

DAV[®]
OF MINNESOTA



A CENTURY OF SERVICE TO VETERANS

**HONORING THE PAST
EMPOWERING THE FUTURE**

DAV of Minnesota
2024 Annual Report | 2025 Objectives

COMMANDER MESSAGE



As we approach the Centennial of the DAV of Minnesota in 2025, we honor our legacy and focus on preparing the next generation to continue this mission. **Fulfilling Our Promises to the Men and Women Who Served** is more than a guiding principle—it's a call to action to empower all Veterans and ensure our work endures for generations to come.

Empowering the future starts with addressing longstanding inequities. Women Veterans have served this nation with honor, yet their contributions have often been overlooked. This must change. We are committed to recognizing their service, involving them in leadership roles, and ensuring their voices are heard and respected. They are an essential part of our future.

This work would not be possible without our dedicated volunteers and staff. From drivers ensuring Veterans make their medical appointments to clothing collectors, outdoors program coordinators, and those who step up at a moment's notice, you represent the heart and soul of the DAV. Your unwavering commitment keeps us strong and responsive to the needs of Minnesota Veterans.

Our outdoors programs provide healing and connection, offering opportunities to unplug and form bonds that strengthen our community. These experiences are more than recreation—they're therapy and a reminder of the power of shared experiences. Our legislative team also continues to excel, ensuring the voices of Minnesota Veterans are heard at every level of government. Their advocacy secures vital benefits that change lives.

As a Vietnam Veteran, I know firsthand the challenges many Veterans face after service. I also know the strength that comes from uniting around a shared purpose. It's crucial that younger Veterans understand we are all in this together. **The 1 percent who served must reach the other 99 percent to let them know we are here to stay—fighting for this nation and for each other.** Together, we have the power to make a lasting impact, not just for today but for generations to come.

Our Centennial is a moment to celebrate, but it's also a call to action. The next 100 years depend on what we do today—how we empower, support, and inspire one another. Together, we are building an enduring legacy of service, one that ensures the DAV of Minnesota will continue to thrive and fulfill its promises to all who served.

Honoring the past, empowering the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Oather Martin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Oather Martin
Commander
DAV of Minnesota

ABOUT US

The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) of Minnesota remains committed to a single purpose: keeping our promise to Minnesota's Veterans. We achieve this by ensuring that Veterans and their families can access the full range of benefits available to them, advocating for the interests of injured heroes and their caregivers at the Minnesota Legislature, providing employment resources to Veterans and their families, and educating the public about the great sacrifices and needs of Veterans transitioning back to civilian life.

Encompassing 19,000 members and 32 chapters across the state, this organization is founded on the principle of "Veterans serving Veterans." Since 1925, our network of services has led the way in providing lifetime support for Veterans and their families.

In 2025 DAV of Minnesota's priorities will include:

- Offering free, professional assistance to Veterans and their families in obtaining benefits and services earned through military service.
- Increasing outreach about DAV of Minnesota's services to both the general American public and specifically to disabled Veterans and their families.
- Representing the interests of disabled Veterans and their families, including widowed spouses and orphans, at all levels of government.
- Expanding DAV's mission of hope into communities through a network of local chapters.
- Providing numerous opportunities for Veterans to support fellow Veterans through our various volunteer programs.

EXECUTIVE TEAM



Oather Martin
Department
Commander



John Walker
Senior Vice
Commander



Mike Medhaug
1st Junior Vice
Commander



Sandi Braunstein
2nd Junior Vice
Commander



Rich Batcho
3rd Junior Vice
Commander



Bill Gordon
4th Junior Vice
Commander



Ellsworth Fields
Past Department
Commander



Rick Jarvis
Judge Advocate



Scott Berndt
Treasurer



Bob Heinz
Chaplain



Joel Litzinger
Inspector General



Stephen Whitehead
Adjutant

CONTENTS

2024 Annual Report | 2025 Objectives

- 2 Commander Message / Table of Contents
- 3 Table of Contents / About Us / Executive team
- 4 Membership
- 5 Program & Department Highlights
- 6 Events
- 7 Service Officers
- 8 2024 Legislative Accomplishments
- 10 Transportation
- 11 Volunteer Drivers and Household Donations
- 12 Outdoor Program
- 13 Revenue/ Expenses
- 14 A Century of Service

Back Cover DAV of Minnesota Foundation

CHAPTER SUPPORT DONATIONS OVERVIEW

In line with our mission to provide direct assistance to Veterans in need, two major contributions were approved and distributed to all 32 DAV Minnesota Chapters during the fiscal year. Each Chapter received two donations of \$3,500, totaling \$224,000 in financial support.

