

Veterans Affairs FY 2012 Covered Conference Events over \$100,000

Agency Priority Goal 1: Improve Veteran Access to VA Benefits and Services

Improve awareness of VA services and benefits by increasing the timeliness and relevance of on-line information available to Veterans, Servicemembers and eligible beneficiaries. By September 30, 2013, increase the number of registered eBenefits users from 1.0 million to 2.5 million.

Title	Total Costs	Location	Start Date	End Date	# VA Paid Travelers	# of Attendees	Conference Description
Transformation Integrated Curriculum-Integrated Transformational Training Model-Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT) Training	\$1,728,564	Nationwide	4/17/12	9/30/12	3,600	4,322	Train primary care teams in patient aligned care principles and provide them with the tools necessary to develop and fully implement patient-aligned primary care at their individual care site. The face-to-face trainings are part of a greater longitudinal curriculum that includes pre-work, a variety of virtual training modalities, and ongoing support by trained coaches/facilitators.
National Veterans Small Business Conference: Small Business	\$1,541,842	Detroit, MI	6/26/12	6/29/12	550	4000	To directly connect VOSB owners with Procurement Decision Makers (PDM) from the VA and other federal and state agencies
Office of Mental Health Operations Site Visits	\$840,000	Multiple VAMCs	10/12/11	9/26/12	80	80	<p>*NOTE* This is not a training. It is a site visit to assess implementation of mental health services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess current implementation of the Uniform Mental Health Services Handbook, with a focus upon progress since the FY12 site visits; • Provide an opportunity to obtain direct feedback on services through face-to-face interviews with a variety of stakeholders in mental health services including Veterans, Veterans' family members, community partners, front-line mental health staff members, mental health program leadership, mental health service leadership and facility leadership; • Provide consultation with the facility on mental health areas of need; • Provide the facility with a report with identified recommendations for growth areas; and • Assist with follow-up action planning with the facility with ongoing quarterly assessment of progress on identified growth areas to assist in improvement of mental health services
Overseas Military Service Coordinator Program (Operational outreach)	\$645,862	Overseas -- Italy, United Kingdom, Germany, Korea, Japan)	10/1/11	9/30/12	25	500	To provide VA benefits briefings and one on one VA benefits counseling sessions to Servicemembers and their families who attend Transitional Assistance Program (TAP) briefings overseas. Linked to the Dept integrated objective to educate and empower Servicemembers, Veterans, and their families through proactive outreach and effective advocacy.
National Veterans Wheelchair Games	\$547,500	Richmond, VA	6/25/12	6/30/12	209	209	A multi-event sports and rehabilitation program for military service veterans who use wheelchairs for sports competition due to spinal cord injuries, amputations or certain neurological problems. Attracting more than 500 athletes each year, the National Veterans Wheelchair Games is the largest annual wheelchair sports event in the world.

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New Horizons in Rehabilitation Services for the Next Generation of Veterans with Advanced Amputation Skill Training	\$526,426	Atlanta, GA	6/19/12	6/21/12	320	320	Clinical rehabilitation staff across the nation participated in interdisciplinary team discussions and problem-solving using case based scenarios about management of unique conditions and disabilities seen in the Veteran populations they treat. This conference included hands-on skill training using Telehealth equipment; assistive technology devices and prosthetic devices to upgrade their knowledge about what is available to assist Veterans to be as independent as possible in today's era of treatment. The poster sessions delivered 60 Best Practices from across the system and allowed active discussions and Q&A time; Cafe conversations allowed collaboration and interaction with various community service organizations and DoD organizations who provide services to Veterans and to VA.
National Veterans Golden Age Games	\$494,861	St Louis, MO	5/31/12	6/5/12	169	169	Senior adaptive rehabilitation program in the United States, and the only national multi-event sports and recreational seniors' competition program designed to improve the quality of life for all older Veterans, including those with a wide range of abilities and disabilities. The Games serve as a qualifying event for competition in the National Senior Games in a number of competitive events every even numbered year
National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic	\$490,861	Snowmas, CO	3/25/12	3/30/12	155	155	The National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic is a world-leader in adaptive winter sports instruction for U.S. military Veterans and active duty servicemen and women with disabilities. Veterans rehabilitative winter clinic sporting event, including skiing, sled hockey, curling.
Women's Health-Mini-Residency Initial National Training Program	\$461,059	Orlando, FL	7/23/12	7/25/12	254	254	Ongoing Women's Health Training Program to ensure at least one trained women's health provider at each care site in VHA. Mini-Residency 1 is specifically designed to enhance participant's knowledge and skills through didactic lectures, small group case discussions and hands-on simulation. Topics focus on health issues related to the care of women Veterans of child-bearing age.

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Safe Patient Handling	\$449,957	Orlando, FL	8/14/12	8/17/12	259	259	The primary focus of the conference will be learning and honing leadership/mentoring/coaching skills as well as acquiring and improving patient handling equipment use techniques. Attendance at this conference facilitates maintenance/sustenance of the National SPH Program supported by VHA funds and mandated through VHA Directive 2010-32, Safe Patient Handling Program and Facility Design. This conference did focus on the safety and security of veterans or employees, facilitating maintenance of the VHA SPH Program and thus reduction in caregiver injuries and improvements in outcomes, and two Presidential Initiatives are impacted: Protecting Our Workers and Ensuring Reemployment (POWER) and partnership for Patients: Better Care, Lower Costs. As a direct result of UPL requests during the conference, a UPL SharePoint site was created and released to the participants within a week of the conference. The SharePoint site includes conference presentations and information as well as a blog/discussion board and other information helpful to the role of a UPL. Since releasing accessibility to the SharePoint site, the national SPH Program office has received many requests to open up the site to all of VHAs 4,000+ UPLs, a direct result of conference-generated UPL appreciation of the resource they requested.
National Veterans Small Business Conference: Open House	\$441,022	Detroit, MI	6/26/12	6/29/12	0	8,000-10,000	Directly connect Veterans and their families with the full range of VA care, benefits and services available to them at the VA and other federal state and local agencies in a format that promotes a belief that The VA has come to meet their needs.
Program Application Specialist (PAS) Training and Health Eligibility Center National Training	\$427,954	Orlando, FL	8/7/12	8/9/12	250	250	Trained personnel on Health Care Benefits eligibility and enrollment. During this conference, participants learned and exchanged practices to 1) improve workload validation; 2) utilize encounter tracking tools; 3) improve workload validation by reducing the error 4) apply analytical skills, and 5) apply standard business process in health eligibility.

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National Vet Center Team Leader Training	\$423,086	St Louis, MO	8/6/12	8/10/12	268	268	<p>The training was designed to address the unique challenges Readjustment Counseling Service (RCS) Vet Center Team Leaders in managing standardization, program operations, treatment, collaboration, and services provided to Veterans in the areas of outreach, mental health, homelessness, and marriage/family counseling readjustment counseling. Because of the RCS expanding mission and role in the community Vet Center Team Leaders must address evolving issues while developing effective teams to provide outreach, direct service delivery, collaborative care, counseling and referral. Vet Center Team Leaders and key staff from the RCS's 300-plus Vet Centers included psychologists, licensed clinical social workers, licensed counselors, psychiatric nurse clinical specialists, and administrative personnel participated in the training. Based on the participant response data 94% of the attendees agreed or strongly agreed they were satisfied with their learning experience and would recommend this training to others. Over 70% of the comments relating to successful application and usefulness of this information fell into four content areas: Clarity on implementing strategic vision, new ideas for collaboration/best practices, improved outreach strategies, and training concepts for clinical practices. These areas were reinforced by comments such as: "I've learned new ways to implement the Strategic Goals..." "Will develop outreach initiatives for the population we are trying to attract to the Vet Center." "Utilization of an in-service on Provider Self-Care" and "In-service training for [clinical] staff." "I gained specific examples of how to build coalitions with our internal and external stakeholders." Areas for future consideration includes gathering further field input for training needs, more breakout or small group training options, and considering incorporating separate clinical and administrative training tracts.</p>

