



Department of Arizona
Office of the Adjutant | CEO
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Phoenix, AZ 85021
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TO: National Adjutant Barry Jesinoski
FROM: Dr. Carl Forkner, Department Adjutant
SUBJ: DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA SPEND DOWN PLAN
DATE: January 29, 2026

Dear National Adjutant Jesinoski,

It is my privilege to present to you the two-year spend down plan for Department of Arizona, which will serve to enhance the free services and programs we provide to Arizona's Veterans, their families, and their survivors. While we have been working on being effective stewards of the money provided to the Department by both the National organization and donors from across the state, we have also been surprised at the level of donations this past fiscal year. Of course, that is not a bad problem to have...

Following today's discussion and approval by the Department Executive Committee, the overview and details of Department of Arizona's proposed spend down plan appear in the following sheets.

Sincerely,

Carl B. Forkner

cc: National Inspector General Hartman
National Deputy Inspector General Burgos
Department Commander Nogar
Department Senior Vice Commander Hage
Department Treasurer Karvinen
Department Judge Advocate Hohman

THE MANDATE



National Headquarters
860 Dolwick Drive
Erlanger, KY 41018
tel 859-441-7300
toll free 877-426-2838
dav.org

Washington Headquarters
1300 I Street, NW, Suite 400 West
Washington, DC 20005
tel 202-554-3501

January 15, 2026

Carl B. Forkner, Adjutant
Department of Arizona
Disabled American Veterans
38 W. Dunlap Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85021

EIN: 860191627

Dear Adjutant Forkner:

National Adjutant Jesinoski and I are incredibly grateful for your hard work and that of the other leaders and members of the Department of Arizona to ensure DAV remains a vital resource for veterans and their families. Your efforts do not go unnoticed. As you may know, Article 18 of the National Bylaws and National Executive Committee (NEC) Regulation 7 provide restrictions and limitations on the accumulation of funds by DAV subordinate entities. The restriction provides that entities may not accumulate funds (liquid assets) in excess of three times the expenses of their last accounting year and, further, that any excess accumulated funds must be spent for service purposes within a reasonable time. This restriction is not only important to guard against the unnecessary and unwise potential for DAV entities to accumulate funds which should be used for our free programs of service, but it is also necessary for DAV to maintain our certification from the Wise Giving Alliance of the Better Business Bureau. We must always be strong stewards of the funds entrusted to us by a generous American public.

Based on our review of the financial report submitted by the Department for the accounting period ending June 30, 2025, we note the liquid assets reported for said period totaled \$1,894,996.40, while the applicable expenses totaled \$445,717.19. Applying the "three times expense" formula to the figures in that report, your Department had \$557,844.83 of excess accumulated funds at the end of the accounting period.

Accordingly, we are requesting that you send to National Headquarters, a written spend down plan identifying DAV service programs to be funded, which will bring the Department into compliance with Article 18 over the next two (2) years, to be approved by the National Adjutant. Understanding the excess funds in question came as a result of donors in Arizona wishing to fund DAV related free programs of service, we strongly recommend the plan focus primarily on funding current or new DAV programs for veterans and their families throughout the state. You may also consider funding National DAV programs such as the Columbia Trust within the National Service Foundation which helps Departments and Chapters in need with their local programs such as the transportation network, Hospital Service Coordinators, and DSOs/CSOs, Disaster Relief, Caregiver Support Program, Patriot Boot Camp, National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic or National Disabled Veterans Golf Clinic. Funding these programs could immediately bring the Department into full compliance if you don't have sufficient current or new local DAV programs to expend your excess funds within the next two years.

This submission is to be made to the National Adjutant within the next 90 days. Please be aware that we are available to assist you in formulating your plan, so feel free to contact Deputy Inspector General Burgos at

DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA SPEND DOWN PLAN: 01/15/2026 – 01/14/2028

National Headquarters. Again, keep in mind that Article 18, Section 18.3, Para. 2, requires that the expenditure of excess funds be utilized solely for service purposes.

