



Voluntary Services General Overview 2026





Meet the Voluntary Services Team



From left to right: Carina Slaughter, Oscar Olguin, Tiffani Caldwell, John Kleindienst, Shelby Dishman, Kylie Linville, Alli Perrin, Hades Whalen, Sandy Nagel, Amanda Wind. Not pictured: Taylor Walker



Our department objective is to promote volunteerism and community involvement in order to help improve, impact, and empower the lives of veterans and their families through our many volunteer opportunities

In **2025**, DAV dedicated **\$54 million** to voluntary service initiatives through our vast network of programs



VolunteerForVeterans.org

- This is the overarching suite of DAV's Voluntary Services Programs

Local Veterans Assistance Program (LVAP)

- Direct assistance to veterans, surviving spouses, or families

DAV Transportation Network

- The backbone of DAV Voluntary Services Program

VA Voluntary Services (VAVS)

- Volunteering in brick-and-mortar VA Facility

DAV Scholarships Program

- Very robust program offering \$140,000 in scholarships annually





Boulder Crest Mentoring Retreats

- Progressive & Alternative Training for Helping Heroes (PATHH)

National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic

- World class instructors to help veterans achieve their maximum potential. Miracles on Mountainside!

National Disabled Veterans Golf Clinic

- Provides a therapeutic format to promote rehabilitation, fellowship and camaraderie

DAV National HQ Homeless Veteran Stand Down

- Serving more than 180 veterans in 2023

DAV National HQ Volunteer Days

- Starting out with 12 scheduled events in 2023, these events are a significant cost savings to the DAV



Volunteers can visit www.volunteerforveterans.org to sign up for opportunities in their local communities

Volunteer

DAV believes that “thank you for your service” is more than words; it’s action. That’s why we offer a wide range of opportunities to volunteer for veterans, whether it’s driving veterans to and from their VA medical appointments, volunteering at a VA medical facility or serving veterans in your community. You don’t have to be a veteran to volunteer – there’s a place for everyone!

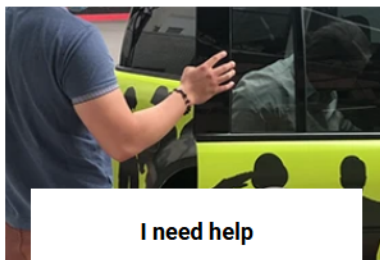
Continue scrolling to learn about all the ways you can make a difference in the lives of veterans.



DAV Community Impact Day

Will you give an hour of your time?

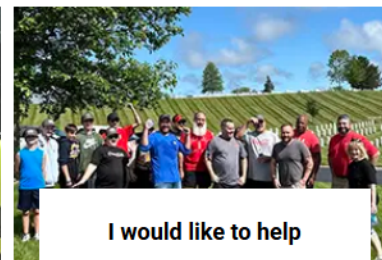
LEARN MORE



I need help

Are you a veteran or do you know a veteran in need of help?

GET HELP



I would like to help

Do you want to help veterans in your local community?

FIND OUT HOW

For Veterans

For Volunteers

You can also sign up for DAV’s many programs while you’re here!



I Need Help

Are you a veteran, or do you know a veteran that needs assistance? Please fill out the form below and a voluntary services representative will reach out to volunteers in your area who may be able to help.

Personal Information

First Name *(Required)*

Last Name *(Required)*

Email *(Required)*

Phone *(Required)*

Address Information

Address Line 1 *(Required)*

City *(Required)*

State *(Required)*

Please select a state 

Zip Code *(Required)*

I Need Help With:

Select A Category *(Required)*

Grocery Shopping 

Description Of Your Need *(Required)*



Do you want to help veterans in your community?

Please fill out the form below and a voluntary services representative will try to match you with heroes in need of help.

Personal Information

First Name (Required)

Last Name (Required)

Email (Required)

Phone (Required)

Address Information

Address Line 1 (Required)

City (Required)

State (Required)

Zip Code (Required)

Are you volunteering as a group or individual?

