



KEEPING OUR PROMISE TO
AMERICA'S VETERANS



2024 Annual Report

Our Mission

We are dedicated to a single purpose: empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity.

We accomplish this by ensuring that veterans and their families can access the full range of benefits available to them; fighting for the interests of America's injured heroes on Capitol Hill; and educating the public about the great sacrifices and needs of veterans transitioning back to civilian life.



Barry A. Jesinoski

National Adjutant and Chief Executive Officer

B. Cody VanBoxel

National Headquarters Executive Director
and Chief Financial Officer

Edward R. Reese Jr.

Washington Headquarters Executive Director

Brandon A. Busby

Comptroller

Daniel J. Clare

Chief Communications and Outreach Officer

Rob Lewis

National Communications Director

Nonprofit Status

DAV (Disabled American Veterans) is a tax-exempt organization, and contributions made to DAV are tax deductible. DAV is a federally incorporated, nonprofit organization. It was incorporated by an Act of Congress on June 17, 1932. The organization's Congressional Charter can be found at 36 U.S.C. §50301 et seq. DAV is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as tax exempt under 26 U.S.C. §501(c)(4). Contributions are deductible pursuant to 26 U.S.C. §170(c)(3).

82¢

of every dollar spent goes
to DAV program services

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A message from DAV

Dear Friends of DAV,

Through collaboration, innovation and our enduring commitment to America's veterans, DAV continues to provide support, compassion and justice to our nation's heroes.

At DAV, we believe that "thank you for your service" is more than words; it's action. That sense of purpose is reflected in these six words: keeping our promise to America's veterans.

Thanks to the dedication of so many, as well as the generosity of our donors, people across this great nation see our actions and commitment every day. They see it in the numerous ways we help veterans and their families achieve victories, both great and small.

In this annual report, you will learn about the impact of our life-changing services—expert help with disability claims and appeals; employment assistance; our entrepreneurship program; and our latest innovation, DAV Caregivers Support. You'll see how youth across the country are stepping up to volunteer for veterans and how long-standing volunteer activities and programs, including the DAV Transportation Network, continue to make a daily difference in the lives of veterans and their families.

But most importantly, we're proud to share a few stories directly from veterans, their families and volunteers about how DAV makes a positive change in communities nationwide. Their experiences are a testament to promises being kept.

We're honored to be the leading organization in caring for all ill and injured veterans and their families, caregivers and survivors. We hope you are inspired by our 2024 accomplishments that were made possible through the donations of our fellow Americans. Please continue to be our partner in upcoming efforts to address unmet needs for women veterans, support veteran caregivers and advocate for alternative mental health therapies to reduce veteran suicide.

Thank you for all that you do to support veterans and their families. Let's continue the important work and bring more victories to veterans.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barry A. Jesinoski".

Barry A. Jesinoski
National Adjutant and
Chief Executive Officer



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel Contreras".

Daniel Contreras
National Commander



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy G. Espinosa".

Nancy G. Espinosa
Chair, Board of Directors



2024 DAV DISABLED AMERICAN VETERAN OF THE YEAR



Terry Hillard MARINE VETERAN

Terry Hillard enlisted in the Marines in 1964 as a machine gunner and swiftly deployed to Vietnam.

Encountering the enemy was routine, as was witnessing the injury and death of his fellow Marines. After 13 months in combat, Hillard returned home to Chicago, where a new sense of service gripped him.

Shortly after his return, he joined the Chicago Police Department and climbed the ranks. Hillard served as a patrol and undercover police officer and was the city's 58th police superintendent—Chicago's top cop.

The danger of Vietnam reared its head decades later as he was diagnosed with two cancers, each stemming from military toxic exposures. Since then, he has focused his efforts on connecting military veteran Chicago first responders with DAV service officers. Hillard regularly hosts meetups specifically for police, firefighters and emergency medical workers so they can learn how to gain the benefits they've earned.

