

Thank You for an Amazing Year! Year in Review: 2023

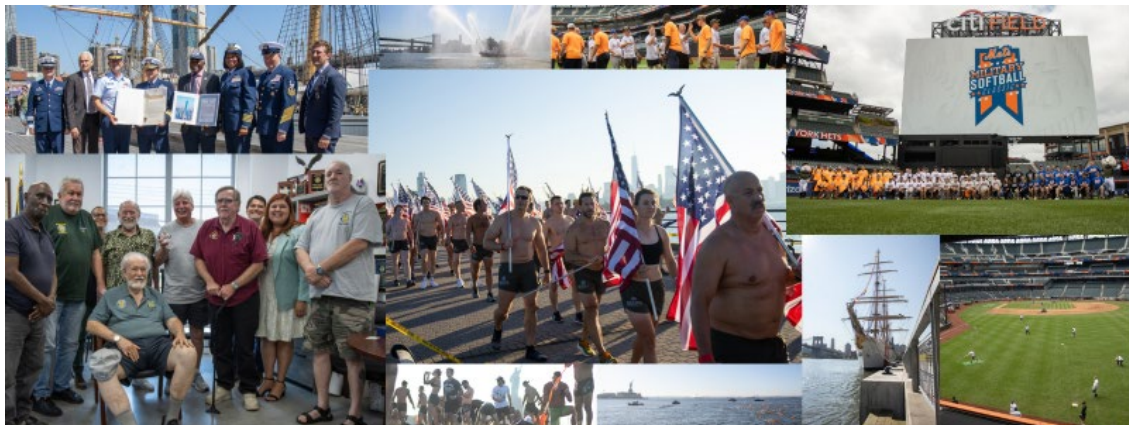
As 2023 comes to a close, we wanted to take some time to reflect on a few of our proudest moments from this past year. It is an honor and a privilege to be able to support the NYC Veteran community, and we are grateful to be able to share these moments with you all.



Supporting Transitioning Service Members: Our collaboration with the New York Mets reached new heights with our [third Military Transition Summit at Citi Field](#). Themed "Tools & Resources for Hacking Your Transition," the summit provided [essential support and information to recently separated service members and Veterans in New York City](#). By connecting participants with valuable resources, the summit played a pivotal role in ensuring a smooth and successful transition journey.



Empowering Veteran Entrepreneurs: In collaboration with Small Business Services (SBS) and the Ron and Kerry Moelis Family Foundation, [DVS proudly announced the successful recipients of the inaugural NYC Boss UP Veteran Entrepreneurship Program grants](#). Honored at Mayor Adams' Veterans Day breakfast, visionary small business owners were awarded a \$20,000 grant and SBS mentorship, highlighting our commitment to fostering the success of Veteran entrepreneurs and contributing to the city's economic resurgence.



“Veterans Feeding Veterans” Initiative: This Thanksgiving, HelloFresh, in collaboration with the New York City Department of Veterans' Services, [generously donated 1,300 turkeys, 1,000 meal kits, and 1,000 chicken meal kits to over a dozen organizations](#). With support from Amazon affiliates Cazares Logistics and Twin Woods Transportation, these meal kits were delivered to Veterans and military families in need, marking another successful chapter in the

ongoing ["Veterans Feeding Veterans" initiative initiated by HelloFresh and New York State](#) in June 2020. The program has been a vital lifeline, particularly during the challenging times of COVID-19, addressing food insecurity for Veterans in New York City, the North Country, and Western New York.



Honoring Vietnam Veterans: In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the end of combat operations in Vietnam, [DVS successfully brought The Wall That Heals](#), a traveling replica of the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington D.C., to Flushing Meadows Corona Park this fall. This visit provided New York City with a poignant [opportunity to express gratitude and remembrance](#) for the over three million Americans who served in the U.S. Armed forces during the Vietnam War.



And most importantly, we wanted to give **YOU**—*the members of our community*—an enormous **THANK YOU** for your support and dedication throughout the year.

This was certainly our busiest year yet, and we would have never been able to do it without you. We hope your year has been amazing, empowering, and successful—and wish you a happy, healthy and more successful 2024.

Jedburgh Podcast | Episode #131 The Wall That Heals



Our friends, **The Jedburgh Podcast** have an exclusive episode about **The Wall That Heals** visit to NYC. You may recognize **Fran Racioppi and his team**—their set up along the Veterans Day Parade route in a sweet 1944 Dodge WC-51.

