

Office of Veterans Services
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BG (R) William (Bill) Turner, Director

Laura Kelly, Governor

September 17, 2024

Adam Proffitt, Director
Division of the Budget
900 SW Jackson, Suite 504-N
Landon State Office Building
Topeka, KS 66612

Dear Mr. Proffitt,

As Director of the Kansas Office of Veterans Services, I hereby submit for your consideration the revised FY 2025 and FY 2026 budget request for the agency. It has been prepared in accordance with the instructions transmitted with your letter dated July 9, 2024. To the best of my knowledge and belief, the information and explanation included in this budget request are correct and complete.

As always, my staff and I are prepared to provide any additional information which you or your budget analyst may require.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "WA Turner".

BG(R) William Turner
Director, Kansas Office of Veterans Services

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Agency-Wide Information

GENERAL AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY MISSION:

To provide Kansas Veterans and eligible family members with information, advice, direction, and assistance through the coordination of programs and services in the fields of education, health, vocational guidance and placement, and economic security. These programs include Veterans’ Services, Long-term and Domiciliary care, and Veterans’ Cemeteries.

AGENCY PHILOSOPHY:

The philosophy of the Kansas Office of Veterans Services is to treat all Veterans, eligible family members, and other stakeholders with dignity and respect. We strive to be good public stewards of our resources and conduct all our affairs with the highest standards of ethics, accountability, and transparency. The agency will continually seek ways to improve our internal operations and our service to Veterans.

PROGRAMS ESTABLISHED TO ASSIST WITH AGENCY MISSION:

- Agency Administration
- Veterans Services
- The State Approving Agency
- State Veterans’ Cemetery Program
- The Kansas Soldiers’ Home
- The Kansas Veterans’ Home

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Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Agency-Wide Information

AGENCY PROGRAM GOALS:

GOAL #1:

Provide information and advocacy to Kansas Veterans and eligible family members, providing assistance in obtaining all federal and state benefits they have earned.

OBJECTIVE:

To maximize state and federal Veterans' benefits and program usage by Veterans, family members, and other stakeholders to improve their quality of life.

STRATEGIES

- Strategically position field offices throughout the state to reach out to Veterans and family members
- Utilize mobile offices to provide services to Veterans in their home communities by partnering with service organizations, state and federal agencies, and other stakeholders
- Partner with Veteran Service Organizations to coordinate activities in communities to benefit Veterans and family members
- Utilize the federal State Approving Agency to review education programs and Veteran's participation in education
- Continue education and assistance for the public, governmental agencies, and elected officials regarding Veterans' services, programs, initiatives, and policy

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Agency-Wide Information

PERFORMANCE MEASURES FOR OBJECTIVE:

<u>Outcome Measure:</u>	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Monetary Value of Claims Awarded	\$ 295,481,796	\$ 274,287,022	\$ 380,627,973	\$ 390,000,000	\$ 400,000,000
New Claims Submitted	10,522	14,780	15,937	15,000	15,250
Veterans in Database	110,654	114,885	119,718	123,000	125,000

<u>Output Measure:</u>	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Number of outreach briefings/events	375	677	614	550	575

**Outreach briefings and events were greatly reduced because of the pandemic.*

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Agency-Wide Information

GOAL #2:

The Kansas State Veterans' Cemetery Program provides Veterans and their eligible family members with interment opportunities for burial with dignity and honor in a Kansas Veterans' cemetery.

OBJECTIVES:

To promote the Kansas State Veterans' Cemetery Program and make every Veteran and eligible family members aware of their burial benefits and to ensure Veterans and eligible dependents are informed of and understand how to pre-register for burial.

STRATEGIES

- Outline the Veteran population and assessment for outreach in each county
- Develop outreach programs such as formal presentations to various civic, professional, and service organizations
- Visit every funeral home within a 75-mile radius and discuss burial opportunities for Veterans and eligible family members

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Agency-Wide Information

PERFORMANCE MEASURES FOR OBJECTIVES:

<u>Output Measure:</u>	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Number of burials per-year	459	459	464	450	460
Number of pre-certifications received per year	516	516	573	525	525

<u>Output Measure:</u>	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Number of funeral homes visited/contacted per year to update/promote the cemeteries	25	25	20	24	24
Number of events (speaking/handout information) attended locally and statewide	10	12	13	12	12

**Contacts and events were greatly reduced because of the pandemic.*

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Agency-Wide Information

GOAL #3:

Provide quality long-term healthcare services to eligible Kansas Veterans through services provided by the Kansas Veterans' Home and Kansas Soldiers' Home.

OBJECTIVE:

Maintain and support resident census with adequate staffing of qualified employees in all programs and ensure the safety and comfort of residents, visitors, and staff at state Veterans' homes.

STRATEGIES

- Recruit, orient and retain an adequate staff of qualified employees
- Provide required regulatory training for all employees
- Complete care plans in accordance with regulations for long-term care and special care residents, and negotiate treatment plans annually for domiciliary residents, with updates quarterly and as needed for significant change
- Provide appropriate medications, treatment, and therapies for all persons admitted to the facilities
- Provide a variety of appropriate activities for each level of care and with consideration to the individual preferences of each resident
- Provide and serve meals and snacks for all diets prescribed by a physician and under review of the KVH/KSH Dietitian
- Regularly have managers meet with administration to maintain communication about issues as they arise
- Maintain a clean and orderly environment with adherence to federal and state regulations for safety and infection control
- Annually conduct the Employee Recognition Ceremony to highlight the efforts of staff and the milestones they achieve in their careers

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Agency-Wide Information

PERFORMANCE MEASURES FOR OBJECTIVES:

<u>KVH - Outcome Measures:</u>	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Average Daily Census	89	102	105	105	111
Hours Per Resident Day for LTC *	4.46	4.35	4.48	4.35	4.35
In compliance with State, CMS, USDVA	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
<u>KSH - Outcome Measures:</u>					
Average Daily Census	78	89	90	93	96
Hours Per Resident Day for LTC *	4.52	4.25	4.30	4.35	4.35
In compliance with State, CMS, USDVA	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

**Hours Per Resident Day = Total Direct Care Hours/7 (days per week)/LTC Census*

<u>KVH - Output Measures:</u>	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
New employees completing General Orientation in the first 60 days of employment	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Practicum students conducting CNA Clinicals	12	24	20	20	20
<u>KSH - Output Measures:</u>					
New employees completing General Orientation in the first 60 days of employment	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Practicum classes conducting CNA Clinicals	5	8	0	4	6

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Agency-Wide Information

GOAL #4:

Kansas Veterans' Home and Kansas Soldiers' Home will maintain fiscal integrity and good relations with other state agencies, vendors, and contractors.

OBJECTIVE:

To ensure adequate funds are available for critical payments and to recover funds lost to delinquent resident accounts. Maintain good relations with state agencies including the Office of Financial Management, Division of the Budget, Office of Procurement and Contracts, and vendors to obtain the best goods and services at the best possible price.

STRATEGIES

- Follow guidelines for prompt payment of vendors and contractors
- Turn in notice of arrears to state agencies responsible for withholding
- Monitor facilities' account and fund balances daily
- Compare prices and purchasing options on all goods used at the facilities
- Maintain symbiotic relationship including the operational agreement with the Winfield Correctional Facility and KVH
- Monitor purchasing trends within the facilities
- Follow guidelines for prompt billing of Medicare, Medicaid, and VA reimbursement services
- Maximize Medicaid, Medicare, and VA reimbursement revenue
- Maximize possible service-connected Veteran revenue

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Agency-Wide Information

PERFORMANCE MEASURES FOR OBJECTIVES:

<u>KVH - Outcome Measures:</u>	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
VA & CMS deficiencies in business practices	0	0	0	0	0
Resident accounts in arrears in excess of 60 days	6	5	7	3	2
Average daily census of Medicaid residents	22	22	23	24	24
Average daily census of Medicare residents	3	2.5	2	2	2
Average daily census of service-connected residents	13	16	31	30	30
Supplies/Equipment purchased from State contract	95%	95%	95%	95%	95%
<u>KSH – Outcome Measures</u>					
VA & CMS Deficiencies in business practices	0	0	1	0	0
Resident accounts in arrears in excess of 60	6	5	3	3	3
Average daily census of Medicaid residents	17	10	19	16	16
Average daily census of Medicare residents	1	2	0	2	2
Average daily census of service-connected residents	11	10	16	16	16
Supplies/Equipment purchased from State contract	100%	95%	95%	95%	95%

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Agency-Wide Information

<u>KVH - Output Measures:</u>	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Special Adaptive Equipment purchased off State contract	3	3	0	0	0
LTC Residents on Medicaid	28%	29%	23%	24%	25%
LTC Residents Medicare Eligible*	76%	65%	70%	70%	70%
<u>KSH - Output Measures:</u>					
Special Adaptive Equipment purchased off State contract	0	0	0	0	0
LTC Residents on Medicaid	50%	45%	37%	40%	40%
LTC Residents Medicare Eligible*	87%	87%	70%	73%	73%

**Approximately 35 percent of KVH and KSH residents in skilled nursing are 70-100% service connected. The VA pays a higher per diem amount for these residents, but they are not eligible for Medicare.*

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Agency-Wide Information

GOAL #5:

Maintain and encourage facilities' connections with the local community, area media outlets, and local and national service organizations.

OBJECTIVE:

Encourage interest in the Kansas Veterans' Home and Kansas Soldiers' Home and their missions. Make the public aware of the facilities and other benefits and services available to Veterans by maintaining good relationships with organizations and local communities who are able to assist with the missions of the homes.

STRATEGIES

- Distribute news releases as appropriate to area media outlets
- Meet regularly with representatives from the local service organizations and other stakeholders
- Take every opportunity to speak to area groups about the homes, their missions and needs
- Track volunteer projects and time, and recognize those who volunteer at the homes each year
- Plan events at the homes designed to include participation from the surrounding communities
- Maintain relationships with area schools for student participation at the homes and resident participation in the schools
- Participate in national and state organizations related to the facilities (Leading Age, KACE, NASVH)

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Agency-Wide Information

<u>KVH - Outcome Measures:</u>	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Volunteer hours logged	234	448	609	700	900
Individuals volunteering	18	33	19	25	20
NASVH, KACE, KDADS and Leading age meetings/ conferences attended – Virtual*	4	7	4	5	5
<u>KSH - Outcome Measures:</u>					
Volunteer hours logged	2,500	3,500	3,000	3,000	3,000
Individuals volunteering	50	50	50	50	50
NASVH, KACE, and KDADS and Leading age meetings/ conferences attended – Virtual*	15	15	15	15	15

**Volunteer hours, meetings, and conferences attended in FY 2021 were significantly impacted by the COVID pandemic and the restrictions imposed by the regulatory agencies. It is anticipated that volunteer hours and conferences/trainings attended will increase with the restrictions for facilities being reduced.*

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Agency-Wide Information

<u>KVH - Output Measures:</u>	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
News Releases distributed	36	36	16	20	5
Outreach/Speaking engagements promoting the Home	9	12	11	12	12
Volunteer Orientation Sessions offered	2	2	2	2	2
<u>KSH - Output Measures:</u>					
News Releases distributed	10	20	25	25	25
Outreach/Speaking engagements promoting the Home	10	10	15	10	10
Volunteer Orientation Sessions offered	6	6	5	6	6

**During the COVID pandemic, news releases from the Kansas Veterans’ Home and Kansas Soldiers’ Home were occurring anytime the restrictions changed, or new information was available from the facility. This amounted to a significant increase in releases. The pandemic also significantly reduced the number of outreach and speaking engagements and prevented any volunteer activities or orientations.*

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Agency-Wide Information

STATUTORY HISTORY:

Agency: The Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs was created by K.S.A. 73-1208a, and amendments thereto, on July 1, 1986.

On July 1, 2014, the agency was reorganized by House Bill Substitute 2681, whereby the Commission was abolished, and the agency reports to the Governor's Office.

On July 1, 2024, House Bill 2760 established a new name for the agency, Kansas Office of Veterans Services, and continues to the report to the Governor's Office.

Veterans Services: The Service Agency was established in 1937 as a Division of Social Welfare to assist Veterans and survivors in obtaining federal benefits. The Approval Agency was established in 1945 to implement the G.I. Bill. On January 20, 1946, the responsibility of accrediting institutions and business establishments was transferred to the Office of Veterans Services, as the State Approving Agency (SAA).

On April 20, 1946, SB 396 created the Veterans' Claims Assistance Program (VCAP).

In 2006, K.S.A. 74-8724 established the Veterans' Enhanced Service Delivery Program. In 2011, this program started receiving funds from lottery scratch ticket sales.