"The credibility Terry lends as a combat Marine and police officer helps to connect hundreds of police and firefighters with our expert benefits advocates," said DAV Past National Commander Nancy Espinosa. "Cancer may have been his most recent battle, but his actions of living a life of service make us immensely proud and forever grateful to have him in our ranks."



Connecting veterans to their earned benefits

ACTIONS AND RESULTS

Over

3.1 million

actions to advocate for veterans and their families

More than

\$30.4 billion

in earned benefits

CLAIMS

Over

4,200

benefits advocates nationwide

Over

561,000

new claims filed

Over

284,000

claimants counseled

TRANSITION SERVICES

Over

39,000

transitioning service members assisted

When veterans apply for and receive benefits, DAV's support isn't limited by when or where they served or the type of injury they experienced.

DAV benefits advocates are veterans who've been through the often-bureaucratic claims process. They are available nationwide to help other veterans and their families navigate their benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs. Benefits advocates provide counseling on VA claims and appeals—at no cost—and stay with the veteran through every step of the process.

Disaster relief

When disasters strike, DAV benefits advocates are on the ground to help our nation's veterans and their families.

The DAV Disaster Relief program provides veterans and their families with supply kits and financial aid that helps them obtain necessities such as food, warm clothes and shelter.

Nearly

\$1.5 million

in relief funds distributed

More than

2,200

veterans assisted

DAV Caregivers Support

In October 2023, DAV launched its latest innovation—DAV Caregivers Support. The initiative offers no-cost concierge support and resources to the friends, family members and loved ones who are caregivers for veterans or for veterans who are, themselves, caregivers.

DAV Caregivers Support helps improve the quality of life for care receivers and their caregivers while extending the time those veterans can live in their own homes.

Since its inception, DAV Caregivers Support has helped more than 1,400 caregivers get connected to resources that help improve relationships and reduce stress, depression and other adverse health outcomes.

Information seminars

Information seminars educate veterans and their families on specific veterans benefits and services. These free seminars are held in person or virtually and are conducted by DAV benefits advocates nationwide.

More than

470

information seminars

Over

18,600

attendees



Jennifer Williams NAVY VETERAN

Jennifer Williams had applied for disability benefits for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) related to military sexual trauma and had been denied multiple times. Having silently lived with the trauma for three decades, she was determined to get the validation and benefits she deserved and eventually connected with DAV benefits advocate Don Inns.

"He kept in such great contact with me," Williams said, adding that Inns was proactive, often checking on the status of her claim and updating her. "I wasn't being dismissed anymore."

After years of fighting, DAV helped Williams get her PTSD service-connected. She now has access to the necessary benefits she earned through her service.

Creating meaningful career opportunities

DAV EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

★ 10th year ★

DAV hosted

110 events

with

39,782 attendees

resulting in more than

13,059 job offers

Many service members don't know what lies ahead as they transition to civilian life. Often, transition means finding a new purpose through a meaningful career or entrepreneurship.

Since 2014, helping veterans find more than just a job

For over a decade, DAV's employment program has connected transitioning active-duty service members, Guard and Reserve members, veterans, and their spouses with employers looking to provide meaningful career opportunities.

Strength through self-employment

In 2024, DAV Patriot Boot Camp hosted three in-person training cohorts and provided monthly training and resources to empower participants to succeed. This program complements DAV's ongoing efforts to support and advocate on behalf of Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses.



Julie Sargent ARMY VETERAN

Julie Sargent is the co-founder and CEO of Cardinal Medical Solutions, which provides on-site medical care for first responders and support personnel during wildland fires and other disaster incidents across the country.

"[At DAV Patriot Boot Camp], I was given some interesting perspectives on how to approach some of the government contracting and also kind of what that looks like, as far as getting into that particular field, because that's a lot of what we do; we work directly with the Forest Service and other government agencies in order to provide them support. And I just really appreciated having that mentorship and guidance to get us where we needed to be."



