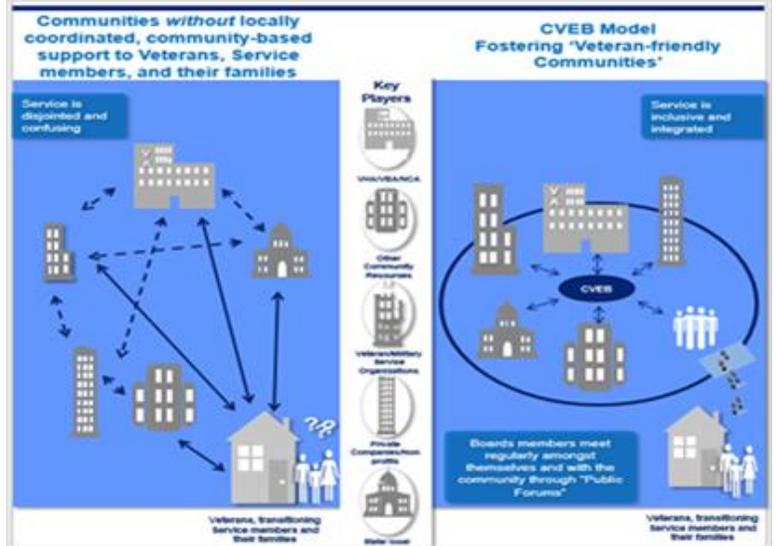


# VETERAN, FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

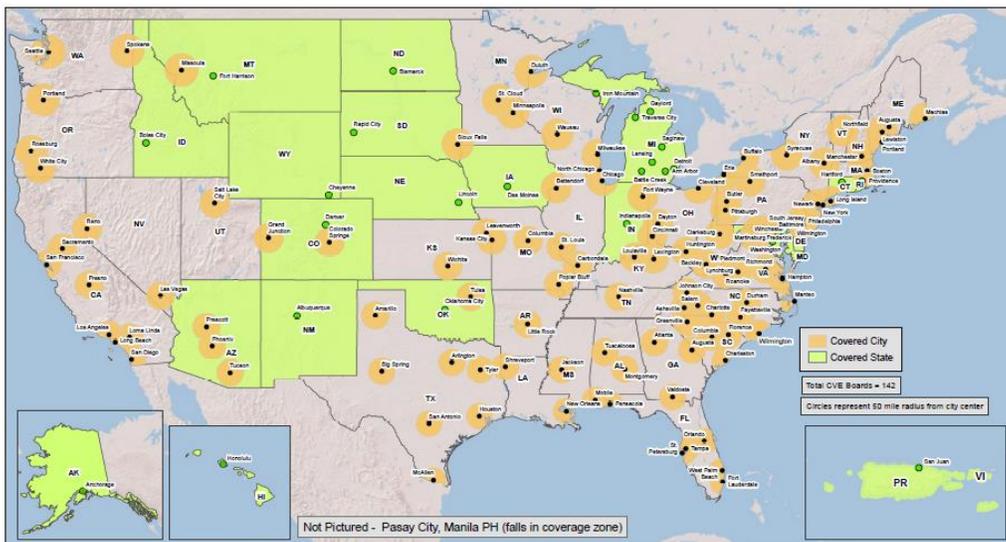
*Inclusive ▪ Accessible ▪ Community-driven ▪ Flexible ▪ Integrated*

Since 2015, VA leaders have been actively participating in community-based efforts to maximize the collective impact of local services, stakeholders, and federal/state agencies working together to improve Veteran outcomes where they live, work and raise their families.

To address VA’s priorities and initiatives, the Veterans Experience Office has fostered and supported local **Community Veterans Engagement Boards (CVEBs)** throughout the country, in partnership with local VA facilities. Efforts have resulted in over **149 CVEBs** extending coast to coast. This year, VEO implemented a **Veteran-Friendly Communities (VFC)** appreciation program on behalf of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to show appreciation for these community-based efforts and thank those who pioneered the boards. Through a formal appreciation program, the momentum will continue for CVEBs’ work, demonstrate VA’s continued engagement in the community, and bring awareness to the work being accomplished. Lastly, VEO has implemented a campaign to change the narrative and share stories that matter on the successes and achievements of Veterans post service through an initiative called **VetTalkX**.



**Get involved! Contact your local CVEB today or start one in your community!**



VEO Website and board contact info: [CVEB website and contacts](#)

Contact the Veterans Experience Office, Community Engagement Directorate to get involved: [Vet-friendlycommunities@va.gov](mailto:Vet-friendlycommunities@va.gov)

**Veteran, Family and Community Engagement Leadership Team:** Jim Wartski, Executive Director [James.Wartski@va.gov](mailto:James.Wartski@va.gov); Chris Olson, Deputy Director [Christopher.Olson3@va.gov](mailto:Christopher.Olson3@va.gov); Andi Martinez, Program Manager [Andrea.Martinez2@va.gov](mailto:Andrea.Martinez2@va.gov)