Adjutant Forkner, on a personal note, I know I speak for all disabled veterans in Arizona, as well as veterans throughout the nation, in expressing our sincere thanks for the anticipated cooperation and effort of your Department in helping to significantly expand our programs of service for veterans and their families. Only through the kindness and compassion of concerned members like you will we be successful in carrying on this great tradition of service for the greatest group of veterans the world has ever seen. Again, I deeply appreciate your assistance in bringing the Department into full compliance with Article 18 and NEC Regulation 7 at the earliest possible time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Coleman Nee".

Coleman Nee
National Commander

CN:ap

c: National Adjutant Jesinoski
Department Commander Nogar
Department Treasurer Karvinen
Inspector General Hartman
Deputy Inspector General Burgos

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Mission-focused:** Places the DAV Mission at the forefront of every step.
- **Diverse:** Benefits nearly every facet of the Veteran community.
- **Inclusive:** Provides access and services to underserved populations.
- **Expansive:** Provides programs and services statewide.
- **Collaborative:** Brings together DAV members, the VA, and community leaders.
- **Forward-looking:** Executing for today; planning for the future.

MEET THE TEAM



Bruce Nogar
Commander
Level I DSO



Rod Hage
Senior Vice Commander
Level II CSO



Dr. Carl Forkner
Adjutant | CEO
Level II DSO



Kevin Karvinen
Treasurer
Level II CSO

PARTICIPATING CHAPTERS



Chapter 1
Phoenix, AZ

Commander
Christine Siegel



Chapter 8
Mesa, AZ

Commander
Lynn Burnett



Chapter 16
Prescott, AZ

Commander
Denis Lueders



Chapter 26
Benson, AZ

Commander
John Ingraham



Chapter 27
Lake Havasu City, AZ

Commander
Stanley Elliott



Chapter 38
Sahuarita, AZ

Commander
Ron Bryant

FUTURE PARTICIPATING CHAPTERS



Bullhead City, AZ



Globe/Miami, AZ



Show Low, AZ

MEET THE COLLABORATORS



Seraphine Josley
President
All-Navajo Veterans Auxiliary
Chinle, AZ



Linda Merlin
DAV Chapter 8 Member
Globe DAV Chapter Coordinator
Globe, AZ



Nicole Pogue
Executive Director
Arizona Veterans Resource Center
Mesa, AZ

MEET OUR NATIVE AMERICAN PARTNERS



FY 2026

Chinle, AZ



FY 2027

Peach Springs, AZ



FY 2027

Sells, AZ



FY 2028

Peridot, AZ



FY 2028

Whiteriver, AZ

DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA SPEND DOWN PLAN: 01/15/2026 – 01/14/2028

FY 2026 (January 15 – June 30)

Purchase one Explorer 2WD SUV for SAVAHCs (Tucson) [Feb 2026]	\$ 39,936.00
Purchase one Explorer 4WD SUV for NAVAHCs (Prescott) [Feb 2026]	\$ 41,688.00
Handicap electronic door buttons for building [Feb 2026]	\$ 10,000.00
Globe Videoconference Claim Station Project [Feb 2026]	\$ 1,012.00
Handicapped-capable golf cart for SAVAHCs [Feb 2026]	\$ 35,000.00
Navajo Reservation Videoconference Claim Service [Feb-Mar 2026]	\$ 6,445.00
Windows 11 and iPad tablet kits for CSO mobile services [Feb-Mar 2026]	\$ 50,000.00
Chapter initiatives expanding service to area Veterans [Apr-Jun 2026]	\$ 50,000.00
Donations in-kind to support the new AZ Veterans Resource Center [Apr 2026]	\$ 15,000.00
TOTAL FY 2026	\$249,081.00

FY 2027 (July 01 – December 31)

National Disaster Relief Program [Aug 2026 at National Convention]	\$ 25,000.00
National Disabled Veterans Golf Clinic [Aug 2026 at National Convention]	\$ 25,000.00
National Caregiver Support Program [Aug 2026 at National Convention]	\$ 25,000.00
Hualapai Reservation Videoconference Claim Service [Sep 2026]	\$ 5,395.00
Handicapped-capable golf cart for VA Hospital or Veterans Home [Sep 2026]	\$ 35,000.00
Conduct Veterans Resource Fair in Mesa, AZ [Oct 2026]	\$ 15,000.00
TOTAL FIRST HALF FY 2027	\$130,395.00