Yusuf Henriques ARMY VETERAN

Yusuf Henriques, a former combat medic, is the founder and CEO of IndyGeneUS AI, a genomics company working to close the health equity gap by increasing representation of women and people of color in clinical trials.

He credits his military service with shaping his leadership. "As a combat medic, I often had to make life-and-death decisions quickly. That shaped how I assess risk and solve problems today."

Henriques also found valuable guidance through DAV Patriot Boot Camp. "They brought in experts on mergers and acquisitions, something I hadn't even considered yet. But right after the event, I was approached with an M&A offer, and because of DAV, I knew how to evaluate it and make the right decision."



Sam Johnson MARINE VETERAN

Sam Johnson's first job after leaving active duty after 10 years was as a project manager for Duke Energy in North Carolina, a position he landed through one of DAV's first job fairs in 2014. Johnson said it was the perfect post-service opportunity and ultimately opened doors to a fulfilling life as an entrepreneur.

Johnson spent more than three years at Duke Energy before moving on to the next opportunity, which ultimately led him to where he is today—owner of a construction business focused primarily on residential construction and remodeling.

"I had a pretty interesting track from my first corporate job to where I'm at now," he said, "but it wouldn't have been possible without the support that I received from DAV."

Fighting for the rights of veterans

SECOND SESSION OF THE
118TH CONGRESS (2024)

**50 DAV
resolutions**

included in introduced legislation

**14 DAV
resolutions**

included, in whole or in part,
in legislation enacted into law

DAV CAN

Members sent

**626,551
emails**

to their elected officials to
support our advocacy efforts



Stay informed. Follow along with
updates to legislation affecting
veterans and their families by
joining DAV CAN at davcan.org.



At nearly 1 million members strong, DAV steps up, organizes and advocates for the most critical issues veterans and their families face. Coming off the passage of the PACT Act (Public Law 117-168) for veterans exposed to toxins, DAV has worked tirelessly to ensure the law's faithful execution and to expand care and benefits for toxic-exposed veterans who aren't covered by the landmark legislation.

DAV's National Legislative Department takes resolutions, adopted by DAV members at our annual national convention, to Congress to advocate for improved federal laws and regulations as well as policies of the Department of Veterans Affairs and other federal agencies whose programs support our nation's veterans. Several of these recommendations were enacted into laws in 2024, including:

- **Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act (Public Law 118-210):** Will improve the lives of veterans and their caregivers on several fronts. These include enhancing VA health care services and benefits, streamlining the disability claims process, expanding access to job training and employment opportunities, addressing veteran homelessness and strengthening mental health services, and easing burdens for aging and disabled veterans to receive at-home care.
- **Veterans Benefits Improvement Act of 2024 (Public Law 118-196):** Enhances the services and benefits provided by the VA to veterans, their dependents and their survivors. Key provisions in the bill require the publication of all disability benefit questionnaire (DBQ) forms used by the Veterans Health Administration, a VA report on efforts to reimburse veterans for travel expenses related to medical disability examinations, and implementation of an outreach program to provide veterans with contact information for nondepartment providers.
- **Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2024 (Public Law 118-130):** Increases certain VA benefits, including disability compensation, clothing allowances, and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation for surviving spouses and children, to reflect increases in the cost of living. The cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) matches the annual COLA adjustment to Social Security benefits, as determined by the Social Security Administration, and went into effect Dec. 1, 2024.

DAV CAN (Commander's Action Network)

DAV CAN helps our members and supporters stay informed and take action to support federal legislation and policies affecting veterans and their families, caregivers and survivors.

