

MARYLAND VETERANS TRUST FUND STATUS REPORT

FY 2025

State Government Article, Section 9-914.2(a)(12)

Maryland Department of Veterans and Military Families

September 15, 2025



Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs

Office of the Secretary

WES MOORE
GOVERNOR

ARUNA MILLER
LT. GOVERNOR

ED ROTHESTEIN
ACTING SECRETARY

August 29, 2025

To: The Governor and the General Assembly ~ MSAR #9631
From: Secretary of the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs
Ref: Status of the Maryland Veterans Trust Fund (HB 1561)

The Maryland Veterans Trust Fund (MVTF), 2009 Legislative Session Chapter 742, HB 1561, Act went into effect on October 1, 2009, as State Government Article, §§ 9-912 and 9-913, to administer a special, non-lapsing fund to provide grants to veterans and their families as well as to public and private programs that support veterans and their families.

Legislation was passed during the 2013 Legislative Session, HB 1390, Chapter 681, which establishes the Maryland Veterans Trust (MVT) as a new entity to seek nonprofit status under IRS code 501(c)(3) as well as established a Board of Trustees. The Trust Fund applied for 501(c)(3) status in October of 2013 and received the determination letter confirming the 501(c)(3) status on August 15, 2014 (FY15).

In FY25, the VTF underwent a comprehensive transformation while making a significant difference in the lives of many veterans and veteran service organizations. Please note the following successful activities in the past year:

In August 2024, the VTF resumed operations after a brief pause to focus on strengthening the organization. In October, the VTF elevated its financial operations with the addition of an experienced accountant. In November, the VTF publicly launched an end-to-end online grant management system, replacing the previous inefficient paper-based grant application process.

To expand our impact, the VTF also launched a new organizational grant program in November, which supports the vital work of our state's most well-known charitable veteran service organizations. A key highlight of our partner grant work was a collaboration with the Governor's Office and the Rockefeller Foundation to support 'Food is Medicine,' an evidence-based project implemented by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Food is Medicine programs provide high-need patients with nutrition support through produce prescriptions, medically tailored meals, or healthy grocery programs.

In January 2025, the VTF began providing care coordination/referral services in addition to individual financial assistance grants. These referral services help veterans and their families navigate and access the community resources available to them. This work further enhances DVMF's core mission of supporting veterans through life transitions.

Gross Amount of Gifts, Grants and Other Income Credited to the Trust Fund:

The total amount of gifts, grants, and other income credited to MVT's General account for FY25 was **\$760,434.29**. This number includes income from the Maryland State Lottery, Motor Vehicle Administration, Maryland casinos, and donations from veteran service organizations, foundations, and private donors.

The Costs of Administration of the Fund

The total amount charged to the VTF for administrative costs was **\$98,536.36**, which included the cost of employing a contractual grants specialist and the contracted services to implement a grant management system.

Accounting of the Use of the Fund

The Trust Fund in FY2025 disbursed **\$1,265,221** in grants for rental and mortgage relief, utilities, car loans, car repairs, and more.

The balance available as of June 30, 2025, net of accrued expenditure, was **\$82,718.59**.

Sincerely,



Ed Rothstein,
Secretary