



ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

Goal Statement

To assist veterans and their dependents in securing all entitled benefits earned through honorable military service, and to advocate for veterans' interests in the community.

Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights

Economy

- Honored the post-9/11 service of our military and veterans by hosting a community downtown block party in partnership with VET Inc., and launched a website promoting the "30 Days of Thank You" campaign to encourage citizens to express their gratitude for the service, dedication, and sacrifice of our hometown heroes.
- Opened the Leon County Veterans Resource Center, located at 918 Railroad Avenue, which is devoted to connecting veterans with employment opportunities, education benefits, counseling and on-site job training in partnership with WORKFORCE plus. This collaborative effort expands Leon County's ability to serve veterans by providing access to many resources in one location.
- Provided funds to assist veterans with emergency support, such as utility and rental assistance, through Leon County's Direct Emergency Assistance program. Leon County understands the needs of our veterans and supports efforts to give back to those that have served our country.

Contact Us

(850) 606-1940
www.leoncountyfl.gov/vets

VETERANS HELPING VETERANS

- Leon County understands that behind every veteran's benefits claim is a veteran in need. In FY12, the Leon County Veteran Services Division:
 - » Assisted more than 2,000 veterans and dependents in person, and over 16,600 by phone or mail.
 - » Facilitated claim actions that resulted in Leon County veterans receiving more than \$9.2 million in new awards.
 - » Assisted over 30 unemployed veterans since May 15th to receive monies for retraining through the newly established Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP) resulting in over \$500,000 in revenue being brought into the County.
- The Board of County Commissioners has continued to support and fund the Leon County Active Duty Grant Program to offset financial obligations for active duty service members and their families. For FY12, the County distributed more than \$21,000 to veterans and their families through this program.
- The Veteran Services Division continues to build strong relationships with local community and veteran service organizations to allow the County every opportunity to assist its veterans. These relationships allow the division to provide a vast pool of resources which enables veterans to have confidence that their needs will not go unmet.



Veterans Resource Center Grand Opening



Leon County Veterans



Did You Know

Leon County is home to approximately 17,985 veterans.