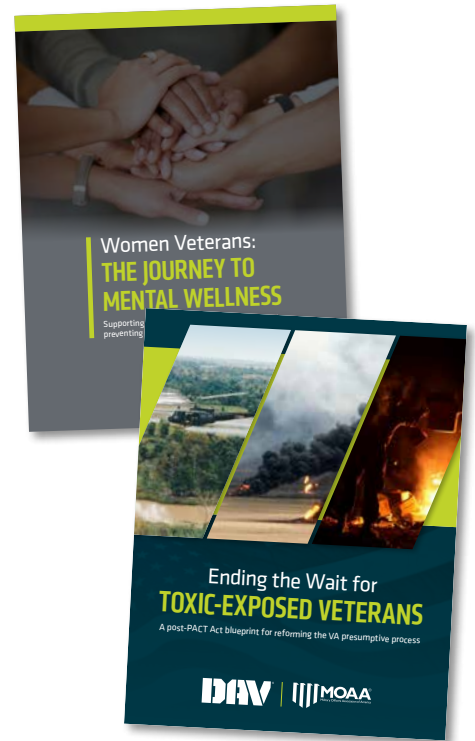
Opposite: (From left) National Commander Nancy Espinosa sits beside National Adjutant Barry Jesinoski, National Headquarters Executive Director B. Cody VanBoxel, National Voluntary Services Director John Kleindienst, National Employment Director Ryan Burgos and Auxiliary National Commander AnneMarie Hurley before Espinosa's congressional testimony at the DAV 2024 Mid-Winter Conference.

Landmark reports

In 2024, DAV released its third landmark report focusing on women veterans. *Women Veterans: The Journey to Mental Wellness* is a comprehensive assessment of the unique factors contributing to the alarming rate of suicide among women veterans. It details how the system charged with their mental health care can and must do better. Using the latest in research and data, combined with a thorough review of the VA's available services, this in-depth report reveals that too many women veterans are at risk of falling through the cracks due to gaps in lifesaving mental health care.

Also in 2024, DAV teamed up with the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) to produce a groundbreaking report, *Ending the Wait for Toxic-Exposed Veterans*, which reveals that on average, toxic-exposed veterans—many of them suffering life-threatening diseases—have to wait 34.1 years to receive access to the full range of health care and benefits they earned and urgently need. Tragically, some die before that ever happens.

In the report, DAV and MOAA offer a blueprint for dramatically reforming how our government handles service-related toxic exposures in a way that ensures timely, equitable access to lifesaving care and benefits. The mission is simple: ending the wait and keeping our sacred promise to America's veterans.



A beacon of hope

DAV TRANSPORTATION NETWORK

More than

3.5 million

volunteer hours in VA facilities and communities

More than

235,000 rides

to access health care

Over

9.3 million miles

helping veterans access the care they earned

DAV SCHOLARSHIPS

10

scholarships totaling

\$110,000

Top award:

\$30,000

Thousands of dedicated DAV volunteers enhance our mission of helping veterans in their communities. Our volunteers help with various activities, such as assisting with Department of Veterans Affairs disability claims, caring for veterans experiencing homelessness, running food drives, helping at local VA facilities, transporting veterans to their medical appointments or participating in countless other opportunities. Volunteers continue to be the heart and soul of DAV and beacons of hope for those who need it the most.

DAV Transportation Network

Teresa Grimsley-Reichert, a retired Air Force veteran, said she feels a sense of camaraderie as a volunteer for the DAV Transportation Network, a nationwide program that provides free rides to veterans traveling to and from VA medical appointments.

Honoring the next generation of service

DAV honors volunteers who demonstrate outstanding dedication and service to America's veterans each year. DAV offers college scholarships for volunteers age 21 or younger who have contributed a minimum of 100 volunteer hours credited through DAV or the Auxiliary.

Amelia Marcum, 21, is a 2021 graduate of Regis Jesuit High School in Aurora, Colorado, and attends Stanford University in California. As a direct descendant of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians in North Dakota, she developed and wrote a Native American veterans resource guide that's used by the five tribal veterans resource service centers in North Dakota. She worked closely with a Vietnam veteran and state senator to bring the guide to fruition.

