



**REGION 9 VETERANS COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM**

*Livingston • Jackson • Washtenaw • Hillsdale • Lenawee • Monroe*



REGION 9 VCAT NEWSLETTER – MARCH/APRIL 2017



**Legislation introduced to modernize Michigan Veterans' homes**

LANSING, Mich. - The Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency recently honored Comerica Bank as its 100th Veteran-Friendly Employer.

Since 2014, MVAA has recognized organizations for their dedication to recruiting, hiring, training and maintaining veteran talent. Participants have opportunities to network with likeminded companies, share best practices and take advantage of no-cost training to improve veteran outreach practices. The program also helps veterans more easily identify employers committed to hiring and supporting former service members in their workforces. Veteran-friendly employers hired more than 3,000 veterans in the past two years.

“Forward thinking companies like Comerica understand the value of attracting armed-services veterans to their workforce,” said MVAA Director James Robert Redford. “A decreasing unemployment rate and shrinking labor pool makes seeking out veteran talent a logical and cost-effective method to find quality employees.”

Comerica was certified at the bronze-level for its veteran hiring policies and practices. Since the implementation of their veteran outreach strategy in 2015, the percentage of veterans in Comerica’s work force has increased by 12 percent. The bank expects that number to grow, with veteran hiring expected to continue to increase.

“Comerica is dedicated to hiring the men and women who have served our country,” said Michael Ritchie, Comerica Bank’s Michigan market president. “We recognize their skill sets are great match with our positions in technology, credit, retail and other areas of the bank and



Michigan Works and the VCAT Region 9 are presenting their 2nd annual hiring blitz:

**Monday May 22, 2017**  
**Hillsdale Service Center**  
**21 Care Drive**  
**Hillsdale, MI 49242**

**Tuesday May 23 2017**  
**Jackson Service Center**  
**209 E. Washington,**  
**Suite 100**  
**Jackson, MI 49201**

**Wednesday May 24, 2017**  
**Lenawee Service Center**  
**1040 S. Winter St.,**  
**Suite 1014**  
**Adrian, MI 49221**

**Thursday May 25, 2017**  
**Washtenaw Service Center**  
**304 Harriet Street**

**Wednesday May 24, 2017**  
**Livingston Service Center**  
**1240 Packard Dr.**  
**Howell, MI 48843**

value the experience and commitment they bring to our company.”

There are currently six gold-level Veteran-Friendly Employers: DTE Energy, General Motors, Michigan Department of Transportation, Quicken Loans, Roush Enterprises and Whirlpool Corporation.

To be recognized as gold, employers must retain at least 75 percent of veteran hires over the past 12 months, implement

internal veteran support networks and create either a hiring rotation or leadership development program within their organization, in addition to meeting all other program requirements

Twelve companies are recognized as silver-level employers for meeting or exceeding their veteran hiring goals and implementing internship and on-the-job training programs for veterans. They are: Consumers Energy, Cooper Standard, Express Professionals

of Grand Rapids, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, Ford Motor Company, GE, Kellogg's, Michigan State Police, Optech, Prestige Group, Uniform Color Company and Verizon. A complete list of bronze-level Veteran-Friendly Employers, as well as information on how to become a Veteran-Friendly Employer, is available at MichiganVeterans.com



**VCAT Website and VCAT Podio:**

Come join us at our next VCAT Region 9. April 27th, 2017. Please Click on the registration link below to register:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/region-9-vcat-meeting-financial-resources-tickets-33473808061>



**We have an exciting for the kick off website. We are requesting agencies to send us a one paragraph description of your services to be included in the resource section. Please send information to Tami Farnum at [tfarnum@caajlh.org](mailto:tfarnum@caajlh.org) by April 25, 2017. Please call 517-745-3668 if you have any questions.**



## Helpful VA Community Care Information for Veterans Enrolled in Care at VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System:

- For **VA Choice Program**-related care, authorizations, and billing questions in regards to community care appointments, Veterans may contact Health Net at: (866) 606-8198, Hours: Monday-Friday, 8am-10am EST.
- For **VA Community Care** (Non-VA Care/care provided outside of the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System) billing questions, Veterans may contact: (734) 845-3065 or (800) 361-8387 ext. 53065
- **Emergency Services:** When treated or discharged from emergency room services within the community at a Non-VA facility, Veterans are asked to contact the AOD at VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System within 72 hours. If the Veteran is admitted to the community (non-VA) hospital, a call must be made to the AOD within 72 hours of admission. The VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System AOD can be reached at (734) 845-5279 or (800) 361-8387 ext. 55279.
- **Non-Emergent Services:** Requires a referral and authorization from a VA provider. For questions about an existing authorization, Veterans may call (734) 222-8936. *Note: Community Care Facilities must submit a paper or electronic claim within 90 days for consideration of payment. The claim should be submitted to: VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System Mail Code: CBO 2215 Fuller Rd. Ann Arbor, MI 48105*



**Save the Date** – We are excited to share there will be joint meeting with the Region 9 VCAT and Region 10 VCAT on June 16<sup>th</sup> at Yankee Air Museum. Watch for further information and the registration link.