



*Serving our Nation's Veterans*



# Welcome!

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To the 2017  
State Veterans  
Chair Training!





# Our Mission

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*So long as there are veterans, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget them.*

The mission of the Elks National Veterans Service Commission is to take this pledge and put it into action, to back this pledge with hours of not just service but service that makes an impact.

Because it's not enough to simply remember our veterans: it's the ENVSC's job to serve those veterans.

And when there are so many veterans in need, it's our job to focus on those veterans.





# Focus on Results!

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Good intentions are not enough. Be practical, considerate and well informed.

If your Lodge is using ENVSC funds to serve veterans and military members in need, it must focus on one of these five areas of increased need.

- Employment
- Homelessness and Housing
- Military Families
- Health (including mental health)
- Educational Support

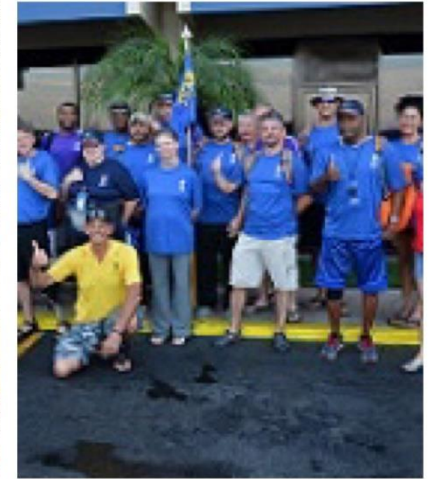




# Additional Guidelines

In recent years, the Commission has affirmed that the focus of our programs at the national level should be on direct service military members and veterans in need.

- Unfortunately, there are many veterans/military members in need.
- This does not mean that projects like veterans memorials and ceremonies honoring the fallen are not important. It just means that national ENVSC funds cannot be used to fund them.
- We encourage state and local Lodges to fund these on their own if they choose.
- This includes memorials at VA facilities and elsewhere.





# Today's Veterans

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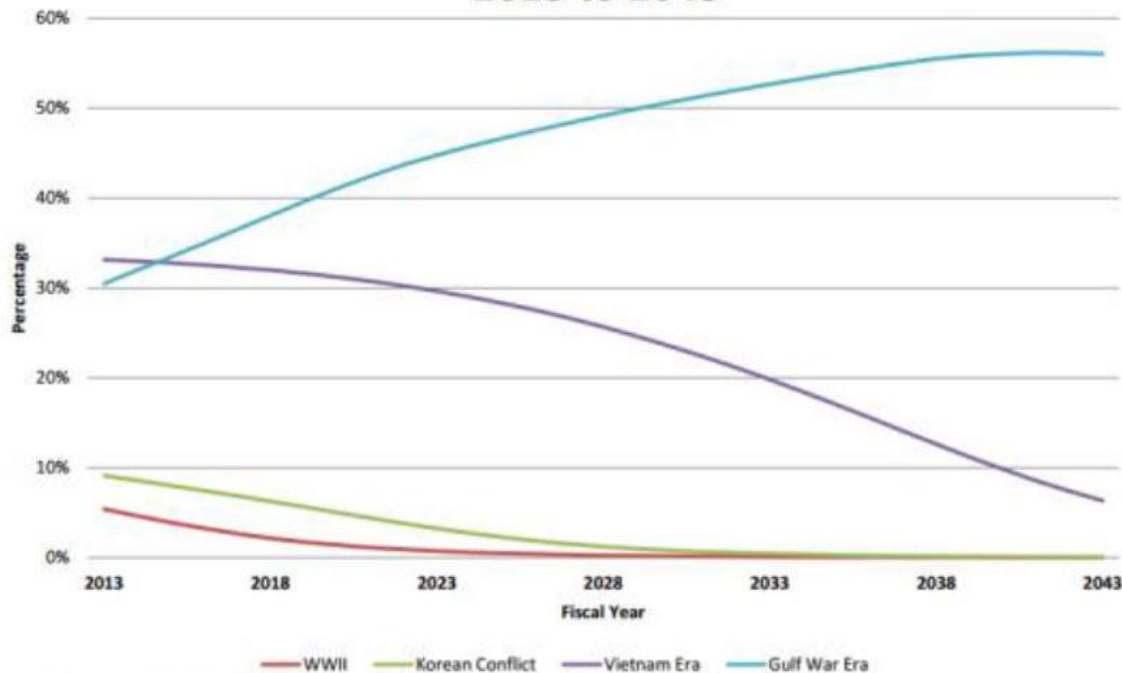
- Projected U.S. Population of Veterans: 21,999,000
- 9% of U.S. Veterans are female.
- 45.23% of Veterans are aged 65 or older
- Total enrollees in VA care system: 9.11 million
- 6.6 million Veterans received services from the VA in 2014
- 54% of veterans surveyed by Blue Star Families reported that their transition from service was difficult.





# Veteran Population Now and in the Future

## Projected Percent of Veteran Population by Period of Service 2013 to 2043



Source: Office of the Actuary, Veteran Population Projections Model (VetPop2014), Table 2L





# Basic Duties of a State Veterans Chair

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- Manage the VAVS program in your state, and recruit VAVS Reps and Deps
- Communicate with Lodge Veterans Chairs, District Deputies, and state-level volunteers about veterans service through emails, newsletters, state convention presentations, etc.
- Promote the Elks programs for veterans
- Run state-level veterans programs







# The End