DAV Community Impact Day

On April 6, 2024, more than 650 DAV volunteers around the country went into their towns and neighborhoods to help veterans in need and to raise awareness of veterans' issues during the inaugural DAV Community Impact Day. Service projects included a yard and garden cleanup in St. Paul, Minnesota; a food drive in Bluff City, Tennessee; and visits to veterans in senior care facilities in the Orlando, Florida, area, just to name a few.

"DAV takes immense pride in being a service-focused organization," said DAV CEO Barry Jesinoski. "DAV Community Impact Day is a great opportunity to demonstrate that, when we combine our efforts, we can do big things together that touch the lives of veterans in meaningful ways."

Opposite, middle left: DAV volunteers around the St. Paul, Minnesota, region helped Hazel Lewis, the spouse of a disabled veteran, by doing yard work and fixing exterior railings around the Lewis' home. **Bottom left:** Members of Chapter 39 in Bluff City, Tennessee, collected 1,054 pounds of food donations at area supermarkets for the chapter's food pantry. **Bottom right:** Members of Chapter 16 in Orlando, Florida including Army veteran Reginia Johnson, visited veterans at senior living facilities in the area.

Teresa Grimsley-Reichert
RETIRED AIR FORCE VETERAN

"It's so heartwarming for me to know I'm helping and doing it as a volunteer. Even if you were not in the military, everyone that you're bringing down [to VA hospitals] has put their life on the line for us. We all owe a debt of gratitude for what they were willing to do. I have not driven one veteran down who hasn't commented on how grateful they are for this service."



Amelia Marcum

Marcum was named the top 2024 DAV Scholarship winner, receiving a \$30,000 award to go toward college expenses.

"Volunteering to serve the veteran community has been immensely transformative for me," said Marcum. "I discovered a profound sense of purpose in elevating support systems for Native veterans, a community that serves at the highest rates among ethnic groups yet often faces significant challenges in accessing the benefits they rightfully deserve."



Raising awareness and sharing the message

VICTORIES FOR VETERANS PSA CAMPAIGN

10.7 billion
media impressions equated
to a donated media value of
\$81 million

DAV.ORG

More than

6 million
visits

SOCIAL MEDIA IMPRESSIONS

More than

85 million
across Facebook, X, Instagram,
LinkedIn and YouTube



To download our PSAs for
print and digital, scan the
code or visit davpsa.org.



DAV spreads the message of hope and recovery everywhere. Athletes, celebrities, veterans, their families, their survivors and everyday Americans want to tell the world that they support DAV's mission to keep our promise to our nation's veterans.

Victories for Veterans

In 2024, DAV continued to raise national awareness about veterans issues through its Victories for Veterans public service announcements (PSA). Our integrated public awareness campaign—which includes TV, radio, print ads and out-of-home components—presents the stories of real veterans who, with the help of DAV, have overcome various challenges and achieved personal victories, great and small, for themselves and their families.

The program educates Americans on the incredible stories, bravery, sacrifices and perseverance of those who served and makes veterans, their families and their survivors aware of the organization.



DAV Magazine

DAV Magazine, which acts as the official voice of DAV and its Auxiliary, is distributed every other month to nearly 1 million members, all members of Congress and all Department of Veterans Affairs facilities in the country.



Allies in action

DAV partners with organizations that believe in our mission to provide services at no cost to veterans and their families. DAV receives no federal funding as a fully tax-deductible charity, making partnerships even more vital. We're incredibly grateful for those standing alongside us in this critical endeavor.

Our corporate partners raised over

\$5.4 million

for DAV programs and services



"USAA's mission is to empower our members to achieve financial security through highly competitive products, exceptional service and trusted advice," said retired Army Col. Gino Montagno, lead marketing manager for USAA. "Our strong relationship with DAV reflects USAA's commitment to help members, veterans and their families get the skills and resources they need to navigate life's challenges and aligns with DAV's mission to help veterans lead high-quality lives."



Throughout the month of November, guests visiting EG America's stores were encouraged to donate \$1, \$5 or an amount of their choosing to DAV. EG America also matched some of the donations and raised \$800,000 in November 2024 for DAV. "We are proud to partner with DAV and continue our support of the tremendous work the organization does for our nation's veterans," said Russ Colaco, CEO, EG Group.



