



Veteran Directed Care Program Newsletter

Friday, June 14, 2024

Veteran Directed Care in the News

The Veteran Directed Care (VDC) program was featured in two news articles in May regarding expansion. Congratulations to Western New York Independent Living, Inc. for a key feature!

1. [VA, Independent Living Teaming Up for Veteran-Directed Care in 8 WNY Counties](#)
2. [Vets Bill Would Expand Caregiver Support, Boost In-Home Care Options](#)

Veteran Success Stories

The VDC Federal Technical Assistance team was pleased to receive a note from Delta Center for Independent Living, who partners with the St. Louis Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC), regarding a Veteran success in their program:

- A young 30-year-old Veteran has been enrolled in the Delta Center for Independent Living VDC program since 2021. His primary diagnosis is Wilson's disease, which manifests like late stage Parkinsons. His mother is his Authorized Representative for the VDC program, and his father is one of the primary caregivers. The Veteran has lived with his parents since his diagnosis. Last year, the Veteran and his family voiced a goal to have this young Veteran live on his own. The Veteran requires assistance with all Activities of Daily Living (ADL) and uses a stander, grab bars, a power chair and eats via a gravity feeding tube. With the advocacy and planning of his VDC provider, his family, VA nutritionist and the VDC Coordinator, the Veteran is now safely living independently in his own home.

Please use [this form](#) to share any VDC success stories, including positive Veteran stories from their VDC enrollment experience, promising practices related to providing VDC as a VDC provider, or stories of success that you've heard from the Veterans you serve. We look forward to reviewing them and featuring them in our newsletters each month!

Super Hub Expansion Spotlight

To expedite and ease the expansion of the VDC program, the Administration for Community Living (ACL) identified five existing VDC providers that support Veterans in multiple states. These providers – labeled as “super hubs” – include Bay Aging, Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District (SMPDD), Center for People with Disabilities (CWPD), Pennyryle Area Agency on Aging, and the Independence Center. They are supporting VDC program expansion by partnering with local agencies who will provide direct in-person support to Veterans in the program.

The VDC providers were labeled “super hubs” because of their demonstrated success with the VDC program while partnering with multiple VAMCs and/or working to serve Veterans in multiples states and territories. VDC Super Hubs are rapidly developing the VDC program in new VAMC service areas by leveraging their experience in providing VDC along with their existing operating infrastructure (policies, procedures, training resources, referral processes, billing, etc.) to bring on local agencies to provide the assessment and person-centered counseling. For additional information on Super Hubs and their role in VDC expansion, refer to the [VDC Super Hub Fact Sheet](#).

VDC Monthly Reporting Tool Guidance

Thank you to those who have been reporting to our revised [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 at the end of each month 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!