Select A Category (Required)

Please describe how you can help. (Required)



The Local Veterans Assistance Program was created to allow the many volunteers who want to be involved with veteran support activities outside the VA medical facilities to record their hours of volunteerism and report them to the DAV

LVAP volunteers can dedicate their time in the following ways:

- Department and Chapter Service Officer work
- DAV specific outreach efforts and fundraising efforts
- DAV/DAV Auxiliary special events (state fair, homeless assistance including stand downs, etc.)
- Direct assistance to veterans, surviving spouses, or families
- Seminars, training, and activities designed to operate the department/chapter smoothly
- Legislative support – Benefit Protection Team Leader (BPTL)



In **2025** there was a total of **2,700,895.25** volunteer hours reported with **375,789** hours reported for DAV's Department and Chapter Service Officers. This is an additional **\$11.6 million in savings** for the Veterans Administration that the DAV volunteers provide through their services



Two of our 2026 scholarship applicants at the 5k they organized to raise funds for their local DAV Chapter

DAV Transportation Network is the largest program of its kind for veterans in the nation. This program ensures our veterans, who may not have access to reliable transportation, are able to get to their VA health care appointments

DAV Hospital Service Coordinator's (HSC) play an important role in our efforts to assist injured and ill veterans. They are the front line for the DAV Transportation Network, by scheduling rides, keeping vehicles running safely and reporting volunteer activities to DAV National Headquarters



There are **145** Hospital Service Coordinators covering transportation programs at **247** VA medical facilities. These DAV HSCs assemble corps of volunteer drivers and coordinate them with hospital transportation requests. The Transportation Network volunteers transported nearly **230,232** veterans over **9.6** million miles in **2025** alone!

VOLUNTARY SERVICES TRANSPORTATION NETWORK

Over **614,000** hours spent by DAV volunteer drivers producing more than **9.6 million** logged miles, totalling over **230,000** no-cost rides for ill and injured veterans to and from VA medical facilities.



Since 1987, DAV has donated **3,909** vehicles at a cost of more than **\$97 million**.

Also, volunteer drivers have traveled more than **770 million** miles providing over **20.4 million** rides.

The Department of Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service Program (VAVS) is one of our most significant volunteer initiatives

The VA Voluntary Services Program provides a broad array of services to veterans in VA health care facilities throughout our nation

In **2025** the DAV and DAV Auxiliary logged a total of **593,857.25** volunteer hours within VA hospitals across the country. With an approximate total of **\$20,660,294 in savings** the VA can put towards updating facilities and the care of their patients/residents





Traditional ways you can assist as a DAV volunteer in a VA facility:

- Escorting patients, library circulation and processing assistance
- Information desk receptionists
- Preparing displays and assisting patients in menu selections in nutrition and food service
- Helping with the clinical preparation procedures and patient-motivation activities in the physical therapy clinic
- Helping patients with socialization and other therapeutic activities
- Red Coat Ambassador Program



DAV is one of the only Veterans Service Organizations that provides its volunteers with small tokens of appreciation

At each volunteer milestone listed, the volunteer will receive a generous gift from DAV as a token of DAV's appreciation in their time spent helping veterans

Incentive Award Level	Miles	Hours
1	1	1
2	2,500	50
3	5,000	100
4	7,500	150
5	10,000	200
6	15,000	250
7	25,000	500
8	35,000	750
9	50,000	1,000
10	75,000	2,000
11	100,000	3,000
12	150,000	5,000
13	175,000	7,500
14	200,000	10,000
15	225,000	15,000
16	300,000	20,000
17	325,000	25,000
18	350,000	30,000
19	400,000	35,000
20	500,000	40,000



Since its inception, DAV has awarded **251** individual scholarships, including this year's winners, valued at more than **\$2.083 million**, which enables these exceptional young people to pursue their goals in higher education and experience the value and satisfaction of volunteering

DAV offers fifteen scholarships that are awarded annually totaling **\$140,000** to help fund the recipients higher education

New Scholarship Amounts:

\$30,000; \$20,000; \$15,000; (2) \$10,000; (4) \$7,500; (4) \$5,000; (2) \$2,500

Progressive & Alternative Training for Helping Heroes (PATHH)

