

Caldwell County, Texas Veteran Services Office



Veteran Services Officer

- ▣ Providing guidance and assistance to military veterans and their families in Caldwell County, Texas on issues related to their veteran benefits.
- ▣ Liaison between Caldwell County, the Texas Veterans Commission and the Veterans Administration.

Veteran Administration Payments made to Caldwell County Veterans In FY21*

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Total Expenditures | \$29,247,000.00 |
| Compensation & Pension | \$17,446,000.00 |
| Education, Vocational, Rehabilitation, Employment | \$1,388,000.00 |
| Medical Care Benefits | \$10,186,000.00 |
| | |
| * Latest Figures Available | |

Where the Veteran Money Goes

- ▣ The tax-free dollars that flow into Caldwell County support local business and provide jobs for local residents.
- ▣ Grocery stores, nursing and care facilities, homes, pharmacies, and doctors.
- ▣ Restaurants, clothing, general merchandisers car sales and a variety of small businesses.

Comparisons

- ▣ This expenditure by Veterans Affairs is equal to 96% of the Caldwell County budget.
- ▣ The FY23 inclusive expenditure for the Caldwell County Veteran Service Office is \$95,719.
- ▣ The Return on Investment to Caldwell County is approximately 309%.

The Veteran Services Office

- ▣ The VSO is necessary to provide service to the increasing veteran population as veterans of the Gulf War age and utilize benefits they have earned.
- ▣ To maintain and enhance current claims and pensions as individuals do not remain static.
- ▣ To provide for future population growth as Caldwell County continues to grow as Austinites and businesses move south.

The Veteran Services Office

- ▣ This position requires flexibility to ensure that the needs of the veteran community are met.
- ▣ Approximately 10% of the residents of Caldwell County are veterans and with their families represent 20% of the voters.
- ▣ Liaisons with community service organizations, religious organizations, and other support groups outside Caldwell County need to be maintained or established.

Services Provided

- ▣ PTSD weekend retreats funded by a grant from the Caldwell County Community Services.
- ▣ Monthly visits to nursing homes in Caldwell County.
- ▣ Quarterly free legal clinics for veterans and their families with the Austin Bar Association.

Services Provided

- ▣ Coordinate with the American Legion in Lockhart and Luling.
- ▣ Coordinate with the VFW and the Masonic Lodge in Lockhart.
- ▣ Coordinate with faith based organizations in Caldwell County.

Special Events

- ▣ Memorial Day Remembrance and lunch.
- ▣ Veterans Day Remembrance and lunch.
- ▣ Meals and decorations are provided by donations from the public and local businesses.
- ▣ No county funds are used.

Special Events

- ▣ Memorial Day Remembrance will be held May 28th 2023, at the American Legion Post # 177 at 215 East Davis Street beginning at 10:00 am. Lunch will be served after the ceremony. I look forward to seeing all of you there.