In 2009, K.S.A. 73-1238 established the Vietnam Era Veterans' Medallion Program, which provides for application from Veterans for a medal, medallion and certificate of appreciation for Kansas Vietnam Era Veterans.

State Veterans' Cemetery Program: On April 22, 1999, K.S.A. 73-1232 authorized the Kansas Office of Veterans Services to establish and maintain a state system of Veterans' cemeteries.

Kansas Veterans' Home: In 1997, K.S.A. 76-1951 et seq. established the Kansas Veterans' Home (KVH) on the grounds of the former Winfield State Hospital and Training Center.

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Agency-Wide Information

Kansas Soldiers' Home: On February 7, 1889, K.S.A. Article 19, Chapters 76-1901 to 76-1941 established the Kansas Soldiers' Home (KSH) at Fort Dodge. From the date of establishment until June 30, 1976, KSH functioned as an independent agency. On June 30, 1976, K.S.A. 76-1904 vested control and responsibility for the operation of KSH to a three-member Kansas Veterans' Commission, through its Executive Director.

From July 1, 1976 to June 30, 1986, Executive Reorganization Order #14 placed KSH and the Kansas Veterans' Commission under the Department of Human Resources. The Kansas Veterans' Commission continued to be the appointing authority, although the Secretary of Department of Human Resources was the final authority.

In 1986, K.S.A. 73-1219 abolished the Kansas Veterans' Commission and established the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs (KCVA) and expanded the Commission from three to five members. The KCVA and KSH were moved from the Department of Human Resources to the status of an independent agency. The KCVA, through its Executive Director, continued to be the appointing authority of KSH and had supervisory control.

In 1987, K.S.A. 76-1908 amended and established new admission criteria for KSH. Certain peacetime Veterans became eligible for admission and previously established estate income limits were abolished. In 1995, K.S.A. 76-1902b authorized KSH to operate as a licensed nursing care facility.

AGENCY-WIDE OVERVIEW

Current Year: The Kansas Office of Veterans Services strives to maintain its goals of providing a high level of service from year to year. The agency requests a base budget totaling \$60.7 million from all funding sources, including \$16.3 million from the State General Fund and \$19.7 million from the State Institutions Building Fund for FY 2025. For FY 2026, the agency requests a base budget totaling \$42.2 million from all funding sources, including \$15.5 million from the State General Fund and \$2.6 million from the State Institutions Building Fund. The KOVS is not requesting any supplemental or enhancement requests in this year's budget submission.

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Agency-Wide Information

It remains a challenge for the KOVS revenue and expenditures to reflect consistency from year to year because of special revenue funds. Actual fund balances at the beginning of a fiscal year compared to original estimates can reflect dramatic variances.

These variances require expenditure adjustments from different funding sources, resulting in variances between the approved budget and the revised budget. However, the overall expenditures by program reflect very little adjustment, and remain consistent. Where there are changes in the overall expenditures for a program, an explanation is provided in the program narratives.

Administration Program Explanation: The role of the Central Office is to provide guidance and oversight for the Veteran programs, as well as staff support. In addition to the Director and Administrative Assistant, the Central Office has six sections: Fiscal, Human Resources, Information Technology, Operations, Public Affairs/Outreach, and Director of Homes.

Administration currently funds the salaries of the Central Office Staff, office and equipment rental and travel for the staff. In April 2013, in response to findings by the Legislative Post Audit, the Central Office was restructured. Supervision of the Business Offices at both nursing homes was placed under direct supervision of the KOVS Chief Fiscal & Property Officer. Supervision of the Human Resources staff at both nursing homes was placed under direct supervision by the KOVS Human Resources Director. These changes were implemented to create standardization, efficiency, and accountability.

Specific responsibilities of the five sections of Agency Administration are:

Fiscal Section: The Fiscal Section has four FTE. It is charged with providing accounting and reporting services that are accurate, timely, and meaningful to the Kansas Office of Veterans Services and the Division of the Budget. The Fiscal Section administers the KOVS accounting and coordinates the agency's budget.

The Fiscal Section initiates and maintains accounting policies, procedures, and accounting system modifications and enhancements at three locations, the Central Office, and the two nursing home Business Offices. It provides for reporting of federal fund expenditures for the State Approving Agency, as well as applying for and overseeing federal grant awards for the Cemetery Program, KVH and KSH.

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Agency-Wide Information

The Fiscal Section provides fiscal oversight for KVH and KSH, as well as guidance and oversight of six Business Office staff members at the two nursing homes.

Human Resources Section: The KOVS Human Resources Section provides development and broad oversight of a comprehensive, agency-wide personnel program. It manages 368 authorized FTE, five (5) non-FTE positions and an annual payroll of \$29.0 million in FY 2025. The Central Office Human Resources is staffed with one full-time Public Service Executive II position. This position provides guidance and oversight of the six Human Resources staff members at the two nursing homes. With the implementation of House Bill Substitute 2681 effective July 1, 2014, Executive Order (EO) 11-04 became effective for the agency Human Resources Program. This EO requires all staff performing human resources functions to report directly to the Office of Personnel Services.

KOVS Human Resources Department plans, organizes and directs the human resources component of the agency. It works to establish and increase efficiency, uniformity and fairness in employment policies, procedures, and practices across the diverse programs areas.

Director of Operations: This position is responsible for leading KOVS and state cross functional teams to plan and coordinate the strategic mission to increase operational efficiency and generate executive legislative and public support for agency priorities and goals. The Director must maintain effective relationships with federal and state agencies to integrate and synchronize the effects of available resources to provide optimal services to Veterans and families.

Director of Public Affairs/Outreach Coordinator: The Public Affairs Director position is responsible for all KOVS internal and external communications strategy, coordinating agency outreach activities and developing and maintaining stakeholder relationships and key partnerships with external organizations.

Information Technology Section: The KOVS Information Technology and Resource Management Section (ITRMS) consists of one Director of IT, one network administrator at the KSH, and three Technology Support Personnel at KVH and KSH. The IT Director coordinates and provides support for the information technology and telecommunications needs and services for the Central Office,

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Agency-Wide Information

KVH, KSH, four cemeteries at Fort Dodge, WaKeeney, Winfield and Ft. Riley, and 16 Veterans Services offices at various locations throughout the state. It also provides support for the KOVS Quality Assurance Office located at the Wichita VA Medical/Regional Office and the Veteran Services Mobile Office program.

The IT Director is the agency cybersecurity officer and Information Security Officer ensuring agency compliance with all federal and state data governance guidelines and adherence to cybersecurity best practices.

Budget Years-Allocated Resource Budget: The agency’s base budget request for FY 2025 and FY 2026 matches the agency’s approved and allocated amounts from the State General Fund.

Due to a number of circumstances dating back to 2019 the KOVS has accumulated non-appropriated funds that have carried forward to hedge against non-appropriated funds shortfalls and subsequently been applied to our budget to address salary/wage requirements as well as select expenditure requirements where necessary. We are continuing the practice of expending funds in these accounts to fulfill annual budgetary requirements in FY 2025 and FY 2026. We are on track to expend the majority of these funds during the course of FY 2025 but will not need to request an enhancement in FY 2026.

Narrative Information – DA 400

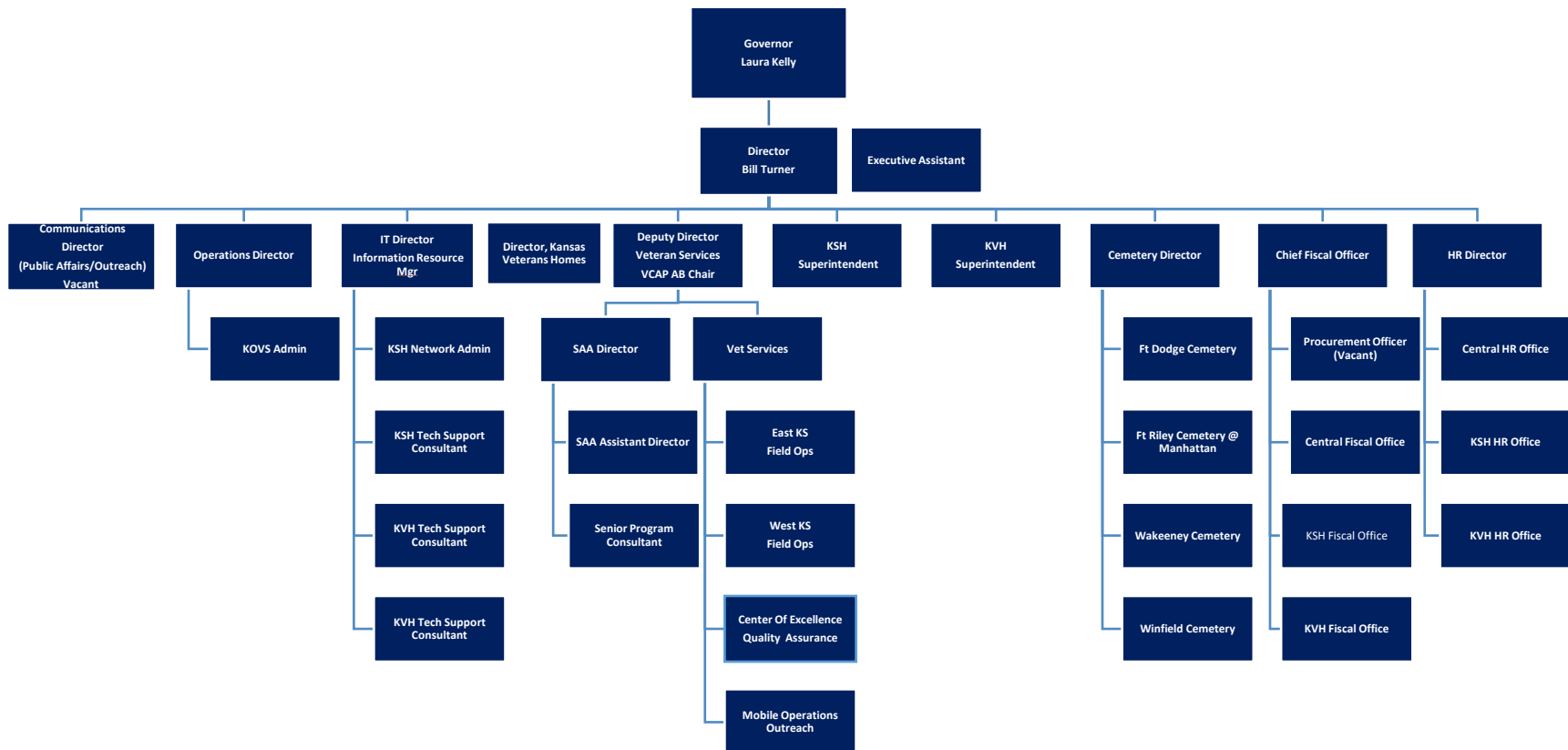
Division of the Budget

State of Kansas

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

Program: Agency-Wide Information

The Kansas Office of Veterans Services organization is depicted below:



Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Agency-Wide Information

Actual Position Data:

The KOVS has 371 Authorized FTE and 5 Non-FTE.

Program	FTE Positions: Classified Regular and Unclassified	Non-FTE: Unclassified Temporary
Administration	11.00	1.00
Veterans Services	33.00	2.00
Cemetery Program	19.00	0.00
Kansas Soldiers' Home	115.00	2.00
Kansas Veterans' Home	193.00	0.00
Total	371.00	5.00

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Agency-Wide Information

EXPENDITURE JUSTIFICATION BY OBJECT CODES

This *DA 400* only includes expenditures found in the agency’s base budget request for the Administration Program.

Central Office Administration:

Object Code 100: Salaries and Wages – Total FTE for FY 2024 is eight filled, three vacant, with one non-FTE, for a total of 11 FTE. The following are the salary and wage requests for FY 2025 and FY 2026.

FY 2025: \$ 1,224,359

FY 2026: \$ 1,226,898

Object Code 200: Contractual Services – Contractual Services expenditures pay for items such as rent, office supplies, and travel.

FY 2025: \$ 147,716

FY 2026: \$ 152,147

Object Code 300: Commodities – Commodities expenditures are primarily for data processing, supplies, stationery, and other office supplies.

FY 2025: \$ 8,862

FY 2026: \$ 9,128

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Agency-Wide Information

Object Code 400: Capital Outlay – Capital outlay expenditures are for equipment, machinery and other major purchases including computers, printers, and servers.

FY 2025: \$ 49,024

FY 2026: \$ 50,494

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Veterans' Cemetery Program

VETERANS' CEMETERY PROGRAM

VETERANS' CEMETERY PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

The purpose of the Kansas State Veterans' Cemetery Program is to provide Veterans and their eligible dependents with interment opportunities for burial in a Kansas Veterans' Cemetery. The program has established, manages, and operates four State Veterans' Cemeteries. It provides staff support and assistance to Veterans statewide regarding their interment options and provides the procedures for pre-registration.

