

VLP NEWSLETTER



VETERANS LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

SERVING VETERANS SINCE 1982

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

We are excited to ring in a new year and are hopeful for what 2021 will bring! But first, here are some of our biggest highlights from 2020. It was a year that presented us with many new obstacles, so we adapted our services to meet the increased need and grew our programming and service delivery area. During a year of uncertainty, Veterans Leadership Program remained, as always, committed to providing best-in-class services to those who have served.



2020

A YEAR IN REVIEW



4,500 Food Shares Distributed to Veterans and Families

VLP was proud to distribute over 4,500 shares of food to Veterans and Military Families in 2020. In partnership with the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, VLP held safe, contactless distributions each month for Veterans in need in Pittsburgh and Central PA.

Our next distributions are:

Pittsburgh Military Share - Monday, January 11th at 12 PM

Johnstown Military Share - Friday, January 29th at 1 PM

HOMELESS VETERANS' REINTEGRATION PROGRAM

Employment Program Expansion

VLP was honored to be awarded 2 grants through the Department of Labor's Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP). HVRP is the only federal grant to focus exclusively on competitive employment for homeless Veterans.

Being awarded the largest HVRP grant serving Western and Central Pennsylvania, VLP is proud to provide these vital services to Veterans in 18 counties.

SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILIES

COVID-19 Assistance for Veterans

VLP was granted a significant increase in our Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program to assist Veterans and their families who had been impacted by COVID-19. This funding allowed us to keep up with the increased demand for assistance with rental payments, rental arrears, utility costs, moving costs, or emergency housing such as hotels for Veterans experiencing homelessness.

EXPANSION TO ERIE VA SERVICE AREA

VLP Expands to Erie

VLP was excited to expand our services to the Erie VA service area, which also includes counties in New York and Ohio. We are now able to serve these Veterans and their families through our Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) and Grant and Per Diem (GPD) programs funded through the Department of Veterans Affairs.

With this expansion, VLP now proudly serves Veterans and their families in 30 counties throughout Western and Central Pennsylvania, New York, and Ohio.



The Joint Commission Gold Seal of Approval

Veterans Leadership Program earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval® for Behavioral Health Care Accreditation.

The Joint Commission's standards are developed in consultation with health care experts and providers, measurement experts, and patients. The Gold Seal is a symbol of quality that reflects a health care organization's commitment to providing safe and quality patient care.

"The Joint Commission Accreditation process has ensured VLP is providing world-class service through the utilization of best practices and continuous process quality improvement." - Dr. Ben Stahl, CEO



Department of Labor Hire Veterans Medallion Gold Award

VLP was named a 3-time Hire Veterans Medallion Gold Award winner by the Department of Labor for exemplary efforts to recruit, employ, and retain our nation's Veterans.

Interested in joining our award-winning team?

[Check out our open positions](#)



PAServes Greater Pittsburgh moved to VLP

Veterans Leadership Program became the new home of PAServes-Greater Pittsburgh Coordination Center. We are now charged with managing and sustaining community-based care for the military-connected population in Allegheny, Butler, and Westmoreland counties. Since launching in 2015, the network has received over 15,000 requests for support and includes over 60 community partners and providers.

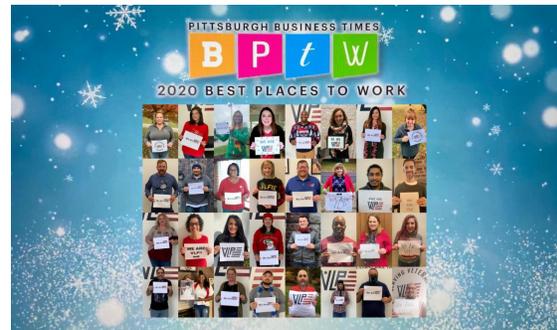
[Read more!](#)



Top-Rated Nonprofit Award

Veterans Leadership Program was honored to receive the Top-Rated Nonprofit Award from GreatNonprofits.

[Check out our 5 star reviews](#)



Best Places to Work Award

Veterans Leadership Program was named 2020 Best Places to Work by Pittsburgh Business Times.

We are grateful to the VLP Team for their commitment to our mission and always going above and beyond to serve our region's Veterans.

RUN FOR A REASON CHARITY PARTNER



Official Veteran Charity of the Pittsburgh Marathon

VLP became an official Run for a Cause Charity for the Dick's Sporting Goods Pittsburgh Marathon in 2020. While the event was changed to a virtual race, our VLP Charity Runners still completed their miles and raised crucial funds for our program!

We are excited for the 2021 Marathon and are still recruiting for Charity Runners and Marathon Volunteers! Click the links below to register!

[Become a VLP Charity Runner](#)

[Become a VLP Marathon Volunteer](#)



HUD Secretary Ben Carson Visit

VLP hosted two special visits for our U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) programs. In July, HUD Secretary, Ben Carson, visited our Pittsburgh office and in March, HUD Mid-Atlantic Regional Administrator, Joe DeFelice, visited our Johnstown office.

After his tour, Secretary Carson expressed, "The Veterans Leadership Program is a prime example of what we can accomplish when local communities and government come together to ensure that those who sacrificed greatly for our Nation are not left behind. As our veterans return home from recent wars in Afghanistan and Iraq it is critical that HUD and Congress continue to support strong partnerships with organizations like the Veterans Leadership Program."



Appointment to Governor's Advisory Council on Veteran Services

VLP's Chief Development Officer, Toshua Jarrett, was appointed to the Governor's Advisory Council on Veterans Services.

The purpose of the Governor's Advisory Council on Veterans Services is to review, evaluate, and assess state Veterans' programs, increase information sharing, ensure program fidelity, coordinate complementary programs, and facilitate meaningful enhancements in service accessibility to Veterans' benefits and services within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

[Read more about the visit](#)

[VLP Event Calendar](#)

[Visit our website](#)