FY 2027 (January 01 – June 30)

Vehicle for PVAHCs (1 RWD Explorer) [Feb 2027]	\$ 39,936.00
Vehicle for SAVAHCs (1 RWD Explorer) [Feb 2027]	\$ 39,936.00
Vehicle for NAVAHCs – Lake Havasu City (1 AWD Explorer) [Feb 2027]	\$ 41,688.00
Tohono O’odham Nation Videoconference Claim Service [Feb-Mar 2027]	\$ 6,345.00
TOTAL SECOND HALF FY 2027	\$127,905.00

DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA SPEND DOWN PLAN: 01/15/2026 – 01/14/2028

FY 2028 (July 01 – December 31)

San Carlos Apache Reservation Videoconference Claim Service [Jul-Aug 2027]	\$ 3,575.00
National Disaster Relief Program [Aug 2027]	\$ 25,000.00
National Caregiver Support Program [Aug 2027]	\$ 25,000.00
Fort Apache Reservation Videoconference Claim Service [Aug-Sep 2027]	\$ 3,575.00

TOTAL FIRST HALF FY 2028	\$ 57,150.00
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TOTAL SPEND DOWN REQUIRED:	\$557,844.83
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TOTAL SPEND DOWN PROGRAMMED TO DATE:	<u>\$564,531.00</u>
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REMAINING SPEND DOWN REQUIRED:	\$ - 6,687.17
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Detailed Discussion of Spend Down Plan Expenses

FY 2026 (January 15 – June 30)

Purchase one Explorer 2WD SUV for SAVAHCs (Tucson) [Feb 2026] \$ 39,936.00

Purchase one Explorer 4WD SUV for NAVAHCs (Prescott) [Feb 2026] \$ 41,688.00

One of the cost factors in running the transportation network at our three VA hospitals is that the vehicles currently in service are multi-passenger Transit vans. While these are good for transporting multiple patients, such as in the local areas around the hospital, they are not as suitable—or efficient—for transporting one or two patients. With the number of patients living in rural areas and needing transportation as a relatively high percentage of our population, the TC/HSCs have requested Explorers as a more suitable solution for those more remote patients. This is especially true with the NAVAHCs (Prescott) VTN because of the inclement weather that occurs during the winter months and a 4WD Explorer adds a measure of safety for both drivers and passengers.

Handicap electronic door buttons for Chapter 8 building [Feb 2026] \$ 10,000.00

Last year, the front door to the Chapter 8 building was replaced with a commercial, wider door and a small ADA-compliant ramp to make the building more handicapped-accessible. At the time, there was no funding available to have electronic push-button door opening apparatus installed on both sides of the door because of the distance of the building electrical junction box from the entrance. The chapter does not have high-stakes fundraisers, and the building is solely a service center, but the chapter serves over 300 claimants each month on average, many of them with significant mobility issues. They have had a number of Veterans nearly fall because of trying to open the door while managing a walker or cane. Department is assisting the chapter by having a contractor install the electronic door apparatus to provide easier—and safer—access for their claimants.

Globe Videoconference Claim Station Project \$ 1,012.00

Currently, Globe is served by Chapter 8 – an hour and fifteen-minute drive from Mesa. Because of the distance, DAV services are currently once every two months. At other times, claimants have to drive to Mesa or the VA Southeast Clinic. The Globe Elks Lodge (our current partner in Globe) has volunteered to provide Internet access for the videoconferencing station free of charge and provide a secure space for our equipment. Linda Merlin, one of Chapter 8's very active members, will manage the site. The following graphic shows the budget breakdown for the project:



Handicapped-capable golf cart for SAVAHCS [Feb 2026] \$ 35,000.00

The Tucson VA (SAVAHCS) requested assistance from Department of Arizona to acquire handicapped-capable golf carts—golf carts with wheelchair lifts—for patient transport on the SAVAHCS Campus.