These funds were designated for direct Veteran support initiatives within each Chapter's service area. This strategic investment enabled Chapters to respond quickly and effectively to Veterans' needs, reinforcing our shared commitment to serving those who have served.

Together, we continue to ensure that no Veteran faces challenges alone.

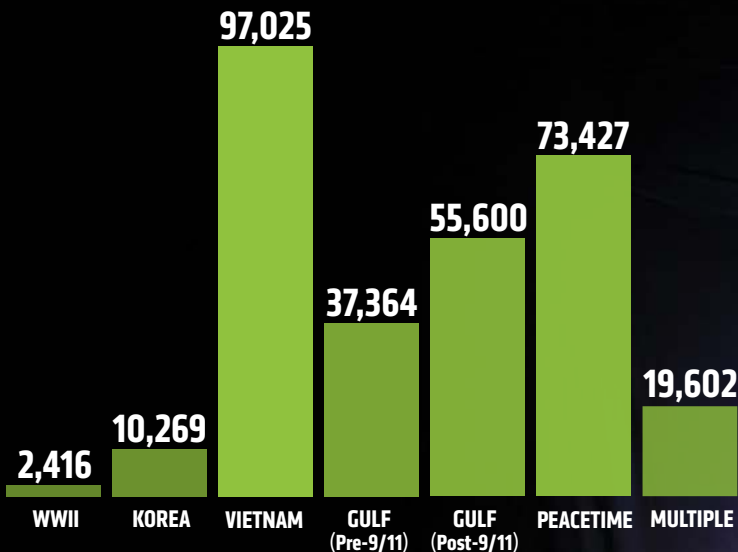
MEMBERSHIP

DAV of Minnesota comprises 32 chapters across the state dedicated to supporting local Veterans, their families and their communities. Each chapter independently raises awareness, fundraises, and creates programs to fulfill our promises to those who have served. United, DAV of Minnesota collaborates with other Minnesota Veteran Service Organizations to ensure no Veteran is left behind.

Any service member who was not dishonorably discharged and who sustained or aggravated an injury or illness during their military service is eligible for DAV membership, provided they served during a period of armed conflict (which does not require direct combat). The injury or illness does not need to be service-connected by the VA.

To learn more about becoming a member of DAV of Minnesota, please visit www.mydav.org/dav-membership or contact our offices at (651) 291-1212.

295,703 STRONG | 53% of Minnesota Veterans are age 65 and over



MINNESOTA VETERANS BY ERA

DAV OF MINNESOTA CHAPTERS

CHAPTER	#	CITY	
Minneapolis Chapter	1	Minneapolis	2,937
St. Paul Chapter	2	St. Paul	1,718
Russo-Golob Chapter	3	Hibbing	201
Cloverleaf Chapter	4	Askov	361
Gilbert W. Nordman Chapter	6	Duluth	888
North Central Chapter	7	Bemidji	691
Gopher State Chapter	8	Various	444
St. Cloud Chapter	9	St. Cloud	951
Lyle C Pearson Sr. Chapter	10	Mankato	792
Aitkin Chapter	11	Aitkin	138
Morrison Co. Chapter	12	Little Falls	550
Itasca County Chapter	13	Grand Rapids	472
Crookston Chapter	14	Crookston	200
New Ulm Chapter	15	New Ulm	492
Glaydon Iverson Chapter	16	Albert Lea	263
Washington County Chapter	17	Hugo	318
Carlton County Chapter	18	Cloquet	759
Faribault Chapter	20	Faribault	308
Crow Wing County Chapter	22	Brainerd	409
Kolstad Chapter	23	Virginia	427
Western Chapter	24	Montevideo	268
Fergus Falls Chapter	25	Fergus Falls	311
Arnold Brandt Chapter	27	Austin	218
Mayo Southeast Chapter	28	Rochester	1,167
Lakeland Chapter	31	Detroit Lakes	252
South Central Chapter	32	Fairmont	389
Southwest Chapter	33	Marshall	232
West Central Chapter	34	Willmar	232
Hutchinson Chapter	37	Hutchinson	454
Park Rapids Chapter	38	Park Rapids	366
Anoka Chapter	39	Anoka	1,484
South Metro Chapter	40	Apple Valley	226
NW Minnesota Chapter	41	Roseau	95

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

DAV of Minnesota proudly announces the launch of the **Veterans of the North** podcast. This monthly series honors and serves disabled Veterans and their families by discussing timely topics related to Veterans and their benefits. Each episode features compelling stories and interviews with Veterans from various eras, offering valuable insights into the Veteran experience. Tune in on Apple Podcasts, Spotify or YouTube.

