

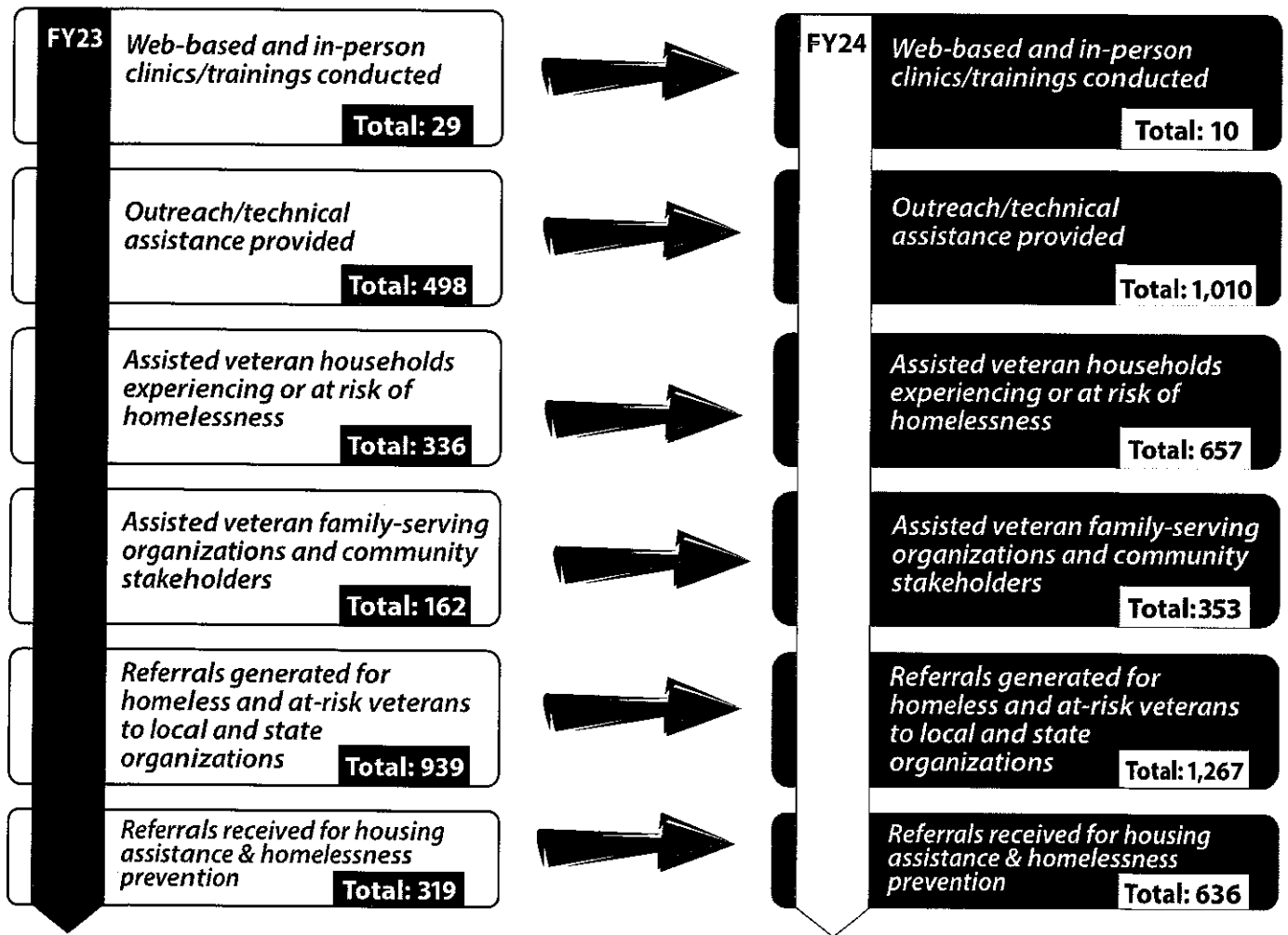
**HOMELESS VETERAN PROGRAM**



Texas Veterans Commission

# PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

The Homeless Veterans Program is housed within the Veterans Mental Health Department (VMHD) of the Texas Veterans Commission (TVC). The Program identifies services aimed at reducing and preventing veteran homelessness. VMHD ensures thorough resource connection for veterans across the State, focused collaboration with internal and external stakeholders, and conducting various trainings to the community on the unique risk factors of veterans.



