



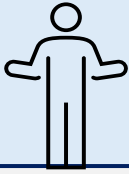
Ohio Veterans Homes (OVH)

State Veteran Homes nuts and bolts: SVHs are state owned and operated by the Ohio Department of Veterans Services (ODVS)

The SVH program is a federal-state partnership whereby the VA (VHA) provides assistance: grants to construct, per diem payments per Veteran for care, and funding to support states for hiring and retaining nurses.

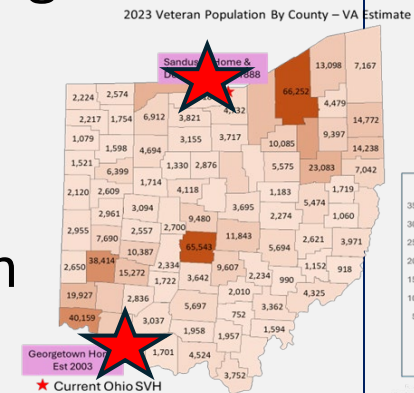
State Veterans Homes provide many advantages to Veteran care, health and morale. It starts with the camaraderie that Veterans felt when they were still serving their nation, an endeavor that for many included significant time away from family, exposure to harsh environments and injury or loss of fellow service-members and friends...

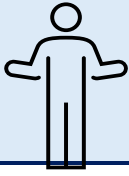
They are more than nursing homes... way more! Veterans can live where they feel comfortable, valued and accepted. They can relax, connect with Veterans and staff who understand Veterans; and express themselves to others who bore the burden



Why we need additional OVH

1. Ohio has almost 700,000 Veterans – 8th largest state Veteran population; however, There are no SVHs within significant Veteran populations...
2. Ohio currently has two State Veteran homes in operation. One located in the northern part of the State in Sandusky and the other located in the southern part of the State in Georgetown
3. Ohio needs additional State Veterans Home (SVH) capacity, *in the right locations*, for Veterans requiring skilled nursing care and domiciliary residence in Ohio. Out of the 177 SVHs nationally, Ohio only has 2 homes...





Ohio Vet Pop. Focus on over >65

According to the 2023 VA Veteran population projections, the veteran population ages 65+ in Ohio will be approximately 309,489 in 2026

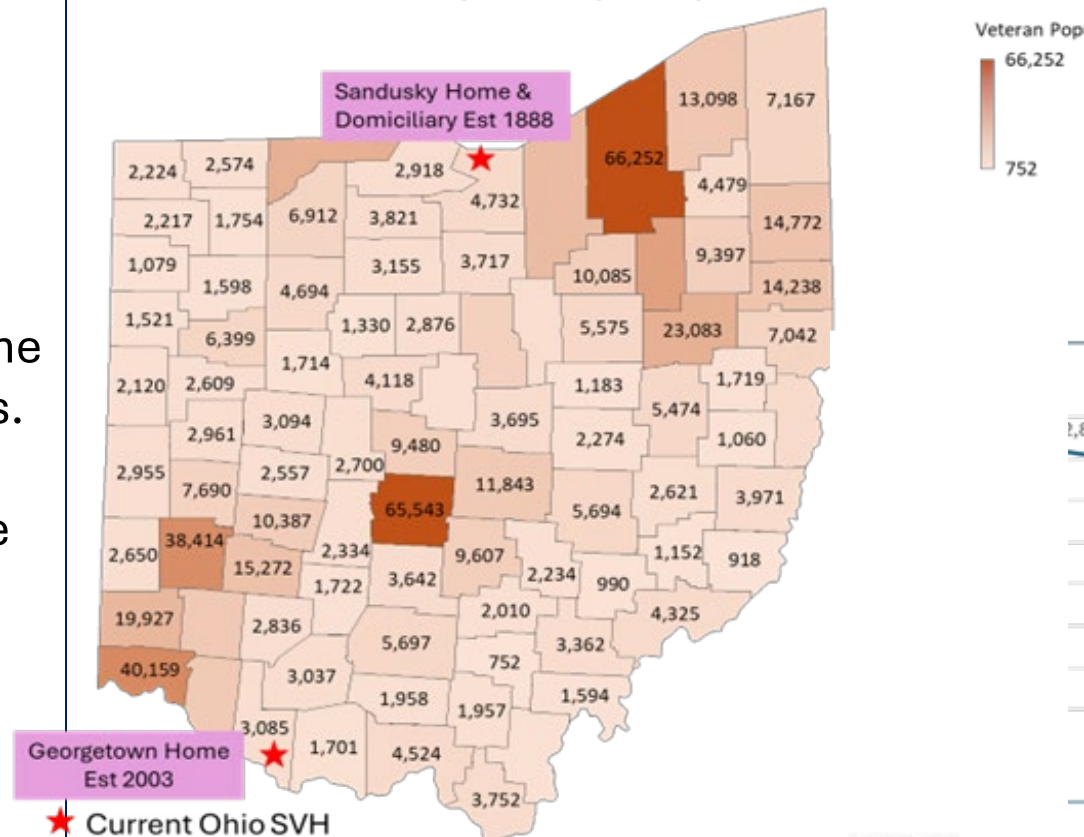
Ohio remains underserved and the need for beds will not diminish.

Based on the 2020 study by the VA, the State of Ohio should have 2,143 beds.

Currently Ohio has 595 nursing home beds between the two facilities, however, ***not all beds are available.***

...and look at where the homes are located in comparison to where Veterans live! ★

2023 Veteran Population By County – VA Estimate





Ohio's Bed Authorization

Ohio Veterans Home – current occupancy (Nov 2025) in **RED**

- NURSING BED CAPACITY:**

- Sandusky Nursing Home: **Tot: 427** 240
 - Standard Nursing Care: 319
 - Alzheimer's Care: 108
- Georgetown: **Tot: 168** 105
 - Standard Nursing Care: 168



Total Nursing Care Beds: State Tot: 595 345 @ 42% Vacancy

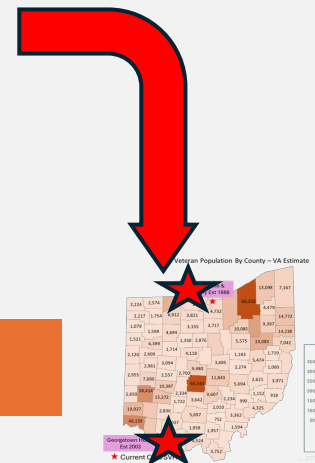
★ **LOCATION-LOCATION-LOCATION** ★

VA Authorized

Maximum Beds Allowed by (38 CFR 59.40): 2,143

Ohio's Unmet Standard Nursing Home Beds: 1,548

Ohio has only 28% of it's authorized beds



- DOMICILARY BEDS (Sandusky)** 206 113 @ 45% Vacancy

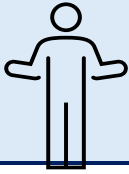


How are additional OVH funded

The VA State Veterans Home Construction Grant Program is a partnership between the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the States to construct, renovate or repair State nursing homes, domiciliary and/or adult day health care facilities.

VA program staff review and approve initial grant applications from states for listing on the annual VA Priority List, which the VA Secretary then approves.

- SVH construction is generally funded ~65% federal and ~35% state dollars
- A new 120 bed SVH costs ~ 130 million to plan, construct & equip!
- Operating costs are generally shared at a 40 / 40 / 20 split - federal / state / Veteran
- **Urgency** – if the state leadership acted today, *following the usual approach*, there are already over 80 validated nationwide construction projects waiting on federal funds at just under 1.4 billion dollars. On average the VA allocates around 170 million annually: a new Ohio Veteran Home (OVH) **would be 8-10 years** from receiving the matching 65% federal funding!
- **A new approach** – ODVS Director championing the idea of the State of Ohio paying for the entire construction – equipping cost, **then seeking reimbursement of the 65% from the VA**... build at today costs and eliminate the 10 year wait...



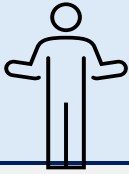
Where we are & who is eligible

Ohio currently has only 28% of nursing home bed capacity
based on VA need projection – *with some capacity in the
wrong place – not in the vicinity of major Veteran populations*

State Veteran homes provide a level of services and camaraderie to the veteran community that meets the special circumstances of military service

ELIGIBILITY FOR VETERANS:

Any veteran who has served in the Armed Forces of the United States during armed conflict who was discharged under honorable conditions and is a resident of the State of Ohio one year and who because of age, injury or disability, is unable to provide support for himself and his family is eligible for admission. ***DOES OHIO HAVE ELIGIBILITY RIGHT?***



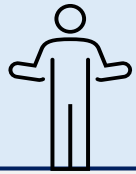
What is the plan for current OVH

Oct 2024: OVH Modernization Project (**old plan**)

- Ohio HB 377 9/2022 approved the state's required matching funds – 65mm
- Based on the current VA State Home Construction Grant Priority List; Ohio is likely 3-6 years from VA Federal matching funds to start modernization and expansion to our two existing homes

Current Approach: ODVS has relooked its approach

- Rather than wait on unknown VA funding, intent is to use approved state funds:
 - Conversion to Single occupancy rooms as possible
 - Upgrade needed HVAC and Plumbing requirements
 - No increase in bed count at current locations as increased capacity focuses on new home (s) in other parts of Ohio (research underway)



What we've done and need to do

2022:

- ODVS Advisory Committee; was made aware, and every meeting since has been discussed
- Advised veterans organizations to send letter and make a priority
- Letters sent form OSACVSO/OSACVSC to governors' office

2023:

- State agendas silent

2024:

- Informed Advisory Committee that they needed to push this through their organizations
- State agendas silent

2025:

- Informed Advisory Committee...and the same in 2025
- **Briefed the Veterans Caucus & Senator Terry Johnson; Omnibus Bill; required ODVS to conduct study on OVHs and submit by Sep 2026 – This is one of our opportunities!!**
- So here we are – ODVS report expected August or September 2026
- We need to tell our state legislators that Ohio is better than this

Challenges:

- Sandusky has empty beds
- Lobbyist advocate for private nursing homes
- Legislators have other priorities, even though they love veterans

Bottom line: *we need to tell them Ohio is better than this and we need newer veterans' home throughout the State of Ohio!*



What you need to do...



Use the QR code to stay up to date on information. We will share talking papers in the future



COL Buck Bramlish (USA Retired)
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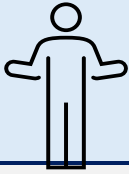
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**...and your organizations to tell our legislature in
a very loud voice that Ohio is better than this.**

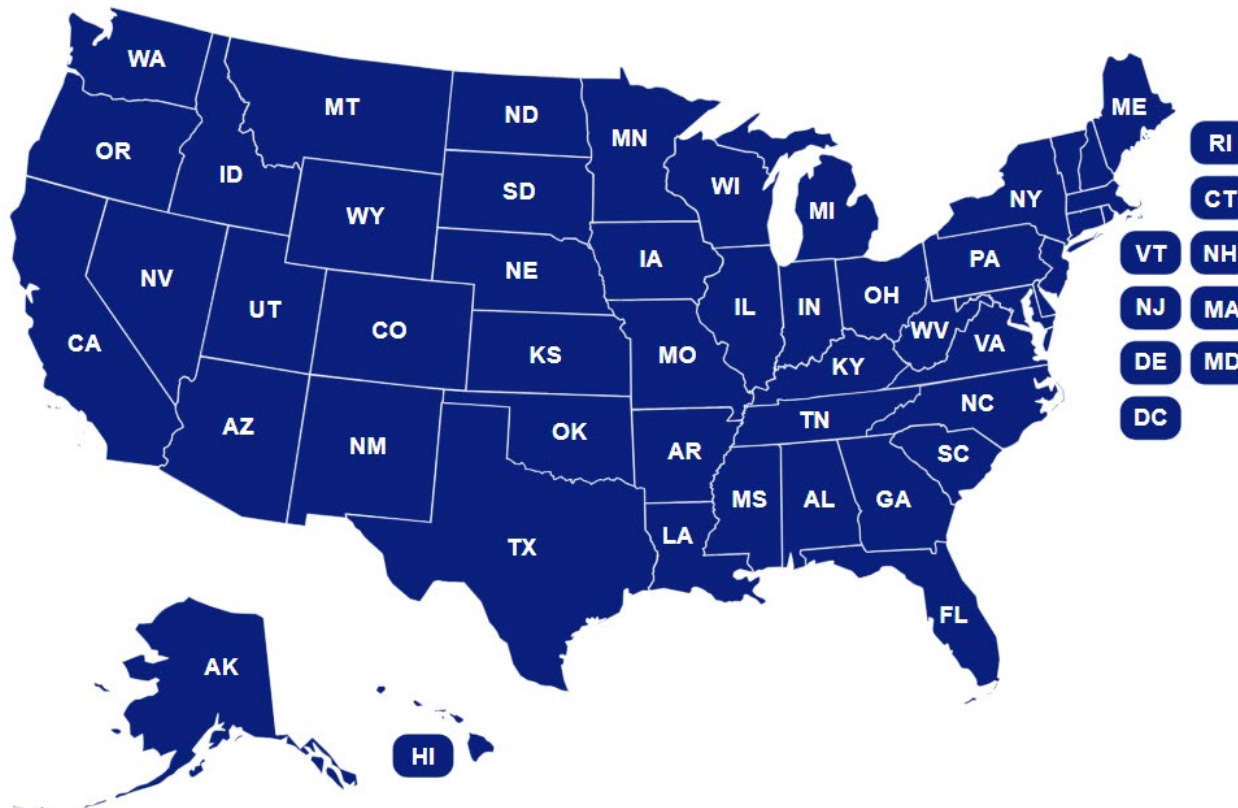
***Building New Veterans Homes for
Ohio's VETERANS must start Now!***

Visit our website at: <https://www.ohamvets.org/stateveteranshome>



Other States

Directory of U.S. State Veterans Homes



Isn't this SVH Amazing?









This Veteran home is in
“the state up North”
Michigan!

3rd NEW Veteran Home
Is under construction
In Michigan