

MN Department of Veterans Affairs

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AGE FRIENDLY
minnesota



Current policies and programs that highlight Age-Friendly

- MN Veterans Homes
 - Currently there are five MN Veterans Homes serving approximately 800 Veterans around the state
 - Three additional Veterans Homes have been designed and waiting for approval and funding through the Federal VA Grant Program
 - Homes provide a residential space for Veterans and their spouses, but also a community engagement space for those to support Veteran's related issues
- MN Department of Veterans Affairs – Programs and Services – CORE Program
 - CORE Program provides mental health and caregiver support to Veterans and their families throughout the state of MN through a contract with Lutheran Social Services – MN
 - Expanded services to include caregiver support resources which are designed to assist Older Minnesotans

State agency or other government partners

- Federal Veterans Administration
 - Veterans Healthcare Systems – Minneapolis, St. Cloud, Fargo and Sioux Falls VA
 - Caregiver Support Program
 - Suicide Prevention Program
- Department of Human Services
 - Direct Care and Treatment
 - Office of Ombudsman for Long-term Care
- MN Department of Health – Regulatory Division
- Commanders Task Force – Veteran Service Organization Commanders

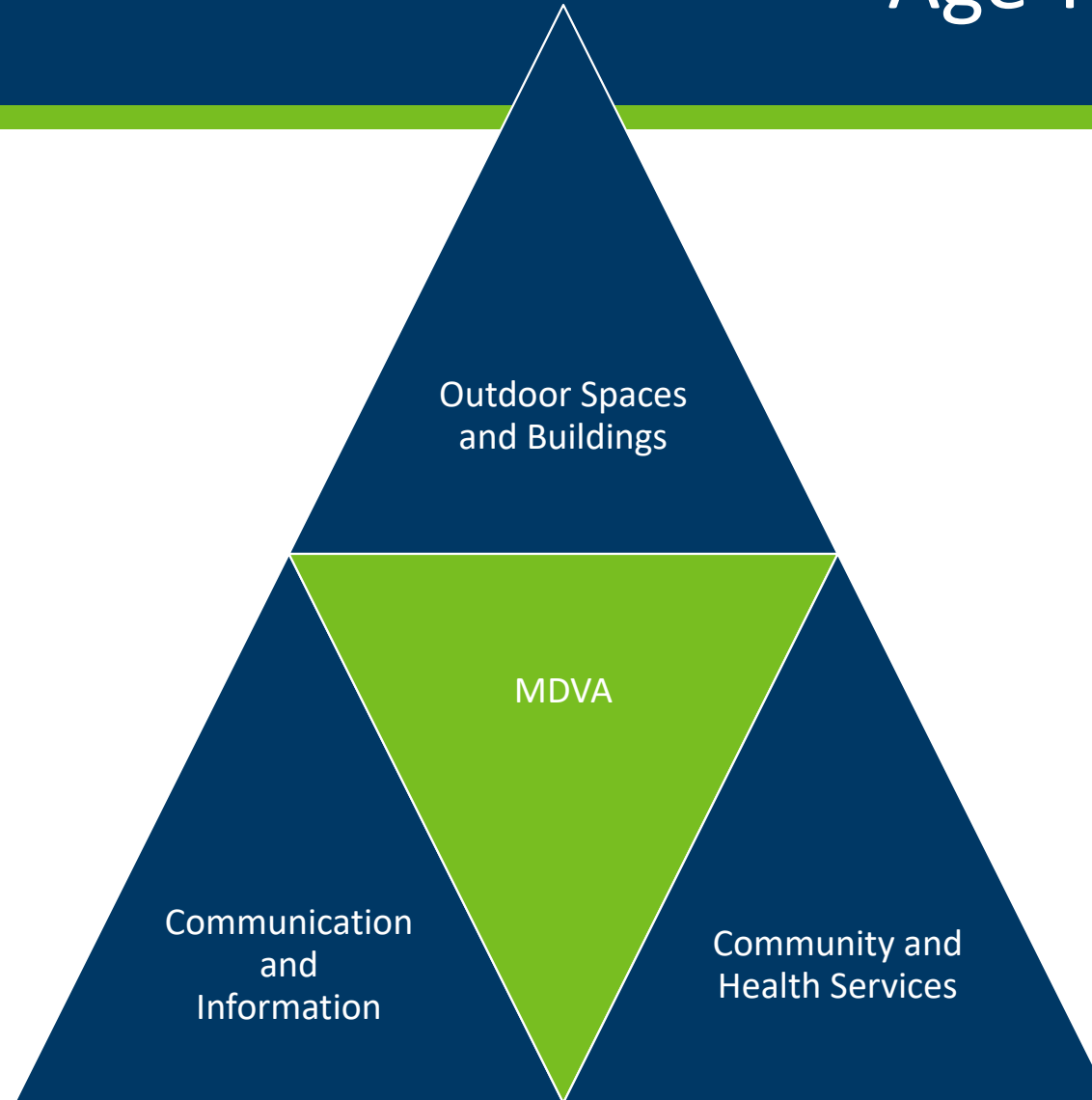
Gaps/Opportunities in programs

- Veteran Education regarding benefits, services and supports is complex and requires knowledge regarding federal, state and community resources
 - Frequent and accurate communication and education strategy
- Current Pandemic – social isolation is a critical factor affecting older adults; long-term affects of social isolation in this type of circumstance are unknown

Highlight a data/report that would inform an Age-Friendly Council

- Domain: Social Participation
 - MN Veterans Home Activity Program
 - All five MN Veterans Homes have a well rounded activity program
 - Lutheran Social Services – CORE Program and Caregiver Support Contract
 - Provide mental health support, financial counseling, access to technology, respite and meals
- Domain: Civic Participation and Employment
 - Volunteer Program
 - All five MN Veterans Homes have a robust Volunteer program to include multi-generational individuals that commit to providing thousands of volunteer hours to each home in support of Veterans
 - Volunteer Hours Annual Report
 - Community Engagement Activities Annual Report – Current Agency Strategic Goal
 - MN Veterans Home – Domiciliary Program Work Therapy Program
 - Required to provide a work therapy program per Federal VA regulations. The goal is to provide meaningful work activity so Veterans feel they contribute to the operations of the home

Age-Friendly Matrix



Also Include:
Civic Participation and Employment
Social Participation
Respect and Social Inclusion

Thank You!

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