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DoD/VA Suicide Prevention	\$414,000	Washington DC	6/20/12	6/22/12	276	276	In an effort to address the ongoing crisis of suicide in the military, the DoD and VA partner to provide innovative and relevant suicide prevention programming, including the annual Suicide Prevention Conference (SPC). This year's theme "Back to Basics: Enhancing the Well-Being of our Service Members, Veterans, and their Families" built upon the 2011 SPC theme of "All the Way Home: Preventing Suicide among Service Members and Veterans." As the largest SPC to date, the number of attendees this year (1,152) represented a 25 percent increase over last year (922). Held at the Renaissance Hotel in Washington, DC, the 2012 SPC included three days of plenary, panel, clinical, practical and research-based conference sessions intended to strengthen core skills for suicide prevention training. With nearly 70 sessions offered, the information reflected the diverse range of basic skills necessary for meaningful suicide prevention training in varied settings and for all levels of leadership. This program had a level 1, 2, and 3 evaluation. This data is still being compiled as the level 3 survey just closed.
Women's Health -Mini-Residency Basic National Program	\$399,183	Orlando, FL	7/25/12	7/27/12	246	246	Ongoing Women's Health Training Program to ensure at least one trained women's health provider at each care site in VHA. Mini-Residency 2 builds on Mini-Residency 1. Through its didactic lectures and small group case discussions, emphasis is placed on how to treat health care disorders that affect women across their life span.
Transformation Integrated Curriculum-Transformational Coaches Training	\$373,034	Dallas, TX	9/11/12	9/14/12	230	230	Outline the knowledge and skills and abilities needed for transformational coaching; Provide education and training in the concepts and knowledge needed to coach a primary care, specialty care, or other clinical care teams; Teach through direct -modeling and interactive discussion and role-play basic and advanced techniques of facilitative and content- based coaching strategies (requires a face-to-face environment); Coaches are crucial to the success of individual teams and local facility implementation of T-21 initiatives within a virtual learning model.

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Transformation Integrated Curriculum-Facility Telehealth Coordinators (FTC)/ Telehealth Clinical Technicians (TCT) Training	\$367,560	Westminster, CO	4/24/12	4/26/12	213	213	Facility Telehealth Coordinators (FTCs) can now manage and act as train-the-trainers/master preceptors to support the ongoing competency development of the 1,000+ Telehealth Clinical Technicians (TCTs) to support clinicians that will be delivering care using Telehealth technologies through the 1) development of a comprehensive longitudinal training plan using virtual training and localized training for deploying/up-skilling VA staff (clinicians to include: Nurses, Doctors, Psychologists, Social Workers and other support staff) into a Telehealth competent workforce; 2) providing medical technology support to the PACT teams.
Inpatient Mental Health (MH) Care: New Paradigm Recovery -Oriented and Patient-Centered Care	\$315,767	San Antonio, TX	9/28/12	9/30/12	198	198	The purpose of this conference is to provide training for the implementation of recovery-oriented, patient-centered care in inpatient Mental Health settings throughout VHA. Facilities have made significant progress in the implementation of recovery models of care particularly in the outpatient setting and many have begun the transformation in the inpatient setting as well. Recovery services and a recovery environment are critical to our Veterans, for us to be able to provide a warm, healing, and safe environment. There is currently a gap in the implementation of a model of care that incorporates recovery concepts, services and programming within a safe and healing inpatient environment. This training will provide education on recovery principles and practices, strategies for training and implementation in the inpatient setting, and strategies for evaluating effectiveness of these transformational efforts.
Patient Aligned Care Team Collaborative	\$301,083	Minneapolis, MN	10/18/11	10/20/11	224	224	The purpose of this event was to work with facility based team to implement new models of healthcare delivery and to implement principles of team based care.
Enhancing Partnerships for Integrated Change (EPIC) Conference	\$289,103	Westminster, CO	8/7/12	8/9/12	153	153	*Two hundred facility-based sessions delivered by existing/ funded faculty consisting of 75 employees at each session. Each team will attend two, 1.5-day face-to-face sessions over the course of the year as part of the longitudinal curriculum. Approximately 75 participants each. Approximately 18 travelers per session (faculty remote & Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) staff).

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National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic	\$266,016	San Diego, CA	9/16/12	9/21/12	131	131	The Summer Sports Clinic offers adventure sports and recreational activities such as sailing, surfing, track and field events, kayaking and cycling (hand and tandem), to those who were recently injured. Complimenting the therapy provided in daily rehabilitation programs, the Clinic shares a glimpse of the many exciting recreational opportunities awaiting those Veterans who accept the challenge. With the variety of water and summer sports available at the Clinic, this week-long journey hosts Veterans from all over the country who have a variety of injuries, ranging from traumatic brain injury and polytrauma, to spinal cord injury or loss of limb. Its fundamental purpose is to provide early intervention for Veterans battling back from injury, not only strengthening their bodies but overcoming and improving their overall being and self-worth.
National Veterans Creative Arts Festival	\$244,272	Rogers and Fayetteville, Arkansas	10/17/11	10/24/11	82	82	The National Veterans Creative Arts Festival is an annual event that recognizes Veterans for their creative accomplishments. Over 3,500 Veterans from over 130 VA facilities will enter a nation-wide therapeutic arts competition. 150 Veterans will be invited to participate at the Festival to engage in art workshops, exhibit their work, and perform in a stage show to an audience in order to demonstrate the therapeutic benefits of the arts in the lives of Veterans.
Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) Safety, Industrial Hygiene, Environmental, and Fire Protection Conference and EPS Training Event/Association for the Healthcare Environment (AHE) Training with VA Interior Design Training Event/Neocon World Trade Fair 2012	\$236,000	Chicago, IL	6/11/12	6/15/12	150	150	Abled participants to: 1) utilize current VA Design Guides and VA Design Manuals to increase optimum efficiency in patient centered care environments throughout VA Medical Centers; 2. demonstrate best practices for designing state-of-the-art medical environments with emphasis on the VA Technical Library, new patient centered design strategies; 3. identify the current standards based on Executive Orders, Patient Safety Information, and Design Alerts; and 4. design projects that optimize space and resources within patient care areas.
Therapy Support/Employment Services (TSES) Evidence-based Fidelity Review Visits	\$198,000	Multiple VAMCs	11/10/11	9/26/12	8	8	Promote effective use of EBP-SE consistent with the Uniform MH Services Handbook; improve employment and recovery outcomes.

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National Infectious Diseases Service (NIDS) Training: Infection Prevention & Control in the 21st Century - It's Everybody's Business	\$189,500	Dallas, TX	5/15/12	5/17/12	153	164	Training highlighted a collaborative perspective of infection prevention & control into all disciplines & sectors of healthcare to promote the concept "infection prevention & control is everybody's business".
2011 Patient Flow Coordinator Collaborative	\$181,584	San Diego, CA	10/4/11	10/6/11	150	150	The purpose of this conference was to work with facility based team to implement improvements in hospital flow to improve efficiency in hospital operations, minimize lengths of stay and to optimize the efficiency of patient inpatient experiences.
Former Prisoners of War (FPOW)	\$165,299	Las Vegas, NV	7/17/12	7/19/12	100	100	This training and education event enabled VA medical facilities to meet the requirements of VHA Directive 2011-018 requiring facilities to provide trained and certified care and benefits teams to evaluate and oversee treatment provided to Former Prisoners of War (FPOW). The training targeted FPOW appointed teams consisting of two physicians (one general practitioner and one Compensation & Pension physician) and a social worker to properly assess and provide holistic care and complete the compensation and benefit exam team for FPOWs.
National Veterans TEE Tournament	\$155,000	Iowa City, IA	9/10/12	9/14/12	131	131	This new national event provides legally blind and eligible disabled Veterans an opportunity to develop new skills and strengthen their self-esteem through adaptive golf and bowling events. Each year, the TEE Tournament uses a therapeutic format to promote rehabilitation, fellowship and camaraderie among participants. The event provides eligible Veterans with an opportunity to participate in therapeutic adaptive sporting activities which demonstrate that having a visual or physical disability need not be an obstacle to an active, rewarding life. Each year, the event uses a therapeutic format to promote rehabilitation, fellowship and camaraderie among participants.

