

**DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS REPORT ON THE COLORADO STATE  
VETERANS AFFAIRS TRUST FUND FOR FY 09-10**

**Subject:** Colorado State Veterans Trust Fund

**Requirement:** Pursuant to §25-1-108.5 (2), C.R.S. as amended, the following report is provided for State Fiscal Year 09-10 covering the period from July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010.

**Statutory Issues Affecting the Future of the Veterans Trust Fund:**

**SECTION 2.**

**28-5-709 (1) (b) (III) and (1) (b) (IV), Colorado**

**Revised Statutes, are amended, and the said 28-5-709 (1) (b) is further amended**

**BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SUBPARAGRAPH,**

to read: 28-5-709. Colorado state veterans trust fund - created - report- repeal. (1) (b) The moneys in the trust fund shall be used for:

(III) Costs incurred by the division; and

(IV) Veterans programs operated by nonprofit veterans organizations that meet criteria adopted by the board and that are selected by the board as grant recipients;

AND

(V) (A) CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS TO BUILD NATIONAL GUARD ARMORIES AT ALAMOSA, GRAND JUNCTION, AND WINDSOR.

(B) THIS SUBPARAGRAPH (V) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012.

**Funds Received:** The Veterans Trust Fund (VTF) received an appropriation of \$1,078,911 at the beginning of FY 09-10. The board used \$31,375 for administration and Division of Veterans Affairs Operations: \$6,000 upgraded the Board's Strategic Plan and \$5,000 was expended in support of the Veterans Resource Information Clearinghouse. Also, the Veterans Memorial Cemetery of Western Colorado was able to expend \$16,000 that was carried over from the previous year in support of a drainage project. \$917,393 was provided to the grant program. Of the \$917,393 provided for grants, \$852,122 was expended. By the end of the fiscal year \$910,657 was disbursed by the fund.

**Program Description:** The Colorado State Veterans Trust Fund is designed with the specific goal of assisting all eligible veterans residing in the State of Colorado regardless of race, color, national origin, religion and sexual preference, marital or religious status by providing funds for the following purposes:

- State Veteran's Nursing Homes for capital improvements and needed amenities.
- Costs incurred by the legislative oversight committee and veterans nursing home commission to evaluate quality of care provided at certain state veterans nursing homes.
- Operation and maintenance of existing or future State Veterans Cemeteries.
- Costs incurred by the Division of Veterans Affairs.
- Non-profit Veterans Service Organizations to assist homeless veterans and their families, providing veteran transportation to and from Veteran Medical Centers and Doctor's appointments; stand-downs; veterans forums, and programs to assist the veteran in employment or job related services.

**Population Served:** The actual number of veterans in the State of Colorado is unknown since all veterans are not registered with the Veterans Administration, however the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics demographic analysis of the veteran population for the State of Colorado estimates that as of 30 September 2009 there were approximately 424,000 veterans living in the State of Colorado. Obviously, not all of them require assistance. Those that do require assistance include nursing home residents, homeless, indigent veterans, combat disabled veterans, invalids, under-employed and the unemployed. A breakdown of the actual number served through the grant process is provided in subsequent paragraphs of this report.

**Services Provided:** Of the \$917,393 available the following represents a breakdown by category of agencies that received funding, grants or awards during the reporting period, to include the type of service and/or assistance provided.

**Veterans Memorial Cemetery of Western Colorado** - No money from this year's grant was expended by the cemetery, however \$16,000 that was carried over from the previous year in support of a drainage project.

**State Veterans Nursing Homes (SVNH) –**

- Rifle** - \$28,665 for Resident Furniture
- Denver (Fitzsimons)** - \$34,370 Bariatric Equipment
- Homelake** - \$22,400 Healthy Heart Room
- Florence** - \$41,000 Renovate Sports Grill

**Non-Profit Veterans Service Organizations** – these organizations were awarded \$593,725 in grant funds to support veterans and their needs. A breakout by organization with the purpose and amounts provided to and expended by each grantee with number of veterans served is provided as enclosure #1 to this report.

**Administration** - Administrative costs of \$31,375 include grant management, some Board of Veterans Affairs travel and travel for grantee site visits/inspections.

**Operation and Special Projects** - Division of Veterans Affairs Operations used \$50,000 for document scanning equipment and computers, conduct of County Veteran Service Officer Training and Administrative assistance for claims processing. The update of the five year Strategic Plan cost \$6,000 and the Veterans Resource Information Clearinghouse project, which is an internet based resource for veterans seeking assistance, expended \$5,000.

