

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Veterans Services

John Maxwell Commissioner Telephone: (804) 786-0220 Fax: (804) 786-0302

September 22, 2021

Via Electronic Mail

The Honorable Kathleen T. Jabs Acting Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs 1000 Bank Street, 3rd Floor Richmond, Virginia 23219 <u>kathleen.jabs@governor.virginia.gov</u> The Honorable Luke E. Torian Chair, House Appropriations Committee 900 East Main Street, 13th Floor Richmond, Virginia 23219 <u>DelLTorian@house.virginia.gov</u>

The Honorable Janet D. Howell Chair, Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee 900 East Main Street, 14th Floor Richmond, Virginia 23219 <u>District32@senate.virginia.gov</u>

Re: Annual Report on the Virginia Values Veterans (V3) Employment Grant

Dear Secretary Jabs, Delegate Torian, and Senator Howell:

The Virginia Values Veterans (V3) Program of the Virginia Department of Veterans Services (VDVS) creates employment opportunities for Virginia's veterans by educating and training employers to implement nationally recognized best practices in recruiting, hiring, and retaining veterans. Over 2,300 private and public sector employers participate in the V3 Program, and V3 partners have hired more than 84,000 veterans to date.

Per Chapter 552, 2021 Acts of Assembly Special Session I, Item 464 A., the V3 Employment Grant Program was created to incentivize small to medium-sized V3 partners to hire and retain veterans. \$100,000 per fiscal year is set aside in the Appropriations Act to support the grant program. Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) was a landmark year for the V3 Employment Grant Program, providing and exhausting the \$100,000 during the first nine months of the fiscal year. In FY21, VDVS dispersed 100 grants (\$1,000 each) to 38 employers.

After depleting the FY21 funds, VDVS approved an additional 18 applications and subsequently dispersed those grants in FY22. These employers received their approval letters and \$1,000 per veteran hire in early July 2021.

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The table below details the number of applications received, the number of grants awarded, and the total amount of grant funds disbursed in Fiscal Years 2019, 2020, and 2021.

Fiscal Year	2019	2020	2021
Number of applications received	104	92	137
Number of grants awarded	92	85	100
Amount of grant funds disbursed	\$92,000	\$85,000	\$100,000
Number of approved grants that could not be	0	0	18
awarded in current FY due to shortfall of funds			

Please let me know if we may provide additional information. Thank you for supporting this highly effective program.

Sincerely. John Maxwell

Cc: Mr. David Reynolds, Legislative Fiscal Analyst, House Appropriation Committee
Ms. Caitlin Kilpatrick, Legislative Fiscal Analyst, Senate Finance Committee
Ms. Renae Vanderveldt, Budget Analyst, Department of Planning & Budget
Mr. Michael Dick, Chairman, Board of Veterans Services
Ms. Denice Williams, Acting Chairman, Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service

Organizations