Navajo Reservation Videoconference Claim Service [Feb-Mar 2026] \$ 6,445.00

Department was contacted on December 23, 2025, by Saraphine Josley, President of the All-Navajo Veterans Auxiliary. She indicated that the community and the surrounding area desired services to assist Veterans with VA issues. There are no current DAV Chapters within reasonable traveling distance to provide in-person services to Chinle, a community in the Navajo Nation with a single state highway for access, located 300+ miles NE of Phoenix. Chinle has limited resources (poor cell service, limited startup funding available, no Internet at the proposed location) but has developed a Veterans Resource Center building where services may take place and has available [and willing] volunteers. The following graphic shows the budget breakdown for the project:

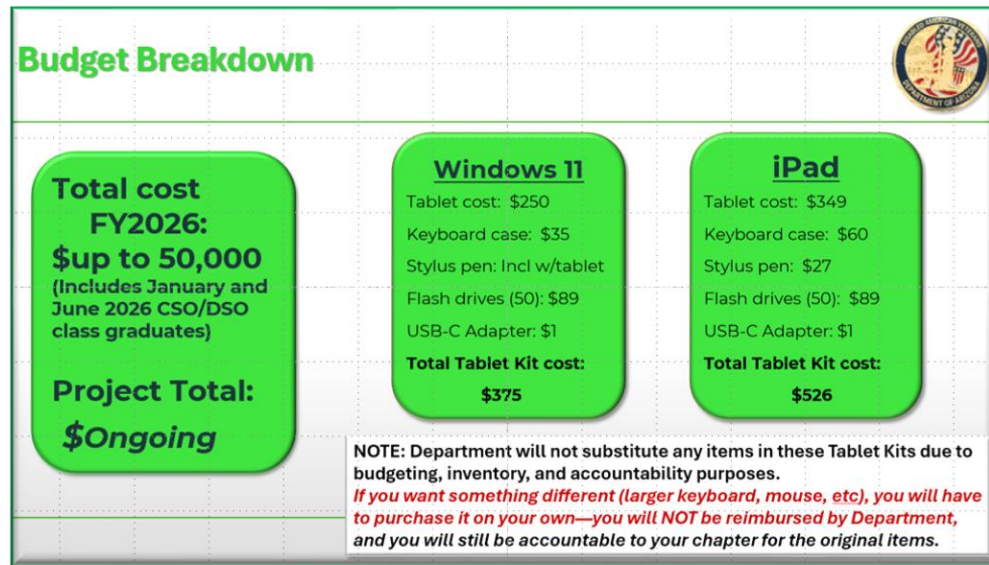


Windows 11 and iPad tablet kits for CSO mobile services [Feb-Mar 2026] \$ 50,000.00

Currently, we have limited capability to do claims electronically for our housebound, hospitalized, hospice care, or transportation-challenged claimants. Using tablet technology allows easy outreach to and serving those Veterans, their families, and their survivors. As DAV National Commander Coleman Nee emphasized during his visit to Arizona last month, the most important resource that we have to fulfill DAV's mission is the grassroots efforts of our Chapters, their Service Officers, and their volunteers. Our mission, simply stated, is empowering Veterans, their families, their caregivers, and their survivors to live high-quality lives with respect and dignity. To this end, Commander Nee also expressed the need for us to all get out of the Chapter House and into the community—to seek out and meet our Veterans where they are, not only serve those who walk through the Chapter House doors.

Department has launched an initiative to assist Chapters in fulfilling that admonition by the National Commander. We have developed a program to provide "Tablet Kits" to each CSO/DSO in our chapters who would use them for doing claims work, especially that work outside the Chapter House. The only thing not included in the kits is the Internet, although many people can use their cellular phone as a hotspot or can use guest accounts at various locations. The kits are provided with two options—one option for those more comfortable using Window-based computers, and one option for those more comfortable with Mac/iPad use. Let me be clear up front: There is NO COST to the Chapter for these kits! They are being provided by Department as part of a larger project over the next two years. The following graphic shows the budget breakdown for the project:

DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA SPEND DOWN PLAN: 01/15/2026 – 01/14/2028



Chapter initiatives expanding service to area Veterans

\$ 50,000.00

After National Commander Nee's visit to Arizona in December, chapters are developing initiatives to expand their outreach and service to the Veteran communities in their areas of operation. These projects will be submitted to the Department Adjutant for consolidation prior to review by the Finance Committee. A standardized form will be required that designates responsible chapter officer(s), estimated costs, project collaborators (such as Home Depot, for example), and estimated project schedule and milestones.