Featuring interviews with **DVS Commissioner James Hendon**, **City Councilmember Bob Holden**, **Former National VVA President John Rowan**, and **Gold Star Brother Tony Nunziato**, this episode does not disappoint—and is full of discussions centered around Veterans, military families, and the enduring legacy of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial's—The Wall That Heals. Here's some more about **The Jedburgh Podcast**:

In May 1943 the Allied Forces determined a new type of leader was required to win World War II. Operation Jedburgh parachuted three-man teams deep behind enemy lines to win no matter the challenge. Jedburghs lived by the mantra *“how you prepare today, determines success tomorrow.”* Today’s leaders are no different.

The Jedburgh Podcast empowers leaders to achieve success on their journey to transform themselves and their organizations. Creator, Host and Special Forces Green Beret Fran Racioppi interviews the world’s most prominent visionaries, drivers of change, and those dedicated to winning.

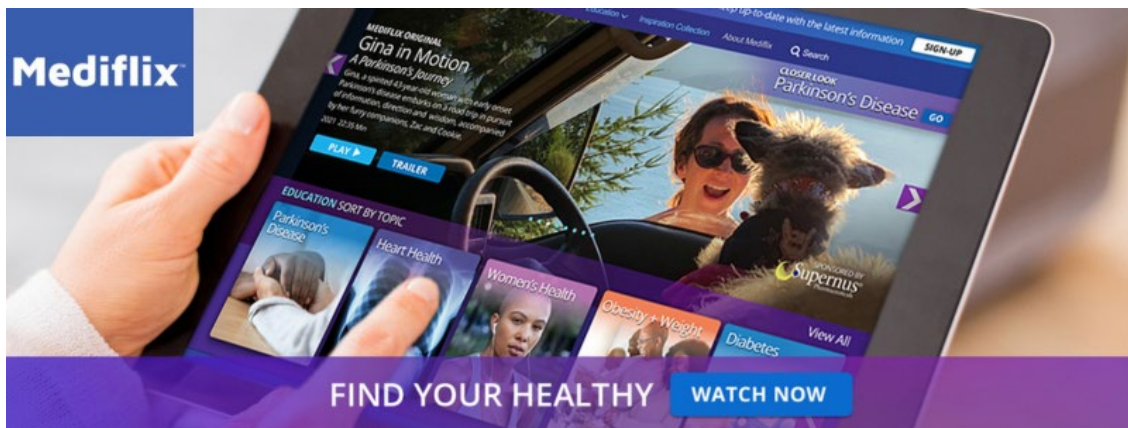
Each episode is an in-depth discussion with trailblazers whose leadership lessons empower listeners to define success and operate at an elite level, regardless of the task at hand.

You can catch the episode on their [website](#) or visit one of their socials below to see what's coming next!



[The Jedburgh Podcast](#)

Help Shape Vetiflix— For Veterans by Veterans



[Mediflix](#) is an online health education platform that is looking to build Vetiflix—a Veteran’s specific version. Currently Mediflix offers a comprehensive health video library, essential insights into various medical conditions, and the opportunity to ask personalized questions to expert physicians. They need your valuable insights to make a similar exceptional platform for Veterans and their families.

If you are a Veteran interested in helping to shape Vetiflix, please follow the guidelines below:

1. Pre-Screening Survey: Start by completing a quick pre-screening survey: [Vetiflix Interest Form](#). This will help them understand your unique healthcare needs. Mediflix is currently recruiting participants interested in learning more about Type 2 Diabetes, Coronary Artery Disease, and Obesity.
2. Exclusive Invitation: After the survey, you’ll receive an exclusive code to access Mediflix.
3. Test and Feedback: Over the following 3 months, Mediflix welcomes you to explore the platform, share feedback, and influence its development. They will check in with you from time to time through the app, text message (optional), and via a final feedback survey.

Your input will shape the direction of Vetiflix, which is purposely being built for Veterans by Veterans to ensure it addresses the specific concerns of all Veterans.

Together, they aim to build a resource that enhances the well-being of the Veteran community.