**Program Effectiveness:** This was the eighth year that the Colorado Department of Military and Veterans Affairs administered the Colorado State Veteran's Trust Fund. The trust fund is operating effectively. It is achieving its designed purpose. On-site visits continue to be conducted by the grant administrator, members of the board and staff members. Success is evidenced by a strong marketing program and by the number of veterans directly served. Shown here by Fiscal Year and Number of Veterans Served:

Fiscal Year	Veterans Served
02-03	1,514
03-04	2,704
04-05	3,517
05-06	7,045
06-07	11,058
07-08	7,717
08-09	10,116
09-10	10,645

**Evaluations:** Grantees are evaluated by on-site visits and/or inspections, quarterly reports and the submission of receipts and/or canceled checks submitted by the grantees. A final year end report is also required from the grantees.

**Closing:** Over the past eight years the Colorado Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and the Colorado Board of Veterans Affairs, through the Colorado Veterans Trust Fund, have provided direct benefits ranging from bus passes, food cards, work clothes, rent assistance, utility assistance and transportation to Veterans Affairs medical facilities to 54,361 Veterans in the State. The fund still provides some minimal support to the Division of Veterans Affairs for its operation.

Enclosure #1

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Grant Amount</u>	<u>Amount Disbursed</u>	<u>Veterans Served</u>
Am Leg Post 113, Alamosa	Trans Program	\$3,500	\$3,500	77
VFW Post 899, Alamosa	Trans Program	\$26,325	\$26,287	1,821
VFW Post 3621, Lamar	Trans Program	\$12,900	\$12,900	627
Am Leg Post 108, Pagosa Spgs	Trans Program	\$24,000	\$24,000	57
Am Leg Post 209, Colo Spgs	Support Homeless Shelter	\$70,000	\$70,000	312
Am Leg Post 2, Pueblo	Veh Purchase & Trans Program	\$34,000	\$34,000	1,465
DAV Chapter 30, Salida	Veh Purchase & Trans Program	\$23,259	\$19,051	26
Am Leg Post 109, Windsor	Standdown & Vet Assistance	\$50,000	\$41,024	235
Am Leg Post 44, Steamboat Spgs	Trans Program	\$3,750	\$3,750	81
VFW Post 4663, Clifton	Pets for Vets	\$3,000	\$3,000	13
VFW Post 1247, Grnd Junction	Job & Vet Assistance	\$23,900	\$18,139	225
Am Leg Post 170, Westcliffe	Trns Prgm & Vet Assistance	\$48,250	\$48,250	292
VFW Dept of CO, Lakewood	Vet Services	\$25,000	\$24,992	55
DAV Chapter 48, Durango	Vet Services	\$30,000	\$29,930	185
VFW Post 5231, Mancos	Job & Vet Assistance	\$8,425	\$6,500	16
NABVETS, Denver Chapter 24	Trrans Prgm & Vet Assistance	\$20,000	\$20,000	150
Am Leg Post 1992, Aurora	Vet Assistance & Employ	\$18,000	\$18,000	70
Am Leg Post 66, Akron	Trans Prgm	\$6,900	\$5,044	147
Am Leg Post 1, Denver	Job & Vet Assistance	\$20,000	\$12,887	120
DAV Chap 8, Greeley	Veh Purchase & Trans Program	\$33,259	\$23,572	Note 1
TREA Chap 1, Colo Sprgs	Standdown & Vet Assistance	\$40,000	\$32,500	114
VFW Post 4265, Craig	Trns Prgm & Vet Assistance	\$15,000	\$15,000	313
VVA Chap57CO, Grand Junction	Stand-down & Vet Assistance	\$10,000	\$5,955	361
VFW Post 4171, Golden	Homeless & Incarcerated Prgm	\$24,000	\$22,056	228
Am Leg Post 203, Pueblo	Standdown & Vet Assistance	\$10,000	\$10,000	103
VFW Post 41, Loveland	Job & Vet Assistance	\$40,000	\$37,631	164
Am Leg Post 103, Littleton	Vet & Job Assistance	\$11,950	\$11,954	152
Am Leg Post 87, Aurora	Vet Assistance & Trans	\$115,640	\$115,640	2,602
DAV Region, Denver	Homeless Standdown	\$15,000	\$15,000	481
Am Leg State Hq's, Denver	Internet Upgrade	\$15,000	\$14,940	150
VFW Post 8661, Conifer	Trans Program	\$9,900	\$984	3
SVNH, Rifle	Resident Furniture	\$28,665	\$27,867	Note 2
SVNH, Denver (Fitz)	Bariatric Equipment	\$34,370	\$34,370	Note 2
SVNH, Homelake	Healthy Heart Room	\$22,400	\$22,400	Note 2
SVNH, Florence	Renovate Sports Grill	\$41,000	\$41,000	Note 2
	Note 2: No Additional Veterans Served just better Served			
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$917,393</b>	<b>\$852,122</b>	<b>10,645</b>