Donations in-kind to support the new AZ Veterans Resource Center

\$ 15,000.00

In January of this year, the new Arizona Veterans Resource Center, built from the ashes of the old Azura Veterans Coalition and the old Mesa Veterans Resource Center, opened its doors at a new facility in Mesa. Unfortunately, the doors are open for building out the inside of the cavernous space to provide segmentation of the space by building walls and bringing in essential furnishings. The center currently only operates a phone response line and the weekly podcast episode production and is not yet ready to welcome regular Veteran traffic.

Department of Arizona plans to assist in the finishing of the center build out with up to \$15,000 of supplies which we will order and donate, as well as bringing in manpower from local chapters to assist in the work. We are awaiting a list of necessary build-out supplies needed so that the East Valley will again have a vital Veteran resource available. Their organizational and operating model is being adopted by other cities in Arizona and neighboring states.

TOTAL OUTLAY FOR FY 2026: \$249,081.00

DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA SPEND DOWN PLAN: 01/15/2026 – 01/14/2028

FY 2027 (July 01 – December 31)

National Disaster Relief Program [Aug 2026 at National Convention] \$ 25,000.00

The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) National Disaster Relief Program offers emergency financial aid, comfort kits (hygiene, blankets, food), and support to veterans, service members, and their families affected by natural disasters, helping with essentials like shelter, food, and immediate necessities through grants and supplies, administered by DAV's National Service Officers. They provide direct financial help for temporary housing, lost items, or home repairs, alongside physical kits to address immediate needs like toiletries and warmth.

National Disabled Veterans Golf Clinic [Aug 2026 at National Convention] \$ 25,000.00

The Mission of the National Disabled Veterans Golf Clinic is to provide an adaptive golf and rehabilitation program for Veterans with a qualifying disability. Provision of this program serves to engage and invigorate Veterans to directly improve 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.

National Caregiver Support Program [Aug 2026 at National Convention] \$ 25,000.00

The DAV (Disabled American Veterans) Caregivers Support Program is a free service offering personalized support, resources, and one-on-one help for family caregivers and veterans who care for others, aiming to reduce burnout and improve well-being through trained specialists, risk screening, and tailored plans, distinct from but complementary to VA programs, with services accessible at davcaregivers.org, including online resources and risk screening to better understand their role as a caregiver, digital tools to support their caregiving responsibilities, and personalized care plans and one-on-one support from a trained caregiver specialist with experience supporting veterans and their loved ones.

DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA SPEND DOWN PLAN: 01/15/2026 – 01/14/2028

Hualapai Reservation Videoconference Claim Service [Sep 2026]

\$ 5,395.00

There are no current DAV Chapters within reasonable traveling distance to provide in-person services to the tribal center in Peach Springs. The Hualapai Reservation, with the tribal center located in Peach Springs, has a single state highway for access, and is about 2 hours NE of Lake Havasu City. Peach Springs has limited resources (poor cell service, limited startup funding available, no reliable Internet).

Department of Arizona will collaborate with Lake Havasu City Chapter 27 to coordinate and establish a presence in Peach Springs. Since Department is in a “spend-down” situation, this provides a project that uses excess revenue to provide free services to Native American Veterans. Initial work will consist of transporting and setting up technology tools at the Peach Springs site, with the manager of the tribal center signing for receipt of equipment. Department and Chapter 27 project managers will instruct the Peach Springs manager on setting up videoconferencing between Veteran clients and CSO/DSOs. Department project manager will develop a schedule for videoconference CSO/DSO services with the tribal center manager. A CSO/DSO from a Northern District Chapter will visit the Peach Springs Tribal Center on an ongoing quarterly basis. The following graphic shows the budget breakdown for the project:



Handicapped-capable golf cart for VA Hospital or Veterans Home [Sep 2026] \$ 35,000.00

The Tucson VA (SAVAHCS) requested assistance from Department of Arizona to acquire handicapped-capable golf carts—golf carts with wheelchair lifts—for patient transport on the SAVAHC Campus. Provided that the initial cart meets use requirements and doesn't just sit and collect dust.

DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA SPEND DOWN PLAN: 01/15/2026 – 01/14/2028

Conduct Veterans Resource Fair in Mesa, AZ [Oct 2026]

\$ 15,000.00

Mesa and the immediate area have not had a comprehensive Veterans Resource Fair in many years. DAV Department of Arizona, Chapter 8 in Mesa, and Chapter 1 in Phoenix plan to resolve that problem. The Veterans Resource Fair will offer hands-on support with VA benefits, employment (AZ DES), health (screenings, mental health, dental by local providers), housing resources and contacts, shower trailer(s), and immediate needs (food, hygiene kits, haircuts).

Opportunities for connecting with local DAV Service Officers and members and community groups are designed to provide holistic support and immediate resources for Veterans and their families. Key activity areas will include:

- VA Representatives will provide services for VA enrollment, healthcare eligibility, VA.gov assistance, and Connect Care.*
- DAV CSOs from Chapter 8 and Chapter 1 will provide services for disability claims, dependent enrollment, burial reimbursement, Survivor Pension & DIC, and Veteran's Pension.*
- Employment: Veteran-friendly employers, job searching, resume help, career path exploration, and training opportunities.*
- Health & Wellness: Physical exams, vaccinations, mental health support, suicide prevention training, vision/dental, and telehealth.*
- Immediate Needs: Free haircuts, hygiene kits, food, clothing, transportation assistance, and pet care.*
- Community & Recreation: Support from local Veteran, community, and faith-based organizations to support camaraderie-building and overall wellness for Veterans.*
- Specialized Support: Assistance for women veterans, legal aid, and help with VA records/medal replacements.*

TOTAL OUTLAY FOR FIRST HALF FY 2027: \$127,905.00

DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA SPEND DOWN PLAN: 01/15/2026 – 01/14/2028**FY 2027 (January 01 – June 30)**

Vehicle for PVAHCS (1 RWD Explorer) [Feb 2027]	\$ 39,936.00
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The current vehicle cost is \$39,936.00 through the CST process. The request will be made in October 2026 for a spring 2027 delivery.

Vehicle for SAVAHCS (1 RWD Explorer) [Feb 2027]	\$ 39,936.00
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The current vehicle cost is \$39,936.00 through the CST process. The request will be made in October 2026 for a spring 2027 delivery.

Vehicle for NAVAHCS—Lake Havasu City (1 4WD Explorer) [Feb 2027] \$ 41,688.00

The current vehicle cost is \$41,688.00 through the CST process. The requests will be made in October 2026 for a spring 2027 delivery.

Tohono O'odham Nation Videoconference Claim Service [Feb-Mar 2027]	\$ 6,345.00
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There are no current DAV Chapters within reasonable traveling distance to provide in-person services to the Tohono O’odham Nation. Although Chapter 4 is technically the closest chapter (60 mi) to the Tohono O’odham tribal offices in Sell, AZ, the Tohono O’odham Nation falls within the service area of Chapter 38 (72 mi) and an hour and a half drive from Sahuarita. Sells, AZ, the tribal center of the Tohono O’odham Nation, has a single state highway for access and a roundabout route to get there. Sells has limited resources (spotty cell service and no Internet at the proposed location) but has opportunities to partner with Nation facilities for security and claimant access hours.

Department of Arizona will collaborate with Sahuarita Chapter 38 to coordinate and establish a presence in Sells. Since Department is in a “spend-down” situation, this provides a project that uses excess revenue to provide free services to Native American Veterans. Initial work will consist of transporting and setting up technology tools at the Sells site, with a local manager signing for receipt of equipment. Department and Chapter 38 project managers will instruct the Sells manager [and volunteers] on setting up videoconferencing between Veteran clients and CSO/DSOs. Department project manager will develop a schedule for videoconference CSO/DSO services with the local manager. A CSO/DSO from a Southern District Chapter will visit the Sells Veterans Center on an ongoing quarterly basis.