The Kansas Office of Veterans Services believes that Veterans deserve to be interred with dignity, respect, and honor for their service. In that regard, the state cemetery is not only a burial site but also a fitting memorial for service to country. It is in full compliance with U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs standards that ensure these cemeteries are indeed national shrines. The State Veterans' Cemeteries are geographically distributed across Kansas for optimal access for all concerned. The four locations are Fort Dodge, WaKeeney, Winfield and Fort Riley.

The four State Veterans' Cemeteries across Kansas provide interment opportunities for Veterans and their eligible dependents, as well as other benefits. The benefits at the Cemeteries are provided at no cost to the Veterans and dependents.

Benefits include:

- Burial space
- Grave liner
- Opening and closing of the grave
- Perpetual care
- Placement of cremation remains in either columbarium niche or in-ground interment plot
- Scattering garden
- Headstone or Marker

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

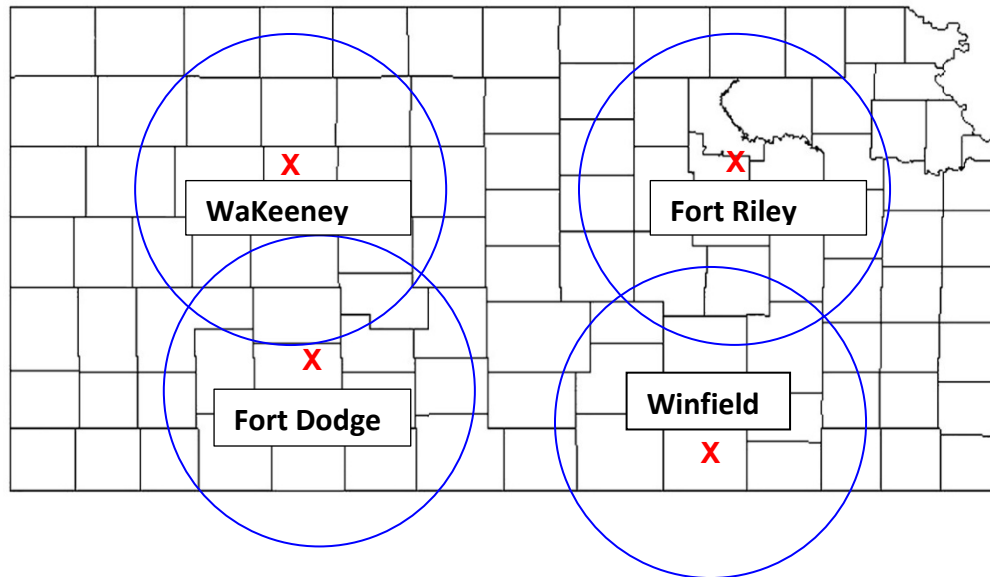
Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Veterans' Cemetery Program

Locations: Map of cemeteries

The state Veterans' cemeteries are located at Fort Dodge, WaKeeney, Winfield, and Fort Riley, Kansas.



The X represents the cemetery locations, and the circle represents a 75-mile radius surrounding the cemetery. It is the VA's and Kansas Office of Veterans Service's goal to provide Veterans and their dependents with interment opportunities that are within reasonable driving distances from their homes.

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Veterans’ Cemetery Program

Cemetery developed capacities:

State Cemetery	Acres	Interment Areas			
		Full Casket Internment	Grave-liners	In-ground Cremation	Columbarium Wall
Fort Dodge	8.56	2,169	610	1,263	480
WaKeeney	12	1,566	500	250	320
Winfield	27.75	9,663	1,213	1,068	3,360
Fort Riley	30	3,000	2,000	700	768

Note: Only phase I of the cemeteries has been developed.

Cemetery developed and undeveloped acreage capacities:

State Cemetery	Acres	Interment Areas			
		Full Casket Internment	Grave-liners	In-ground Cremation	Columbarium Wall
Fort Dodge	16	4,582	1,210	1,471	960
WaKeeney	24.34	3,132	1,000	500	640
Winfield	40.86	14,163	2,416	1,602	4,640
Fort Riley	90	36,000	6,000	1,400	6,912

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Veterans’ Cemetery Program

EXPENDITURE JUSTIFICATION BY OBJECT CODES:

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These variances require expenditure adjustments from different funding sources, resulting in variances between the approved budget and the revised budget. However, the overall expenditures by program reflect very little adjustment, and remain consistent. Where there are changes in the overall expenditures for a program, an explanation is provided in the program narratives.

Object Code 100: Salaries and Wages

The program is authorized for 19 FTE positions located throughout the state at four State Veterans’ Cemeteries. However, the fourth equipment operator at Winfield remains open due to lack of funding. The following are the salary and wage requests for FY 2025 and FY 2026:

FY 2025: \$1,087,959

FY 2026: \$1,097,730

Object Code 200: Contractual Services

The major expenditures for Contractual Services are for operational support for the four Veterans’ Cemeteries. This includes all utilities, communication/phone, internet/IT, travel, mowing contracts, rentals when equipment breaks down, and training. The amounts also include official hospitality.

FY 2025: \$220,445

FY 2026: \$220,445

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Veterans' Cemetery Program

Object Code 300: Commodities

The major expenditures for Commodities are used for operational support for the four State Veterans' Cemeteries. This includes grounds maintenance needs (seed, fertilizer, and herbicides), building/facility maintenance needs, purchasing supplies, and maintaining equipment. It also covers the fuel required for equipment operations and staff travel. All Cemetery Managers are required to promote the Kansas Veterans' Cemetery Program and their respective cemeteries. With a small cemetery staff at each cemetery, it is often necessary for staff to travel to other cemeteries to assist one another, or to provide training. Plus, the Cemetery Director visits each cemetery frequently. This accounts primarily for the continued increase in travel expenditures.

FY 2025: \$90,950

FY 2026: \$90,950

Object Code 400: Capital Outlay

Capital outlay expenditures are for machinery, equipment, land, vehicles, buildings, and other major purchases. As the buildings, shops and equipment age and breakdown, this fund will be vital to keep up with needed repairs and equipment replacement. Continued breakdowns, difficulty locating parts, costly repairs and rental fees have made it necessary to create a 12-year plan to replace equipment and vehicles at all four cemeteries. This includes backhoes, tractors, utility vehicles, dumb trucks, mowers, and vehicles.

FY 2025: \$150,000

FY 2026: \$150,000

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Veterans' Cemetery Program

Object Code 500: Capital Improvements

Capital Improvement requirements for the Cemetery Program often vary widely year-to-year. Historically, capital improvement projects for the Cemetery Program have been funded with State General Fund (SGF) or SIBF. The program is challenged in finding sufficient funding for repair projects, paying staff salaries, maintaining the grounds to meet National Cemetery Administration (NCA) standards, and completing routine maintenance.

On July 1, 2024, the cemetery program applied for a NCA state grants program grant at Winfield to expand the casket and inground cremation gardens. The casket garden will include 550 pre-set concrete grave liners. Also included in the grant request is a Gettysburg Address bronze sign to be placed near the new columbarium wall plaza and the addition of a medallion at the shelter for the Space Force. Total amount for the grant request is \$1,331,218. It is anticipated that the program will be contacted on grant approval prior to October 1, 2024. If it is not approved this fiscal year, the application will be considered the following fiscal year. It is forecasted that Winfield Cemetery will be out of casket grave liners and inground cremation plots under three years, which should put the cemetery in a high priority category.

Other projects slated in FY 2025 include installing a road through Garden B at Fort Dodge to make it safer and more convenient for families to visit gravesites. The road will also make the garden handicap accessible at a cost of \$70,000. Proper storage of equipment and supplies has been an issue at Ft Dodge Cemetery for years. To address these needs of the cemetery, a new metal storage building/shop and an increase in compound size will be constructed. The cost of this project will be \$262,696. Ft Dodge is

the only Cemetery without a scattering garden; with the wall, memorial plaques will be placed on the wall for MIAs, those interred in overseas cemeteries, and those who choose to scatter their remains within the Cemetery. As of September of 2025, this project is in the bid process. Another project is constructing bathrooms at the Ft Riley Cemetery shelter with anticipated cost of \$262,911. Currently, the only bathrooms located at the cemetery in the Cemetery Administration building. This is inconvenient for families and visitors because of the distance of the shelter where funerals services are held. The final project planned for FY 2025 is to place doors on the shelters at Ft Dodge and WaKeeney cemeteries to protect families from high winds and extreme cold temperatures

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Veterans' Cemetery Program

during funeral services with a cost of \$90,000. The architects and engineers are tasked with finding alternative solutions from the original plan to place the doors on the shelters. It has been discovered that the shelters were not originally designed to have doors placed on them.

In FY 2026, the program is constructing bathrooms at the WaKeeney Cemetery shelter with anticipated cost of \$312,864. Currently, the only bathrooms located at the cemetery in the Cemetery Administration building. This is inconvenient for families and visitors because of the distance of the shelter where funerals services are held. The other project is for Memorial Walks at all four state cemeteries at the cost of \$96,000. Following NCA standards and guidelines, a memorial walkway functions to provide visitors access to a beautiful memorial section at each Cemetery, where veteran groups and other groups may place memorial plaques mounted on stones or monuments to commemorate certain groups, units, campaigns, or other military events on walls designated for that purpose. Donated monuments are placed along the path. This construction includes the sidewalk path and benches only, no monuments.

Estimated expenditures for FY 2025 and FY 2026 are as follows:

FY 2025: \$2,273,094

FY 2026: \$201,980

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: State Veterans' Cemetery Program

3212 3310 VA Burial Reimbursement Federal Fund

Statutory History: 38 CFR, Part 3, Subpart B, §3.1707, provides the authority and funds administration guidance for State Cemeteries to receive burial and plot allowance.

This fund for Veteran Cemetery Fees is also authorized in HB 2675 Sec. 97, 2004 Session. Construction of state Veterans' cemeteries is fully funded by grants from the State Veterans' Cemetery Grants Program of the federal government. Once a cemetery is opened, minimal federal funding for operational costs is provided by the National Veterans Cemetery Administration of the VA. The minimal funding comes in the form of plot allowances for eligible Veterans and grave markers for each interment. The remaining expenses for maintenance and upkeep for the four Veterans' cemeteries in Kansas are the responsibility of the State of Kansas.

An annual increase in burial and plot allowances by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) began in Federal Fiscal Year 2010 and is based on the Consumer Price Index for the preceding 12-month period. Effective October 1, 2023, the burial/funeral and plot/interment allowance was increased from \$893 to \$948. The interment allowance has increased annually. This allowance is provided for each Veteran buried in a State Veterans' Cemetery and paid directly to the state program if the Veteran was buried without charge in a state-owned cemetery reserved solely for Veteran burials.

Criteria to be eligible to be buried in a State Veterans' Cemetery follows:

- ❖ Veteran was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable
- ❖ Veteran was discharged from active duty because of a disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty
- ❖ Veteran was receiving VA compensation or pension at the time of death, or would have been entitled to receive VA compensation or pension, but instead was in receipt of military retirement or disability pay
- ❖ Veteran died in a VA facility.

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: State Veterans’ Cemetery Program

3212 3310 VA Burial Reimbursement Federal Fund (cont.)

The federal plot allowance may be paid directly to the state if a Veteran is buried without charge in a state-owned cemetery reserved solely for Veteran burials. The Kansas State Veterans’ Cemetery Program does not currently require a fee for burial, so the State Veterans’ Cemetery Program receives the federal plot allowance directly. The projected plot allowance is based on a five-year average for Veteran interments and an average of 70 percent Veteran of all interments burial rate.

Revenue Source:	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Cash Forward	\$ 131,725	\$ 89,841	\$ 137,117	\$ 246,763	\$ 399,483
Plot Allowance	284,682	315,466	320,095	318,843	318,843
Refunds	-	-	-	-	-
Total	\$ 416,407	\$ 405,307	\$ 457,212	\$ 565,606	\$ 718,326

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: State Veterans’ Cemetery Program

7308 5200 State Veterans Cemetery Donations/Contributions Fund

Statutory History: K.S.A. 73-1233, The Kansas Veterans Cemeteries located at Fort Dodge, Fort Riley, WaKeeney, and Winfield, occasionally receive donations and gifts from next-of-kin, other entities of loved ones buried in the cemeteries, or organizations. The agency uses these funds, according to donors wishes, to purchase and install trees, benches, electronic carillon bells, memorial walk, or complete other beautification projects throughout the Cemetery as required by an institution, building or facility on state-owned property of the Executive Director of the Kansas Office of Veterans Services.

