

February VDC Educational Webinar

February 28, 2024



Victoria Wright, Program
Officer for Veteran Directed
Care and Inclusive
Transportation Programs

Menti Poll – Icebreaker

Go to www.menti.com and enter code: 9577 2076

What state are you joining us from?



Please enter the code

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Agenda

- Welcome and Announcements from the Administration for Community Living (ACL)**
- Announcements from the Veteran's Health Administration (VHA)**
- VDC Policy Updates**
- VDC Resource Updates**
- Open Question and Answer (Q&A)**
- Closing**

2023 VDC Recap

1,231 Veterans enrolled, for a current total of 5,634 Veterans

26 ADNAs onboarded, including 1 Spoke and 25 Sole Proprietors

1 VAMC with their first referral and 27 VAMCs pending their first referral

Announcements from VHA Regarding VDC



Daniel Schoeps,
Director, VA Purchased
Long-Term Services and
Supports

VDC Policy Updates

Menti Poll

Go to www.menti.com and enter code: 9577 2076

What VDC policy questions do you have that are not currently answered in existing resources (e.g., VDC Operations Manual, VDC Billing and Invoicing Guide, and VDC Field Guidebook)?



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Paid Leave Guidance

- The VA is developing procedures for VAMCs and ADNAs to follow in cases where state/regional paid leave laws affect Veterans as employers
- Amendment request process that allows the VAMC to amend and increase a Veteran's authorized budget to address a cost beyond control due to a government mandate related to paid leave



Refund Policy

- The VA is releasing a VDC Refund Policy Guide that will provide information for VAMCs to assist with managing refunds received from VDC providers
- Outlines the procedures that VDC providers and VAMCs must follow in instances when a VDC provider needs to return funds to a VAMC

Example: Application of the Refund Policy

An employee may not earn the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) wage threshold determined by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) by the end of the calendar tax year. When this occurs, the employee portion of over-collected FICA is returned to the employee by December 31st so the employee's IRS Form W-2 can be prepared accurately for the calendar tax year.

Temporarily Traveling Veterans

- The Veteran Directed Care Temporarily Traveling Veterans guide outlines how the VDC program may continue to provide coverage for a Veteran temporarily traveling* in the United States
- Because guidance differs by model, guidance is tailored to the following VDC program models:
 - ▶ Joint-Employer – Agency with Choice (AwC) Financial Management Service (FMS) model
 - ▶ Common Law Employer-Vendor Fiscal/Employer Agency (VF/EA) FMS model
- The guide provides example scenarios to assist in determining the appropriate process for maintaining enrollment

Authorized Representative (AR) Background Check Policy

- Direct care workers and new ARs of VDC-enrolled Veterans are required to undergo and pass a background check in accordance with the VDC Operations Manual Template policies, state policies, and as specified by the VDC provider
 - ▶ Background checks must be conducted prior to a worker/AR being hired or authorized
 - ▶ This guidance does not apply to ARs previously approved
- Payment for background checks depends on local VDC provider procedures but may be paid for:
 - ▶ Out of the Veteran's budget (preferred)
 - ▶ By the VDC provider
- Background check results are reported to the VA VDC Program Coordinator and discussed with the Veteran

VDC Resource Updates

Menti Poll – Person-centered Intake Process

Go to www.menti.com and enter code: 9577 2076

What type of information do you include in your Veteran Handbook that Veterans find most helpful?



Please enter the code

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Revised Monthly Reporting Tool

- Revised based on provider feedback to ease data reporting during the expansion of the program
- Updates include:
 - ▶ Option to report for multiple partnering VAMCs in the same form
 - ▶ Simplified questions
 - ▶ Instructions to reach out to the VDC mailbox if providers or their partnering VAMCs are not properly listed in the form's dropdowns

Additional VAMCs

If your VDC provider partners with multiple VAMCs, please use the below fields to report on additional VAMCs as applicable.

VAMC

Please select the name of the VAMC you are reporting on. If the provider partners with more than one VAMC, please ensure you are reporting the correct data per VAMC.

Select or enter value ▼

VAMC

Please select the name of the VAMC you are reporting on. If the provider partners with more than one VAMC, please ensure you are reporting the correct data per VAMC.

