Veterans Assistance Commission of Franklin County

901 Public Square, Benton, IL 62812

(618) 435-9868 **liam.mungovan@franklincountyil.gov**

Franklin County Board
Chairman Neil Hargis
901 Public Square
Benton, IL 62812

4DEC25

Veterans Assistance Commission of Franklin County

Fiscal Year 2025 County Board Report (December 1, 2024 – November 30, 2025)

Overview and Mission

The Veterans Assistance Commission (VAC) of Franklin County continues its commitment to advocate for and support local Veterans and their families. With a single full-time Accredited Veteran Service Officer (who also serves as Superintendent), the VAC has made significant strides during FY2025 in benefit delivery, financial assistance, and outreach.

In total, the Veterans Assistance Commission of Franklin County helped secure $811,607.60 in federal benefits for Veterans and their families across Southern Illinois. Of this, $486,362.08 was secured directly for Franklin County Veterans.

Direct Financial Assistance Provided (Franklin County)

Total Financial Assistance Provided: $67,884.14

Breakdown by Municipality:

- Benton: $11,968.33
- Buckner: $3,000.00
- Christopher: $17,722.25
- Logan: $429.30
- Mulkeytown: $1,000.00

Veterans Assistance Commission of Franklin County
901 Public Square, Benton, IL 62812
(618) 435-9868 liam.mungovan@franklincountyil.gov

- Royalton: $195.00
- Sesser: $3,502.22
- West Frankfort: $23,068.70
- Zeigler: $6,998.34

Federal Benefits Secured (Franklin County)

Total: $486,362.08

- Benton: $268,832.39
- Buckner: $3,469.50
- Christopher: $5,408.21
- Ewing: $685.76
- Mulkeytown: $1,226.80
- Sesser: $56,388.31
- Thompsonville: $21,367.20
- Valier: $1,755.10
- West Frankfort: $58,902.09
- Zeigler: $68,326.72

VACFC FY2025 Metrics Summary

- Total Interactions: 1,014
- Total Clients Served: 671
- Claims Assistance: 67 clients / 74 interactions
- General Assistance: 567 clients / 877 interactions

Veterans Assistance Commission of Franklin County

901 Public Square, Benton, IL 62812

(618) 435-9868 **liam.mungovan@franklincountyil.gov**

- Financial Aid: 46 clients / 62 interactions
- Burial Assistance: 1 client

Fiscal Snapshot

- FY2025 Approved Budget: $126,000
- FY2025 Funds Used: $121,156.37 (includes final November payroll)
- Financial Assistance Budgeted: $62,000 – Actual Disbursed: $67,884.14
- FY2024 Comparison:
  - Total Spent: $69,323.62
  - Total Federal Benefits Secured: $89,014.81
  - Financial Assistance Provided: $18,014.25

Notable Milestones and Initiatives

- 28 outreach events and meetings, including:
  - Rend Lake Water Festival (co-hosted Veterans Resource Fair)
  - Statewide and regional VAC conferences
  - VA/IDVA Veteran stakeholder meetings and congressional roundtables
- Multiple county collaborations – assisted other counties in building their VACs.
- Provided direct congressional liaison services to assist Veterans in resolving VA disputes.

Looking Forward to FY2026

1. Maintain or increase direct financial assistance to Veterans.
2. Expand outreach with part-time personnel to manage community engagement and claim volume.

3. Sustain high return on investment by maximizing benefits secured for local Veterans.
4. Collaborate with County Board members to share VACFC benefits by locality.

Conclusion and Acknowledgments

In its second year of operation, the Veterans Assistance Commission of Franklin County has demonstrated measurable impact in improving the lives of our local Veterans and their families. Through diligent advocacy, targeted outreach, and effective stewardship of resources, the Commission has secured substantial federal benefits and delivered meaningful financial assistance across Franklin County and Southern Illinois. With a clear mission, strategic objectives, and growing regional coordination, the VAC is well-positioned to build on this momentum into Fiscal Year 2026.

The Veterans Assistance Commission of Franklin County extends its sincere gratitude to both the Franklin County Board and the VACFC Board of Directors for their unwavering support. Your commitment to creating and upholding a Veteran-protected environment not only empowers our daily operations but ensures the continuity of critical protections for the Superintendent and those we serve. Your leadership makes our mission possible.

Respectfully,

Liam Mungovan
Superintendent
Veterans Assistance Commission of Franklin County
901 Public Square
Benton, IL 62812
Email: liam.mungovan@franklincountyil.gov
Phone: (618) 618-9868
VA VSO Accreditation # 55588