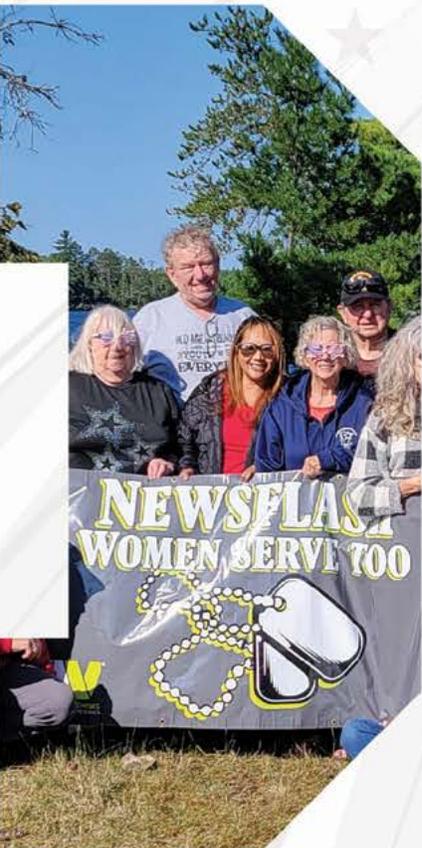


DAV[®] OF MINNESOTA FOUNDATION

THE NEXT 100 | BUILDING ON A LEGACY





From the Executive Director

Dear DAV Members, Partners, and Dedicated Supporters,

It is with immense pride and profound gratitude that I present the 2025 Annual Report for the Disabled American Veterans of Minnesota Foundation (DAV MN Foundation).

This document isn't just a record of financials and programs; it is a testament to the powerful results when a community unites behind a shared vision.

The past year has been one of significant milestones. Thanks to your unwavering support, we were able to expand our Day of Giving Program and deepen our impact in the veteran community. Throughout the pages of this report, you'll see how our programs have tangibly changed lives.

None of the growth would be possible without the dedicated staff, tireless volunteers, and, most importantly, you – our partners and donors. Your belief in our mission is the fuel that drives our work forward. We remain committed to being responsible stewards of every dollar entrusted to us, ensuring your generosity is translated into lasting change.

Looking ahead, the need for our work remains vital. We believe that by fostering deeper collaborations and innovating our approach, we can achieve even greater heights in the coming year. Thank you for being an essential part of the DAV of MN Foundation family.

Together, we are not just meeting needs; we are building a stronger, more resilient future.

With deep appreciation,

Lauri Brooke
Executive Director
DAV of Minnesota Foundation

About the Foundation

The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) of Minnesota Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization serving as the "Giving Arm" of the DAV of Minnesota. The Foundation provides financial resources that support DAV of Minnesota programs, services, community grants, and projects. By keeping administrative costs low, the Foundation maximizes direct support for these initiatives. Members of the Foundation's Board of Directors contribute voluntarily, without compensation, conducting all business with a high standard of ethics. Their dedication ensures that both donors and grant recipients receive the care and transparency they deserve.

Our mission is to empower and assist Veterans in overcoming challenges and achieving their full potential. We offer vital programs and services, including adaptive sports clinics, transportation, and therapeutic outdoor activities, fostering a sense of community, independence, and well-being among Veterans. The Foundation's continued efforts are made possible through the generosity of our donors, the dedication of our volunteers and the unwavering support of our community partners.

Foundation Board of Directors



Michael McLaughlin
Board Chair



Joel Schilling
Director



Chris Magnusson
Director



Tony Tengwall
Director



Mike Medhaug
Director



Paul Pederson
Director



Scott Berndt
Treasurer



John Walker
Advisor



Stephen Whitehead
Advisor



Josh Vrtacnik
Secretary

Contents

2025 Annual Report | 2026 Objectives

- 2 Executive Director's Message
- 3 About The Foundation
- 4 Grants/Partnerships
- 5 Financials & 2025 Objectives
- 6 Foundation-Sponsored Events



Grants

Last year, the DAV of MN Foundation contributed over \$561,000 to programs and services, community grants, and projects. The Foundation continues to lean forward to support the ever-changing needs of Minnesota Veterans and their families. The DAV of MN Foundation supports ongoing partnerships with other Minnesota non-profit organizations that support DAV of Minnesota's mission.