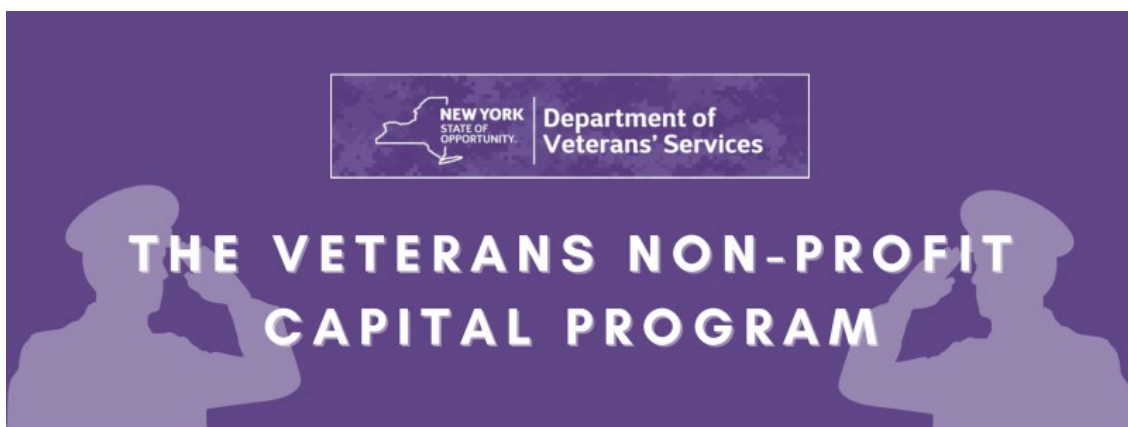
Please note that all information remains confidential, and our agency is not being compensated for recruiting participants. We do believe that Vetiflix can be a powerful tool for Veterans and their families to utilize when seeking information about physical and emotional conditions.

Thank you for your willingness to carve out the time to take part in this effort. We look forward to your involvement.

Feel free to spread the word about this platform among your Military and Veteran colleagues.

[Vetiflix Interest Form](#)

Second Round of Veterans Non-Profit Capital Program



The Veterans Nonprofit Capital Grant Program overseen by the New York State Department of Veterans' Services and administered by the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York, is a vital initiative dedicated to enhancing and enabling critical upgrades to the facilities of veterans organizations across the state.

Following a successful first round with over \$2.5 million distributed, an additional \$2.4 million will be available through a second round of applications.

In this second round of funding, which will open for applications on **November 29, 2023**, selected organizations will receive reimbursement for costs related to capital improvements, with awards ranging from \$25,000 to \$75,000. This invaluable support will enable these organizations to make critical upgrades, including new roofs, ADA-compliant enhancements, and renovations to common areas and kitchens.

A live presentation to provide interested organizations with information about how to prepare to apply for this funding opportunity was held on Friday, November 17 at 12:00 PM. A recording of the presentation has been made available on the NYS DVS website.

[NYS DVS Homepage](#)

VETERAN NEWS

Overseas But Paying the Price: Army Ends Policy that Allowed Soldiers to Store Belongings While Deployed



(Photo by: Sgt. Ken Scar/U.S. Army Photo)

Military Times

By [Steve Beynon](#)

December 27, 2023

The [Army](#) has ended a major program that allowed soldiers to store their home goods and vehicles at no cost while they are away from home for extended periods of time.

Army Sustainment Command, which oversees logistics for the force, discontinued the use of funds across the service to store vehicles and other goods owned by soldiers while they are deployed, Sgt. Pablo Saez, a service spokesperson, told Military.com on Wednesday.

The move happened in October, but the new policy has not previously been reported in the press, with the order not widely distributed to the force.

Army planners are drafting a policy that would enable storage at no cost to soldiers, though that reversal was noted only after Military.com initially inquired

on the matter in early December. The service did not mention the development of the future cost-saving policy to the publication when initially contacted [after the move elicited widespread scorn online](#). [\[READ MORE...\]](#)

More Veteran-related Headlines

VA | News: [Housing helped homeless Veteran discover his inner artist](#)

WWLP 22News: [Game night brings together dozens of veterans at the American Legion in Chicopee](#).