Revenue Source:	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Cash Forward	\$ 31,047	\$ 32,632	\$ 38,552	\$ 52,032	\$ 59,032
All Other Donations/Contributions	2,210	5,920	14,709	7,000	7,000
Total	\$ 33,257	\$ 38,552	\$ 53,261	\$ 59,032	\$ 66,032

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Veteran Services Program

VETERAN SERVICES PROGRAM

PROGRAM MISSION:

To serve the 181,000 Kansas Veterans, their families, and survivors by advocating, providing information on benefits, and assisting them in securing their rightful benefits as provided for by state and federal law, reaching Veterans in all 105 Kansas counties. Veterans Services uses outreach to expand visibility and awareness statewide of the many programs and services available to Kansas Veterans and their families.

MAJOR SUBPROGRAMS ESTABLISHED TO ASSIST WITH PROGRAM MISSION:

Field Services, the Veterans Claims Assistance Program (VCAP), the Mobile Services Program, Veteran Services Quality Assurance Program, State Approving Agency (SAA), and the Vietnam Era Veterans Medallion Program.

VETERAN SERVICES OVERVIEW:

Veteran Services is the face of the KOVS with Veteran Services Representatives in 16 Field offices at strategic locations throughout the state, we serve Veterans in all 105 counties. Our Veteran Service Representatives (VSRs) are multi accredited advocates who specialize in providing information and assistance with a myriad of benefit services, from Non-Service-Connected Pension Claims to Service-Connected Disability Compensation Claims to maximize the hard-earned benefits of those Veterans. During the previous fiscal year and continuing into FY24, the agency’s focus has been the continuation of our strategy to assist Veterans with the signing into law of the Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act (PACT Act) in August 2022. The PACT Act is the largest health care and benefit expansion in the Federal Department of Veterans Affairs history. This single piece of legislation expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War, and post-9/11 eras. Multiple Veteran Service Representatives participated in over 20 outreach events in conjunction with our federal and state partners in addition to holding scheduled itinerant events throughout the state resulting in more benefits for Kansas Veterans and family members.

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

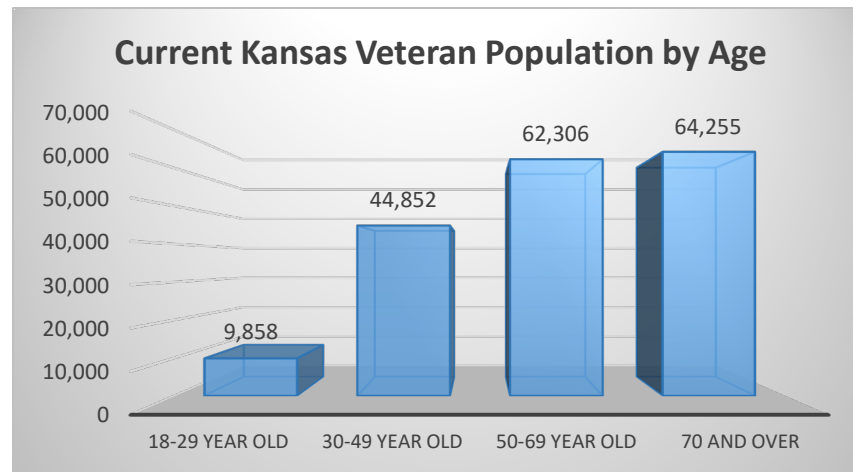
Program: Veteran Services Program

Last fiscal year the Veteran Services Program assisted in submitting almost 16,000 claim submissions to the VA electronically. This resulted more than \$380 million dollars being paid to Kansas Veterans and family members.

Field Services:

Field Services has been the cornerstone of both the KOVS and Veteran Services since 1948. VSRs are in district offices strategically located to reach Veterans throughout the state. Each of these district offices has an assigned area consisting of 1 to 17 counties. Districts are established based on the number of Veterans in the region, ability to support the needs of Veterans and the needs of the agency.

In FY 2024, the Veteran Services Program was funded for staffing in 16 districts. Position funding consisted of the Deputy Director, 4 area/program supervisors, 2 full-time Quality Assurance Office staff, 23 VSRs and 2 administrative assistants, serving an estimated 181,000 Veterans, and more than 200,000 family members. The Veteran Services program had the opportunity to recruit and staff all our vacant FTE positions in fiscal year 2024 due to the increase in salary and wages.



Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Veteran Services Program

KOVS VSRs help Veterans and their family members with a broad spectrum of support necessary for obtaining Federal and state benefits. Field Services is often the first and only contact the client has for support and follow-up in his or her quest for benefits and services provided by the State of Kansas and the Federal Department of Veterans Affairs.

District field office staff provide outreach across the state through scheduled itinerant travel with stops in most counties, staff participation in community activities, and following up on referrals by other state agencies, community leaders, family, and friends.

Each office is responsible for serving the needs of Veterans in a large geographical or heavily populated area. All VSRs are Veterans themselves.

There is a diverse and complex variety of information and assistance which VSRs provide:

- Service-connected Disability Compensation
- Death Pension
- Health Care Benefits
- TRICARE and TRICARE for Life
- Vet Centers
- Vietnam Medallion Program
- VA Home Loan Guarantees
- State Veterans' Cemeteries
- State of Kansas Benefits
- Appeals
- Non-Service-Connected Pension
- Burial Benefits
- CHAMPVA and CHAMPVA for Life
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Education Benefits
- Life Insurance
- State Veterans Nursing Facilities
- Operation Recognition (High School Diploma Program)
- Prescription Drug Coverage
- DD-214 Requests

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Veteran Services Program

The Veterans Claims Assistance Program (VCAP):

The Veterans Claims Assistance Program (VCAP) was established “to improve the coordination of Veterans benefits counseling in Kansas to maximize the effective and efficient use of taxpayer dollars and to ensure that every Veteran is served and receives claims counseling and assistance.”

There are three major components to VCAP. The first is to provide service grants to eligible Veteran Service Organizations, which are used to hire service officers through the State. These individuals provide support at the VA hospitals and the VA Regional Office. State General Funds (SGF) are appropriated each year for this program, all of which must be allocated to the participating Veteran Service Organizations as outlined in K.S.A. 73-1234. Grants are awarded annually through grant agreements entered with the Kansas Office of Veterans Services. Each year the agency is required to solicit participation from all Veteran Service Organizations that have a presence in the VA Regional Office or Medical Center in Wichita.

Requests to participate are sent to eligible service organizations, including the American Legion (AL), American Veterans (AMVETS), Disabled American Veterans (DAV), Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA), and the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). Currently, two chartered Veteran Service Organizations, the American Legion and VFW, have elected to participate for FY 2024.

To participate in the grant program, Service Organizations must meet minimum requirements. The requirements outlined in K.S.A. 73-1234(f) include cross-accrediting of Veteran Service Representatives to provide a one-stop opportunity for Veterans needing assistance, utilization of the central Veteran’s database, as provided by KOVS, and continuation of the grant participant in the program funding in the form of a match, which can be monetary or in-kind.

The VCAP Grant funding was raised in FY 2024 based on an increased need for more service representatives at the VA Hospitals and Regional Office due to the increases volume of Veteran engagements related to the PACT Act expansion.

The second major component of this legislation established the Veterans Claim Assistance Advisory Board to advise the agency in the implementation and administration of the VCAP. The Advisory Board meets quarterly to discuss Veterans topics and issues.

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Veteran Services Program

The third component established a Quality Assurance Program for the VCAP and for the services performed by Veteran Service Organizations receiving grants under this section.

The Mobile Services Program:

This is the KOVS mobile office program. The program uses appropriated funds it receives from the Veterans Benefit Lottery Game, as authorized and outlined in K.S.A. 74-8724. In FY 24 the KOVS reenergized the mobile program and it is fully staffed with offices in Hays, Topeka, and Wichita.

In 1945, when then Governor Schoepel established the Kansas Veterans Administration, he was quoted as saying “I am sure you will agree that the consideration we give to our returning Veterans is of primary importance” and that “sufficient importance to justify the establishment of a separate state agency to render all possible assistance to the Veterans of all wars” remains as relevant today as then. The Mobile Services Program uses limited resources and takes services to rural areas where Veterans reside. These mobile offices also participate in numerous community events and other outreach activities, representing the KOVS throughout the state. Staff assigned to the Mobile Program provide rural outreach and support services to all KOVS district field offices. Mobile staff also partner with the Federal VA, other state agencies, Veteran Service Organizations, and community leaders to identify the needs of Veterans and assist them in filing claims and obtaining benefits.

Veterans Services Quality Assurance Program:

The Quality Assurance (QA) Program performs a key role in reviewing claims from KOVS district office staff and VCAP participants, thus ensuring Veterans’ claims meet standards for development, accuracy, and completeness. The QA staff conduct reviews of all benefit claims paperwork, thereby facilitating a faster response in adjudication from the Federal VA. Data from QA reviews is used to compute claims completion and accuracy rates, reaffirm production numbers of participating organizations, and evaluate individual VSR quality levels to determine training needs. As of FY 2024, responsibility for the Veteran Services training, now falls under Quality Assurance.

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Veteran Services Program

State Approving Agency:

The Kansas Office of Veterans Services is designated by the Governor as the State Approving Agency (SAA) for the State of Kansas. The SAA program is operated under a contractual agreement between the VA and KOVS. The program uses Public Service Administrative staff to perform Risk Based Survey visits, program approvals, and to develop and approve On-the-Job Training (OJT) and apprenticeship programs for Veterans using their GI-Bill benefits in Kansas. This program is essential to one of Kansas Veterans fundamental earned benefits. Veterans only receive reimbursement for programs reviewed by the SAA and approved for reimbursement under the GI-Bill. An annual contract between the KOVS/SAA and the VA is signed by each party and is in effect October through September, the Federal Fiscal Year, and establishes goals and outcomes of the program.

The Public Service Administrator duties include performing Risk Based Survey visits, education program approvals, program inspections, technical visits, and working with business owners to develop on-the-job training (OJT) and apprenticeship programs for Veterans. They also perform a compliance function for qualified degree, non-degree, apprenticeship and OJT programs and schools of flight instruction at over 140 institutions throughout the state.

In addition, the staff are required to meet with business leaders employing Veterans, workforce Disabled Veteran Outreach Program Specialists (DVOPs) and Local Veterans' Employment Representatives (LVERs) to provide them with information on programs available to Veterans they may hire. The program is focused to expand and improve quality education and training opportunities for Veterans and other qualified family members, for them to reach career objectives and be successful in their goals.

Annual authorized amounts paid to Kansas SAA are determined by an allocation model based on several factors including the number of active programs within the state. Each year the program is reviewed by the Joint Peer Review Group made up of other state's SAAs and the Federal VA.

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Veteran Services Program

Vietnam Era Veterans Medallion Program:

This program provides a Vietnam Era Medallion, Medal and a Certificate of Appreciation from the State of Kansas to Veterans who served on active duty in the United States military at any time between February 28, 1961 and May 7, 1975. The agency has awarded over 8,200 Vietnam Era Medallions to date. While applications for the Vietnam Era Medallion, Medal, and a Certificate of Appreciation are declining, the KOVS receives about 8-10 applications per month. The program is currently funded using Veteran Services Program SGF.

Other Programs That Fall Under the Veteran Services Program:

- Review and certification of service-connected hunting and fishing licenses for all 30% or greater service-connected disabled Veterans who wish to receive a free hunting and fishing license from the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks.
- A review and certification of all requests for eligibility for Veteran Memorial Signage for the Kansas Department of Transportation.
- Review and certification of Veteran's preference for service-connected disabled owned small businesses for Kansas procurement contracts.
- Provide certification to the sentencing judge of service in a combat zone when requested by the Veteran.
- Provide assistance and mentorship to the Kansas Veterans Treatment Courts (VTC). The mission of the VTC is to identify veterans in the criminal justice system and, when eligible, get them into treatment and court supervision as an alternative to incarceration.

