

OPERATION FULL PLATE

DISTRIBUTION RESULTS & PROGRAM STEWARDSHIP



REPORT TYPE	Internal / Funder Report	DISTRIBUTION ID	STC-2026-08-20
DATE	August 20, 2026	LOCATION	St. Cloud VA Medical Center – Building 96

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DAV of Minnesota's first Operation Full Plate distribution served 67 households representing 135 people at the St. Cloud VA Medical Center. 84 boxes totaling 1,806 pounds of nonperishable food were distributed. The food carried an actual wholesale cost of \$1,540.53 and a recognized value of \$3,431.40, delivering \$2.23 in recognized food value for every dollar spent.

IMPACT AT A GLANCE

67 HOUSEHOLDS SERVED	135 PEOPLE REPRESENTED	84 BOXES DISTRIBUTED	1,806 POUNDS DISTRIBUTED
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PARTICIPANT REACH

WHO WAS SERVED		COST AND REACH MEASURES	
Veterans	65	Food per household	27.0 lb
Veteran family members	2	Actual food cost per household	\$22.99
Current service members	0	Recognized value per household	\$51.21
Service member family members	0	Average household size	2.0 people
Female Veterans	18	Boxes per household	1.25

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

\$1,540.53 ACTUAL WHOLESALE COST food distributed	\$3,431.40 RECOGNIZED FOOD VALUE @ \$1.90 per pound	\$1,890.87 VALUE ABOVE COST recognized value less cost	\$2.23 VALUE PER \$1 SPENT recognized food value
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Interpretation: Recognized food value exceeded the actual wholesale cost of the distributed food by \$1,890.87. This measure describes food purchasing efficiency; it does not include volunteer labor.

EXECUTIVE TAKEAWAY

The first distribution supported 135 people at an actual food cost of \$11.41 per person and a recognized food value of \$25.42 per person. It used 16.7% of the initial packing batch, leaving 420 boxes available for future distributions. It was a strong performance for the first every distribution under Operation Full Plate. Increased awareness and a planned adjustment to the distribution times, to enable more Veterans attending scheduled appointments to stop by the distribution, I expect to see rapid program growth in the coming months.



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PACKING BATCH & INVENTORY STEWARDSHIP

BATCH	BOXES PACKED	TOTAL POUNDS	WHOLESALE COST	COST / BOX	VALUE / BOX
CIS-001	504	10,836	\$9,243.16	\$18.34	\$40.85

Inventory status: 84 boxes distributed (16.7% of the batch); 420 boxes remain.

CAPACITY REMAINING

At the same 84-box distribution volume, the remaining inventory could support five additional events. I anticipate a significant uptick in the St. Cloud VA distribution with a change in hours moving 12pm-5pm and with additional outreach and promotion. I am currently anticipating the next food pack will be necessary in October.

VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTION

ACTIVITY	VOLUNTEER PARTICIPATIONS	HOURS	ESTIMATED LABOR VALUE
Food packing	18	63	\$2,507.40
Distribution event	4	12	\$477.60
Program total	22	75	\$2,985.00

Volunteer participation counts activity instances, not necessarily unique individuals. Packing labor supports the full 504-box batch and is reported separately from the 12 hours used at this distribution.

WHAT THE NUMBERS SHOW

- The initial distribution reached 135 people through 67 household contacts.
- Veterans accounted for 65 of 67 recorded eligibility selections; two were Veteran family members.
- The event distributed 1,806 pounds while preserving 420 boxes for future distributions.
- Food purchasing generated \$2.23 in recognized food value for each wholesale dollar spent.

EVENT NARRATIVE

OUTCOMES & OBSERVATIONS

The event ran very smoothly. While not quantified by data capture, it was evident that many of the recipients were coming directly from work including multiple Veterans who were working at the same factory just down the road from the St. Cloud VA and had shared the information amongst one another. This reinforces the data that shows that working Veterans, are facing challenges in the current environment.

CHALLENGES / UNMET NEED

We identified the need to change the layout of the distribution. The current setup was extremely efficient for getting the food out the door but did not get the recipients in among the resource tables. The registration will be moved to a back corner, making recipients travers the provider area prior to filling in their form, and food distribution will remain near the door at future events. The delivery of the food did not go according to plan, it arrived at the wrong time (early), at the wrong location, and I was not contacted by delivery driver 30min prior as put in the orders. This was immediately addressed with CIS.

NEXT STEPS

Now that we know we have a workable model, slow progression into new areas can continue to be developed. DAV MN and partners should increase our outreach on this event, and promote the September distribution at a higher level.

Prepared by: Trent C Dilks **Report date:** August 21, 2026 **Grant / Fund:** MN Veterans Food Pantry

Valuation methodology: Recognized food value uses \$1.90 per pound, the 2025 Feeding America donated-commodity valuation (<https://www.accfb.org/annual-report-2025/>). Volunteer labor value uses \$39.80 per hour, the 2025 Minnesota estimate from Independent Sector and the Do Good Institute (<https://independentsector.org/research/value-of-volunteer-time/>).