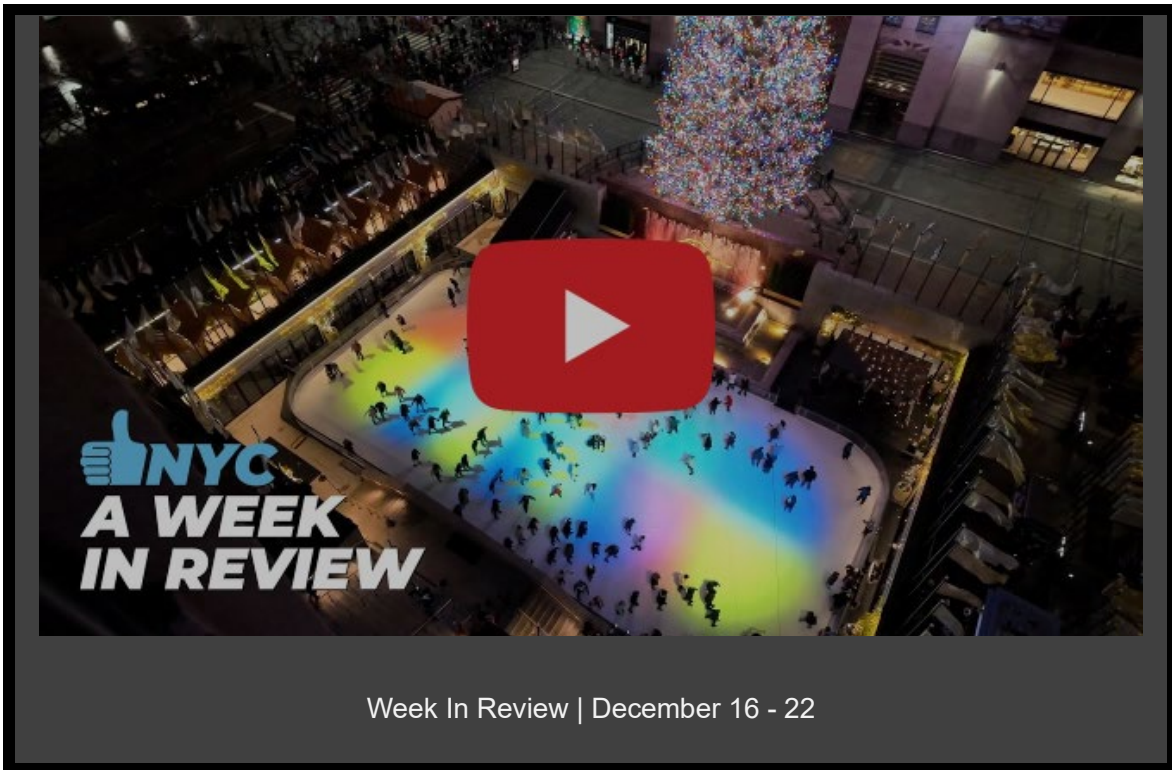
CBS News: [Social Security's high earners will get almost \\$5,000 a month in 2024. Here's how they got there](#).

Spectrum News 1: [How a wrong number led to NORAD tracking Santa](#)

A Message From Mayor Adams:

Each week DVS shares a brief update about how our administration is getting stuff done for New Yorkers.

As we come to the end of the year, we're proud of the innovative work we've done to drive crime down, promote economic growth, and build a stronger city for all New Yorkers. Here at DVS, this year, we held our first Military Transition Summit in partnership with the NY Mets, welcoming newly separated servicemembers and veterans to help them acclimate to life in the Big Apple.



The Adams administration is dedicated to cutting through the noise and delivering information directly to you and all New Yorkers.

Sign up to "Hear From Eric" and get direct messages from City Hall, tailored to your interests and neighborhood, sent directly to your inbox

– at [nyc.gov/hearfromeric!](https://nyc.gov/hearfromeric)

[Mayor Adams Launches Effort to Enhance Nightlife Safety and Strengthen Small Businesses, Phasing Out 'March' Enforcement](#)

[Coalition Of Cities Call For More Federal Support To Respond To National Migrant Crisis, Mayor Adams Issues Executive Order Requiring Charter Bus Companies To Coordinate Safe, Orderly Migrant Arrivals](#)

[Transcript: Mayor Adams Provides Update on Steam Pipe Leak](#)



We are looking to highlight Veterans in the arts community! Whether it's an upcoming free exhibition, performance, or piece/installation you've created, we want to showcase your work and help spread the word. Submissions will be reviewed on a rolling basis and promoted at our discretion. We want this to be a space for Veteran artists to express themselves in an authentic way.

Please email submissions to connect@veterans.nyc.gov with a brief bio, an artist statement, art medium, and your affiliation to the Veteran community.

First virtual National Military Veterans Artist Network Symposium

The **Virtual** Military Veterans Artist Network Symposium

**Thursday, January 25
1:00—4:00 pm EST**

Register at zoomto.me/uZmzo



THE ART
STUDENTS
LEAGUE
OF NEW YORK

The first virtual National Military Veterans Artist Network Symposium is happening next month! This forum is hosted by Americans for the Arts and the Art Students League of New York with multiple distinguished guest speakers. Whether you're a—professional who has been in the industry for years, artist beginning your career, individual who has artistic interests or looking to heal through artistic expression—this symposium can provide you with the tools you need to further your artistic journey.

This summit offers: an introduction to the legacy of Veterans in America's modern and contemporary art history, an introduction to government and private sector

entities looking to support you, networking with fellow artists and professionals in your desired field, discussing "decrutment" and the transition to civilian life, as well as tips and tricks to make a career in the arts sustainable.

applications while providing secured network connectivity, asset management, and technical support for a highly mobile team.

