



Veteran Directed Care Program Newsletter

Friday, October 13, 2023

Veteran Directed Care Expansion Update

The Veteran Health Administration (VHA) recently approved an accelerated expansion of the Veteran Directed Care (VDC) program so that all Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMC) will offer the VDC program by the fall of 2024. To support VDC expansion, VAMCs will engage in an education and training program alongside partnering Aging and Disability Network Agencies (ADNA) who will participate in a VA Readiness Review process to become operational providers. The expansion efforts are an exciting opportunity to provide more Veterans with the option to self-direct their long-term services and supports while continuing to live at home and engage in their community!

VDC Temporarily Traveling Veteran Guidance

Due to the uniqueness of the VDC program, it is possible, in certain situations and under certain conditions, for the current VDC program to continue providing VDC program coverage for the Temporarily Traveling Veteran. The conditions include:

- The time-period of the temporary relocation cannot exceed 180 days.
- The VDC program coordinator and the VDC provider agree that the VDC coverage is feasible and that the Veteran or Veteran's authorized representative will be able to manage employer responsibilities while at the temporary residence.
- The Veteran's employee(s) travel with the Veteran and will continue to be VDC employee(s) and provide personal care assistance to the Veteran at the temporary location.
- Monthly video or, at a minimum, telephonic communication must be established and maintained between the Veteran and the VDC provider to ensure required monthly communications and ongoing care management occur.
- VDC provider must continue to conduct face-to-face or virtual visits at least quarterly to monitor Veteran's well-being.
- VA VDC program coordinator will be able to establish communication with Veteran as required to complete the Personal Care Services Review at 180 days and reauthorization.
- Care MUST be provided within a designated US State or District of Columbia (Washington, D.C.), a US Commonwealth, or US Territory.

VDC Monthly Reporting Tool Reminder

This is a friendly reminder to please report Veteran census for your VDC program on a monthly basis using the [VDC Monthly Reporting Tool](#). The VDC Monthly Reporting Tool is a portal for VDC providers to enter their Veteran census data, ensuring an opportunity to accurately account for availability and growth of the program. We ask that all VDC providers please continue to report your program's data to the VDC Monthly Reporting Tool to help us accurately capture the VDC program's reach.

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. 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!