

2017 YEAR IN REVIEW

133 Active Volunteer Veterans

855 Service Members and Veterans assisted

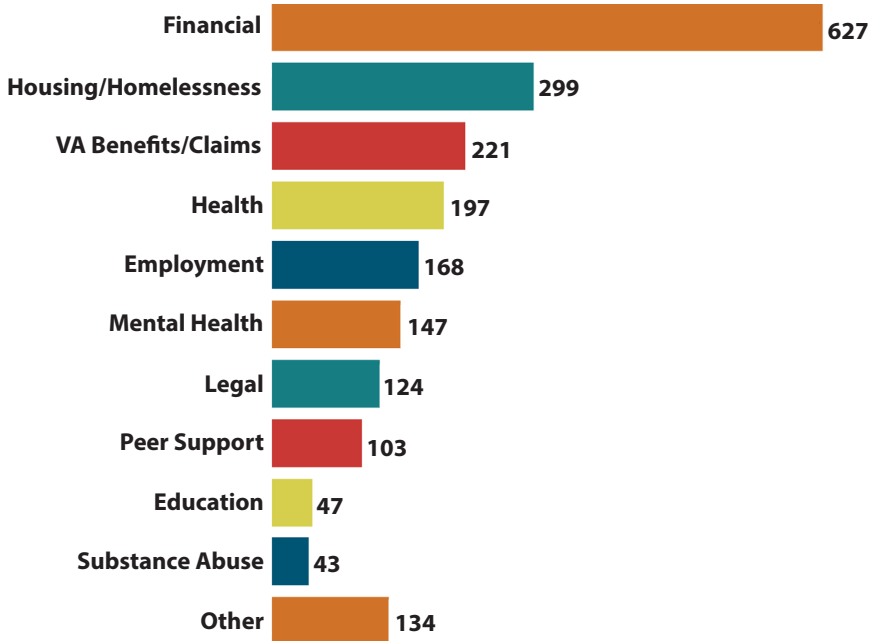
34 of **39** MIARNG Armories staffed

468 Outreach events attended

30,995 Volunteer and staff miles traveled

84 Volunteer professional development and training conference calls

Concerns Identified

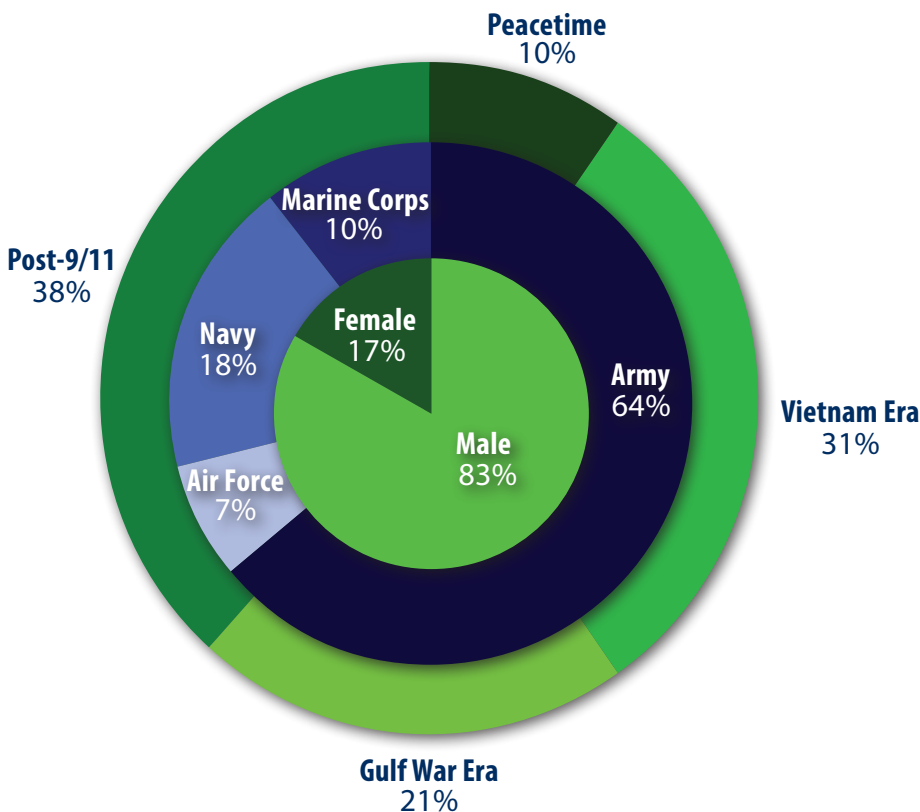


Program Description

Buddy-to-Buddy is a peer-to-peer program launched in 2009 that offers support and linkage to resources for Michigan service members and veterans. It is part of M-SPAN (Military Support Programs and Networks), a group of programs at the University of Michigan Depression Center dedicated to military and veteran mental health, including innovative approaches to outreach, engagement, and reducing stigma. Buddy-to-Buddy was developed in partnership with the Michigan Army National Guard to meet the unique challenges faced by Citizen Soldiers and Reservists.

It has now been expanded to include all veterans in Michigan who may not know where to find the resources they need or may be reluctant to ask for help. Buddy-to-Buddy Volunteer Veterans are on call throughout Michigan and help address issues ranging from accessing financial, employment, legal, benefit, or educational resources to identifying providers for mental health, substance abuse, or relationship concerns. Volunteers have assisted over 4,700 service members and veterans since the program's inception.

Volunteer Corps Profile



8.3

Average number of years volunteers spent in the military

3.1

Average number of years volunteers have served with the Buddy-to-Buddy program