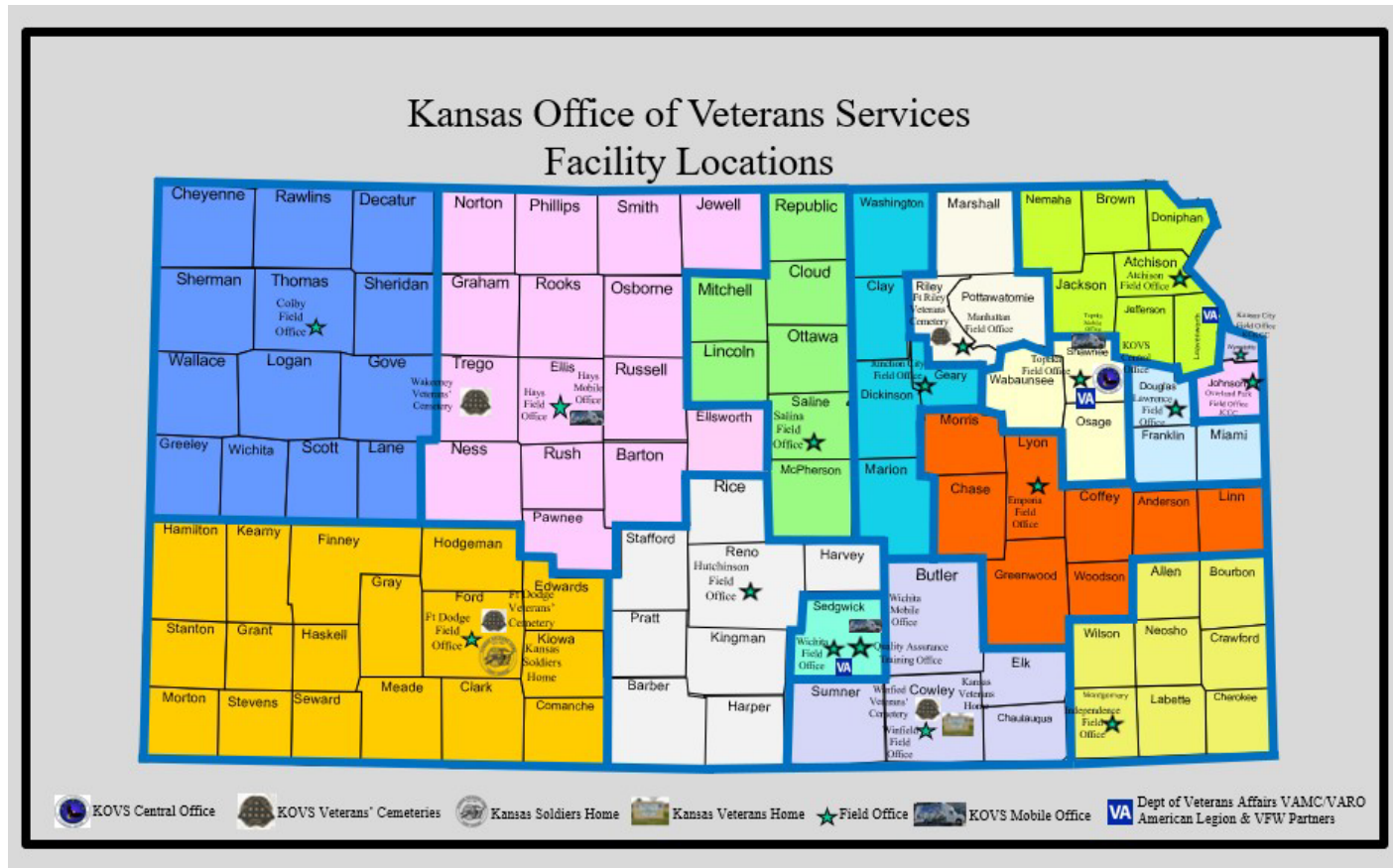
Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

State of Kansas

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

Program: Veteran Services Program



The KOVS has staffed district offices in Colby, Hays, Salina, Junction City, Manhattan, Atchison, Lawrence, Overland Park, Kansas City, Emporia, Independence, Topeka, Winfield, Hutchinson, Wichita Vet Center, and Fort Dodge. The American Legion and VFW have offices in the three VA hospitals in Wichita, Topeka, and Leavenworth and the Regional Office in Wichita.

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Veteran Services Program

EXPENDITURE JUSTIFICATION BY OBJECT CODES:

It remains a challenge for the KOVS revenue and expenditures to reflect consistency from year to year because of special revenue funds. Actual fund balances at the beginning of a fiscal year compared to original estimates can reflect dramatic variances.

These variances require expenditure adjustments from different funding sources, resulting in variances between the approved budget and the revised budget. However, the overall expenditures by program reflect very little adjustment, and remain consistent. Where there are changes in the overall expenditures for a program, an explanation is provided in the program narratives.

Object Code 100: Salaries and Wages – Salaries for the program fund 33 FTE, and 2 unclassified temporary positions.

Salary costs include the statutory Scratch Lotto transfers as prescribed by K.S.A. 74-8724(c)(3). The following are the salary and wage requests for FY 2025 and FY 2026:

FY 2025: Veteran Srv/Enhanced: \$2,211,605

FY 2025: State Approving Agency: \$158,335

Total: \$2,369,940

FY 2026: Veteran Srv/Enhanced: \$2,224,393

FY 2026: State Approving Agency: \$158,792

Total: \$2,383,186

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Veteran Services Program

Object Code 200: Contractual Services – The major expenditures for contractual services are used for operational support for the KOVS Field Offices, with the second largest component being the Mobile Office Program. This includes communication/phone, internet, travel, statutorily required training, rents, and all utilities.

FY 2025: Veteran Srv/Enhanced: \$395,737

FY 2025: State Approving Agency: \$33,810

Total: \$429,547

FY 2026: Veteran Srv/Enhanced: \$415,006

FY 2026: State Approving Agency: \$34,994

Total: \$450,000

Object Code 300: Commodities – The major expenditures for commodities are used for operational support for the Field and Mobile Offices. These include fuel, travel and related expenditures. Mobile Offices have greatly enhanced access to federal benefits for Kansas Veterans. These offices take KOVS Veteran Service Representatives to rural communities, other underserved Veteran populations, as well as Veterans that are homebound or in nursing homes.

FY 2025: Veteran Srv/Enhanced: \$ 39,270

FY 2025: State Approving Agency: \$1,492

Total: \$40,762

FY 2026: Veteran Srv/Enhanced: \$39,217

FY 2026: State Approving Agency: \$1,545

Total: \$40,762

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Veteran Services Program

Object Code 400: Capital Outlay – Capital outlay expenditures are used for office equipment, machinery, fixtures, and IT equipment.

FY 2025: Veteran Srv/Enhanced: \$176,874

FY 2025: State Approving Agency: \$5,640

Total: \$182,514

FY 2026: Veteran Srv/Enhanced: \$176,874

FY 2026: State Approving Agency: \$5,640

Total: \$182,514

Object Code 900: Other Assistance – Other assistance expenditures include Veterans Claims Assistance Program grant award payments.

FY 2025: \$1,150,000

FY 2026: \$1,000,000

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Veterans Benefit Lottery Game

2303 2303 Veterans Benefit Lottery Game

Statutory History: K.S.A. 74-8724, provides the authority for the Kansas Lottery Commission to establish an instant lottery scratch-off game beginning in 2008, designated as the Veterans’ Benefit Game and administered by the Kansas Lottery. All net profits, received from the sale of Veterans’ Benefit Game lottery tickets, are deposited in the state treasury, and utilized by the Kansas Army and Air National Guard and their families (40.0 percent), operating expenditures at the Kansas Soldiers’ Home, Kansas Veterans’ Home, and Kansas Veteran Cemeteries (30.0 percent), and the Veteran Services Program (30.0 percent). In FY 2019, the amount of lottery proceeds received transferred to the Kansas National Guard and the KOVS transitioned to a fixed amount and is not tied to the amount of scratch tickets sold in the previous year.

Revenue Source:	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Cash Forward	\$ 769,190	\$ 780,598	\$ 847,909	\$ 673,677	\$ 298,940
Operating Transfers In	1,260,000	1,260,000	1,260,000	1,260,000	1,260,000
Total	\$ 2,029,190	\$ 2,040,598	\$ 2,107,909	\$ 1,933,677	\$ 1,558,940

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: State Approving Agency (SAA) Grant

3241 3340 Office of Veterans Services FDF/State Approving Agency (SAA)

Statutory History: The Approving Agency was established in 1945 to assist with the implementation of the original G.I. Bill. On January 26, 1946, the responsibility for approving courses and programs was transferred to the Kansas Office of Veterans Services, as the State Approving Agency (SAA).

Title 38 CFR Part 21 provides the VA guidance to State Approving Agencies on their requirements to administer the program. Additionally, the annual cooperative agreement we sign with the Federal Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), provides other targeted performance measures and goals.

Funding is based on the federal fiscal year (October-September). The amount of funding is determined by an allocation model designed by a third-party contractor and agreed upon by the National State Approving Agency Organization (NASAA) and the VA. The current contract is for 2.25 professional staff. There are two full time education specialists who work under the supervision of the Deputy Director. The Deputy Director is considered the 0.25 staff personnel. The amount KOVS receives from the federal VA funds all SAA expenditures, including salaries, travel, supplies and other office expenses. Invoices for reimbursement are submitted to the VA monthly for documented expenditures.

In FY 2023, all SAAs in NASAA, transitioned from a Compliance-Based-Survey to a Risk-Based-Survey/Supervisory Visit business model. Simply put, instead of conducting compliance checks on schools on a routine basis every few years, we now conduct checks of educational institutions when they get flagged for two or more risk factors set forth by the VA. We are now able to visit schools (supervisory visits) and complete a courtesy “check-up” to identify issues before they become flagged by the VA.

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: State Approving Agency (SAA) Grant

3241 3340 State Approving Agency (SAA) Funding

Invoice reimbursements to the agency often run one to two months behind. Funds for this program are allocated based on the federal fiscal year from October 1 – September 30. The FFY 2024 contract allocation is \$249,170 and we anticipate a small COLA increase above the contracted amount will be offered to us in January 2024. The Federal Department of Veterans Affairs has changed their allocation model for determining the amount a state SAA organization receives based on factors such as how many active education facilities are in the state, how many Risk Based Surveys and supervisory visits the SAA is scheduled to accomplish, and other pertinent data such as salary and wages. Figures below are based on the State Fiscal Year, not the Federal Fiscal Year. Also, not reflected in the figures below are outstanding/pending billings.

Revenue Source:	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Cash Forward	\$ 208,098	\$ 235,204	\$ 260,856	\$ 346,976	\$ 377,185
All Other Operating Costs	234,843	189,335	230,798	229,486	229,486
Total	\$ 442,941	\$ 424,539	\$ 491,654	\$ 576,462	\$ 606,671

Note: This is a grant program so none of the carry forward amount cannot be utilized for expenses.

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Hometown Heroes Fund

7003 7001 Kansas Hometown Heroes Fund

Statutory History: K.S.A. 79-3221k, provides the authority for the director of taxation of the department of revenue to determine annually the total amount designated for contribution to the Kansas Hometown Heroes Fund pursuant to subsection (a) and shall report such amount to the state treasurer who shall credit the entire amount thereof to the Kansas Hometown Heroes Fund. All moneys deposited in such fund shall be used solely for the purpose of funding the continued operations of the Veteran Services program of the Kansas Office of Veterans Services.

Revenue Source:	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Cash Forward	\$ 38,593	\$ 59,566	\$ 78,688	\$ 98,742	\$ -
All Other Operating Grants	20,293	19,122	20,054	20,000	20,000
Total	\$ 58,886	\$ 78,688	\$ 98,742	\$ 118,742	\$ 20,000

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Veterans' Home

KANSAS VETERANS' HOME

KANSAS VETERANS' HOME OVERVIEW:

The primary purpose of the Kansas Veterans' Home (KVH) is to take care of any person who served in the active military service of the United States during any period of war, or who served in the active military service of the United States during peacetime and is entitled to Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) hospitalization or domiciliary care under Title 38 of the United States Code and the federal Veterans Affairs rules and regulations. The homes serve these eligible Veterans who have been discharged under conditions other than dishonorable who may be disabled by disease, wounds, old age, or otherwise disabled, and who, by reason of such disability, is incapacitated from earning a living.

To achieve this purpose, KVH provides long term care to Veterans who require skilled or intermediate nursing care, and related medical services. The care and medical services must be prescribed by or are performed under the general direction of persons duly licensed to provide such care. The care includes skilled care, where the nursing service is under the supervision of a registered professional nurse.

The secondary purpose is to provide domiciliary care, such as shelter, food, and necessary medical care, on an ambulatory self-care basis to assist eligible Veterans who are suffering from a disability, disease, or defect of such a degree that incapacitates the Veteran from earning a living, but who are not in need of hospitalization or nursing care services. The goal is to attain physical, mental, and social well-being through a coordinated treatment plan to restore the residents to, or maintain the residents at, his or her highest functioning level.

KVH may also provide nursing home care and domiciliary care, on a space-available basis, to Veteran family members, i.e., spouses, surviving spouses, eligible dependents, and gold star parents.