The 1K Flags initiative highlights DAV of Minnesota's commitment to community outreach and Veteran support. In partnership with Audacy, in 2024 1K Flags shined the spotlight on DAV's clothing and household donation program through Savers, raising essential funds while fostering community involvement and environmental sustainability. In 2024, Audacy made 1K Flags one of its four pillars, enhancing awareness and participation through impactful radio campaigns, and donating \$2,500, along with in-kind advertising that totaled more than \$200K. This funding help DAV care for Veterans and symbolizes the strong support for Veterans across Minnesota.

The DAV of Minnesota played a crucial role in coordinating transportation for Veterans across the state to attend the 50th Anniversary Vietnam War Commemoration at the Mall of America June 13-15. This poignant event featured historical displays, documentaries and a special commemoration program. To ensure Veterans could participate without the burden of travel logistics, DAV organized buses to transport Veterans to and from the event. The three-day event drew more than 20,000 visitors over three days.

Awards and Honors:

- The DAV of Minnesota Department received the national DAV Judge Marx Award for achieving the highest percent age of new memberships.
- Scott Berndt was appointed to the 14th District National Executive Committee (NEC), with Ellsworth Fields serving as the Alternate NEC.

"From coordinating clothing program donations to supplying contact information for Chapter Commanders or VA representatives, we aim to assist Veterans in achieving their goals. It's more than just completing tasks—it's about making a difference. And while we're proud to say that our efforts yield fantastic results, we see this as simply part of our everyday mission."

-Stephanie Zeimetz, DAV Transportation Director



EVENTS

In Minnesota, Veterans serve Veterans. It's simply an extension of what was emphasized during military service—to “never leave a fallen comrade.” The DAV Department of Minnesota consistently partners with dozens of Minnesota Veteran Service Organizations across the state, including leadership participation on the Commander's Task Force. When Veterans work together, anything is possible. In 2024, the DAV Department of Minnesota continued to participate in numerous opportunities to assist fellow Minnesota Veterans:

Community Impact Day: DAV of Minnesota celebrated its first-ever Community Impact Day on April 6th, answering a national call to action for volunteers to support Veterans. The event saw DAV volunteers and community members come together to perform various service projects, including yard cleanups, food drives and visits to Veterans in senior care facilities. This impactful day not only raised awareness about Veterans' needs but also demonstrated the power of community service in making a tangible difference in the lives of Veterans. The success of Community Impact Day highlighted the importance of collective efforts in honoring and assisting those who have served our nation.

Twin Cities Auto Show: In 2024, DAV of Minnesota partnered with the Twin Cities Auto Show to support Veterans and their families. This collaboration included a special Military Appreciation Night where Veterans and active-duty military personnel received free entrance to the show. The event featured military-themed exhibits, a ceremony with a performance by the 34th Infantry Red Bull Band and a donation presentation to DAV. The Twin Cities Auto Show generously donated \$27,000 to DAV of Minnesota, which helped fund essential programs and services for Veterans. This partnership not only raised awareness about the services available to Veterans but also fostered a sense of community and appreciation for their service.

Minnesota State Fair Military Appreciation Day: In 2024 DAV of Minnesota actively participated in the Minnesota State Fair's Military Appreciation Day, dedicated to honoring Veterans and active-duty military personnel. The day featured military-themed exhibits and activations throughout the fair. DAV of Minnesota conducted several media segments on WCCO, highlighting their programs and services: Vineeta Sawkar covered the adaptive sports program, Adam and Jordana discussed the Outdoors Program, and Jason DeRusha provided an overview of DAV of Minnesota's mission and initiatives. This event not only raised awareness about the services available to Veterans but also exemplified the strong community spirit and commitment to recognizing our nation's heroes.

Veterans Day on the Hill: On April 17, 2024, the DAV of Minnesota, in collaboration with the Commander's Task Force and the Minnesota Association of County Veterans Service Officers, hosted its annual day of advocacy for Minnesota Veterans. This year, Veterans Day on the Hill drew a record-breaking crowd with nearly a thousand Veterans, their families and supporters gathering at the State Capitol.

The day started with a pre-rally luncheon sponsored by DAV of Minnesota at the Cedar Street Armory. After a motivating session, the group marched to the Capitol rotunda for a rally, advocating for Veterans' needs and reinforcing the message that “Together we can!” address these needs.