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Human Research Protection Program (HRPP)	\$152,490	San Francisco, CA	6/26/12	6/27/12	90	90	<p>The outcome of this meeting, the purpose of which was to train individuals with VA human research protection responsibilities how to comply with complex VA and other federal requirements, is reflected in the very positive evaluations provided by meeting participants. Overall the rating for "My participation in this conference will be of value to my institution" was 4.36 (out of 5) and 4.08 for "The conference materials contributed to or enhanced my understanding." The evaluations for the 4 course objectives averaged 4.17 (range 3.96 – 4.36). The four objectives dealt with being able to 1) Understand VA research principles and how they apply to my facility's human and animal research programs, 2) Identify where to go for help interpreting and applying VA requirements for human research protection, 3) Identify safeguards for ensuring the protection of VA research data, 4)Recognize key requirements for collaborative research.</p>

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Former Prisoners of War (FPOW) Training	\$149,660	San Antonio, TX	9/25/12	9/27/12	95	95	<p>This training and education event enabled VA medical facilities to meet the requirements of VHA Directive 2011-018 requiring facilities to provide trained and certified care and benefits teams to evaluate and oversee treatment provided to Former Prisoners of War (FPOW). The minimum composition of these teams consists of two physicians (one general practitioner and one Compensation & Pension physician) and a social worker to complete the care and benefit team. At the present time, few hospitals are in compliance with VHA Directive 2011-018, effective March 2011 and delivered to all facilities. It is imperative to continue to train VHA staff to best treat, evaluate and provide earned benefits to the FPOW. This workshop addressed needed improvements in knowledge and skill gaps; especially in identifying the medical, psychosocial and mental health conditions that commonly affect FPOW. The curriculum also included laws that govern VA benefits that are special for this group. This face-to-face intervention prepares Veterans Health Administration and Veterans Benefit Administration Provider Teams to compassionately, effectively and efficiently rate, process and provide FPOW with needed treatment and compensation. The faculty did a great job of summarizing the process for conducting and rating the FPOW protocol exam, reviewing protocol exam and special monthly compensation exam in an elementary way so all participants get an understanding of this process. Participants had the opportunity to utilize conference tools to enhance personal commitment to FPOW care and benefits. The workshop provided the opportunity to collaborate and develop plans for seamless FPOW case coordination, work flow, and communication within VHA and VBA. This course is unique because of its ability to teach different organizations, within the VA, the other organizations responsibilities' and requirements. This facilitated the effective and efficient care provision for the FPOW population. This workshop included use of case studies, simulated C&P, and onsite feedback on performance of skills in coaching framework. This workshop prepared the participants to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate ability to integrate the unique experiences of FPOW during combat, captivity and following repatriation into assessment for C & P exam. During this education intervention participants obtained onsite

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Human Research Training Program	\$133,954	Chicago, IL	7/24/12	7/26/12	109	109	Successful launch of a national clinical trial on treatments for improving outcomes for major depressive disorder. The meeting trained the clinicians-investigators, study coordinators, and independent evaluators on essential clinical, regulatory, and operational procedures for conducting the study. Investigators and study personnel were able to interact with study leadership to ensure protocol, data integrity, and regulatory requirements were understood and how to execute them. Good Clinical Practice training was provided on July 24, 2012 by CSP SMART.
National Infectious Diseases Service (NIDS) Training: Animals in Healthcare Facilities	\$133,500	Cincinnati, OH	10/18/11	10/19/11	89	99	Due to the heightened attention concerning animals in the healthcare arena, NIDS held training addressing many of the issues facilities face, VISN teams developed skeletal plans to assess the appropriateness and completeness of each facility's animal programs within the VISNs.
Prevention and Management of Disruptive Behavior (PMDB) Trainer Recalibration Training	\$131,008	San Antonio, TX	6/25/12	6/28/12	60	60	This program was designed specifically for Prevention and Management of Disruptive Behavior (PMDB) Master Trainers, Master Trainers in Training, and Facility Trainers. This training certifies instructors to offer PMDB training at their facility ultimately to prevent and decrease the severity and number of disruptive behavior incidences within a facility. Participants demonstrated verbal skills, and completed Skills Practice Activities (SPAs) as a program requirement. In addition, participants instructed personal safety skills, participated in therapeutic containment exercises and obtained updated ethics training in regards to PMDB. Active participation in the completion of a Workplace Violence Risk Assessment was also required.
National Infectious Diseases Service (NIDS) Training: Antimicrobial Stewardship in VA - Moving Forward	\$130,500	Cincinnati, OH	11/15/12	11/16/12	87	97	NIDS & PBMS training pertaining to antimicrobial stewardship and importance of optimizing the care of veterans by developing, deploying & monitoring strategic plan for improvements in antimicrobial therapy management.
Behavioral Threat Management Program: Prevention and Management of Disruptive Behavior (PMDB) National Recalibration Training	\$130,190	San Antonio, TX	6/25/12	6/28/12	60	60	Recertification training for trainers for therapeutic containment & safety.

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Supply Processing Distribution (SPD) - International Association for healthcare Central Service Material Management (IAHCSMM) Course	\$114,840	St Louis, MO	8/13/12	8/17/12	73	73	Leadership training for oversight of Sterile Processing Technicians and nationally recognized methods for reprocessing Reusable Medical Equipment.
Supply Processing Distribution (SPD) Level II Training and Certification Course	\$114,526	Phoenix, AZ	8/7/12	8/10/12	70	70	Standardized and correct performance of sterile processing tasks. This training covers all areas of SPS to include: introduction, principles of decontamination, packaging, sterilization, storage, and distribution of medical/surgical devices, infection control, disease transmission, microbiology, and medical terminology. Participants are offered to receive an SPS Certification Test at the conclusion of the training. This course has improved the National SPS Test pass-rate from <50% in FY 10 to average of 97% in FY11.
International Association for Healthcare Central Service Material Management (IAHCSMM) Central Service Specialist Development Training	\$113,600	Nashville, TN	6/11/12	6/21/12	77	77	<p style="text-align: center;">At the end of this course SPD leaders will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Interpret and practice the purpose and mission for VA Healthcare as related to management of RME; 2. Use the management and common healthcare administration terms; 3. Develop and implement policies and procedures pertaining to RME; 4. Effectively communicate SPS; 5. Employ SPS leadership responsibilities concerning Human Resource Management; 6. Provide effective training and SPS staff development at the local facility; 7. Operate and manage the different types and purposes of budgets used by the VA Medical Centers nationwide; and, 8. Assess, evaluate and take corrective actions based on The Joint Commission and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards.

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International Association for Healthcare Central Service Material Management (IAHCSMM) Central Service Specialist Development Training	\$113,600	San Antonio, TX	9/10/12	9/20/12	77	77	<p style="text-align: center;">At the end of this course SPD leaders will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Interpret and practice the purpose and mission for VA Healthcare as related to management of RME ; 2. Use the management and common healthcare administration terms; 3. Develop and implement policies and procedures pertaining to RME; 4. Effectively communication SPS; 5. Employ SPS leadership responsibilities concerning Human Resource Management; 6. Provide effective training and SPS staff development at the local facility; 7. Operate and manage the different types and purposes of budgets used by the VA Medical Centers nationwide; and, 8. Assess, evaluate and take corrective actions based on The Joint Commission and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards.
Patient Safety Improvement/Root Cause Analysis (RCA)/Health Failure Mode Effects Analysis (HFMEA) Training	\$110,719	San Antonio, TX	5/15/12	5/17/12	68	68	<p>This workshop was designed to improve patient safety strategies at the VISN Level and included the following activities: 1) group inter-active data review from Root Cause Analysis (RCA) reporting, 2) formulating implementation strategies of Patient Safety Goals to address safety concerns, patterns and gaps, 3) plan for the execution of the new patient safety standards from the Joint Commission will be finalized for 2012. The success of this workshop will be measured throughout the year using SPOT software and track RCA activity.</p>
Supply Processing Distribution (SPD) Level II Training and Certification Course	\$109,748	Phoenix, AZ	5/22/12	5/22/12	70	70	<p>Standardized and correct performance of sterile processing tasks. This training covers all areas of SPS to include: introduction, principles of decontamination, packaging, sterilization, storage, and distribution of medical/surgical devices, infection control, disease transmission, microbiology, and medical terminology. Participants are offered receive an SPS Certification Test at the conclusion of the training. This course has improved the National SPS Test pass rate from <50% in FY 10 to an average of 97% in FY 11.</p>