VA Work Study Positions at DVS

The NYC Department of Veterans' Services (DVS) supports VA Work-Study Positions! Here is a current list of available VA Work-Study openings:

- [Administrative Intern](#)
- [Benefit Intern](#)
- [Care Coordination Intern](#)
- [Data Analyst Intern](#)
- [Information Technology Intern](#)
- [IT Support Intern](#)
- [Legal Intern](#)
- [Outreach Coordinator Intern](#)
- [Veteran Business Promotion Intern](#)

If you are interested in applying for a DVS-specific Work-Study position and meet eligibility requirements, please submit the following to VAWorkStudy@veterans.nyc.gov:

- Resume
- Job Specific Cover Letter
- Supporting Documents found in the Job Description

[Check Here for VA Work-Study Postings](#)

NYC Civil Service Job Openings and Exams



Open Competitive Exams

Correction Officer - Correction Officers, under supervision, maintain security and are responsible for the care, custody, control, job training and work performance of sentenced and detained inmates within New York City correctional facilities. View the full job description [here!](#)

Associate Laboratory Microbiologist - Associate Laboratory Microbiologists, under general direction, supervise a major program, project, or activity, laboratory or laboratory section, or perform difficult professional work with wide latitude for independent judgment and initiative in scientific laboratory work in one or more laboratory specialties, in accordance with the applicable City, State, and Federal regulations. View the full job description [here!](#)

Laboratory Microbiologist - Laboratory Microbiologists, under general supervision, perform scientific laboratory work of a routine technical nature with some exercise of independent judgment and initiative in accordance with the provisions of the New York City Health Code. All Laboratory Microbiologists perform related work. View the full job description [here!](#)

To view all available job listings, visit the exam board [here!](#)

To receive monthly updates on upcoming civil service exams click the button below to be directed to the Subscribe to the DCAS Newsletter page. On the registration form, select "City Jobs and Civil Service Announcements".

[Subscribe to the DCAS Newsletter Here](#)

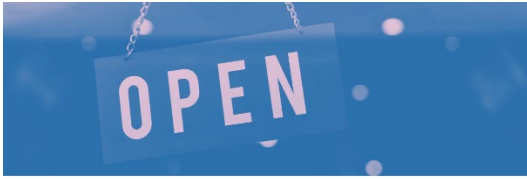
Programs and Initiatives

Affordable Housing For Veterans



The [NYC Department of Veterans' Services \(DVS\)](#) maintains a list of federal, state, and city programs that offers a limited, but selective list of affordable housing options for veterans seeking financial relief for their housing arrangements. Visit our [Affordable Housing for Veterans](#) page to learn more.

Empowering Veteran Business Owners



The primary mission of the [VBLA](#) is to serve Veterans seeking support and assistance with running a business and in their pursuit of New York City Government contracting opportunities. Our leadership association engages with the private sector, government, advisory board, and local partners to build a consortium that facilitates the growth and development of Veteran Businesses.

VetBizNYC: Supporting Veteran Entrepreneurship

DVS has launched [VetBizNYC](#), an interactive map that identifies Veteran-owned businesses across the five boroughs. New Yorkers can use our interactive map to find and support Veteran-owned businesses in their community.



Are You Getting the Benefits You Deserve?

The [NYC Department of Veterans' Services \(DVS\)](#) represents NYC Veterans in claims for benefits from the [U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs](#). Our team is also qualified to assist with PACT Act related claims. If you had a toxic exposure during your service, time is crucial for you to get the benefits you deserve. To file a claim, fill out the [VetConnectNYC.org](#) form and select **Benefits Navigation** as your preferred service.



[nyc.gov/vetjobs: Veteran-specific Employment Resources](#)



Central to the agency's mission is our commitment to serving veterans who are looking for meaningful employment and opportunities to advance economically. DVS ensures that transitioning veterans receive access to the resources they need to start a new career in NYC. Visit [nyc.gov/vetjobs](#) for veteran-specific job boards, vocational training programs, career fair listings, professional mentorship opportunities, and other employment resources.

Newsletter Sign-up

If you received this newsletter by way of a friend or colleague and have yet to sign-up on your own, click [here](#), and stay up-to-date with the latest news impacting the

community, updates on city services, info on DVS programs, Veteran-specific resources & more.

Contact Us

- Complete a service request form at vetconnectnyc.org
- [Message the Commissioner](#)
- [Partner with DVS](#)
- [Press Inquiries](#)
- [Event Request Form](#)

Stay tuned on our website www.nyc.gov/vets and social media platforms [@nycveterans](#), or via email at connect@veterans.nyc.gov.