To ensure the event's success, the DAV also coordinated advertising to promote the event widely. Following Veterans Day on the Hill, the Minnesota Senate voted overwhelmingly to support the Veterans and Military Affairs Omnibus Bill. Nearly two weeks later, the House of Representatives affirmed their support with a unanimous vote. Governor Walz signed the bill into law on May 8, solidifying his commitment to the Veterans' legislative agenda.



DAV OF MINNESOTA SERVICE OFFICERS

In 2024, DAV of Minnesota Service Officers made significant strides in supporting Veterans with their VA claims and benefits. Through comprehensive assistance in claim preparation, benefit counseling, and appeals support, many Veterans successfully received their entitled benefits. Additionally, Service Officers connected Veterans with essential local resources, enhancing their overall well-being.

The dedication of our Service Officers has had a profound impact on the lives of Veterans across the state. As we look ahead, DAV of Minnesota remains committed to providing unwavering support and advocacy, ensuring Veterans receive the care and recognition they deserve. They represented DAV of Minnesota through the development of partnerships and attendance at events, including:

- Magnus Veterans Foundation
- State Fair
- I Got Your Six (IGY6) Event
- Operation Zero at Magnus Veterans Foundation
- St Cloud VA 100-year Celebration
- Minnesota County Veteran Service Officer Conference
- Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans (MACV) Winter Salute
- Minnesota Joint Retirement Appreciation Day



STATE 2024 LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Veterans Omnibus Bill Passes for Third Consecutive Year

In 2022 DAV of Minnesota and the Commander's Task Force were able to secure the first Veterans Omnibus Bill in Minnesota's history. In 2024, we once again found ourselves in a fight to make sure the Veterans Omnibus remained the way that Minnesota passes legislation for its Veterans. Thanks to MinnFluence, the Veteran community and its supporters were able to sway lawmakers into passing the third Veterans Omnibus Bill. This will continue to be a top priority every year.

Outstanding Performance in Advocacy Award

The DAV of Minnesota and our Legislative Director, Trent Dilks, were awarded the Outstanding Performance in Advocacy Award in Washington, D.C. for the fourth time. This award goes to the DAV Department for excelling in state and federal-level advocacy, engagement with lawmakers and outstanding communication, among other measures.

Securing Promises from State Level Politicians

In 2022, DAV of Minnesota and the Commander's Task Force made history by securing the state's first Veterans Omnibus Bill. In 2024, we once again rose to the challenge of protecting the Omnibus as the key mechanism for passing legislation that supports Minnesota's Veterans. With the efforts of MinnFluence, the Veteran community, and dedicated supporters, we successfully convinced lawmakers to pass the third Veterans Omnibus Bill, ensuring the continuation of this vital legislation will remain a top priority every year.

MinnFluence Service Minnesota's Veterans

MinnFluence is a tool designed to help Veterans and their supporters connect directly with their state lawmakers when crucial action is needed. It serves as a local alert network, allowing the DAV of Minnesota to notify users when a lawmaker's support is required to advance legislation or during key voting periods. This tool keeps everyone updated on lawmakers' votes and informs users throughout the legislative process.

How It Works

When a new MinnFluencer signs up, the DAV of Minnesota ensures that they are following their State Representative and State Senator's committees and leadership positions. With this information, the Department's Legislative Director can monitor important legislation. When a Representative or Senator is needed to support a bill, attend a hearing, or participate in a key vote, the DAV of Minnesota will reach out to MinnFluencers so they can emphasize the significance of the proposed legislation.

It is not necessary to be a Veteran to sign up—everyone is welcome. The MinnFluence Network has already played a key role in the passage of both Veterans Omnibus Bills in Minnesota. By expanding the network, its influence can increase even further.

The Congressional Scorecard

As advocates for Veterans' rights across party lines, it's essential to know which elected officials are backing DAV of Minnesota legislation. The Congressional Scorecard tool offers this vital information, highlighting all the DAV-supported legislation that Minnesota's elected officials have sponsored or co-sponsored. Each piece of legislation includes links to the bill's language and contact information for Representatives or Senators. Stay informed by visiting the Congressional Scorecard. www.davmn.org/congressional-scorecard/





2025 LEGISLATIVE OBJECTIVES

Amend the Property Tax Value Exclusion

Background: In Minnesota, Disabled Veterans rated 70 percent or higher (non-permanent and total) are eligible for a \$150,000 property tax value exclusion. While this is an important tax benefit in Minnesota, the DAV of Minnesota legislative team has identified multiple gaps and created opportunities to enhance this benefit for Minnesota's Disabled Veterans and their surviving spouses.

Proposals:

Increase the exclusion to \$200k and \$400k to reflect increasing home values across the state.