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National Infectious Diseases Service (NIDS) Training: Antimicrobial Stewardship Task Force	\$109,200	Cincinnati, OH	10/6/11	10/7/11	10	18	Antimicrobial Stewardship Task Force actively reviewed purpose & responsibilities, developed strategies in a collaborative effort among the stakeholders to optimize the care of Veterans by developing, deploying & monitoring a national-level strategic plan for improvements in antimicrobial therapy management.
Supply Processing Distribution (SPD) - International Association for Healthcare Central Service Material Management (IAHCSMM) Course	\$107,580	St Louis, MO	5/7/12	5/11/12	72	72	Leadership training for oversight of Sterile Processing Technicians and nationally recognized methods for reprocessing Reusable Medical Equipment.
Harvesting Excellence: Quest for Success in the 21st Century	\$107,124	Napa Valley, CA	10/11/11	10/13/11	88	88	The purpose of this conference is to identify key VISN 21 strategies to support the VA operating plans and major initiatives across the six healthcare systems.
Safe Patient Handling Coordinator Conference & Training	\$106,975	Orlando, FL	3/19/12	3/23/12	55	55	Participants were provided cutting edge research, best practices, and lessons learned in safe patient handling (SPH) in order to advance safety and decrease injuries for patients and caregivers. Attendees participated in these conference sessions: Basics of Safe Patient Handling, Hands-on Equipment Use (demonstrating new patient handling techniques and equipment), Advanced Skills in Implementing Safe Patient Handling Programs, SPH for Physical and Occupational Therapists, SPH for Special Populations, and SPH Evaluation and Research. As well, the VHA Safe Patient Handling Facility Coordinators received one day dedicated to skills building in coaching and mentoring. Those in attendance successfully incorporated newly acquired coaching/mentoring techniques, purchased new equipment displayed in the exhibit hall, and shared information obtained from the conference with their SPH Peer Leaders.
National Infectious Diseases Service (NIDS) Training: One Health in Community Living Centers	\$106,500	Cincinnati, OH	9/5/12	9/6/12	71	79	Training provided information to take to VISN leadership for strategic planning to enhance the One Health concept in VISN Community Living Centers. Implementation of infection prevention & control principles is integral in mission of VA CLCs which includes absence of healthcare-associated & facility-associated infections.

Veterans Affairs FY 2012 Covered Conference Events over \$100,000

Agency Priority Goal 1: Improve Veteran Access to VA Benefits and Services

Improve awareness of VA services and benefits by increasing the timeliness and relevance of on-line information available to Veterans, Servicemembers and eligible beneficiaries. By September 30, 2013, increase the number of registered eBenefits users from 1.0 million to 2.5 million.

Title	Total Costs	Location	Start Date	End Date	# VA Paid Travelers	# of Attendees	Conference Description
Training on Enhancing Care to the Transplant Patient	\$105,740	Nashville, TN	5/14/12	5/16/12	60	60	As follow up to the May 2011 Training on Enhancing Care to the Transplant Patient , training on Post Evaluation of the new transplant referral and evaluation processes, access to transplant service, reimbursement strategies, data collection; identify new initiatives and strategies in transplant services; and evaluate role of national surgery office.

Veterans Affairs FY 2012 Covered Conference Events over \$100,000

Agency Priority Goal 2: Eliminate Disability Claims Backlog

Improve accuracy and reduce the amount of time it takes to process Veterans' disability claim benefits.

By September 30, 2013, reduce the Veterans' disability claims backlog 40% (from 60.2%) while achieving a 90% accuracy rate (up from 83.3%) in pursuit of eliminating the Veterans' disability claims backlog (defined as claims pending more than 125 days) and improving accuracy rate to 98% by 2015.

Title	Total Costs	Location	Start Date	End Date	# VA Paid Travelers	# of Attendees	Conference Description
Challenge Centralized Training 2012-1 (Training)	\$3,736,924	Veterans Benefits Academy, Baltimore, and various VARO locations	10/12/11	12/16/11	538	542	Training Veterans Service Representatives (VSR) and Rating VSRs to develop/rate/promulgate Veterans' claims at established standards of timeliness and accuracy. Contributes to overall achievement of national production and accuracy goals driving toward Secretary's goals of no cases over 125 days and decision accuracy of 98% in 2015. New or promoted employees learned benefit claims-processing skills.
Challenge Centralized Training 2012-5 (Training)	\$2,399,510	Veterans Benefits Academy, Baltimore, and various VARO locations	7/9/12	8/30/12	346	385	Training Veterans Service Representatives (VSR) and Rating VSRs to develop/rate/promulgate Veterans' claims at established standards of timeliness and accuracy. Contributes to overall achievement of national production and accuracy goals driving toward Secretary's goals of no cases over 125 days and decision accuracy of 98% in 2015. New or promoted employees learned benefit claims-processing skills.
Challenge Centralized Training 2012-2 (Training)	\$2,031,975	Veterans Benefits Academy, Baltimore, and various VA Regional (RO) locations	1/7/12	3/10/12	293	352	Training Veterans Service Representatives (VSR) and Rating VSRs to develop/rate/promulgate Veterans' claims at established standards of timeliness and accuracy. Contributes to overall achievement of national production and accuracy goals driving toward Secretary's goals of no cases over 125 days and decision accuracy of 98% in 2015. New or promoted employees learned benefit claims-processing skills.
Disability Benefits Questionnaire (DBQ) Training	\$850,000	Atlanta, GA	11/29/11	12/2/11	500	500	Provided information on the Disability Benefits Questionnaire (DBQ) Trainin formats, disability examiners and clinicians to improve the quality and timeliness of examinations necessary to support Veterans claims for disability benefits to meet the Secretary's goal to reduce the Compensation and Pension (C&P) backlog.
Challenge Centralized Training 2012-3 (Training)	\$839,132	Veterans Benefits Academy, Baltimore, and various VARO locations	3/19/12	5/17/12	121	179	Training Veterans Service Representatives (VSR) and Rating VSRs to develop/rate/promulgate Veterans' claims at established standards of timeliness and accuracy. Contributes to overall achievement of national production and accuracy goals driving toward Secretary's goals of no cases over 125 days and decision accuracy of 98% in 2015. New or promoted employees learned benefit claims-processing skills.

Veterans Affairs FY 2012 Covered Conference Events over \$100,000

Agency Priority Goal 2: Eliminate Disability Claims Backlog

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Title	Total Costs	Location	Start Date	End Date	# VA Paid Travelers	# of Attendees	Conference Description
Station Enhancement Training (Training)	\$506,255	Oakland, Ca	6/4/12	6/29/12	73	279	All claims processors and managers received refresher training (based on Challenge curriculum) to develop/rate/promulgate Veterans' claims at established standards of timeliness and accuracy. Contributes to overall achievement of national production and accuracy goals driving toward Secretary's goals of no cases over 125 days and decision accuracy of 98% in 2015. New or promoted employees learned benefit claims-processing skills.
Decision Review Officer 2012-3 (Training)	\$369,740	National Training Center, Lansdowne, Va	1/23/12	1/27/12	278	278	All VBA Decision Review Officers participated in workshops that highlighted, through combination of lectures and seminar-type discussion groups, areas for improvement in the technical review of rating accuracy. The purpose was to increase accuracy and consistency through national standardization and improve results of the DRO skill certification test.
Decision Review Officer 2012-2 (Training)	\$226,100	National Training Center, Lansdowne, Va	11/26/11	11/30/11	170	170	All VBA Decision Review Officers participated in workshops that highlighted, through combination of lectures and seminar-type discussion groups, areas for improvement in the technical review of rating accuracy. The purpose was to increase accuracy and consistency through national standardization and improve results of the DRO skill certification test.
Decision Review Officer 2012-1 (Training)	\$210,140	National Training Center, Lansdowne, Va	11/12/11	11/16/11	158	158	All VBA Decision Review Officers participated in workshops that highlighted, through combination of lectures and seminar-type discussion groups, areas for improvement in the technical review of rating accuracy. The purpose was to increase accuracy and consistency through national standardization and improve results of the DRO skill certification test.