Select or enter value ▼

Billing & Invoicing Guide

- Updates to the Billing & Invoicing Guide include:
 - VDC Provider Enrollment Process
 - Refund Policy Guidance



Billing & Invoicing Guide

- The VDC Provider Enrollment Process outlines the following steps that VDC providers must complete to enroll in the VA system:
 - ▶ Obtain a National Provider Identifier (NPI)
 - ▶ Sign a Veteran Care Agreement (VCA)
 - ▶ Complete the vendorization process by registering for the System for Award Management (SAM) and completing the form VA 10-091
 - ▶ Share NPI and VCA numbers with ACL at veterandirected@acl.hhs.gov

Billing & Invoicing Guide

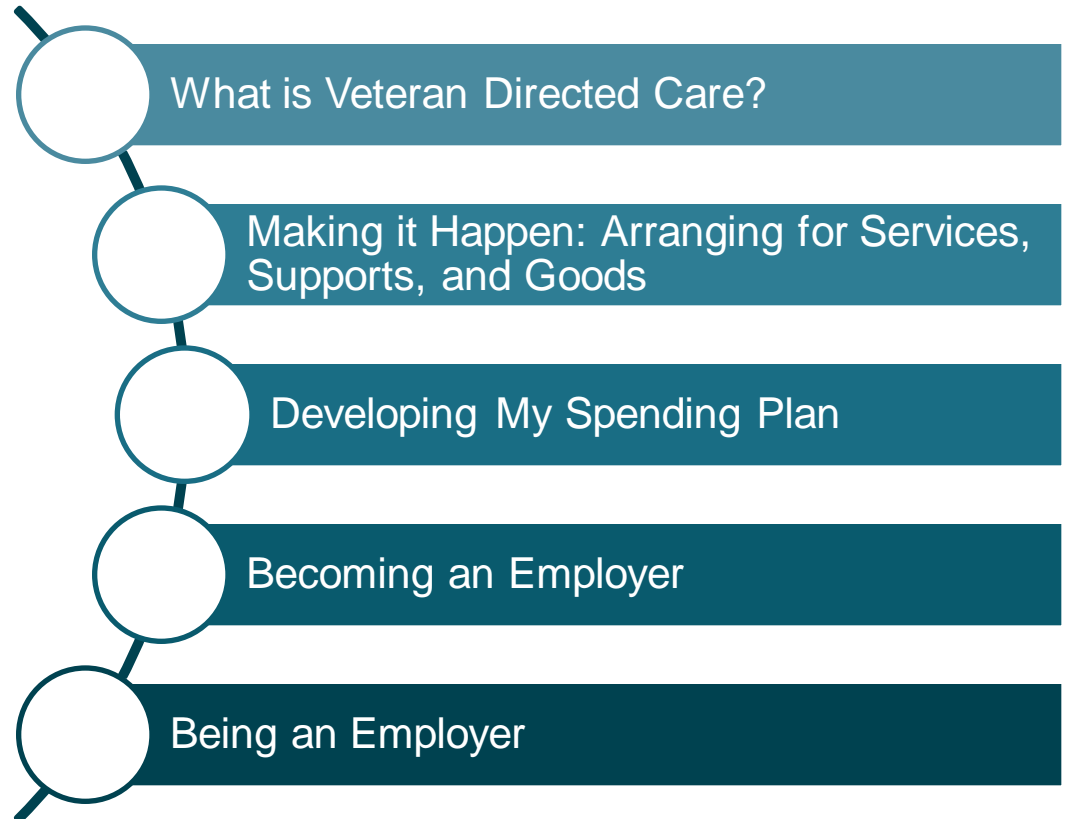
- The Refund Policy Guidance provides information for VAMCs to manage refunds received from VDC providers
- Steps to process a refund can be found in the VDC Refund Policy Guide, linked in the Billing & Invoicing Guide

Operations Manual Template

- Revisions to the Operations Manual Template reflect the following updates:
 - ▶ Additional guidance for VDC providers on signing a VCA, registering for a National Provider Identifier Number (NPI), and completing the VA vendorization process
 - ▶ Following the end of the COVID-19 public health emergency, face-to-face visits are strongly encouraged in place of virtual visits, although virtual visits are allowable for health reasons
 - ▶ Guidance for hiring workers regarding disqualifying events identified during a background check (i.e., abuse, neglect, or exploitation)

Veteran Handbook

- Updates are being made to the Veteran Handbook, designed for Veterans in the VDC program to use for guidance in understanding and navigating the VDC program as a consumer
- The revised Handbook is comprised of five separate documents organized by topic area and designed to guide Veterans through different aspects of the VDC program



Questions? Comments?



Menti Poll

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What questions do you have regarding the information that was shared during today's February VDC Educational Webinar?



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Closing

- **Post-event survey:** Please share your feedback through the [post-event survey](#).
- **ACL Technical Assistance (TA)-Community:** Continue the conversation using the discussion board located in the VDC Community on the [ACL TA Community website](#). Please email veterandirected@acl.hhs.gov for access.
- **VDC Monthly Reporting Tool Data:** Report your Veteran census data every month with the [VDC monthly reporting tool](#)
- **Technical Assistance:** Please email the VDC Technical Assistance Team with any questions: veterandirected@acl.hhs.gov