Fix benefits to inflation to keep benefits aligned with the rising cost of living. The outdated level from over a decade ago highlights that, without this adjustment, lawmakers tend to neglect regular updates.

Allow surviving spouses to transfer the property tax exclusion to a new home, eliminating the previous restriction of "equal or lesser value" compared to their previous residence.

Discounted Hunting and Fishing Licenses for Disabled Veterans

Recognizing the service and sacrifice of disabled Veterans, many states offer free or discounted licenses for hunting and fishing. In 2025 the DAV of Minnesota is sponsoring legislation to extend this benefit to Minnesota's disabled Veterans. This initiative not only serves as a powerful gesture of gratitude but also encourages Veterans to seek the healing power of outdoor activities for their physical and mental well-being.

The proposed legislation seeks to:

Lower license fees to \$3–\$5 for hunting, fishing, and trapping, enabling the state to secure over \$18+ in federal funding for each license issued.

Expand eligibility to include Veterans with a disability rating of 50% or higher, extending benefits to more than 40,000 disabled Veterans across Minnesota.

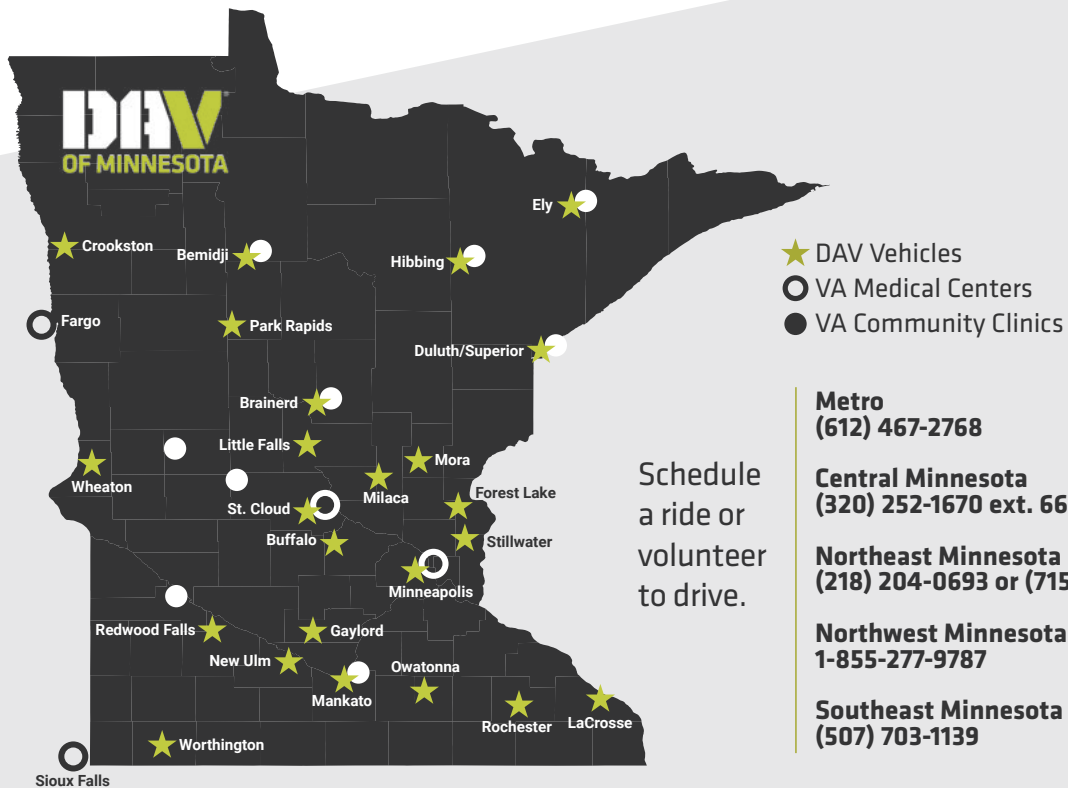
TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

DAV of Minnesota Transportation Program continues to make a significant impact by providing free transportation to ambulatory Veterans across Minnesota for their VA medical appointments. With 37 vehicles stationed in five regions, the program services four medical centers and numerous community-based clinics.

In 2024 the program experienced several improvements that benefited both Veterans and volunteer drivers. Notably:

On May 7, 2024 the expansion into Isanti County began, offering essential services to Veterans who have been without transportation since 2020.

The DAV of Minnesota takes immense pride in the vital connection our volunteer drivers establish with Veterans. This connection not only ensures life-saving transportation but also serves as a welcoming gateway into the VA system.



Schedule a ride or volunteer to drive.