Veterans Affairs FY 2012 Covered Conference Events over \$100,000

Agency Priority Goal 3: Eliminate Veteran Homelessness

House 24,400 additional homeless Veterans and reduce the number of homeless Veterans to 35,000. By September 30, 2013, working in conjunction with the Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH), the Department of Housing and Urban Development and VA will also assist homeless Veterans in obtaining employment, accessing VA services, and securing permanent supportive housing, with a long-range goal of eliminating homelessness among Veterans by 2015.

Title	Total Costs	Location	Start Date	End Date	# VA Paid Travelers	# of Attendees	Conference Description
Veteran Hiring Fair	\$2,530,249	Detroit, MI	6/26/12	6/28/12	51	8000	Hiring of Veterans into VA, Federal and Private Sector jobs
Veteran Career Fair and Expo	\$851,274	Washington DC	1/18/12	1/18/12	17	4402	Hiring of Veterans into VA, Federal and Private Sector jobs

Veterans Affairs FY 2012 Covered Conference Events over \$100,000

Operational, Oversight and Support

Title	Total Costs	Location	Start Date	End Date	# VA Paid Travelers	# of Attendees	Conference Description
VA Acquisition Academy (VAAA)	\$19,227,873	Various	10/01/2011	09/30/2012	10,808	10,808	The VA Acquisition Academy was established to train and certify the VA workforce and meet the mandates of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP) using the five professional schools - Acquisition Internship, Contracting Professional, Program Management, Facility Management, Supply Chain Management, and the Warriors to Workforce Program. The VAAA holds approximately 680 classes throughout each fiscal year that is attended by both VA and other Federal agencies and is funded through several sources.
Title 38 U.S.C & 7422 Training	\$1,840,000	Multiple Locations	7/17/12	12/12/12	920	1150	Training for union officials and managers to improve knowledge, and correct misunderstanding, misinterpretation, and inconsistent use of 38 U.S.C & 7422.
FAC P/PM Certification Training	\$1,759,497	Arlington, VA	6/15/12	7/15/12	1215	1215	Train and certify employees in Acquisition and Program Management from the perspective of the integrated project team.
VA Chief Acquisition Officer's Acquisition Training	\$1,352,706	Orlando, FL	11/1/11	11/4/11	587	637	The Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP), in the Office of Management and Budget, has made strengthening the acquisition workforce one of their key initiatives and an on-going priority. In support of OFPP's key initiatives, this conference offered 99 training opportunities for acquisition courses including Customer Service and Vendor Outreach, Procurement Integrity, Strategic Sourcing, Post-award conferences, P.L. 109-461 Veterans First, Past Performance, Source Selection, a live webinar broadcast on "The BioPreferred Federal Procurement Preference Program", Green Purchasing, Performance Based Acquisition, FPDS, Protest, eCMS, and the conference also included a briefing on Small Business programs from VA's Executive Director for Small and Veteran Business Programs. To measure the increase in knowledge of the subject matter, pre/post evaluations showed participant overall improvement of course knowledge was 13%. Of particular note, there was a significant increase of knowledge of 37% in understanding contract Protest procedures.
Health Services Research and Development Service (HSR&D) Quality Enhancement Research Initiative (QUERI) "Enhancing Implementation Science Training" with QUERI and HSR&D National Meeting: "Transforming Veteran Healthcare through Partner-Oriented Research"	\$943,591	National Harbor, MD	7/16/12	7/19/12	568	638	This training and education event enabled the VA researchers, clinicians, managers and policymakers to share research findings and innovative interventions to improve the health and care of Veterans. Sharing findings helps VHA staff to know how to best treat, evaluate and provide earned benefits to the Veterans we serve as research findings are translated into evidence-based clinical practices.
Best Practices in Workers Compensation for Supervisor Courses (2 Sessions)	\$821,849	Dallas, Texas and Phoenix, AZ	6/26/12	8/23/12	312	312	Improved knowledge of supervisor responsibilities associated with employee Workers Compensation benefits

Veterans Affairs FY 2012 Covered Conference Events over \$100,000

Operational, Oversight and Support

Title	Total Costs	Location	Start Date	End Date	# VA Paid Travelers	# of Attendees	Conference Description
Basic Police Officer Training Course	\$650,000	Law Enforcement Training Center (LETC) North Little Rock, AR.	10/17/11	12/9/11	63	63	Certification for Title 38 U.S.C. Sec 902
Basic Police Officer Training Course	\$600,000	Law Enforcement Training Center (LETC) North Little Rock, AR.	1/16/12	3/9/12	55	55	Certification for Title 38 U.S.C. Sec 902
Basic Police Officer Training Course	\$600,000	Law Enforcement Training Center (LETC) North Little Rock, AR.	6/4/12	7/27/12	53	53	Certification for Title 38 U.S.C. Sec 902
Rehabilitation Research and Development Scientific Merit Review Board	\$585,525	Washington DC	3/1/12	8/31/12	210	685	Subcommittees reviewed rehabilitation research applications and advised the Director, Rehabilitation Research and Development Service, and the Chief Research and Development Office on the scientific and technical merit, the mission relevance, and the protection of human and animal subjects.
Basic Police Officer Training Course	\$570,000	Law Enforcement Training Center (LETC) North Little Rock, AR.	2/13/12	4/6/12	48	48	Certification for Title 38 U.S.C. Sec 902
Basic Police Officer Training Course	\$550,000	Law Enforcement Training Center (LETC) North Little Rock, AR.	7/2/12	8/24/12	43	43	Certification for Title 38 U.S.C. Sec 902
All CIO Meeting	\$549,000	San Diego, CA	11/29/11	12/1/11	400	400	Participants left the conference with a better understanding of where OIT is going and the avenues that will be take to achieve furture results. Large scale meetings such as this provide an opportunity to for all in attendance to hear the same messgage and ask pertinent questions in real time. Keeping everyone informed has huge advantages in an organization of this size.
American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) Congress on Healthcare Leadership and VA Day Training	\$532,701	Chicago, IL	3/19/12	3/22/12	350	350	The objective of the GHATP participation at the ACHE meeting was for GHATP trainees to present their final presentations to a panel of judges, and then to display them to "the public" (other ACHE Congress attendees), with the winners presenting again at the next day's VA Symposium. Final presentations are also available for viewing at the GHATP SharePoint site. The presentations also provide GHATP trainees valuable experience in public speaking and presentation skills.
Best Practices Courses (1 Session)	\$433,521	Costa Mesa, CA	6/5/12	6/7/12	142	142	Intermediate level training course for employees in Workers Comp Trng claims management. Increase and enhance technical skill sets as demonstrated by pre and post testing. Past results show 20% increase in competence..

Veterans Affairs FY 2012 Covered Conference Events over \$100,000

Operational, Oversight and Support

Title	Total Costs	Location	Start Date	End Date	# VA Paid Travelers	# of Attendees	Conference Description
Office of Finance -- FY12 Financial Management Training Conference	\$431,888	St Louis, MO	8/20/12	8/24/12	105	106	This conference was fourth in the series of conferences (previous three conferences were in prior FYs) that offer courses including Appropriations Law, Improper Payments, Federal Financial Management Overview, and Federal Accounting Fundamentals. To measure the mastery of the subject matter, pre/post evaluations from the first three conferences showed participant improvement in course knowledge. Results for the fourth conference not yet available.
NCA Training Conference	\$418,250	Nashville, TN	4/30/12	5/3/12	140	177	The conference promoted standardization and consistency in customer service in cemetery operations, developed individual and organizational accountability through the use of operations standards and measures, and enhanced the ability of NCA cemetery directors and their staffs to incorporate the practices of applying continuous improvement and innovation to cemetery operations.
Health Care Leadership Development Program (HCLDP)	\$408,000	Cincinnati, OH Denver, CO San Diego, CA	4/23/12	9/14/12	240	240	The year-long Health Care Leadership Development Program seeks to address the continued development of identified leaders in VHA. The training program is designed to build competencies and foster leadership skills progressively and proactively based on the changing organizational and environmental adaptive learning landscapes in modern healthcare.

Veterans Affairs FY 2012 Covered Conference Events over \$100,000

Operational, Oversight and Support

Title	Total Costs	Location	Start Date	End Date	# VA Paid Travelers	# of Attendees	Conference Description
VHA Acquisition Supervisory Training	\$405,709	Tampa, FL	2/27/12	3/1/12	219	219	<p>This leadership program was designed to 1) provide critical leadership skills to 219 front line supervisors to support leadership competency development across our new organization; 2) share best practice examples of how to use internal resources and tools to more effectively manage their teams, 3) provide feedback from senior VHA acquisition leadership in DC on expectations regarding customer service and meeting other key metrics for the fiscal year; and 4) identify opportunities for leveraging and sharing of resources across the 2,400 acquisition employees that are employed across VHA acquisitions and reporting to one of the 219 supervisors in attendance at the conference. Specific leadership skills that were addressed by outside speakers included, If Disney Ran your Hospital (customer service focus), Managing and leading a Multi-Generational Workforce, holding Crucial Confrontations with employees (holding people accountable), Bringing out the Best in your People, Leading Through Change, How to Effectively Manage Staff in Multiple Locations, Emotional Intelligence, and Leading Through Influence, to name a few. We also had subject matter experts on staff discuss how to use internal tools related to our eCMS contracting writing system to improve workload effectiveness, provided internal staff briefings on our progress to date in meeting the FY 2012 metrics set for our organization, as well as our progress in correcting deficiencies identified by external audits from GAO, OIG and VACO. The conference also included briefings and a Q&A session with senior VHA Acquisition staff from DC, including a briefing from VHA's Deputy Undersecretary for Health, Mr. Schoenhard. Based on the formal evaluation data this program achieved its objectives, as participants agreed or strongly agreed all program objectives were met.</p>
Project Management Training Summit	\$398,686	Atlanta, GA	5/8/12	5/10/12	302	302	<p>The OIT PM Training Summit aimed to provide project and program managers, planners, initiative leads, and senior management with practical tools and information to assist with day-to-day project and program management responsibilities. Based on comments and survey results, attendees: Acquired a better understanding of OIT's function, mission, and future; Gained additional insights about the purpose and importance of PMAS, ProPath, and other business practices and standards; Better understood the budget and acquisition process and the importance of being on time and within budget; Shifted the way they perceived the Red Flag process, seeing it as a powerful tool for addressing project delivery issues.</p>

Veterans Affairs FY 2012 Covered Conference Events over \$100,000

Operational, Oversight and Support

Title	Total Costs	Location	Start Date	End Date	# VA Paid Travelers	# of Attendees	Conference Description
Healthcare Technology Management Training	\$389,828	Charlotte, NC	6/1/12	6/5/12	202	202	This offering was designed to provide personnel from the Healthcare Technology Management Office key/critical information in regards to current operations and future operations within the Biomedical Engineer Community. The event supported personnel from all VISN's in technical self-development activities in the areas of: Infusion Pump Technology, Telehealth, Medical Device Security, Anesthesia, RTLS, Health Informatics, MDIA/ACL Best Practices, EBERS, SimLEARN, ISO 9001 Quality Management, Clinical Alarms, imaging equipment, and the Operating Room of the Future.
Simulation Learning, Education and Research Network (SimLEARN) Resuscitation Education Initiative (REdI) Program	\$389,679	Dallas, TX	3/20/12	3/22/12	179	179	Participants learned implementation and management procedures for becoming affiliated with the REdI program in order to be in compliance with the forthcoming VA Directive on Resuscitation training. National affiliation with REdI ensures standardized evidence-based resuscitation training practices while reducing overall equipment, maintenance, affiliation, and training costs for up to 172 medical facilities.
Best Practices Course (1 Session) Workers' Compensation Basic Level Training Makeup course	\$370,642	Dallas, TX	4/16/12	4/20/12	150	150	Basic level training course for new employees to Workers Compensation training claims management. Increase and enhance technical skill sets as demonstrated by pre and post testing. Past results show 20% increase in competence.
Basic Police Officer Training Course	\$315,000	Law Enforcement Training Center (LETC) North Little Rock, AR.	7/30/12	9/21/12	33	33	Certification for Title 38 U.S.C. Sec 902
Leadership VA (LVA) Session 1	\$310,500	Dallas, TX	10/6/12	10/10/12	79	79	Leadership VA (LVA) is a corporate leadership development program that cultivates high-performing, results-oriented leaders, prepared to meet the needs of a diverse population of Veterans, family members, survivors, employees, and stakeholders.
Basic Police Officer Training Course	\$300,000	Law Enforcement Training Center (LETC) North Little Rock, AR.	3/12/12	5/4/12	27	27	Certification for Title 38 U.S.C. Sec 902
Basic Police Officer Training Course	\$300,000	Law Enforcement Training Center (LETC) North Little Rock, AR.	5/7/12	6/29/12	29	29	Certification for Title 38 U.S.C. Sec 902

Veterans Affairs FY 2012 Covered Conference Events over \$100,000

Operational, Oversight and Support

Title	Total Costs	Location	Start Date	End Date	# VA Paid Travelers	# of Attendees	Conference Description
Introduction to Leadership 2012-3 (Training)	\$262,878	Veterans Benefits Academy, Baltimore	4/22/12	5/4/12	77	77	Educate new, first-time VBA supervisors in foundational skills of supervision (employee relations, labor relations, assigning/assessing/delegating work efficiently); guide participants' identification of personal traits that can help or hinder them in leader roles; and develop their ability to formulate strategies for strengthening leadership, motivational skills, and time management.
VA Senior Executive Strategic Leadership Course II - Basic 1	\$261,896	Rizzo Conference Center, Kenan-Flager Business School, UNC, Chapel Hill, NC	1/22/12	1/27/12	33	36	SLC II further developed our senior executives' critical thinking, strategic decision-making, and enterprise and business skills, thereby strengthening their ability to lead VA Transformation to better serve our Veterans and families.
Introduction to Leadership 2012-2 (Training)	\$259,464	Veterans Benefits Academy, Baltimore	12/5/12	12/16/12	76	76	Educate new, first-time VBA supervisors in foundational skills of supervision (employee relations, labor relations, assigning/assessing/delegating work efficiently); guide participants' identification of personal traits that can help or hinder them in leader roles; and develop their ability to formulate strategies for strengthening leadership, motivational skills, and time management.
VA Senior Executive Strategic Leadership Course II - Basic 2	\$255,780	Rizzo Conference Center, Kenan-Flager Business School, UNC, Chapel Hill, NC	2/12/12	2/17/12	33	37	SLC II further developed our senior executives' critical thinking, strategic decision-making, and enterprise and business skills, thereby strengthening their ability to lead VA Transformation to better serve our Veterans and families.
Introduction to Leadership 2012-4 (Training)	\$242,394	Veterans Benefits Academy, Baltimore	6/3/12	6/15/12	71	71	Educate new, first-time VBA supervisors in foundational skills of supervision (employee relations, labor relations, assigning/assessing/delegating work efficiently); guide participants' identification of personal traits that can help or hinder them in leader roles; and develop their ability to formulate strategies for strengthening leadership, motivational skills, and time management.
FAC/COTR Training	\$241,073	FREDERICK, MD	4/15/12	4/30/12	158	158	Provide the essential competencies required for CORs or equivalent positions to perform the knowledge, skills, and abilities to effectively perform duties.
VA Senior Executive Strategic Leadership Course II - Basic 3	\$228,871	Rizzo Conference Center, Kenan-Flager Business School, UNC, Chapel Hill, NC	3/11/12	3/16/12	32	36	SLC II further developed our senior executives' critical thinking, strategic decision-making, and enterprise and business skills, thereby strengthening their ability to lead VA Transformation to better serve our Veterans and families.

Veterans Affairs FY 2012 Covered Conference Events over \$100,000

Operational, Oversight and Support

Title	Total Costs	Location	Start Date	End Date	# VA Paid Travelers	# of Attendees	Conference Description
Introduction to Leadership 2012-1 (Training)	\$221,910	Veterans Benefits Academy, Baltimore	10/16/11	10/28/11	65	65	Educate new, first-time VBA supervisors in foundational skills of supervision (employee relations, labor relations, assigning/assessing/delegating work efficiently); guide participants' identification of personal traits that can help or hinder them in leader roles; and develop their ability to formulate strategies for strengthening leadership, motivational skills, and time management.
VA Senior Executive Strategic Leadership Course II - Basic 7	\$215,044	Rizzo Conference Center, Kenan-Flager Business School, UNC, Chapel Hill, NC	6/17/12	6/22/12	36	37	SLC II further developed our senior executives' critical thinking, strategic decision-making, and enterprise and business skills, thereby strengthening their ability to lead VA Transformation to better serve our Veterans and families.
VA Senior Executive Strategic Leadership Course II - Basic 6	\$213,148	Rizzo Conference Center, Kenan-Flager Business School, UNC, Chapel Hill, NC	5/13/12	5/18/12	26	32	SLC II further developed our senior executives' critical thinking, strategic decision-making, and enterprise and business skills, thereby strengthening their ability to lead VA Transformation to better serve our Veterans and families.
Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) 18 and VISN 19 Leadership Development Institute	\$200,000	Albuquerque, NM Salt Lake City, UT Phoenix, AZ	2/13/12	8/14/12	48	48	Participants in the program will be able to meet HPDM competencies at a level 3 or 4 after completing LDI. Also they will be prepared to apply to higher level leadership programs such as the Health Care Leadership and Development Program(HCLDP) and Leadership VA.
VA Senior Executive Strategic Leadership Course II - Basic 4	\$196,653	Rizzo Conference Center, Kenan-Flager Business School, UNC, Chapel Hill, NC	4/22/12	2/27/12	33	36	SLC II further developed our senior executives' critical thinking, strategic decision-making, and enterprise and business skills, thereby strengthening their ability to lead VA Transformation to better serve our Veterans and families.
VA Senior Executive Strategic Leadership Course II - Basic 8	\$194,425	Rizzo Conference Center, Kenan-Flager Business School, UNC, Chapel Hill, NC	7/15/12	7/20/12	35	31	SLC II further developed our senior executives' critical thinking, strategic decision-making, and enterprise and business skills, thereby strengthening their ability to lead VA Transformation to better serve our Veterans and families.
VA Senior Executive Strategic Leadership Course II - Basic 5	\$193,282	Rizzo Conference Center, Kenan-Flager Business School, UNC, Chapel Hill, NC	5/6/12	5/11/12	26	33	SLC II further developed our senior executives' critical thinking, strategic decision-making, and enterprise and business skills, thereby strengthening their ability to lead VA Transformation to better serve our Veterans and families.
VA Senior Executive Strategic Leadership Course II - Basic	\$183,368	Rizzo Conference Center, Kenan-Flager Business School, UNC, Chapel Hill, NC	8/12/12	8/17/12	29	25	SLC II further developed our senior executives' critical thinking, strategic decision-making, and enterprise and business skills, thereby strengthening their ability to lead VA Transformation to better serve our Veterans and families.

Veterans Affairs FY 2012 Covered Conference Events over \$100,000

Operational, Oversight and Support

Title	Total Costs	Location	Start Date	End Date	# VA Paid Travelers	# of Attendees	Conference Description
Aspiring Leaders Program (S4)	\$173,807	Aurora, CO	10/3/11	10/7/11	28	36	To produce high performing leaders able to meet the challenging needs of a 21st century VA
Health Systems Research & Development (HSR&D) Merit Review Board Meeting	\$171,883	Boston, MA	8/28/12	8/30/12	104	104	Summer 2012 Merit Review: August 2012 Scientific Merit Review Board. 164 HSR&D applications were reviewed including 118 IIRs (Investigator Initiated Research), 1 SDP on Research Best Practices (Service Directed Project) and 45 CREATEs (Collaborative Research to Enhance and Advance Transformation and Excellence Initiative) during the 3-day meeting held August 28-30, 2012 in Boston, MA. Application scores were released on September 4 via eRA to all PIs. Project summary statements with key points were released to all PIs via eRA on September 13 for CREATEs and are scheduled to be released via eRA by the end of September for IIRs. HSR&D's Funding Decision meeting will be held on October 2. Notification of Review Outcome letters for IIRs are scheduled to be released to the field via ART following the funding decision meeting in early October.
2012 Office of General Counsel Leadership Change Academy	\$170,132	Washington DC	5/15/12	5/17/12	40	84	Improved organizational performance - more efficient legal practice in target legal service areas. Leadership and managerial skills-building, particularly in the areas of business process improvement and cross-organizational collaboration.
Carey Examiners Training	\$168,000	Washington DC	6/19/12	6/28/12	67	67	Improve quality of applications and apply the Baldrige standards to improve their facilities performance.
Leadership VA (LVA)	\$163,635	Washington DC	1/9/12	1/13/12	80	80	Leadership VA (LVA) is a corporate leadership development program that cultivates high-performing, results-oriented leaders, prepared to meet the needs of a diverse population of Veterans, family members, survivors, employees, and stakeholders.
Leadership VA (LVA) Session 3	\$161,400	NEW ORLEANS, LA	11/14/12	11/18/12	80	80	Leadership VA (LVA) is a corporate leadership development program that cultivates high-performing, results-oriented leaders, prepared to meet the needs of a diverse population of Veterans, family members, survivors, employees, and stakeholders.
VA Institutional Review Board (IRB)	\$159,134	Chicago, IL	5/30/12	5/31/12	94	94	The four objectives dealt with being able to 1) define research principles and identifying how they can be employed in a the local facility's human research program; 2) discuss ethical issues related to the protection of human research subjects; 3) determine if a project is human subjects research and, if so, how it should be processed (e.g. granted an exemption; expedited review; or convened IRB review); and 4) identify resources to help interpret and apply requirements for human research protection.

Veterans Affairs FY 2012 Covered Conference Events over \$100,000

Operational, Oversight and Support

Title	Total Costs	Location	Start Date	End Date	# VA Paid Travelers	# of Attendees	Conference Description
VA Senior Executive Strategic Leadership Course II - Basic	\$153,220	Rizzo Conference Center, Kenan-Flager Business School, UNC, Chapel Hill, NC	9/9/12	9/14/12	28	28	SLC II further developed our senior executives' critical thinking, strategic decision-making, and enterprise and business skills, thereby strengthening their ability to lead VA Transformation to better serve our Veterans and families.
VHA Research Training for VA Institutional Review Board (IRB) for Associate Chief of Staff (ACOS) and Administrative Officers (AO)	\$152,490	San Francisco, CA	6/26/12	6/27/12	90	90	To train individuals new to their VA human research protection responsibilities how to comply with complex VA and other federal requirements.
Carey Consensus	\$152,000	Washington DC	7/31/12	8/3/12	52	89	Help organizations design, implement and continuously improve local management systems.
National Federation of Federal Employee (NFFE)	\$150,000	Multiple Locations	6/15/12	8/2/12	75	150	This training was conducted in order to train managers and union officials on the new NFFE contract.
Advanced Patrol Officer Course	\$150,000	Law Enforcement Training Center (LETC) North Little Rock, AR.	8/27/12	8/31/12	80	80	Certification for Title 38 U.S.C. Sec 902
Advanced Patrol Officer Course	\$150,000	Law Enforcement Training Center (LETC) North Little Rock, AR.	9/17/12	9/21/12	80	80	Certification for Title 38 U.S.C. Sec 902
Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) 10 Strategic Planning Meeting	\$139,500	Cleveland, OH	11/29/12	12/1/12	91	91	<p>Deployed the "Switch" framework as a method to generate specific applications for change management within VISN 10.</p> <p>Enhanced staff understanding and application of Relationship Based Care principles and Patient Aligned Care Teams (PACT) as patient-centered, primary care delivery models throughout VISN 10.</p> <p>Utilized System Redesign (SR)/ "LEAN" applications to re-engineer intra and inter facility flow processes</p> <p>Identified and developed the role of Home and Community Services as a part of our primary and specialty care continuum of care.</p> <p>Designed a patient-centered approach to specialty services for all VISN 10 Veterans.</p> <p>Identified and deployed strategies to increase Veteran access to virtual care modalities.</p>