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Veterans' Home

Average Daily Census (ADC):

	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Long-Term Care	69	76	79	81	84
Domiciliary	20	26	26	24	27
Total	89	102	105	105	111

In FY 2024 the KVH saw slight increase in admissions and in census. However, the first two months of SFY 2025 the facility has seen a slight decrease in admission and census due to a small COVID -19 outbreak. The outbreak has now past, and we are optimistic that admissions and census will increase over the next year and bring average daily census back up to 105 and will continue to grow in FY 2026.

There is a still a nursing staff shortage in Kansas and across the United States. To recruit more nursing staff, KVH had job fairs and has gone to several events to set up booths that promote the facility. Positive trends in recruiting, coupled with salary and wage increases, has resulted in KVH achieving significantly higher staffing numbers. The KVH still is experiencing a small nursing shortage in LPN and CNAs, mainly on 2nd and 3rd shifts. To cover the nursing shortages, KVH uses temporary agency staffing vendors (temp agencies) to help fill the staffing shortages. However, it is very costly to use temp agencies for staffing.

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Veterans' Home

EXPENDITURE JUSTIFICATION BY OBJECT CODES

It remains a challenge for the KOVS revenue and expenditures to reflect consistency from year to year because of special revenue funds. Actual fund balances at the beginning of a fiscal year compared to original estimates can reflect dramatic variances. These variances require expenditure adjustments from different funding sources, like Medicaid, Medicare, and VA Per-diem, which are heavily driven by the census that results in variances between the approved budget and the revised budget. However, the overall expenditures by program reflect very little adjustment, and remain consistent. Where there are changes in the overall expenditures for a program, an explanation is provided in the program narratives.

The sources of all revenue for KVH, other than SGF, are monthly reimbursements and the KOVS does not control when these reimbursements will post. It is not always predictable that within a certain number of days of uploading the reimbursement requests, the reimbursements will post. At times, there can be a one to two-month lag between when a reimbursement request is uploaded and when the reimbursement is received. This can sometimes cause an uneven flow of receipts into each fund. KOVS fiscal staff continually monitor each fund to see where sufficient balances are available to pay the bills that are due.

Object Code 100: Salaries and Wages

KVH administers four programs: Administration, Resident Services Domiciliary, Long-Term Care and Maintenance, Dietary, and Housekeeping, with an authorized FTE count of 193. At the end of FY 2024, the current staffing level was 155 filled FTE. Optimal FTE staffing based on census, and acuity levels requires 176 filled FTE to meet operational needs. KVH believes it can fill 17 FTE positions in FY 2025, and FY 2026 fill another 4 FTE positions. The following are the salary and wage requests for FY 2025 and FY 2026:

FY 2025: \$13,912,674

FY 2026: \$13,993,694

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Veterans' Home

Object Code 200: Contractual Services

Major expenditures in this Object Code include a contract for pharmacy services, the facility's Medical Director, lab fees, electronic communication services, repairs, and temp agency staffing. The amounts below include on-budget and off-budget expenditures. In FY 2025 and FY 2026, the KVH is anticipating a decrease in Temp Agency Staffing usage due to filling vacant nursing FTE positions. Expenditures are estimated for FY 2025 and FY 2026.

FY 2025: \$145,269 (on-budget)

FY 2025: \$ 2,003,333 (off-budget)

Total: \$ 2,148,602

FY 2026: \$279,435 (on-budget)

FY 2026: \$ 1,901,396 (off-budget)

Total: \$ 2,180,831

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Veterans' Home

Object Code 300: Commodities

Major expenditures in this Object Code are for Food for Human Consumption, Nursing Supplies, Fuel, Motor Vehicle Parts and Supplies, and Office Supplies. FY 2025 and FY 2026, the KVH is anticipating and overall slight increase in commodities due to cost increase for Food, products, and supplies. Expenditures estimated for FY 2025 and FY 2026 are as follows.

FY 2025: \$ 1,589,183 (on-budget)

FY 2025: \$0 (off-budget)

Total: \$1,589,183

FY 2026: \$ 1,613,021 (on-budget)

FY 2026: \$0 (off-budget)

Total: \$1,613,021

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Veterans' Home

Object Code 400: Capital Outlay

Major expenditures in this Object Code are for office equipment, machinery, furniture, equipment, vehicles, information technology equipment, and therapy, nursing, and dietary equipment. FY 2024 and FY 2025, the KVH is anticipating and overall increase in expenditures in Capital Outlay for computers and printers' replacement and to purchase one new Transit Van with wheelchair lift in FY 2025 and in FY 2026. Currently, all four of our transit vans/buses have over 100,000 miles. Expenditures estimated for FY 2025 and FY 2026 are as follows.

FY 2025: \$175,974

FY 2025: \$53,622 (ARP)

Total: \$229,596

FY 2026: \$233,039

FY 2026: \$0 (ARP)

Total: \$233,039

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Veterans' Home

Object Code 500: Capital Improvements

The agency's Capital Improvement Plan lists two projects scheduled for FY 2025, in addition to emergency rehabilitation and repair; include electrical infrastructure upgrade for the facility and the continuation of the Peden Wing remodel in long-term care. There are seven projects slated for FY 2026, replace main entrance exterior doors for Timmerman Hall, steam line repair, install 100-ton chiller, replace exterior doors in assisted living, remodel Ehlers Wing in assisted living, water softener system, and steam repair for Holly Power Plant.

FY 2025: \$2,342,979

FY 2026: \$1,813,648

Object Code 900: Other Assistance

This category consists of comfort money for residents of the Home. Medicaid residents who are Veterans receive \$98 per month and non-Veteran Medicaid residents can apply for a reduced rate.

FY 2025: \$5,417 (off-budget)

FY 2026: \$5,417 (off-budget)

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Veterans' Home

2236 2200 Veterans' Home Fee Fund

Statutory History: This fund is authorized by K.S.A. 76-1952, as amended by Sub HB 2681. Resident Fees are reviewed annually, and any changes are effective January 1st of each year. In 2021, KOVS did increase the monthly rate by 5.0 percent. The costs associated with health care and other fees associated with operations, including pharmaceuticals, utilities, food service, transportation and other costs result in the overall cost of care increasing dramatically. The rate increases were needed in order to provide quality care and services.

The monthly charge for a semi-private room in the domiciliary unit is \$1,658. The monthly charge for a private room in the Nursing Care Unit is \$3,394. The monthly charge for a room in the Alzheimer's Special Care Unit is \$3,820

Determination of charges to Veterans and eligible dependents are based upon ability to pay. No Veteran or eligible dependent will be denied admission because of his or her financial status. Veterans and eligible dependents with limited resources are required to apply for programs they are eligible for, to include Medicaid, Medicare, SSI or any VA pension/compensation programs. The Veterans receiving 70.0 percent to 100.0 percent service-connected disability compensation does not contribute to the Fee Fund. The Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) per diem for service-connected disability pays for the full cost of care.

In FY 2025 and FY 2026 a slight increase in long-term-care and domiciliary census reflects higher revenue projections in Resident Fee Fund.

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Veterans’ Home

2236 2200 Veterans’ Home Fee Fund (cont.)

Revenue Source:	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Cash Forward	\$ (59,490)	\$ (274,602)	\$ (195,337)	\$ 149,316	\$ 25,385
Care and Hospitalization	1,999,985	2,192,930	2,167,675	2,260,596	2,391,634
Collection Assistance Fee	-	6,126	-	-	-
Meals and Processed Foods	370	949	2,713	949	949
Other Interest Dividend Prem	-	-	-	-	-
Rent of Unimproved Land	1,050	1,250	1,250	1,250	1,250
Oil Gas Mineral Sand Royalties	6,257	2,267	1,150	2,267	2,267
All Other Operating Grants	-	-	74,558	-	-
Health Care Premium Surcharge	-	-	(1,748)	-	-
Other Misc. Revenue	-	-	798	-	-
Operating Transfers In	-	200,000	-	-	-
Total	\$ 1,948,172	\$ 2,128,920	\$ 2,051,059	\$ 2,414,378	\$ 2,421,485

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Veterans' Home Medicaid Fund

2469 2469 Veterans' Home Medicaid Fund

Statutory History: The Medicare and Medicaid programs were signed into law on July 30, 1965. On March 23, 2010, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Public Law 111-148, was enacted. Following enactment of PL 111-148, the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, Public Law 111-152, was enacted on March 30, 2010, amending certain provisions of PL 111-148. These laws are collectively known as the Affordable Care Act.

In order for a Skilled Nursing facility to qualify for Medicare and Medicaid, an annual survey and certification is conducted. The health and safety standards required of Skilled Nursing facilities are found in 42 Code of Federal Regulations, supplemented by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) manuals.

KVH started providing Medicare and Medicaid services for eligible, qualifying events and began billing in September 2010. Medicaid revenue is associated with the Case Mix Index (CMI) of the residents. Medicaid daily rate is adjusted up or down quarterly depending on the average of the CMI. In FY 2025 and FY 2026 a slight increase in Medicaid census and Medicaid rates reflects higher revenue projections.

This fund is considered Off-Budget. The federal funds are receipted to KDHE, which then receipts to other agencies and programs.

Revenue Source:	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Cash Forward	\$ 103,847	\$ 31,928	\$ 22,106	\$ 101,937	\$ -
Care and Hospitalization	1,555,188	1,472,986	1,905,380	1,906,813	1,906,813
Total	\$ 1,659,035	\$ 1,504,914	\$ 1,927,486	\$ 2,008,750	\$ 1,906,813

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Veterans' Home VA Per Diem – Domiciliary

3220 3220 Veterans' Home Domiciliary Fund (VA Per Diem)

Statutory History: 38 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 17, Subpart 51.40 states that the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) will pay per-diem for Nursing Care and Domiciliary Care provided to an eligible veteran in a facility recognized as a State Home for Veterans. Public Law 108-422, Title II, SEC 202, Section 1741(e) states that payments to states pursuant to this section shall not be considered a liability of a third party, or otherwise be used to offset or reduce any other payment made to assist veterans.

DVA per diem is paid to a facility on a monthly basis. The daily rates are normally adjusted on October 1st of every year to coincide with the start of the federal fiscal year, as determined by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs. The current VA Domiciliary per diem rate is \$56.10.

In order to continue qualifying for per diem, state homes for veterans are required to maintain standards for health and safety as established by the DVA. Each Home undergoes an annual survey conducted by its supporting VA Medical Center. The standards and inspection process guidance is found in VHA Handbook 1145.01.

Receipts in this fund may fluctuate based upon the rate changes determined by the DVA on October 1st, and the veteran census. DVA per diem is paid to a state veterans' home to provide domiciliary care to eligible veterans as long as the state veterans' home meets the DVA standards, as measured by an annual survey conducted by the DVA.

In FY 2025 and FY 2026 a slight decrease in domiciliary census reflects lower revenue projections in VA Per Diem revenues.

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Veterans’ Home VA Per Diem – Domiciliary

3220 3220 Veterans’ Home Domiciliary Fund (VA Per Diem) (cont.)

Revenue Source:	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Cash Forward	\$ 47,010	\$ 78,293	\$ -	\$ 42,200	\$ 33,059
Care and Hospitalization	365,649	487,818	546,613	479,206	544,522
Total	\$ 412,659	\$ 566,111	\$ 546,613	\$ 521,406	\$ 577,581

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Veterans' Home VA Per Diem – Long Term Care

3232 3232 Veterans' Home Federal Fund Long Term Care (VA Per Diem)

Statutory History: 38 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 17, Subpart 51.40 states that the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) will pay per-diem for Long Term Care provided to an eligible Veteran in a facility recognized as a State Home for Veterans. DVA per-diem is paid to the facility on a monthly basis. The daily rates are adjusted on October 1st of every year to coincide with the start of the federal fiscal year (FFY). The current VA per diem rate in FFY 2024 rate is \$129.97.

The above annotated per diem rates are known as the Basic Rate. For Veterans who are service connected at a 70.0 percent or higher rate, Public Law 112-115, Sec. 105, dictates a slightly different formula calculation. The daily rates are adjusted on October 1st of every year to coincide with the start of the federal fiscal year (FFY). The current VA per diem rate in FFY 2024 rate is \$442.42.

In order to continue qualifying for per diem, State Homes for Veterans are required to maintain standards for health and safety as established by the DVA. Each Home undergoes an annual survey conducted by its supporting VA Medical Center. The standards and inspection process guidance can be found in VHA Handbook 1145.01.

Receipts in this fund may fluctuate based on the rate changes determined by the DVA on October 1st, the Veteran census, and the mix of Veterans with 70.0 percent or greater service-connected compensation in the census. DVA per-diem is paid to a State Veterans' Home to provide Long Term Care to eligible Veterans as long as the State Veterans' Home meets the DVA standards, as measured by an annual survey conducted by the DVA.

In FY 2025 and FY 2026 a slight increase in long-term-care and service-connected census reflects higher revenue projections in VA Per Diem revenues.