The following graphic shows the budget breakdown for the project:



TOTAL OUTLAY FOR SECOND HALF FY 2027

\$129,330.00

FY 2028 (July 01 – December 31)

San Carlos Apache Reservation Videoconference Claim Svc [Jul-Aug 2027] \$ 3,575.00

There are no current DAV Chapters within reasonable traveling distance to provide in-person services to the tribal center in Peridot. The area is currently served by Chapter 8 (Mesa), Chapter 26 (Benson) and Department. The San Carlos Apache Reservation, with the tribal center located in Peridot, has a single state highway for access, and is over 2½ hours east of Phoenix. Peridot has available resources (cell service, Internet) and remote claims location may be in the PFC Michael A. Noline Community Center.

Department of Arizona will collaborate with Chapter 8 and the members in Globe, AZ, to establish the remote claims station in Peridot, along with representatives of the San Carlos Apache Community. Since Department is in a “spend-down” situation, this provides a project that uses excess revenue to provide free services to Native American Veterans. Initial work will consist of transporting and setting up technology tools at the Peridot site, with the manager of the community center signing for receipt of equipment. Department and Chapter 8 project managers will instruct the Peridot manager on setting up videoconferencing between Veteran clients and CSO/DSOs. Department project manager will develop a schedule for videoconference CSO/DSO services with the community center manager. A CSO/DSO from a Northern District Chapter will visit the Michael A. Noline Community Center in Peridot on an ongoing quarterly basis. The following graphic shows the budget breakdown for the project:



DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA SPEND DOWN PLAN: 01/15/2026 – 01/14/2028

National Disaster Relief Program [Aug 2027]

\$ 25,000.00

The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) National Disaster Relief Program offers emergency financial aid, comfort kits (hygiene, blankets, food), and support to veterans, service members, and their families affected by natural disasters, helping with essentials like shelter, food, and immediate necessities through grants and supplies, administered by DAV's National Service Officers. They provide direct financial help for temporary housing, lost items, or home repairs, alongside physical kits to address immediate needs like toiletries and warmth.

National Caregiver Support Program [Aug 2027]

\$ 25,000.00

The DAV (Disabled American Veterans) Caregivers Support Program is a free service offering personalized support, resources, and one-on-one help for family caregivers and veterans who care for others, aiming to reduce burnout and improve well-being through trained specialists, risk screening, and tailored plans, distinct from but complementary to VA programs, with services accessible at davcaregivers.org, including online resources and risk screening to better understand their role as a caregiver, digital tools to support their caregiving responsibilities, and personalized care plans and one-on-one support from a trained caregiver specialist with experience supporting veterans and their loved ones.

Fort Apache Reservation Videoconference Claim Service [Aug-Sep 2027]

\$ 3,575.00

There are no current DAV Chapters within reasonable traveling distance to provide in-person services to the tribal center in Whiteriver. The area is currently served by Department and has been historically underserved. The Fort Apache Reservation, with the tribal center located in Whiteriver, has a single state highway for access, and is 4 hours east of Phoenix and nearly 2 hours from the future Globe Chapter. Whiteriver has available resources (cell service, Internet) and remote claims location may be in the Tribal Center building or the Whiteriver Indian Health Service complex.

Department of Arizona will collaborate with Fort Apache representatives to establish the remote claims station in Whiteriver. Since Department is in a “spend-down” situation, this provides a project that uses excess revenue to provide free services to Native American Veterans. Initial work will consist of transporting and setting up technology tools at the Whiteriver site, with the manager of the tribal center signing for receipt of equipment. The Department project manager will instruct the Whiteriver manager on setting up videoconferencing between Veteran clients and CSO/DSOs. The Department project manager will develop a schedule for videoconference CSO/DSO services with the tribal center manager. A CSO/DSO from a Northern District Chapter will visit the Fort Apache Tribal Center in Whiteriver on an ongoing quarterly basis. The following graphic shows the budget breakdown for the project:

DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA SPEND DOWN PLAN: 01/15/2026 – 01/14/2028



TOTAL OUTLAY FOR FIRST HALF FY 2028 **\$ 57,150.00**

TOTAL SPEND DOWN REQUIRED: **\$557,844.83**

TOTAL SPEND DOWN PROGRAMMED TO DATE: **\$564,531.00**

REMAINING SPEND DOWN REQUIRED: **\$ - 6,687.17**