\$143,835 to support Services to Veterans. Programs that support veterans are crucial because they deliver essential services, provide access to benefits, and foster social and community connections. These initiatives are vital for ensuring veterans receive the care, resources, and recognition they've earned through their service.

\$134,538 to Transportation Programs in Minnesota. Transportation to medical appointments is crucial because it ensures consistent and timely access to care, which improves health outcomes, lowers overall healthcare costs, and supports patient independence. Reliable transport prevents missed preventative and chronic care appointments, which can lead to more serious health problems, costly emergency room visits, and hospitalizations.

\$283,266 to make the outdoors accessible to all Veterans. These adventures inspired personal growth, heightened environmental awareness, and encouraged Veterans to pursue new opportunities.

These grants fund impactful programs that ensure Veterans receive the resources and assistance needed to thrive. The Foundation continues to lean forward to support the ever-changing needs of Minnesota Veterans and their families.

Grant Recipients Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Chapter 38 • DAV National Service Foundation • Hope Dental • DAV Disaster Relief • Open Arms • VA Medical Center Food Pantry • Chapter 1 Hospital Outreach Partnership • Veterans Day on the Hill • DAV of MN Outreach Seminars • Centers for Development & Civic Engagement, Fargo, Minneapolis, St. Cloud • Minnesota Adult & Teen Challenge • DAV of Minnesota Transportation Program • National Disabled American Veteran Golf Clinic • National Disabled American Veteran Winter Sports Clinic • Camp Ripley Outdoor Programs • Wilderness Inquiry • DAV of Minnesota Outdoor Partnership Program

Partnerships

The DAV of Minnesota Foundation Veteran Home Accessibility Initiative is a dedicated effort to enhance the independence and quality of life for disabled veterans across Minnesota. By funding and implementing essential home modifications, this program transforms living spaces into environments that prioritize both accessibility and safety.

Many veterans face physical challenges that make routine daily activities difficult. This initiative directly addresses those barriers by providing critical home upgrades. Beyond the physical construction, the initiative gives veterans the confidence to navigate their homes without constant fear of injury.

By removing barriers to daily living, we empower our heroes to age in place with dignity. This stability allows veterans to remain in their communities, surrounded by their own support networks. The success of this initiative is built on collaboration.

This year, we thank our partners:



The Veteran Home Accessibility and Safety Initiative reflects the Foundation's broader mission to provide critical resources that honor the service and sacrifice of Minnesota's veterans.

Through this program, we fulfill a collective promise to care for those who have spent their lives caring for our nation.

The DAV of Minnesota Foundation has surpassed \$4.5 million in total giving since 2005, funding critical support programs that enhance the quality of life for Veterans and their families across the state. This year, the foundation received high ratings from multiple sources, including:



A 4-star rating from **Charity Navigator** is the highest possible designation, indicating an "Exceptional" nonprofit that exceeds industry standards, demonstrates strong financial health, and practices ethical, transparent governance. Only about one-quarter of rated charities achieve this, signaling to donors that their contributions are used efficiently.



A Platinum rating on **Candid** (formerly GuideStar) is the highest level of transparency, indicating a nonprofit has shared extensive, in-depth information about its goals, strategies, and, crucially, measurable impact metrics. It signifies that the organization is in the top 0.1% of nonprofits for transparency.



A **Meets Standards** charitable review indicates that a nonprofit organization has voluntarily participated in an evaluation process and successfully met a set of accountability, ethical, and operational standards. It is a trust signal, often represented by a seal, indicating that the charity operates transparently, maintains sound financial management, and adheres to ethical fundraising practices.

