



## THE ROLE OF AGING AND DISABILITY NETWORK AGENCIES (ADNAs) IN VETERAN DIRECTED CARE (VDC)

### WHY SHOULD ADNAs CONSIDER VDC?

- ✓ VDC meets the ADNA mission to put people first.
- ✓ VDC enables ADNAs to have greater community reach.
- ✓ ADNAs offer demonstrated experience in a coordinated person centered access system which can lead to negotiating contracts with other buyers.
- ✓ Engaging in VDC can diversify ADNA funding streams, increase organizational capacity, advance the professionalism of the workforce, and promote community options, providing the highest service to our Veterans.
- ✓ ADNAs offer an innovative and flexible service to VA Medical Centers not otherwise available to Veterans.
- ✓ VDC helps achieve the mission outlined in several federal policies, such as the Older Americans Act and the Rehabilitation Act: to improve the lives of older adults and individuals with disabilities by defending their rights to live independently, make choices, and enjoy full integration and inclusion in all parts of American life. The Aging and Disability Network facilitates service provision and ties together the missions of these laws and programs.

*“As partners, we are reaching more Veterans in the community with services not only in the VDC Program but other programs.... The program has also allowed the AAA to venture outside of just Medicaid and Older Americans Act funding sources and have a sustainable business line with the VAMC.”*

– Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc.  
Southern Ohio's designated Aging and Disability Resource Network

### WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT VETERANS IN NEED OF LONG TERM SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

**SIGNIFICANT GROWTH EXPECTED**  
From FY2011-2016, the percentage of VA users receiving at least one form of VA long-term services and supports (LTSS) grew by 27.5% to nearly 400,000 Veterans in FY2016. Veterans that VA is required to pay or provide nursing home care for that are likely to need LTSS are projected to double by 2030.

**AGE AS A DRIVER IS PREDICTABLE**  
Older Veterans rely on VA to provide LTSS. Only 7.9% of Veterans using VA are over 85 but make up 28% of Veterans receiving LTSS from VA. And, Veterans over 65 are 50% of VA users but make up over 75% Veterans receiving VA LTSS.

**SHIFTING DYNAMICS ARE EVIDENT**  
The number of Veterans receiving HCBS grew by 70,531 Veterans in the past five years, a 41% growth!

**RURAL SUPPORT IS CRITICAL**  
Veterans in rural areas, on average, received fewer home and community based services (HCBS) visits and more nursing home days of care than Veterans in urban areas in FY2016.

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

### MORE HELP IS NEEDED TO SUPPORT VETERAN CHOICE AND CONTROL!

See the [ACL website](#) for a list of operational sites and coverage need areas.

*“We saw it as an opportunity to work with the Veteran population in a unique way. We hope to develop strong relationships with the VAMCs that we partner with which will allow us to be involved with other programs that support Veterans – through HCBS styled programs, health and wellness programs, and also programs that deal with younger Veterans with issues such as workforce training, etc.”*

– Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District Inc.

### HOW ADNAs HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTNER WITH THE VA TO EXPAND THEIR REACH TO VETERANS IN THE COMMUNITY.

#### SUPPORT VETERANS IN COMMUNITY LIVING

- VDC provides an opportunity for ADNAs to partner with a new payer in VA to expand their reach and serve individuals in their community.
- ADNAs are a partner to VA and can leverage their expertise and fulfill their mission to help Veterans maximize their independence at home.
- The ADNA is the primary resource in assisting Veterans with managing the responsibilities in VDC and provides financial and programmatic oversight to the VDC Program, including staff supervision, quality monitoring, and documentation.

#### PROVIDE PERSON-CENTERED COUNSELING

- Serve as a local resource alert to Veterans' needs and help them navigate not just VDC, but other LTSS resources that they may be eligible to receive.
- Support completion of a comprehensive, person-centered assessment to develop a service plan based on individual needs, goals, and preferences.

#### RECEIVE REIMBURSEMENT FOR PROVISION OF SERVICES

- The ADNA receives Veteran referrals for VDC from one or more VAMCs and is responsible for invoicing VAMCs for VDC on a monthly basis per Veteran.
- VAMCs reimburse the ADNA for spending that the Veteran incurred based on a pre-approved spending plan as well as a flat-monthly program administrative fee. The monthly program administrative fee covers program administration costs, person-centered counseling, and financial management services.

**A VDC Readiness Review** verifies that the ADNA has tools, processes, and procedures to operate a self-directed care model and meet the requirements to become a VDC provider. ADNA's interested in delivering VDC can choose to become a provider or a subcontractor to another ADNA provider.

### GET STARTED NOW!

#### LEARN MORE!

Contact [VeteranDirected@acl.hhs.gov](mailto:VeteranDirected@acl.hhs.gov)  
[No Wrong Door \(NWD\) Systems Key VDC Resources](#)  
[Veterans Affairs VDC Website](#)

#### ENGAGE!

Make a leadership decision to get started today!  
Build partnerships with your VAMC and other ADNAs!  
[Seek a VDC Readiness Review](#)