain safely in their home
- 100% were satisfied with the quality of their care
- 100% reported improvement in quality of life

**Veterans participating in the SD-VISA Program receive a significant increase in home care at a lower cost.**



**415% Increased Hours of Care**

*\*Calculations based on service hours provided by the VASDHS 6 months prior to SD-VISA enrollment.*