Department of Veterans Affairs

Agency Financial Report

Fiscal Year 2020

ABOUT THE COVER

The cover art is the winning entry for the 2020 Veterans Day Poster Contest. The designer, Mr. Casey Brown, is a Marine Corps Veteran who served in the infantry and was deployed to Iraq. He volunteered at the Salt Lake City, Utah VA Medical Center (VAMC) and was hired by the Salt Lake City Fiduciary Hub as part of the Veterans Benefits Administration. Each year, the Veterans Day National Committee publishes a commemorative Veterans Day poster. The Committee selects a poster from artwork submitted by artists nationwide. It also distributes the winning design to VA facilities, military installations around the world and across cities and towns in our Nation. It then serves as the cover of the official program for the Veterans Day Observance at Arlington National Cemetery.

The theme for Veterans Day 2020 is: “Vision: Veterans in Focus.” All Veterans make a sacrifice to serve their country, whether physically, emotionally or by being away from their loved ones and missing important life moments. As the saying goes, hindsight is always 20/20. Looking back on centuries of Veterans’ service and sacrifices and what we have learned from the past, we must always maintain the vision for the future of Veterans. Putting the Veteran at the center on Veterans Day, we continue to honor all who served, while focusing on the needs of the next generation of Veterans.

Mr. Brown’s design was chosen the winner from over 100 entries.

He had this to say about his winning submission: “I wanted to express the beauty and rigidness of the camaraderie in military service. I would like others to see the life cycle of a Veteran. When we are young, we see others serving and have a hope for living up to the legacy made by the Veterans in our lives. That desire to serve grows. We opt to give our time and talents to the service of our country; it can be a struggle and sacrifice at times. We help others along the way, we ask for help from time to time. We turn back around and help those next in line. Then at the end, we get to look back and ask ourselves if we left this country better than we found it; if we chose others’ lives over our own.”

ABOUT THE AGENCY FINANCIAL REPORT

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Agency Financial Report (AFR) provides fiscal and summary performance results that enable the President, Congress and the American people to assess our accomplishments for the reporting period October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020. The AFR consists of three primary sections, as follows:

- *Management's Discussion and Analysis:* showcasing VA's mission, organizational structure and the dedicated work of VA employees in support of our Nation's Veterans. It provides an overview of financial results, summary-level performance information and management assurance regarding internal controls.
- *Financial Section:* detailing the VA's financial position as of the fiscal year ended September 30, 2020. VA's FY 2020 audited financial statements and footnote disclosures are presented in this section, along with the results of the independent auditor's report.
- *Other Information:* containing the Office of Inspector General's (OIG) VA Management and Performance Challenges a summary of financial statement audit and management assurances and Payment Integrity Information Act Reporting, among other requirements.

Pursuant to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular No. A-136, the Department chose to produce an AFR and an Annual Performance Plan and Report (APP&R). The FY 2020 APP&R will be provided along with the Congressional Budget Justification in March 2021 and will be available on the Department's website at www.va.gov/performance/.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Information about VA's programs is available at www.va.gov.

VA's AFR and Strategic Plan are available at www.va.gov/performance.

VA's social media pages:

https://www.facebook.com/VeteransAffairs

https://twitter.com/DeptVetAffairs/

http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/

https://www.flickr.com/photos/VeteransAffairs/

https://www.youtube.com/user/DeptVetAffairs

https://www.instagram.com/deptvetaffairs/

CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE IN ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTING

VA is proud to announce that its FY 2019 AFR was awarded the Association of Government Accountants' (AGA) Certificate of Excellence in Accountability Reporting (CEAR) at a virtual ceremony held August 6, 2020. The CEAR is the highest form of recognition in Federal Government management reporting and FY 2019 is the first year in which VA has received this distinguished award. The CEAR Program was established by the AGA, in conjunction with the Chief Financial Officers Council and OMB to improve accountability through streamlined, effective reporting that clearly shows agency accomplishments with taxpayer dollars and the challenges that remain.

AGA

Certificate of Excellence in Accountability Reporting®

presented to the

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

in recognition of outstanding effort in preparing the Agency Financial Report for fiscal year 2019

Diane L. Dudley, CGFM, CPA
Chair, CEAR Board

Ann M. Ebberts, MS, PMP
Chief Executive Officer, AGA