“DAV has been a godsend. It feels so good to know there is support available during my husband’s treatment because I wasn’t sure how we’d manage the transportation aspect. Rides are always on time, conversation is great, and the driving is safe. I can’t thank DAV staff and volunteers enough for their time and resources.”

-Darrell and Mary Findlay

2024 BY THE NUMBERS

Program Location	Volunteer Hours	Miles Drive	Veteran Transports
CENTRAL	7,552	159,064	3,768
METRO	25,308	537,002	14,085
NE	4,180	95,620	2,057
NW	2,705	79,054	878
SE	1,972	40,147	857

927,143

Miles Driven By Volunteer Drivers

272

Volunteer Drivers

21,565

Veterans Transported

40,582

Hours invested by volunteers transporting Veterans

\$1,359,091.18

Estimated cost savings to the VA

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

Volunteer Drivers

272 volunteers helped sustain Disabled American Veterans (DAV) of Minnesota's Transportation program in 2024. Without their commitment to serving our Veterans we would not be able to continue this essential service. The transportation volunteer team gave 40,582 hours and transported 21,565 Veterans to and from their VA or VA-scheduled medical appointments across the state.

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS BY THE NUMBERS

272
Current/Active
Volunteer Drivers

- 157 Metro
- 44 Central Minnesota
- 25 Northeast Minnesota
- 35 Northwest Minnesota
- 11 Southeast Minnesota

In 2024, five exceptional volunteer drivers, each representing a different region, were honored as the "Volunteer Drivers of the Year." These outstanding individuals embody the spirit and dedication of the DAV of Minnesota's volunteer force. Congratulations to our Volunteer Drivers of the Year - 2024.



Joel Baggenstoss
Metro



David Koetter
Central
Minnesota



Laurie Auge
Northeast
Minnesota



Richard Olson
Southeast
Minnesota



Charlis (Char) Carroll
Northwest
Minnesota

To learn more about the Veteran Transportation Program visit: davn.org



"And in those quiet conversations between driver and rider—amid laughter, honesty, and the raw truth of life—we're reminded of what it means to care, to listen, and to grow. It's not just about giving rides; it's about giving of ourselves—and becoming better people because of it."

- Dan Welsand, Northeast Hospital Service Coordinator

HOUSEHOLD DONATIONS

Household Donations

The primary revenue source for the DAV of Minnesota comes from collecting and wholesaling household donations, benefiting both statewide chapters and the department. Through collection boxes across Greater Minnesota, clothing drives, and Twin Cities residential collection, the DAV of Minnesota team coordinates pick-ups, deliveries and distribution to our commercial partners.

In 2024, donations of clothing and household items enabled the repurposing of over 9.2 million pounds of unused or unwanted items, generating approximately \$4.6 million in funding for DAV of Minnesota's chapter and department activities, programs, and services.

To all our donors **THANK YOU** for supporting DAV of Minnesota!

Donating is easy - just pick the option that works best for you!

Schedule curbside pickup online at www.donatedavn.org

Drop off at the nearest collection location!

Find it at www.donatedavn.org/content/collectionlocations

By phone - call (651) 487-2002 or 1-855-789-0993

Email the Donation Program at donate@davn.org



"With the funds we obtain from the clothing program we are able to help Veterans in need. Over the past two years, we have spent \$15,000 on Veterans. This included helping a Veteran replace his vehicle to attend VA appointments, assisting other Veterans with water damage in their basements, and repairing outside steps for a 100% disabled Veteran."

- Commander Deb Petersen, DAV of Minnesota Faribault Chapter 20

OUTDOORS PROGRAM

DAV of Minnesota Outdoors Program - 2024 Highlights

The Outdoors Program emphasizes the importance of outdoor activities for the heart, soul and well-being of disabled Veterans. Engaging with nature and fellow Veterans helps reduce feelings of isolation, foster camaraderie and promote both mental and physical health. In 2024 the program hosted trips across Canada, Minnesota and Texas, focusing on fishing, hunting and outdoor activities.

Houseboat Trip - DAV of Minnesota organized a relaxing Houseboat Trip on Rainy Lake, located on the edge of Voyageurs National Park. This five-day excursion hosted 15 Veterans, providing opportunities to unwind from the shore, kayak, paddleboard, fish and explore the park. Veterans spent their nights sleeping on a houseboat and creating unforgettable memories.

Canada Drive-In - The Canada Drive-In trip took Veterans to northwest Ontario, where they stayed in cabins for six days. Veterans enjoyed their days fishing or relaxing back at the resort, surrounded by the serene beauty of the Canadian wilderness.

