

Joint Committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs

November 18, 2013

Mary Forbes, WDVA Assistant Director for Veteran Services and
Behavioral Health

Dan Pacholke, DOC Assistant Secretary for Prisons

Vincent Woods, WDVA Incarcerated Veterans Program
Coordinator and WestCare AmeriCorps





Guiding Principles



- **Veteran Centric – hands-on, experiential, one-on-one customer service resulting in measurable outcomes**
- **Go after and bring Federal VA monies to Washington**
 - ✓ **Veterans Benefits and Entitlements**
 - ✓ **Grants for Programs**
- **Partnerships**
 - ✓ **WestCare Foundation**
 - ✓ **Data Share with DOC, DSHS**
 - ✓ **Community-Based Touch Points – Localized Delivery**
 - **Peer to Peer (Vet Corps and AmeriCorps)**



Background



- **Approximately 13,000 new veterans each year will be returning to WA through 2017***
- **10%, or an estimated 1,300 veterans will likely be incarcerated (2004 Bureau of Justice Statistics report)**
- **Approximately 95% of all prison offenders will reenter your community**
- **65% of current veteran offenders in WA DOC have an Honorable or General discharge**

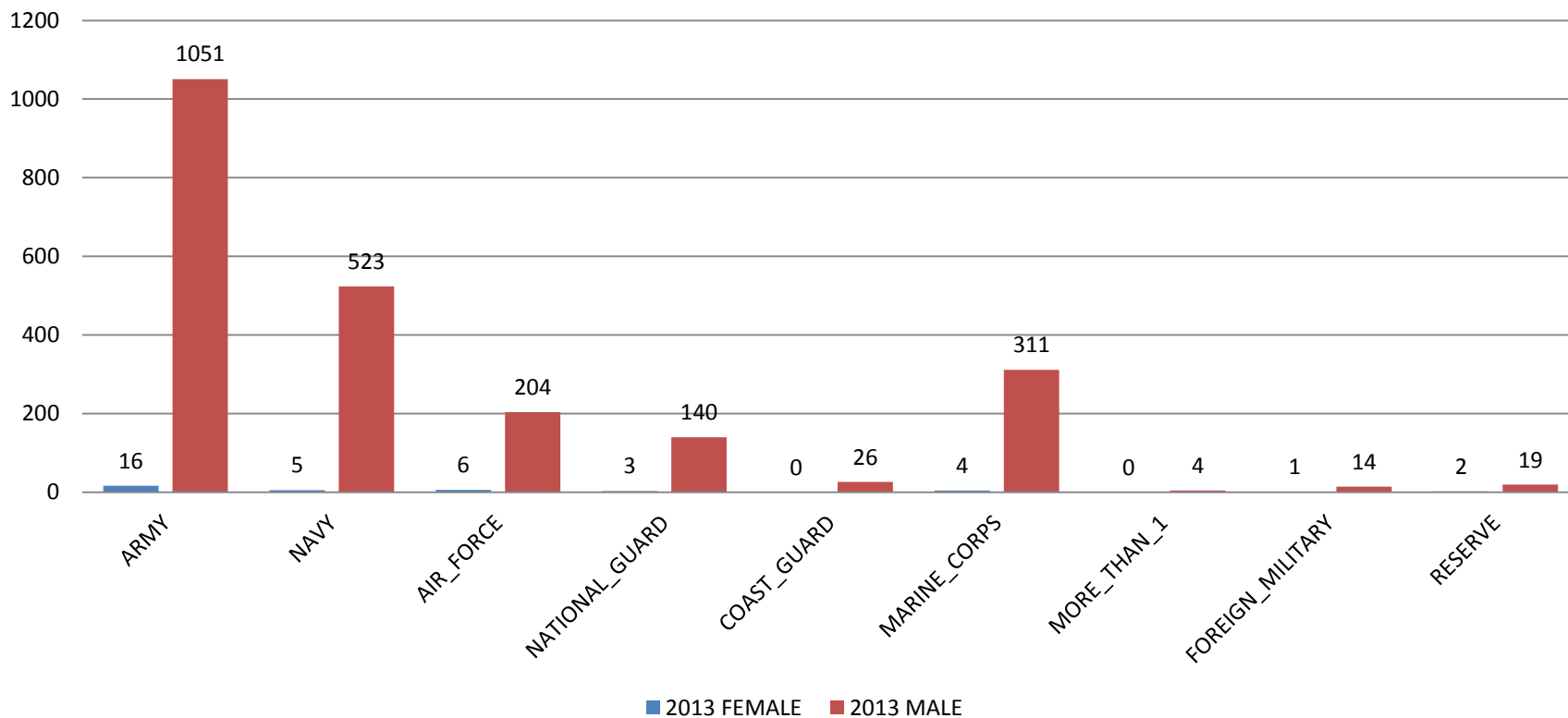
* Data from WDVA DD 214 database



Veteran Population



Veteran Offender under DOC Jurisdiction During FY 2013





Partnerships



Public/Private Partnership

- **WDVA & WestCare**
- **Northwest Justice Project**

State Partnerships

