

# New Mexico Department of Veterans Services



Legislative Health and Human Services Committee

**25 September 2020**

**Sonya Smith**

***DVS Deputy Secretary***

# “Serving Those Who Served”

**Mission:** To provide the highest quality care, service and advocacy for the men and women—and their families—who have served as members of the United States Armed Forces.



# DVS Staff and Budget For FY21

**FTE Auth - 64**

**Judy Griego**

**Cabinet Secretary**

**Bryan Osterhage**

**Deputy Secretary**

**Sonya Smith**

**Deputy Secretary**

**Healthcare Staff**

**Jemia Warner**

**HealthCare Coordination Division Director**

- **Constance Vargas**

**Social Worker**

**Budget for FY 21**

**\$6,321,8000 General, Federal and other funds awarded**

**Executive Expansion Request 350K - for Homeless Veterans, Suicide Prevention and Transportation was not approved**

# New Mexico's Veteran Population (Source: VA Projections)



154,172 Veterans (Percent of Population 7.4%)

74,890 Veterans over the age of 65 (48% of veteran population)

21,621 Veterans are over the age of 80 (14%)

79,143 Live in the Albuquerque Metro Area (51%)

*(Valencia, Bernalillo, Sandoval, Santa Fe Counties)*

16,710 Are Women Veterans (10.9%)

# Healthcare Coordination Division

The Healthcare Coordination division of Department of Veterans' Services develops and coordinates veteran programs and outreach that promote transitional living, housing, suicide prevention, advocacy and transportation related to healthcare access and issues for New Mexico Veterans.

The Healthcare division is dedicated to assisting and advocating on the behalf of our veterans and their families with their related healthcare needs.

# Healthcare Division

- State Veterans Home – seamless transition back to DOH 1 Jul 2019
- Awarded VA- Highly Rural Transportation grant to support 9 highly rural counties for veteran transportation to medical appointments
- Collaboration with CYFD, a local Girl Scout troop and local veterans to provide masks for individuals in need (COVID)
- 145 Veterans Serviced (Including COVID related issues)
- Partners – DOH Behavioral Health Collaborative, Access & Functional Needs coordination group and VA Healthcare System



# Questions/Comments???



**The New Mexico Department of Veterans Services**

**[www.nmdvs.org](http://www.nmdvs.org)**

***Toll-Free 1-(800) 866-433-8387***

**Our Veterans Thank You!**