Williams Narrows - Hosted at Williams Narrows Resort, this four-day trip welcomed 20 Veterans, providing them with a chance to relax or fish on the lake. The event was a wonderful opportunity for camaraderie and outdoor enjoyment.

Hog Hunt Trips - DAV of Minnesota organized two thrilling Hog Hunt trips to Texas. Veterans hunted hogs at night and spent their days unwinding and fishing, creating memorable and enjoyable experiences for everyone.

Late Winter Getaway - In late winter, 10 Minnesota Veterans enjoyed a trip to Ozello, Florida. The getaway offered therapeutic camaraderie and diverse activities, including fishing, crab trapping, manatee viewing, hiking and golf cart rides. This memorable experience provided relaxation and mutual support for our disabled Veterans.



DAV OF MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT FINANCIALS

In Fiscal Year 2024 DAV of Minnesota invested \$0.84 of every dollar into Veterans services in Minnesota. We are proud that money coming into DAV of Minnesota goes back to Veterans in need.

Revenue and Support

Fiscal Year 2024 | 1 July 2023 – 30 June, 2024:

REVENUE AND SUPPORT	WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	TOTAL
Contributions	\$17,997	80,537	98,534
Grants	\$130,284		130,284
National service allocations	\$119,025		119,025
Registration and fees	\$26,508		\$26,508
In-kind contributions	\$256,618		\$256,618
Other income	\$1,430		\$1,430
Investment Income	\$38,522		\$38,522
Gain/(Loss) on sale of property and equipment			
Net assets released from restriction	\$85,302	(\$85,302)	
Gross income from enterprise operations	\$4,601,002		\$4,601,002
Gross income from enterprise operations	(\$2,636,930)		(\$2,636,930)
Net income from enterprise operations	\$1,964,072		\$1,964,072
Total revenue and support	\$2,639,758	(\$4,765)	\$2,634,993

The DAV of Minnesota increased Veterans program and services expenditures by 5% in 2024.

Expenses

Fiscal Year 2024 | 1 July 2023 – 30 June, 2024:

EXPENSES	WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	TOTAL
Program Services			
Veterans services	\$1,659,248		\$1,659,248
Transportation network	\$502,164		\$502,164
Total program service expenses	\$2,161,412		\$2,161,412
Management and general expenses	\$410,758		\$410,758
Total expenses	\$2,572,170		\$2,572,170
Change in net assets	\$67,588	(\$4,765)	\$62,823
Net asses, beginning of the year	\$1,818,999	1\$4,500	\$1,833,499
Net assets, end of year	\$1,886,587	\$9,735	\$1,896,322

The DAV of Minnesota increased Veterans program and services expenditures by 5% in 2024.