- **WA State Department of Veterans Affairs**
- **Department of Corrections**
- **Department of Social and Health Services**
- **Health Care Authority**

Federal Partnerships

- **Federal VA Health Care Administration**
 - **One Health Care for Reentry Veterans Program Coordinator (WA, OR, ID, AK)**
 - **Five Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinators (North Puget Sound, South Puget Sound, Vancouver, Spokane, Walla Walla)**
- **Federal VA Benefits Administration**
 - **One Homeless Coordinator**



Pathway to Progress



JULY

DOC identified 3% veteran inmate population

MARCH

DOC developed veteran Internet and Intranet sites and created posters and brochures

MARCH

Trained approximately 40 Reception Counselors on VA benefits for incarcerated veterans

OCTOBER

King County Community Supervision Pilot

2010

2011

2012

2013

APRIL

38 CFR Part 17 final rule published authorizing VA to provide hospital and outpatient care to any incarcerated veteran upon their release from prison or jail

OCTOBER

WDVA/DOC developed a video for veteran offenders

MAY

King County Work Release Pilot

MARCH

Pierce County Work Release Facilities

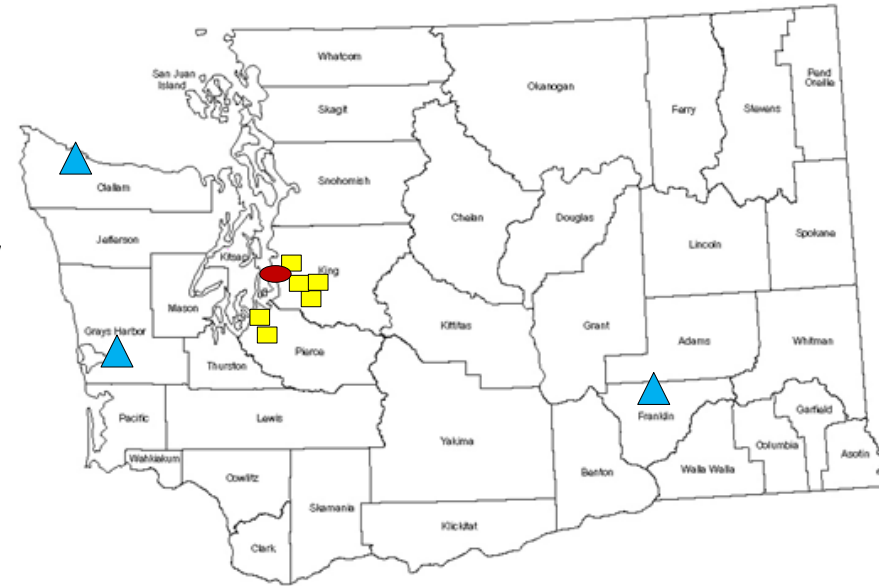


As of November 2013



Prison Facilities with Veteran Dorms ▲:

- **Stafford Creek** Corrections Center MI3 (in existence)
- **Coyote Ridge** Corrections Center MI3 & Medium custody (in existence)
- **Clallam Bay** Corrections Center Close Custody (*pending*)