Revenue and Support - All financials should be Fiscal Year 2024 (30 June 2024 and 1 July 2025):

ASSETS	JUNE 30, 2025	JUNE 30, 2024	CHANGE
Current Assets	\$283,799	\$157,835	(\$142,214)
Investments	\$5,487,017	\$4,699,199	\$787,818
Prepaid Expenses	\$21,673	\$46,740	(\$25,067)
Receivables	\$1,604	\$15,182	(\$13,577)
Total Current Assets	\$5,710,432	\$5,103,472	\$606,960
Total Assets	\$5,710,432	\$5,103,472	\$606,960

Expenses - All financials should be Fiscal Year 2025 (30 June 2024 and 1 July 2025):

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	JUNE 30, 2025	JUNE 30, 2025	CHANGE
Accounts Payable	\$640,626	\$5,500	(\$5,500)
Deferred Revenue	\$87,927	\$6,200	(\$6,200)
Other Current Liabilities	\$164,051	\$10,949	\$141,402
Total Current Liabilities	\$164,051	\$22,649	\$141,402
Net Assets			
Without Donor Restrictions	\$4,308,320	\$3,637,174	\$670,146
Board Designated	\$652,012	\$600,242	(\$51,771)
Without Donor Restrictions	\$586,049	\$842,408	(\$256,359)
Total Net Assets	\$5,546,381	\$5,080,823	(\$465,558)
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$5,710,432	\$5,103,472	(\$606,960)



2025/2026 Objectives

- 1 | **Promote and develop** support for the Foundation by engaging the community through partnerships and events.
- 2 | **Strengthen and ensure** timely and equitable access to all health services.
- 3 | **Enhance organizational strength and agility** by partnering with DAV Department of Minnesota, Chapters, and Auxiliaries to align stakeholders around strategic priorities.
- 4 | **Develop a robust communication strategy** to publicize goals and programs better.
- 5 | **Streamline the grant process** to enable the Foundation to obtain the information needed to make sound grant decisions and to create efficient processes for grantees.

Foundation-Sponsored Events

The Mission of the National Disabled Veterans Golf Clinic is to provide an adaptive golf and rehabilitation program for Veterans with a qualifying disability. The provision of this program serves to engage and invigorate Veterans, directly improving their physical, mental, and emotional well-being.

The National Disabled Veterans Golf Clinic (NDVGC) is a week-long adaptive golf program that is presented by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and DAV (Disabled American Veterans). This annual event promotes rehabilitation by instructing Veterans with specific life-changing disabilities in adaptive golf. In addition to adaptive golf, Veterans will be introduced to other adaptive recreational sports. Photo.

Volunteer Testimonies:

Volunteering at the National Disabled Veterans Golf Clinic in Iowa City is an unforgettable experience. When I first volunteered as a Golf Buddy, my nervousness stemmed from my lack of golf knowledge. Yet the Disabled Veterans and the Buddies worked instantly as a collaborative, encouraging team. I paired with a wheelchair-bound Army Veteran. Watching his determination and his radiant smiles, celebrating the good shots and shrugging off the bad, was deeply fulfilling. Seeing him launch a golf ball from his Vertacat and the look of pure happiness on his face as he was on the course was truly heartwarming. As a fellow Disabled Veteran, I know that one day, I myself may need a Golf Buddy. I will continue to volunteer as long as I'm able. – Dawn

Volunteering at the National Disabled Golf Clinic is an enriching and humbling experience. I have had the pleasure of being a Golf Buddy for the past two years. I witnessed the growth of Granville, a 70+ year-old Air Force Veteran with little to no golf experience, successfully and consistently hit the golf ball straight and accurately. I had the pleasure of assisting Dustin, an Army veteran who lost both of his legs to an IED in Iraq in 2003. Dustin used a provided motorized "VertaCat," which provided mobility and lifted him into a semi-standing position to hit the golf ball. It is natural for people to focus on their own handicaps, but watching Dustin compete, I felt my own issues were just minor distractions. I encourage others to volunteer at this worthy event that gives back to veterans and puts life in perspective. – Joel