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Veterans’ Home VA Per Diem – Long Term Care

3232 3232 Veterans’ Home Federal Fund Long Term Care (VA Per Diem)

Revenue Source:	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Cash Forward	\$ 408,510	\$ 109,587	\$ -	\$ 112,061	\$ 262,994
Care and Hospitalization	4,502,775	6,182,257	7,290,294	7,649,457	7,750,386
Other Miscellaneous Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Total	\$ 4,911,285	\$ 6,291,844	\$ 7,290,294	\$ 7,761,518	\$ 8,013,380

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Veterans’ Home VA Per Diem – Long Term Care

3232 3251 Veterans’ Home Federal Fund Long Term Care (ARPA Distribution)

Statutory History: 38 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 17, Subpart 51.40 states that the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) will pay per-diem for Long Term Care provided to an eligible Veteran in a facility recognized as a State Home for Veterans. DVA per-diem is paid to the facility on a monthly basis.

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan of 2021 became Public Law No: 117-2. Under section 8004 of the law, \$250.00 million became available to “existing State extended care facilities for Veterans in proportion to each State’s share of the total resident capacity in such facilities as of the date of enactment.” As a result of the equation used, the Kansas Veterans Home will receive \$1.2 million or \$14,776 per resident. These dollars are one-time and can be used for operational needs, with an expiration date of September 30, 2022.

Revenue Source:	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Cash Forward	\$ -	\$ 137,341	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Federal Grants Operating	1,211,656	-	-	-	-
Other Miscellaneous Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Total	\$ 1,211,656	\$ 137,341	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Veterans’ Home VA Per Diem – Long Term Care

3232 3261 Veterans’ Home Federal Fund Long Term Care (CAA Distribution)

Statutory History: 38 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 17, Subpart 51.40 states that the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) will pay per-diem for Long Term Care provided to an eligible Veteran in a facility recognized as a State Home for Veterans. DVA per-diem is paid to the facility on a monthly basis.

On December 27, 2020, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 became Public Law No: 116-260. Under section 517 of Division J, provided for “a one-time emergency payment to existing State extended care facilities for Veterans to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus,” and “that such payments shall be in proportion to each State’s share of the total resident capacity in such facilities as of the date on enactment.” As a result of the equation used, the Kansas Veterans Home received \$483,676 for residents in FY 2021.

Revenue Source:	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Cash Forward	\$ 55,177	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Care and Hospitalization	-	-	-	-	-
Other Miscellaneous Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Total	\$ 55,177	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Veterans’ Home Provider Relief Fund

3754 3760 Veterans’ Home CARES Provider Relief Fund

Statutory History: The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act was signed into law on March 27th, 2020. As part of the Act, the Provider Relief Fund (PRF) was created; Federal Health and Human Services (HHS) maintains the fund and is responsible for distributions from the fund. Distributions from the fund can be ongoing and or for targeted populations. The Kansas Office of Veterans Services received distributions in FY 2021 from the fund based on Phase 4, ARPA Rural Fund payment

In December 2021, HRSA began releasing Provider Relief Fund Phase 4 General Distribution payments to providers and suppliers based on changes in operating revenues and expenses from July 1, 2020, to March 31, 2021. Phase 4 payments also include new elements specifically focused on equity, including reimbursing smaller providers for their changes in operating revenues and expenses at a higher rate compared to larger providers, and bonus payments based on the number of services providers furnish to Medicaid/Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and Medicare beneficiaries.

ARP Rural is intended to help address the disproportionate impact that COVID-19 has had on rural communities and rural health care providers; funding will be available to providers who serve patients in these communities.

Revenue Source:	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Cash Forward	\$ 77,721	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Federal Grant Operating	-	-	-	-	-
Total	\$ 77,721	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Veterans' Home Medicare Fund

3893 3893 Veterans' Home Medicare Fund

Statutory History: The Medicare and Medicaid programs were signed into law on July 30, 1965. On March 23, 2010, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Public Law 111-148, was enacted. Following enactment of PL 111-148, the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, Public Law 111-152, was enacted on March 30, 2010, amending certain provisions of PL 111-148. These laws are collectively known as the Affordable Care Act.

In order for a Skilled Nursing facility to qualify for Medicare and Medicaid, an annual survey and certification is conducted. The health and safety standards required of Skilled Nursing facilities are found in 42 Code of Federal Regulations, supplemented by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) manuals.

In FY 2024, there was an increase in Medicare revenue due to more resident's skilled qualifying days. In FY 2025 and FY 2026 a slight decrease in Medicare revenues reflect less resident's skilled qualifying days.

Revenue Source:	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Cash Forward	\$ 72,888	\$ 2,694	\$ 19,547	\$ 13,392	\$ 281,608
Care and Hospitalization	418,057	161,186	357,285	268,216	268,216
Total	\$ 490,945	\$ 163,880	\$ 376,832	\$ 281,608	\$ 549,824

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Soldiers' Home

KANSAS SOLDIERS' HOME

KANSAS SOLDIERS' HOME OVERVIEW:

The primary purpose of the Kansas Soldiers' Home (KSH) is to provide exceptional nursing home care for any person who served in active military service of the United States during any period of war, or who served in the active military service of the United States during peacetime and who is entitled to Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) hospitalization or domiciliary care under Title 38 of the United States Code and federal Veterans' Affairs rules and regulations. The home serves Veterans who have been discharged under conditions other than dishonorable who may be disabled by disease, wounds, old age or otherwise disabled, and who by reason of such disability, are incapacitated from earning a living.

To achieve this purpose, KSH provides nursing home care to Veterans who require skilled or intermediate nursing care, and related medical services if such nursing care and medical services are prescribed by or are performed under the general direction of persons duly licensed to provide such care. The care includes intensive care where the nursing service is under the supervision of a registered nurse.

The secondary purpose is to provide domiciliary and cottage care, such as shelter, food, and necessary medical care, on an ambulatory self-care basis to assist eligible Veterans who are suffering from a disability, disease, or defect of such a degree that incapacitates the Veteran from earning a living. These Veterans are not in need of hospitalization or nursing care services, to attain physical, mental, and social well-being, through a coordinated treatment plan to restore the residents to, or maintain the residents at, their highest level of functioning. Eligible applicants may apply for cottage living at KSH if they are capable of handling the day-to-day routine of independent living, provide their own furniture and appliances, and maintain the upkeep of the cottage residences.

With the improvements in health care and lifestyle choices, people are remaining independent much longer, and their long-term care needs, and assistance requirements are lower. Though Domiciliary applications and census have been reduced as a result of this we are beginning to see an increase in our census.

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Soldiers’ Home

KSH may also provide nursing home care and domiciliary care on a space-available basis, to Veteran family members, i.e., spouses, surviving spouses, eligible dependents, and Gold Star parents.

Average Daily Census (ADC):

	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Long-Term Care	35	48	52	53	54
Domiciliary	43	41	38	40	44
Total	78	89	90	93	98

KSH has seen a significant increase in the average daily census after the end of the public health emergency declaration due to COVID-19. This has resulted in an increase in the amount of revenue received in Fee Fund, Medicaid, and both VA Per Diem accounts. With the public’s renewed interest in long-term care for their loved ones, KSH expects this trend to continue growing. Applications for long-term care and domiciliary continue to come in regularly and they are quickly processed for admission to the home.

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Soldiers' Home

EXPENDITURE JUSTIFICATION BY OBJECT CODES:

It remains a challenge for the KOVS revenue and expenditures to reflect consistency from year to year because of special revenue funds. Actual fund balances at the beginning of a fiscal year compared to original estimates can reflect dramatic variances. These variances require expenditure adjustments from different funding sources, like Medicaid, Medicare, and VA Per-diem, which are heavily driven by the census that results in variances between the approved budget and the revised budget. However, the overall expenditures by program reflect very little adjustment and remain consistent. Where there are changes in the overall expenditures for a program, an explanation is provided in the program narratives.

The sources of revenue for KSH, other than SGF, are monthly reimbursements and the KOVS does not control when these reimbursements will post. It is not always predictable that within a certain number of days after uploading the reimbursement requests, that the reimbursements will post. There can sometimes be one to two months of a lag between when they are uploaded and when the reimbursements are received. This can sometimes cause an uneven flow of receipts into each fund. KOVS fiscal staff continually monitor each fund to see where sufficient balances are available to pay the bills that are due.

Object Code 100: Salaries and Wages

The Kansas Soldiers' Home administers four programs: Administration, Domiciliary Resident Services, Long-Term Care, and Physical Plant (Maintenance/Dietary/Housekeeping) with an FTE count of 117. The current staffing level is 103 filled FTE with optimal FTE staffing based on census, and acuity levels need 114 filled FTE to meet operational needs. Due largely to significant salary and wage increases, the KSH has successfully filled 22 FTE positions. KSH believes it can fill 7 FTE positions in FY 2025, bringing positions filled to 110 FTE, and in FY 2026 will be able to fill another 4 FTE positions, bringing our total FTE count to 114. The following are the salary and wage requests for FY 2025 and FY 2026:

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Soldiers’ Home

Salary and wage costs at the Home are funded through a mix of State General Fund and Special Revenue Funds. KSH continues to develop strategies to improve every aspect of care, and specifically balance standards of care, with limited resources, as experienced in the most recent fiscal years. KSH staff are committed to providing the best care possible for the Veterans they serve. Many residents express their appreciation and recognize the staff’s efforts.

FY 2025: \$9,882,316

FY 2026: \$10,257,303

Object Code 200: Contractual Services

KSH leadership is committed to finding ways to reduce contractual service expenditures, primarily through a significant reduction in the reliance on temp agencies to meet staffing needs. Recruiting and retaining full time nursing staff continues to be problematic; there is a nationwide shortage of nurses at all levels of care. Minimum staffing requirements force us to use temporary staffing agencies to fill positions to support resident care. Major expenditures in this category are Fees-Professional Services and Utilities. Professional Services consist of contracts with medical professionals providing care to the residents. The amounts below include on-budget and off-budget expenditures and represent a modest decrease.

FY 2025: \$59,784

FY 2025: \$2,145,111 (off-budget)

Total: \$2,204,895

FY 2026: \$613,806

FY 2026: \$1,543,377 (off-budget)

Total: \$2,157,183

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Soldiers' Home

Object Code 300: Commodities

Major expenditures in this category are Food, Professional & Scientific Supplies, Scientific Research Supplies, and Pharmaceuticals. Pharmaceutical supplies include nursing care items such as: medicine, bandages, and other care items for the residents. The amounts below include on-budget and off-budget expenditures.

FY 2025: \$977,587

FY 2025: \$387,803 (off-budget)

Total: \$1,365,390

FY 2026: \$1,563,390

FY 2026: \$0 (off-budget)

Total: \$1,563,390

Object Code 400: Capital Outlay

Capital Outlay expenditures include beds, mattresses, dining room furniture, file cabinets, dietary equipment, nursing equipment, wheelchairs, and miscellaneous other equipment. This includes resident bed replacements in the Long-Term Care building and replacement of computer and I.T. equipment that is outdated.

FY 2025: \$343,206

FY 2025: \$0 (off-budget)

Total: \$343,206

Narrative Information – DA 400

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Soldiers' Home

FY 2026: \$308,206
FY 2026: \$0 (off-budget)
Total: \$308,206

Object Code 500: Capital Improvements

The agency's Capital Improvement Plan lists eight projects scheduled for KSH, in addition to emergency rehabilitation and repairs, in FY 2025 and two projects in FY 2026, in addition to emergency rehabilitation and repairs. Some planned projects for FY 2025 include replacing the roof on Halsey Hall, painting cottages on campus, and redoing the Halsey Hall Shower Rooms.

FY 2025: \$3,468,174
FY 2025: \$53,394 (ARP)
Total: \$3,521,568

FY 2026: \$798,670
FY 2026: \$0 (ARP)
Total: \$798,670

Object Code 900: Other Assistance

This category consists of comfort money for residents of the Home. Medicaid residents who are Veterans receive \$98 per month and non-Veteran Medicaid residents can apply for a reduced rate. These figures have decreased based on an overall reduction in census due to the COVID pandemic.

FY 2025: \$8,244 (off-budget)
FY 2026: \$8,244 (off-budget)

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Soldiers' Home Fee Fund

2241 2100 Soldiers' Home Fee Fund

Statutory History: This fund is authorized by K.S.A. 76-1952, as amended by Sub HB 2681. Resident Fees are reviewed annually, and any changes are effective January 1st of each year. The KOVS has increased the monthly rate by a total of 20.0 percent in five separate increments since 2010. The last increase was 5.0 percent in January 2021. The costs associated with health care and other fees associated with operations, including pharmaceuticals, utilities, food service, transportation and other costs result in the overall cost of care continues to increase. The rate increases are needed in order to maintain quality care and services. A comparison of fees to other facilities in the region has been conducted, and our fees remain far lower than all other facilities that provide the same service.