Community Corrections ■

King County Work Release Sites

- Reynolds
- Bishop Lewis
- Madison Inn
- Helen B Ratcliff

Pierce County Work Release Sites

- RAP/Lincoln
- Progress House

Seattle Community Justice Center ●

Next Steps 2014 - 2016



GOAL 4: HEALTHY AND SAFE COMMUNITIES

Fostering the health of Washingtonians from a healthy start to a safe and supported future

- **Veteran Offender Reintegration** – WDVA’s Decision Package, funding request to develop and sustain a full-service delivery model for veteran offenders transitioning to your community
- **Focus on enrollment and use of:**
 - ✓ VA health Care
 - ✓ VA benefits and entitlements
 - ✓ Transportation, Housing, and Employment
- **1st Year (FY 2015)** - Develop comprehensive data-driven procedures/protocols
- **2nd Year (FY 2016)** - Execute statewide model
- **3rd Year (FY 2017)** - Sustain operations and measure success

Ultimate outcome:

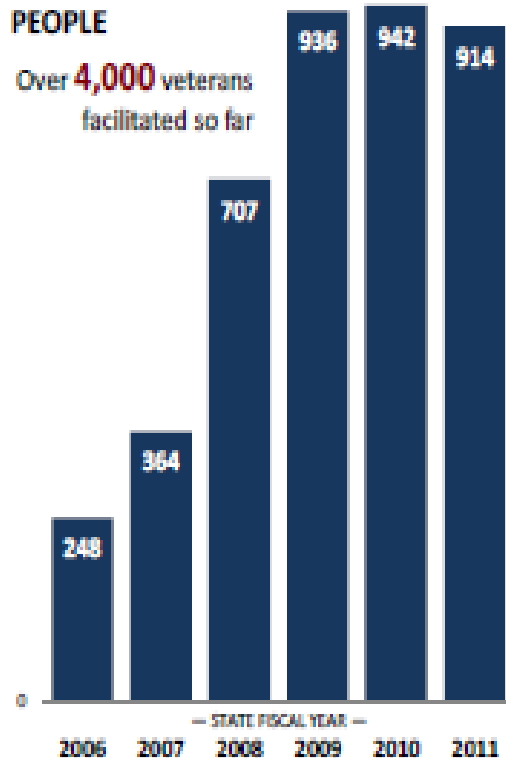
Economically stable and self-sufficient veteran offender population upon reentry into the community

Proven Cost Avoidance Model

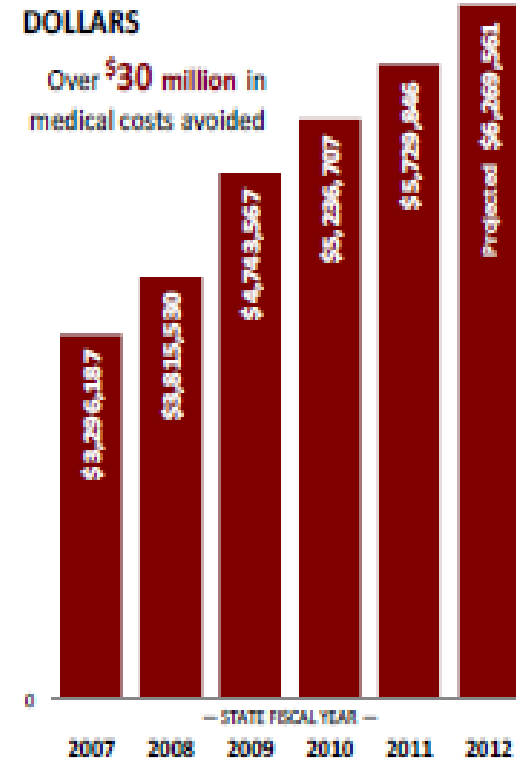
WDVA/Health Care Authority Veterans Benefit Enhancement Program

SAVINGS | *Hundreds of veterans benefit and millions in costs are avoided*

Veterans Directed to Federal TRICARE or CHAMPVA



Medical Costs Avoided for Washington State



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