



2022
Annual Report



2023
Objectives

Leveraging resources, relationships, and strengths to serve Veterans even better.

LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Serving Veterans Even Better

It was a great honor for you to entrust me with the position of Executive Director of your Foundation in July of this year. As a successor to the path of excellence that previous Directors paved, I am excited to join the Board. The Foundation is well positioned for success and will continue to build upon its great legacy, working alongside our board members, staff, DAV membership and community donors to pursue our major goals.

Recovery from the pandemic, increased interest rates and uncertain financial markets have affected the Veteran community as well as the Foundation. The Foundation has not been immune to the volatility of the investment community. By strategically managing each donor relationship we continue to grow our donation base. We are taking a new data-driven approach to fundraising and will continue to maintain healthy donor relationships. Our corporate donors, individual donors and Chapters continue to support the Foundation in its endeavors to provide grants that positively impact Minnesota Veterans, their families, and survivors.

It is the firm belief of the Foundation that the money with which we are entrusted is intended to be spent to improve the lives of our Veterans and their families. The Foundation will continue to seek out partnerships between other nonprofit organizations to allow for leveraging of resources, relationships, and strengths to serve Veterans even better.

We continue to look for new partnerships, to fund expansions of services for Veterans and their families, and to help active organizations and Chapters pursue our joint mission.



Lauri Brooke

Lauri Brooke
Executive Director
DAV Department of Minnesota Foundation



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Board Chair
Chapter 6



Kerry Allison
Vice Chair
Chapter 28



Joel Schilling
Board Member
Chapter 1



Dave Valtinson
Board Member
Chapter 13



Ellsworth Fields
Board Member
Chapter 28



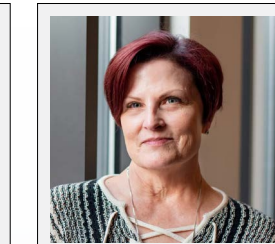
Paul Pederson
Board Member
Chapter 6



Scott Berndt
Treasurer
Chapter 39



Josh Vrtacnik
Secretary
Chapter 20



Lauri Brooke
Executive Director
Chapter 31



2022 EVENTS //



VETERAN Roof Donation

The **Contractors Association of Minnesota (CAM)** contacted **Disabled American Veterans Foundation of Minnesota** in July with the desire to help a Veteran in need of a new roof.

The contracting company 10K Construction, material manufacturer GAF and the DAV Foundation of Minnesota made this a reality, giving the gift of a new roof to deserving Chaska Veteran Rich Daniels and his family.



“I get services from DAV, so this is near and dear to my heart. It’s a great organization and these people have done so much for our country and community. For us to come in and give back to them, it’s really heartwarming.”

TODD MUTCHLER
Board Member Contractors Association of Minnesota

Minnesota Veteran Rich Daniels, 74, served in Vietnam from 1967-1968, supporting Army intelligence efforts as Assistant Chief of Staff of the Special Security Group. Six months into his tour, the North Vietnamese and communist Vietcong guerilla forces launched an attack known as the Tet Offensive. U.S. posts in South Vietnam were the target. Daniels awoke to chaos the morning of January 30, 1968, and prayed for his life as he drove through the streets unarmed to reach his post, encountering enemy squads along the way. For the next 74 hours, his unit gathered and disseminated intelligence via 36 teletype lines, actions Daniels was later commended for.

Fast forward to 2022. If you ask Daniels, he will tell you that he thinks about Vietnam every day. “I’ve always thought since ‘68, definitely after Tet, it’s all been free,” Daniels said. “Every day’s been free since then. Our kids, our grandkids. It never would have been.”

A huge part of his life is dedicated to serving Veterans. He’s active in the VFW, American Legion, VVA and DAV. And as a former history teacher, he takes a lot of pride in working with local educators and classrooms to talk about Vietnam and his life since the war. He is married to Mary Daniels, who recently retired.

10K Construction donated the installation labor and GAF, North America’s largest roofing and waterproofing manufacturer, donated roofing materials to make this project possible. This collaboration is part of GAF’s social impact initiative, GAF Community Matters, which is focused on making a positive difference as neighbors and partners in the community by leveraging roofing expertise, resources and products to help build resilient communities.



2022 EVENTS //

DAV GOLF CLASSIC

The 14th Annual Minnesota DAV Golf Classic, held in person at Crystal Lake Golf Course, was a success. Funds raised helped purchase new vehicles and enable the expansion of the transportation program into new regions around the state.

WILDERNESS INQUIRY GUIDED TRIPS

Apostle Islands // From 25 to 28 August, Veterans enjoyed excursions to Sand Island, the Mawikwe Bay Sea Caves, Bark Bay Slough and the shipwrecks of Red Cliff Bay. Sustained by delicious meals and breathtaking sunsets over Lake Superior, the crew’s sea kayaking adventure to the Apostle Islands guided by Wilderness Inquiry was an excellent opportunity to re-connect with fellow Veterans.