Veterans Affairs FY 2012 Covered Conference Events over \$100,000

Operational, Oversight and Support

Title	Total Costs	Location	Start Date	End Date	# VA Paid Travelers	# of Attendees	Conference Description
VHA Research Training for VA Institutional Review Board (IRB) Administrators, IRB Chairs, Human Research Protection Program (HRPP) 101 and 201 Training	\$137,371	Baltimore, MD	8/14/12	8/15/12	81	95	The outcome of this meeting, the purpose of which was to train IRB Chairs in the complex regulatory requirements for chairing IRBs, is reflected in the very positive evaluations provided by meeting participants. Overall the rating for "My participation in this conference will be of value to my institution" was 4.6 (out of 5) and 4.37 for "The conference materials contributed to or enhanced my understanding." The evaluations for the 3 course objectives averaged 4.54 (range 4.49 - 4.63). The three objectives dealt with being able to 1) Understand VA research principles and how they can be employed by my facility's human research program, 2) Identify where to go for help interpreting and applying VA and other requirements for human research protection, 3) Discuss ethical issues related to the protection of human research subjects.
VHA National Leadership Council Strategic Planning Summit	\$136,500	Washington DC	4/16/12	4/18/12	29	62	The National Leadership Council (NLC) Strategic Planning Summit is a critical annual event that allows the Under Secretary for Health and VHA leaders to articulate and advance strategic priorities for the organization. These strategic priorities ensure that the VHA is in alignment with and supports VA goals and objectives and continues to move forward to meet the needs of our Veterans. Participants reviewed and discussed the strategic imperatives for change and the direction for VHA health care, including key elements already under development. NLC members also reviewed and discussed the components of VHA's strategic framework including elements of the VA Values, VHA Mission, Vision, Principles, and the Three Strategic VHA Goals & Objectives. During the training event, the NLC members came to a common agreement on the newly drafted VHA goals. The NLC members also developed strategic VHA inputs for the 2014 VA strategic planning process.

Veterans Affairs FY 2012 Covered Conference Events over \$100,000

Operational, Oversight and Support

Title	Total Costs	Location	Start Date	End Date	# VA Paid Travelers	# of Attendees	Conference Description
Health Care Leadership Institute (HCLI) Executive Career Field (ECF) Members Training Week 1	\$135,401	Charleston, NC	1/9/12	1/13/12	76	76	Facilitate the transition of newly-appointed executives into the leadership demanding roles of the Associate Director (AD), Chief of Staff (COS), Associate Director for Patient Care Services (ADPCS) or Deputy Network Director (DND). 1. Enhance awareness on critical leadership behaviors expected during times of crisis. 2. Assess the importance of ethical framework in healthcare management and leadership. 3. Distinguish between technical leadership problems and adaptive leadership challenges and how to determine the best leadership approach for each type of situation. 4. Assess leadership team's relationship with the "5 dysfunctions of teams" . 5. Practice public speaking, communication skills and dealing with the media. 6. Continue work on personal leadership challenges and corresponding developmental plan.
Leadership VA (LVA) Session 2	\$134,170	Dallas, TX	8/13/12	8/17/12	77	79	Leadership VA (LVA) is a corporate leadership development program that cultivates high-performing, results-oriented leaders, prepared to meet the needs of a diverse population of Veterans, family members, survivors, employees, and stakeholders.
New Executive Training (NExT)	\$127,644	Washington DC	2/27/12	3/2/12	68	68	Acquired specific knowledge and resources associated with position as new executive. Identified the key VACO program offices that align most closely with position as new executive. Understand the relationship between the key VACO program offices and position as new executive. Enhanced relationships with others in Community of Practices. Based on the formal evaluation data as well as the after action call; this program achieved its objectives.
Leadership VA (LVA)	\$127,297	Washington DC	6/18/12	6/22/12	79	79	Leadership VA (LVA) is a corporate leadership development program that cultivates high-performing, results-oriented leaders, prepared to meet the needs of a diverse population of Veterans, family members, survivors, employees, and stakeholders.

Veterans Affairs FY 2012 Covered Conference Events over \$100,000

Operational, Oversight and Support

Title	Total Costs	Location	Start Date	End Date	# VA Paid Travelers	# of Attendees	Conference Description
VA Institutional Review Board (IRB) Chairs Training	\$124,330	Baltimore, MD	8/14/12	8/15/12	81	95	The outcome of this meeting, the purpose of which was to train IRB Chairs in the complex regulatory requirements for chairing IRBs, is reflected in the very positive evaluations provided by meeting participants. Overall the rating for "My participation in this conference will be of value to my institution" was 4.6 (out of 5) and 4.37 for "The conference materials contributed to or enhanced my understanding." The evaluations for the 3 course objectives averaged 4.54 (range 4.49 - 4.63). The three objectives dealt with being able to 1) Understand VA research principles and how they can be employed by my facility's human research program, 2) Identify where to go for help interpreting and applying VA and other requirements for human research protection, 3) Discuss ethical issues related to the protection of human research subjects.
Carey Award Ceremony	\$115,000	Washington DC	12/7/11	12/7/11	50	160	Recognize organizations that have demonstrated noteworthy levels of performance excellence.
Advanced Patrol Officer Course	\$108,000	Law Enforcement Training Center (LETC) North Little Rock, AR.	1/9/12	1/13/12	55	55	Certification for Title 38 U.S.C. Sec 902
Health Care Leadership Institute (HCLI) Training Week 3	\$107,350	Tucson, AZ	4/30/12	5/3/12	61	61	Can now: 1. Describe at least two major issues currently facing each VHA senior leadership member or Program Office. 2. Explain the new challenges for VHA posed by OIF/OEF veterans, homeless veterans, and increase travel and budget scrutiny. 3. Describe VHACO's role in policy and operational management in VA. 4. Identify individual opportunities for further healthcare leadership development in VHA. 5. Describe how VHA interacts with Congressional offices and committees to meet the healthcare needs of the veterans, all of this toward the overall GHATP goal to orient healthcare management leaders-in-training to VA Central Office (VACO), key leaders, current issues, and relationship with Congress in the interest of bridging knowledge, performance, and succession planning gaps in VHA leadership development.

Veterans Affairs FY 2012 Covered Conference Events over \$100,000

Operational, Oversight and Support

Title	Total Costs	Location	Start Date	End Date	# VA Paid Travelers	# of Attendees	Conference Description
Health Care Leadership Institute (HCLI) Training Week 2	\$105,761	Alexandria, VA	3/12/12	3/16/12	57	57	1. Enhanced awareness on critical leadership behaviors expected during times of crisis. 2. Assessed the importance of ethical framework in healthcare management and leadership. 3. Distinguished between technical leadership problems and adaptive leadership challenges and how to determine the best leadership approach for each type of situation. 4. Assessed my leadership team's relationship with the "5 dysfunctions of teams". 5. Practiced public speaking, communication skills and dealing with the media. 6. Continued working on my personal leadership challenges and corresponding developmental plan. Based on the formal evaluation data as well as conference calls with the senior leader coaches who have responsibility for 4-5 participants and work with them between sessions the week two achieved its goal. 98% of participants agreed or strongly agreed all program objectives were met.
Advanced Patrol Officer Course	\$102,000	Law Enforcement Training Center (LETC) North Little Rock, AR.	7/23/12	7/27/12	52	52	Certification for Title 38 U.S.C. Sec 902
Advanced Patrol Officer Course	\$100,000	Law Enforcement Training Center (LETC) North Little Rock, AR.	4/23/12	4/27/12	48	48	Certification for Title 38 U.S.C. Sec 902