

# Nevada County Veterans Services Board of Supervisors Presentation

November 12, 2019

Presented by

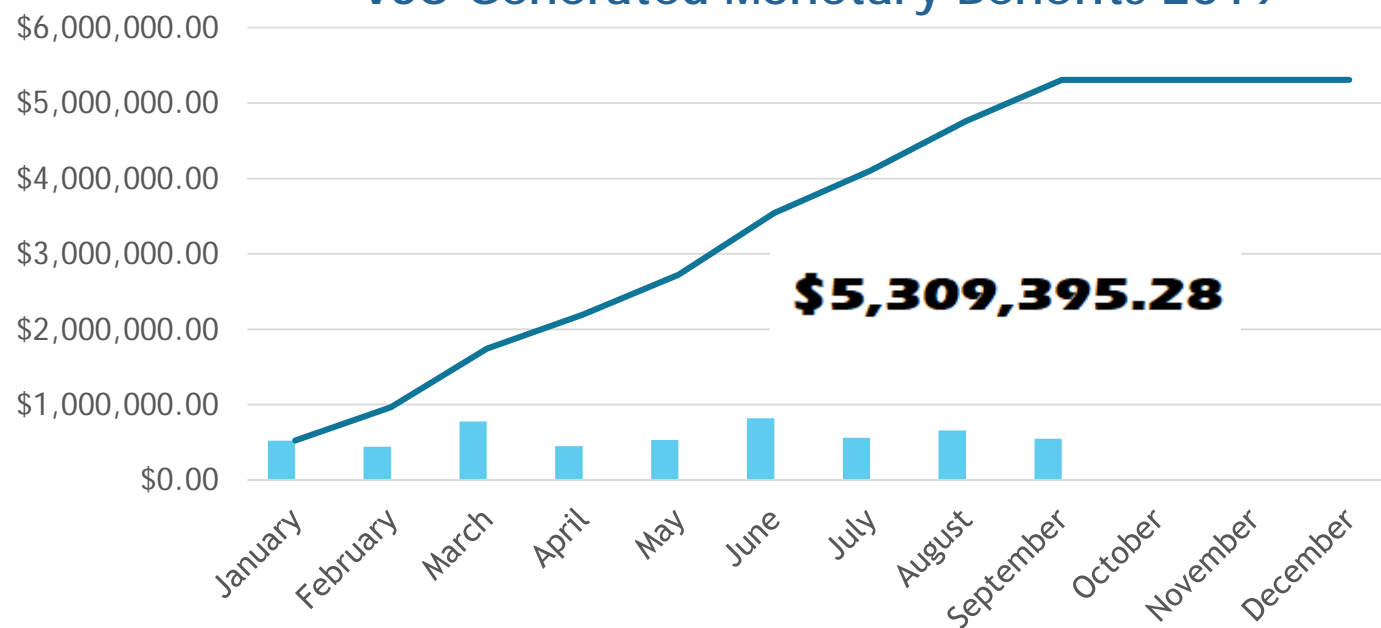
Tex Ritter, Director, Social Services

David West, Veterans Service Officer

- ▶ 8,585 Veterans live in Nevada County
- ▶ The Veterans Service Officer serves all Veterans, spouses, and dependents
  - ▶ Assist applying VA claims for injuries sustained in service
  - ▶ Pension programs for low-income wartime Veterans
  - ▶ Benefits available to surviving spouses
  - ▶ \$288,000 of college fees waived last year for dependents of Veterans
- ▶ 24.1% of the Veteran population is receiving VA benefits
  - ▶ Below state average of 25.3%

- ▶ The VSO applied for \$45,000 through a Proposition 63 Grant
  - ▶ Awarded \$49,000 - Veterans receive free mental health services
  - ▶ Awarded \$15,000 - One-time grant for outreach/mental health services
- ▶ Since August 15, 2019 VSO has been assisting Placer County
  - ▶ Generated \$12,000 in funds for the VSO
- ▶ \$400,000 Operating Budget
  - ▶ \$5.3 million in Federal Veteran Benefits Awarded to Veterans

### VSO Generated Monetary Benefits 2019



- ▶ VSO will use generated revenue to engage with more Veterans
  - ▶ Upgrade technology
  - ▶ Focus reaching Veterans through all media platforms
  - ▶ Engage with as many Vets as possible while using little financial resources
- ▶ Partnership with VetTv to produce monthly segments on services
- ▶ Quarterly Radio segments
- ▶ Built strong relationships with all local Veteran Organizations
- ▶ Monthly outreach in Truckee
- ▶ Bi-weekly outreach VA Outpatient Clinic in Auburn
- ▶ Developing training for local stakeholder's on the benefits of a Veterans Treatment Court

- ▶ VSO Operating Budget includes subvention funding through the state
  - ▶ Three streams of subvention funding
    - ▶ Training, workload units, Medi-Cal Cost Avoidance
- ▶ VSO will focus on increasing Medi-Cal Cost Avoidance funding
  - ▶ Four employees from Social Services have received CalVet training
    - ▶ Creates dynamic workforce
    - ▶ Veterans receive quality information
    - ▶ Contact made with every referral
- ▶ Project to increase Medi-Cal Cost avoidance by \$42,000 in FY 20/21