The monthly charge for a room in the Domiciliary is \$1,225.05 for Veterans and \$2,249.45 for eligible dependents. The monthly charge for a semi-private room in the Nursing Care Unit is \$2992.71 for Veterans and \$5,640.22 for eligible dependents.

Determination of charges to Veterans and eligible dependents are based on ability to pay. No Veteran or eligible dependent will be denied admission because of his or her financial status. Veterans and eligible dependents with limited resources are required to apply for programs they are eligible for, including Medicaid, Medicare, SSI, or any US Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) pension/compensation programs. The Veterans receiving 70.0 percent to 100.0 percent service-connected disability, or Veterans admitted to the Long-Term Care Unit for a service-connected disability as their primary reason for admission, do not contribute to the Fee Fund. The VA per diem for service-connected disability pays for the full cost of care in the Long-Term Care unit.

Fees for cottage residency were adjusted in SFY 2021 to \$773.71 for Veterans, and \$386.87 for spouses residing with a Veteran. The reduced rate for cottage residents is 35.0 percent of their adjusted income for Veterans and 55.0 percent for their eligible dependents, which reinforces our mission statement that all Veterans are admitted, regardless of their ability to pay.

All applicants are required to disclose all sources of income and net worth so that charges can be assessed in a fair and consistent manner. Veterans and eligible dependents may sign a waiver for excessive income but must then pay the maximum charges. No

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Soldiers’ Home Fee Fund

2241 2100 Soldiers’ Home Fee Fund (cont.)

Veteran or eligible dependent will be denied admission because of their financial status. Some Veterans and eligible dependents may pay more or less than others, but in no event will the Veteran or eligible dependent pay more than the established maximum monthly charges for the level of care needed.

Revenue Source:	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Cash Forward	\$ 427,264	\$ 10,117	\$ 75,688	\$ 241,277	\$ -
Care and Hospitalization	1,032,846	1,234,669	1,570,677	1,534,858	1,534,858
Usable Condemned Equipment	9,240	-	-	-	-
Meals and Processed Foods	3,207	4,083	136	-	-
Int Agency Bank Accounts	(1,030)	(695)	(849)	-	-
Salvaged Materials/Misc	-	-	1,417	-	-
Other Interest Dividend Prem.	(5,643)	-	-	-	-
Rent of Unimproved Land	13,045	6,095	13,070	13,070	13,070
Rent Real Estate and Bldgs	-	-	-	-	-
Other Rents and Royalties	137	140	(3,453)	-	-
Restitution	5,109	-	-	-	-
All Other Operating Grants	-	-	43,044	-	-
Operating Transfers Out	-	(200,000)	-	-	-
Total	\$ 1,484,175	\$ 1,054,409	\$ 1,699,730	\$ 1,789,205	\$ 1,547,928

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Service 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Soldiers’ Home Medicaid Fund

2464 2464 Soldiers’ Home Medicaid Fund

Statutory History: The Medicare and Medicaid programs were signed into law on July 30, 1965. On March 23, 2010, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Public Law 111-148, was enacted. Following enactment of PL 111-148, the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, Public Law 111-152, was enacted on March 30, 2010, amending certain provisions of PL 111-148. These laws are collectively known as the Affordable Care Act.

For a Skilled Nursing facility to qualify for Medicare and Medicaid, an annual survey and certification is conducted. The health and safety standards required of Skilled Nursing facilities are found in 42 Code of Federal Regulations, supplemented by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) manuals.

KSH started providing Medicare and Medicaid services for eligible, qualifying events and began billing in September 2009. Medicaid revenue is associated with the Case Mix Index (CMI) of the residents. Medicaid daily rate is adjusted up or down bi-annually depending on the average of the CMI. The current rate is \$332 per day. During FY 2024, the facility has rebounded from the pandemic, and we are experiencing a steady increase in census, this increase in census is projected to increase the revenue from this source. This fund is considered Off-Budget.

Revenue Source:	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Cash Forward	\$ 62,835	\$ 375,101	\$ 157,523	\$ 1,097,163	\$ 173
Care and Hospitalization	830,212	1,342,100	1,491,036	1,444,168	1,551,621
Total	\$ 893,047	\$ 1,717,201	\$ 1,648,559	\$ 2,541,331	\$ 1,551,794

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Soldiers' Home Medicare Fund

3168 3100 Soldiers' Home Medicare Fund

Statutory History: The Medicare and Medicaid programs were signed into law on July 30, 1965. On March 23, 2010, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Public Law 111-148, was enacted. Following enactment of PL 111-148, the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, Public Law 111-152, was enacted on March 30, 2010, amending certain provisions of PL 111-148. These laws are collectively known as the Affordable Care Act.

In order for a Skilled Nursing facility to qualify for Medicare and Medicaid, an annual survey and certification is conducted. The health and safety standards required of Skilled Nursing facilities are found in 42 Code of Federal Regulations, supplemented by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) manuals.

KSH started providing Medicare and Medicaid services for eligible, qualifying events and began billing in September 2009. The first revenue was received in April 2010. Medicare reform commenced reducing reimbursements in FY 2013. Medicare changed the reimbursement methods to the Patient Driven Payment Model, and rates in October 2019. The KSH CMS Certification Number is 17-5513. During FY 2024, the facility experienced a decline in residents receiving skilled services that generate revenue for this fund. While the facility is rebounding from the pandemic and experiencing a steady increase in census, the facility is not experiencing an increase in Medicare services.

Revenue Source:	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Cash Forward	\$ 79,862	\$ 49,808	\$ 63,660	\$ 63,690	\$ 28,416
Care and Hospitalization	70,324	13,853	30	14,010	14,010
Total	\$ 150,186	\$ 63,661	\$ 63,690	\$ 77,700	\$ 42,426

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Soldiers’ Home VA Per Diem - Domiciliary

3220 3225 Soldiers’ Home Domiciliary Fund (VA Per Diem)

Statutory History: 38 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 17, Subpart 51.40 states that the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) will pay per diem for Nursing Care and Domiciliary Care provided to an eligible Veteran in a facility recognized as a State Home for Veterans. Public Law 108-422, Title II, SEC 202, Section 1741(e) indicates that payments to states pursuant to this section shall not be considered a liability of a third party, or otherwise be used to offset or reduce any other payment made to assist Veterans.

DVA per diem is paid to a facility on a monthly basis. The daily rates are normally adjusted on October 1st of every year to coincide with the start of the federal fiscal year, as determined by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs. The current per diem rate is \$59.69.

In order to continue qualifying for per diem, State Homes for Veterans are required to maintain standards for health and safety as established by the DVA. Each Home undergoes an annual survey conducted by its supporting VA Medical Center. The standards and inspection process guidance can be found in VHA Handbook 1145.01.

Receipts in this fund may fluctuate based upon the rate changes determined by the DVA on October 1st and the Veteran census. DVA per diem is paid to a State Veterans’ Home to provide Domiciliary care to eligible Veterans as long as the State Veterans’ Home meets the DVA standards, as measured by an annual survey conducted by the DVA.

Revenue Source:	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Cash Forward	\$ -	\$ 47,529	\$ -	\$ 40,291	\$ 80,176
Care and Hospitalization	596,289	569,916	564,886	522,534	566,363
Total	\$ 596,289	\$ 617,445	\$ 564,886	\$ 562,825	\$ 646,539

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Soldiers' Home VA Per Diem – Long Term Care

3232 3242 Soldiers' Home Federal Fund Long Term Care (VA Per Diem)

Statutory History: 38 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 17, Subpart 51.40 states that the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) will pay per diem for Long Term Care provided to an eligible Veteran in a facility recognized as a State Home for Veterans. DVA per diem is paid to the facility on a monthly basis. The daily rates are normally adjusted on October 1st of every year to coincide with the start of the federal fiscal year, as determined by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs. The per diem rate is currently \$138.29.

The above annotated per diem rates are known as the Basic Rate. For Veterans who are service connected at a 70.0 percent or higher rate, Public Law 112-115, Sec. 105, dictates a slightly different formula calculation. For FY 2024, the rate is \$472.86.

In order to continue qualifying for per diem, State Homes for Veterans are required to maintain standards for health and safety as established by the DVA. Each Home undergoes an annual survey conducted by its supporting VA Medical Center. The standards and inspection process guidance are found in VHA Handbook 1145.01.

Receipts in this fund may fluctuate based on the rate changes determined by the DVA on October 1st, the Veteran census, and the mix of Veterans with 70.0 percent or greater service-connected compensation in the census. DVA per diem is paid to a State Veterans' Home to provide Long Term Care to eligible Veterans if the State Veterans' Home meets the DVA standards, as measured by an annual survey conducted by the DVA.

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Soldiers’ Home VA Per Diem – Long Term Care

3232 3242 Soldiers’ Home Federal Fund Long Term Care (VA Per Diem cont.)

Revenue Source:	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Cash Forward	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 108,270	\$ 196,719	\$ 913,810
Care and Hospitalization	2,490,081	3,700,424	4,302,219	4,631,713	4,821,812
Other Miscellaneous Revenue	9,503	-	-	-	-
Total	\$ 2,499,584	\$ 3,700,424	\$ 4,410,489	\$ 4,828,432	\$ 5,735,622

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Soldiers’ Home VA Per Diem – Long Term Care

3232 3252 Soldiers’ Home Federal Fund Long Term Care (ARPA Distribution)

Statutory History: 38 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 17, Subpart 51.40 states that the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) will pay per diem for Long Term Care provided to an eligible Veteran in a facility recognized as a State Home for Veterans. DVA per diem is paid to the facility on a monthly basis.

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan of 2021 became Public Law No: 117-2. Under section 8004 of the law, \$250 million became available to “existing State extended care facilities for Veterans in proportion to each State’s share of the total resident capacity in such facilities as of the date of enactment.” As a result of the equation used, the Kansas Soldiers’ Home will receive \$960,459 or \$14,776 per resident. These dollars are one-time and can be used for operational needs, with an expiration date of September 30, 2022.

Revenue Source:	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Cash Forward	\$ -	\$ 624,274	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Federal Grants Operating	960,459	-	-	-	-
Total	\$ 960,459	\$ 624,274	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Office of Veterans Services 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Soldiers’ Home VA Per Diem – Long Term Care

3232 3262 Soldiers’ Home Federal Fund Long Term Care (CAA Distribution)

Statutory History: 38 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 17, Subpart 51.40 states that the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) will pay per diem for Long Term Care provided to an eligible Veteran in a facility recognized as a State Home for Veterans. DVA per diem is paid to the facility on a monthly basis.

On December 27, 2020, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 became Public Law No: 116-260. Under section 517 of Division J, provided for “a one-time emergency payment to existing State extended care facilities for Veterans to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus,” and “that such payments shall be in proportion to each State’s share of the total resident capacity in such facilities as of the date on enactment.” As a result of the equation used, the Kansas Soldiers Home received \$437,612 or \$5,758 per resident.

Revenue Source:	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Cash Forward	\$ 355,754	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Care and Hospitalization	-	-	-	-	-
Other Miscellaneous Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Total	\$ 355,754	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Explanation of Receipt Estimates – DA 405

Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Commission on Veterans’ Affairs Office 69400

State of Kansas

Program: Kansas Veterans’ Home Provider Relief Fund

3754 3759 Soldiers’ Home CARES Provider Relief Fund

Statutory History: The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act was signed into law on March 27th, 2020. As part of the Act, the Provider Relief Fund (PRF) was created; Federal Health and Human Services (HHS) maintains the fund and is responsible for distributions from the fund. Distributions from the fund can be ongoing and or for targeted populations. The Kansas Commission on Veterans’ Affairs Office received distributions in FY 2021 from the fund based on Phase 4, ARPA Rural Fund payment.

In December 2021, HRSA began releasing Provider Relief Fund Phase 4 General Distribution payments to providers and suppliers based on changes in operating revenues and expenses from July 1, 2020, to March 31, 2021. Phase 4 payments also include new elements specifically focused on equity, including reimbursing smaller providers for their changes in operating revenues and expenses at a higher rate compared to larger providers, and bonus payments based on the number of services providers furnish to Medicaid/Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and Medicare beneficiaries.

ARP Rural is intended to help address the disproportionate impact that COVID-19 has had on rural communities and rural health care providers; funding will be available to providers who serve patients in these communities.

Revenue Source:	FY 2022 Actuals	FY 2023 Actuals	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Estimate
Cash Forward	\$ -	\$ 32	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Federal Grant Operating	52,962	-	-	-	-
Total	\$ 52,962	\$ 32	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -