



# NCSL TASK FORCE ON MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS MICHIGAN'S INCARCERATED VETERANS PROGRAM

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Deputy Director Tim Loney

# Michigan's Veteran Population

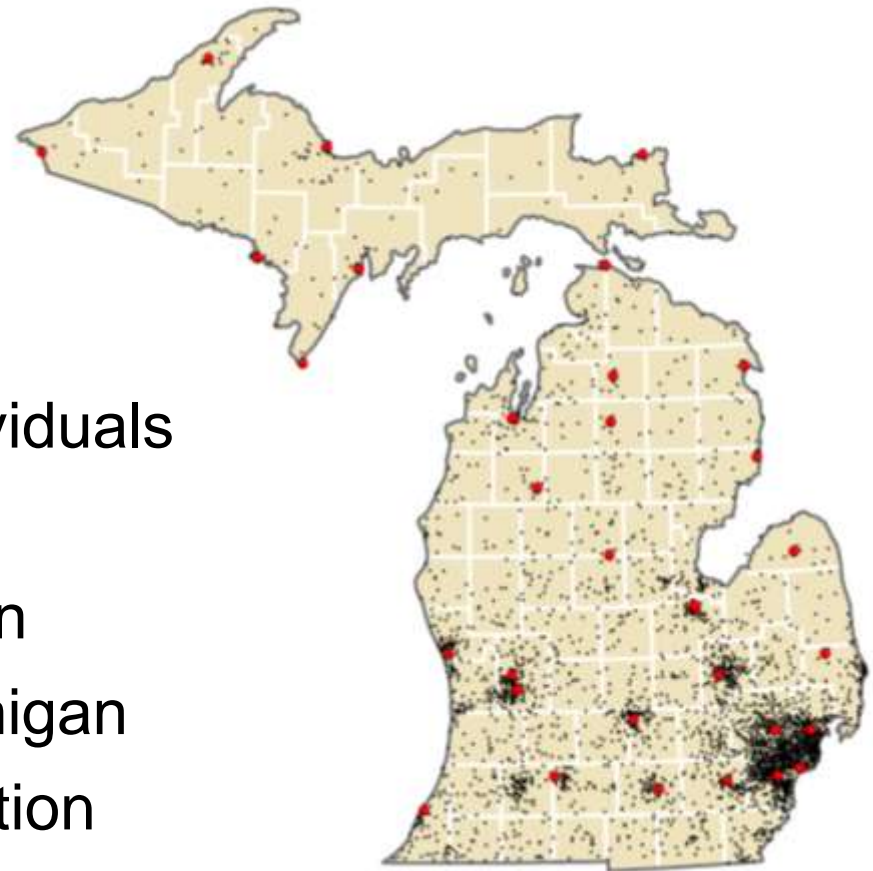


## State of Michigan

- $\approx 10,020,000$
- 10<sup>th</sup> largest population
- $\approx 38,200$  incarcerated individuals

## Michigan's Veteran Population

- $\approx 552,412$  veterans in Michigan
- 11<sup>th</sup> largest veteran population
- $\approx 2,600$  incarcerated veterans



1 Dot = 200 Veterans  
● = Veterans Health  
Administration Facility

# MVAA's Efforts to Assist Justice-Involved Veterans



## Preventative:

- Michigan Veteran Resource Service Center (MVRSC)
- MVAA Veterans Community Action Teams (VCATs)
- Regional Coordinator Program
- Michigan Crisis Intervention System (MI-CIS)

## Assistance for Justice-Involved Veterans:

- Veterans Treatment Courts (VTCs)
- **Incarcerated Veterans Program**



# Why Do It



- Recognition that military service sometimes traumatizes a service member and criminal behavior may arise out of that trauma
- May provide financial assistance to families of incarcerated veterans; up to 90% of the award
- May provide financial assistance to the incarcerated veteran while in prison; up to 10% of the award
- Renewed sense of belonging
- Assists with reintegration; accelerated reinstatement of compensation benefits and eligibility for healthcare
- Reduce recidivism





# Incarcerated Veterans Program

## MDOC

- Established a Veterans Housing Unit (Level 2)
- Tracks veteran inmate population & status
- Rotates incarcerated veterans to the Saginaw facility
- Works with MVAA to schedule appointments
- Works with VHA to schedule required medical exams
- Escorts inmates to medical appointments

## MVAA

- Coordinates / facilitates program activities
- Verifies veteran status
- Works with MDOC to schedule appointments
- Represents the incarcerated veteran
- Provides claims processing assistance

## VHA

- Notifies and works with MDOC to schedule required medical exams
- Allows armed MDOC escorts



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF  
**CORRECTIONS**



Michigan Veterans  
Affairs Agency



U.S. Department  
Of Veterans Affairs

## Memorandum of Agreement

# Results



- 237 veterans in the unit
- 300 veterans at the facility
- 313 veterans for which MVAA holds POA
- 523 medical exams performed
- 329 VA benefit claims filed
- 13 veterans in the program paroled since January 2019







**1-800-MICH-VET  
(1-800-642-4838)**

**[MichiganVeterans.com](http://MichiganVeterans.com)**

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