**FY23 Total: 2,283 + FY24 Total: 3,933**  
**GRAND TOTAL = 6,216**



*For more information or to schedule a training:*  
[www.veteransmentalhealth.texas.gov](http://www.veteransmentalhealth.texas.gov)  
 VMHD@tvc.texas.gov

# VETERANS MENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

TEXAS VETERANS COMMISSION



## WHO ARE WE?

The Veterans Mental Health Department (VMHD) of Texas Veterans Commission ensures access to competent mental health services for service members, veterans, and their families. VMHD accomplishes this by resource connection, training, certification, and technical assistance across Texas. Beyond connecting veterans in need directly to local services, VMHD also collaborates with partners at the national, state, and local level to address veteran-specific issues including suicide prevention/intervention, veteran homelessness, peer support services, military-related trauma, women and rural veterans, and justice involved veterans. Across all programming, VMHD is fortunate to have the broadest definition of veteran regardless of discharge status, branch of service, or longevity of military service. All program services including training, technical assistance, and direct services are offered at no cost, to all who are in need.



**CONTACT US**



# VETERANS MENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

## TEXAS VETERANS COMMISSION

### WHAT WE DO...

#### **Veteran Suicide Prevention Program**

This program focuses on reducing veteran suicide through training and technical assistance specific to veteran mental health needs, with focus on screening/assessment, gatekeeping, lethal means safety, intervention/crisis management, postvention, and promoting evidence-based practices. VMHD also partners with national, statewide, and local stakeholders on initiatives and efforts to reduce veteran suicide including the Mayor's Challenges, local coalition building, and contributing to reports and recommendations for the State Legislature.

#### **Military Veteran Peer Network**

The MVPN is comprised of TVC-Certified Peer Service Coordinators and peer volunteers strategically placed within local mental health authorities across Texas, creating a peer-to-peer network for any service member, veteran, or family member. The MVPN provides direct peer-to-peer support, training on suicide prevention and military cultural competency, coordination of mental health first aid, and warm-handoffs to local trusted resources based on the individual needs of veterans and their families.

#### **Justice Involved Veterans Program**

The JIV Program improves veteran services across the entire criminal justice continuum by providing technical assistance and training to all Veteran Treatment Courts across Texas; partnering with the local and state law enforcement to deliver training to peace officers on trauma-affected veterans and crisis intervention strategies; and by working with local jails and the state prison system to better ensure that incarcerated veterans have access to veteran-specific services, programming, and reentry efforts.

#### **Homeless Veteran Program**

Given the overlap between mental health needs and advanced risk for homelessness, VMHD is tasked with leading TVC's Homeless Veteran Program which aims to reduce veteran homelessness in both urban and rural settings across Texas. Homeless Veteran Coordinators work to help veteran families experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness to find and access local, state, and federal resources.

#### **Provider Training Program**

VMHD offers mental health professionals and veteran stakeholders with no-cost training, technical assistance, and continuing education to promote military cultural competency across Texas. The Provider Training Program tailors all services to the unique needs of the audience as it relates to military informed care, military traumas (including PTSD, Moral Injury, MST, TBI), veteran suicide prevention, and evidence-based practices. Additionally, this program oversees a team of licensed Rural Veteran Counselors focused on providing evidence-based treatments to trauma-affected veterans and their families living in rural areas across Texas.

#### **Community & Faith-Based Partnerships**

VMHD focuses on involving stakeholders and faiths of all denominations to develop and implement practical strategies to support the wellbeing of veterans and their families at the local level. In addition to offering community stakeholders training and technical assistance, VMHD works with partners to utilize the Faith & Allegiance Initiative, the "Texans Ask" Campaign, and the Buddy Check Day Initiative.

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