Olympic National Park // Nine Veterans from Minnesota, whose ages ranged from the mid-20s to the late-60s, engaged in a challenging trip in Washington’s Olympic National Park. The outdoor adventure began with a six-mile hike through the rainforest of the park. Disabled Veterans who might have had doubts about their ability to make such a rigorous hike were rewarded with magnificent scenery and a sense of accomplishment.

2022 GRANTS >

Since 1992 the Disabled American Veterans of Minnesota Foundation has operated as the organization's "giving arm." Separate from DAV of Minnesota, the Foundation is run by a Board of Directors who manage the funding of programs and services for DAV of Minnesota, as well as other organizations across the state. This year, the DAV of Minnesota Foundation contributed over **\$386,000** toward Veterans' services and programs.

The DAV of Minnesota Foundation supports ongoing partnerships with other Minnesota Veteran Service Organizations. In 2022 these accounted for nearly half of the grants awarded by the Foundation:

- ✔ **\$15,000** towards the completion of the Fergus Falls Veterans Home greenhouse;
- ✔ **\$56,880** towards an ongoing, first-of-its-kind music therapy program for Veterans, their families, and survivors;
- ✔ Over **\$60,000** to support the Center for Development and Civic Engagement and Recreation/Creative Arts Departments at the VA Medical Centers, including purchase of a bus for the Minneapolis VAMC Recreational Therapy Program;
- ✔ **\$35,600** towards transportation programs at the DAV of Minnesota Department and Chapter levels. The Foundation is the main contributor of expanding the Minnesota fleet from nine vehicles to 40 vehicles over the last 10 years.



EMPOWERING Disabled Veterans

Disabled Veterans need to be able to live independently, with dignity and a sense of normalcy.

The Foundation supported multiple grants that support this effort in 2022:

- > Nearly **\$70,000** towards the National Adaptive Sports Program and the University of Minnesota to assist doctors in training to attend adaptive sports events in cooperation with the VA to continue research and education in those programs;
- > **\$117,000** to make the outdoors accessible to all Veterans. Specifically, this went towards the DAV of Minnesota Outdoor programs at the Department and Chapter levels and Wilderness Inquiry. Wilderness Inquiry provided trips to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, Apostle Islands and Olympic National Park. These adventures inspired personal growth, enhanced awareness of the environment and encouraged Veterans to open themselves to new possibilities and opportunities.



GRANT Initiatives

Other Grants included several initiatives to fight Veteran homelessness and suicide prevention in Minnesota, as well as an award to the Magnus Foundation and two retreats for women Veterans.

The DAV of Minnesota Foundation is on the receiving end of donations from our generous community partners. In May, we received **\$48,000** from the Greater Minnesota Auto Dealers Association at the 2022 Twin Cities Auto Show. This donation directly helped fund the DAV of Minnesota Transportation program to purchase new vehicles, provide volunteer meals and equip vehicles with emergency kits.



2023 FOUNDATION OBJECTIVES



PROMOTE AND DEVELOP SUPPORT

for the Foundation by engaging the community through fundraising, partnerships and events.



STRENGTHEN AND ENSURE timely and equitable access to behavioral health services.



ENHANCE ORGANIZATIONAL STRENGTH and agility by partnering with the Department Executive Board, Chapters and Auxiliaries to align stakeholders around strategic priorities.



DEVELOP A COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY to publicize goals and programs.



STREAMLINE THE GRANT PROCESS to reduce inefficiency while allowing the Foundation to obtain the information needed to make good grant-making decisions and create efficient processes for grantees to follow.



2022 FINANCIALS //

SUPPORT AND OTHER REVENUES

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Contributions and bequests	\$ 321,345	\$ 217,797	\$ 539,142
In-kind contributions	9,993	-	9,993
Fundraising events, net of costs that directly benefited donors of \$14,154	41,315	-	41,315
Investment return	(482,622)	-	(482,622)
Net assets released from donor restrictions	325,523	(325,523)	-
Total support and other revenues	215,554	(107,726)	107,828

EXPENSES

Program	549,444	-	549,444
Management and general	67,487	-	67,487
Fundraising	9,292	-	9,292
Total expenses	626,223	-	626,223
Change in net assets	(410,669)	(107,726)	(518,395)
Net assets, beginning of year	4,121,990	1,260,595	5,382,585
Net assets, end of year	\$ 3,711,321	\$ 1,152,869	\$ 4,864,190





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DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS OF MINNESOTA FOUNDATION

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