

Lane County - Service Option Sheet - FY 23-24 Proposed

SOS: **Veterans Services**
Dept: Health and Human Services/Human Services Div.
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Service Category: Public Health & Welfare

Mandate	None	Related	SHALL
Leverage	None	Some	HIGH

Executive Summary

The County Veteran Services Office (CVSO) assists veterans and their qualifying family members obtain benefits from the Dept. of Veteran Affairs (VA) based on the veteran's military service. The main benefits we obtain for our clients are eligibility for VA health care, service connected compensation (akin to Worker's Comp for the military) and a needs-based pension which often can significantly help veterans and surviving spouses afford long-term care.

Service Descriptions

	Revenue	Expense Total	General Fund	FTE
Proposed Budget Total	\$422,969	\$957,964	\$534,995	6.75
Current Service Level	\$422,969	\$957,964	\$534,995	6.75

Provides counseling, advice and assistance to veterans and their survivors or dependent parents in obtaining the benefits provided for them by state and federal laws. In FY 21-22, the program assisted its clients submit 874 claims for VA benefits and 307 "decision review" requests (similar to an appeal). In that same FY, program clients received 700 VA benefit decisions which resulted in \$4.775 million in one-time retroactive benefits and \$1.264 million in monthly, on-going benefits. FY 23-24 allocation maintains current service level and the County general fund support required to satisfy the maintenance of effort requirement to receive State of Oregon pass-through funding for CVSO's.

State/Federal Mandate

Oregon Constitution, Art. XI-A, Sec. 1 and ORS 406.448 - 406.464 and 408.410. These provisions allow for the appointment of a County Veteran Service Officer and detail the requirements if such an appointment is made. Furthermore, they establish the qualifications for pass-through funding and associated "prohibitions on supplanting" county funds with the state pass-through funds. (ORS 406.460).

Leverage Details

The General Fund portion of this program leverages the following:

_____ \$0	back to the Discretionary General Fund
_____ \$364,701	into other non Discretionary County Funds
_____ \$9,772,070	directly to community members