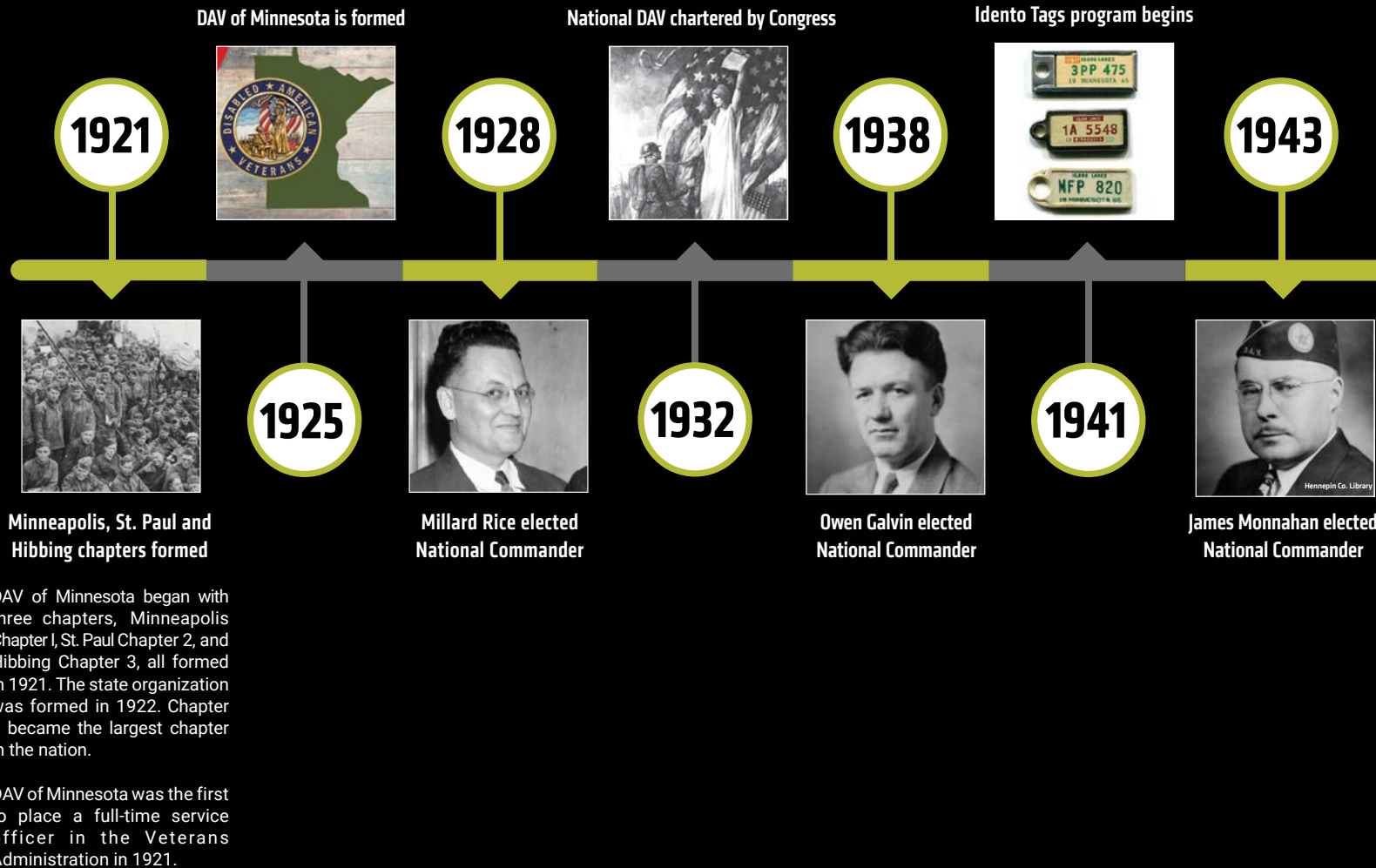
The Disabled American Veterans of the World War was formed in 1920 by World War I Veterans to help disabled Veterans and their families. Over 200,000 Americans had been disabled in the Great War, but there was little acknowledgement from the government. The DAV stepped in to help.

The state organization was recognized in 1925. The national World War Veterans Act of 1925 originated at a Minnesota state convention where it was written by Millard Rice.

The state also was behind the creation of the national Veterans preference laws, and in gaining employment at post offices during the holidays for disabled Vets.

The national DAV was chartered by congress in 1932. DAV currently has more than 1 million members across the country.

During World War II, the organization shortened its name to Disabled American Veterans. The organization began a national drive for "Idento Tags," miniature license plates that could be attached to key rings. The program raised \$2 million a year for disabled Veterans.



In Minnesota and nationally, the DAV began to decline in the 1950s and 1960s, but was saved with an influx of Vietnam veterans who assumed leadership roles and created new fundraising efforts and programs to help Veterans.

The first DAV Thrift Shop opened in 1976 at Emerson and Broadway in Minneapolis, and, while the store later closed, the DAV statewide collection of used items remains a major source of funding.

The DAV of Minnesota established the first state-wide foundation in the nation to serve Veterans in 1986.

The Foundation achieved Veterans non-profit status in 1992.

Minnesota has produced five national commanders, Millard Rice in 1928, Owen Galvin in 1938, James L. "Monty" Monnahan in 1943, Lyle Pearson in 1975, and Stephen "Butch" Whitehead, serving two terms, 2019 and 2020.

Foundation achieves 501(c)(3) status.

Stephen "Butch" Whitehead elected National Commander, serves two terms

DAV began to decline



1975

Thrift shop opened in Minneapolis



1978

DAV of Minnesota Foundation



2003



2025

1960



Lyle Pearson elected National Commander

1976



First vans obtained to serve Minnesota vets

In 1978, DAV of Minnesota obtained its first vans to bring Veterans to VA facilities across the state.

1992



Hubs established in state to coordinate transportation

In 2003, DAV of Minnesota established hubs for scheduling Veteran transportation, and now has hubs in Detroit Lakes, Rochester and Duluth. DAV of Minnesota now has 38 vans and 172 volunteer drivers across the state bringing thousands of Veterans to appointments.

2019



DAV of Minnesota celebrates a century of service

During its centennial year, DAV of Minnesota Foundation will achieve a remarkable milestone of \$4.5 million in grants awarded in support of Veterans.



Disabled American Veterans of Minnesota

State Veterans Service Building, Floor 3
20 West 12th Street
St. Paul, MN 55155
(651) 291-1212

davn.org