- Warrior PATHH - 90 day program, begins with 7 days of intensive and immersive in-residence initiation. This program is free of charge to participants
- Based on the science of Posttraumatic Growth, that trains our combat veterans to transform struggle to strength. We have lost more combat veterans to suicide than ever before, Boulder Crest Mentoring Retreat works every day to solve this growing concern
- PATHH teaches combat veterans how to make peace with their past, live in the present and plan for their future. Thousands of combat veterans have transformed their lives
- Graduates have access to a lifetime of support, community, training and accountability

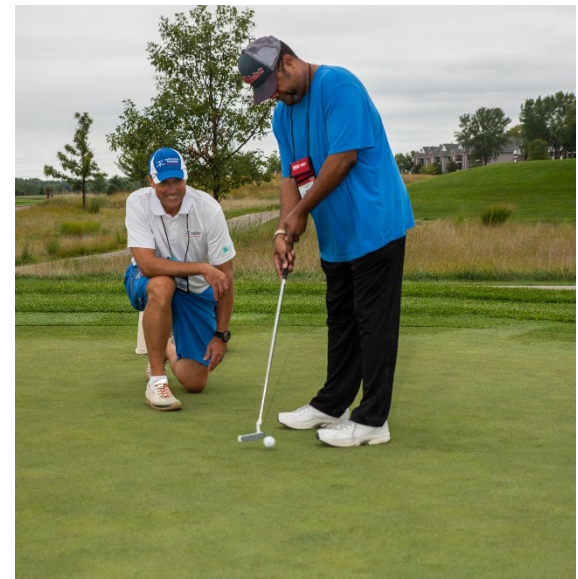


Miracles on a Mountainside – Snowmass, Colorado

- Began in 1987 with 90 participants as a five day event and has grown into a world leader in rehabilitation, providing approximately 400 profoundly disabled veterans with TBI's, spinal cord injuries, visual impairments, amputates and other severe disabilities to overcome obstacles and enjoy life
- In 2025 participants age ranged from 21 to 93 years old
- In 2025, 278 men and 77 women from all branches to include veterans from Korea, Vietnam to Operation Iraqi Freedom attended



- Held at the Riverside Hotel & Golf Resort, Riverside, Iowa each September
- A 6 day event with more than 200 veterans and over 300 volunteers
- Provides a therapeutic format to promote rehabilitation, fellowship and camaraderie
- Adaptive golf instruction to make the game more accessible and inspire veterans to challenge the limitations and improve their quality of life
- Other adaptive sports include bowling, air rifle, bicycling, cycling, and kayaking, and so much more



In 2024 we served nearly 190 Homeless Veterans

DAV hosted over 60 vendors, offering a wide range of services to break down barriers for veterans:

- Employment Services
- Housing and Financial Assistance
- Medical Services
- Legal services
- Education
- Hair cuts and manicures

We provide backpacks full of items such as, hygiene kits, socks, gloves, jackets and much more. Food, entertainment, and fun activities are offered while they are waiting their turn for services



Volunteer Days began in 2023 with 12 scheduled events

- Assemble bags for Disaster Relief efforts
- Assemble Homeless Stand Down bags
- Forget Me Nots
- Assemble DAV 5K race packets
- Assemble National Convention bags
- Field of Flags Packet Assembling
- Cleaning of headstones, for Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and removing the wreaths after the holidays at the Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North



These events are a significant cost savings to the DAV



Volunteer Day Statistics

DAV Volunteer Days 2025:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| • Volunteer Opportunities | 24 |
| • Number of Hours | 3,572 |
| • Number of Volunteers | 1,386 |

Since 2023:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| • Volunteer Opportunities | 76 |
| • Number of Hours | 9,386 |
| • Number of Volunteers | 3,160 |



DAV Community Impact Day was on **April 4, 2026**

- It's a **national call to action** for people to volunteer their time in support of veterans
- It's a great **opportunity to introduce DAV and its mission** to those who may not know about it
- **Everyone who participates needs to sign up at** communityimpactday.org
- If you are not able to participate on April 5th **you can still do something through out the month of April**



DAV Community Impact Day can help with member recruiting as well as helps us find opportunities for DAV to be visible in the community



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