Rallying support for veterans and their families

DAV 5K

Over

\$563,000

raised to help us keep our promise
to America's veterans

DAV FIELD OF FLAGS

307

schools, businesses and individual
participants raised over

\$215,000

for DAV programs and services



To learn more ways you can honor
and give back to veterans, scan
the code or visit

dav.org/ways-to-give.



DAV 5K

In November 2024, DAV hosted the 12th annual DAV 5K, presented by USAA, in Cincinnati. Event participants are encouraged to walk, roll, run or ride to honor our nation's veterans and raise awareness of the issues our ill and injured veterans face every day. Participants join in person in Cincinnati or virtually from wherever they choose.

DAV offers special thanks to all our corporate sponsors, individual donors and participants who made this event a tremendous success.

Presenting sponsor:



DAV Field of Flags campaign

With our community's support, we're able to help more than 1 million veterans every year access the health care, disability, employment, education and financial benefits they have rightfully earned.

The charitable contributions of our donors ensure that DAV is ready when someone who sacrificed so much for our country reaches out to us for assistance.

In 2024, DAV expanded the Field of Flags program to empower schools, organizations and individual participants to set up fields of American flags, all to honor local veterans and raise critical funds to support our ill and injured heroes.

Each flag in the Field of Flags is a tribute to a different hero. Behind each flag is a unique story representing courage, freedom and sacrifice.





2024 financials

Support and Revenue

Support:

Contributions, primarily direct mail solicitations and bequests	144,054,118
National per capita dues	3,944,180
Contributed services and facilities, primarily services	46,239,881
Contributed media and materials	80,836,783

Total support **\$275,074,962**

Revenue:

Interest and dividends	15,195,743
List royalties	495,767
Miscellaneous revenue	486,384

Total revenue **\$ 16,177,894**

Realized investment gains 11,265,791

TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE **\$302,518,647**

Expenses

Program services:

Service program	43,142,922
Employment program	2,530,580
Entrepreneurial services	614,754
Caregiver support	119,738
Legislative program	2,745,369
Voluntary services program	47,923,812
State services and disaster relief	6,719,208
Communications program	10,139,086
Public service announcement program (PSA), primarily contributed media	82,303,541
Membership program	8,860,666
Public awareness outreach	25,527,758

Total program services **\$230,627,434**

Supporting services:

Fundraising costs	39,850,211
Administrative and general	9,925,385

Total supporting services **49,775,596**

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$280,403,030**

Excess of support and revenue over expenses **22,115,617**

Change in unrealized appreciation of investments 28,334,454

Excess of expenses and change in unrealized appreciation of investments over support and revenue **50,450,071**

Other changes in net assets 5,822,650

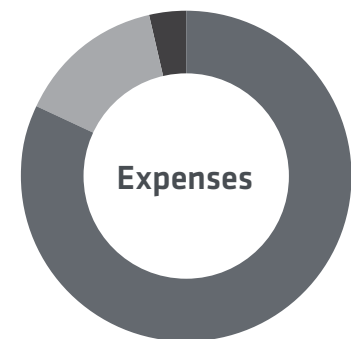
Change in total net assets **56,272,721**

NET ASSETS, beginning of year **\$474,445,393**

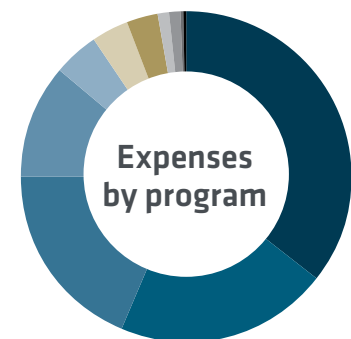
NET ASSETS, end of year **\$530,718,114**



- 47.6% Contributions, primarily from direct mail solicitations and bequests
- 26.7% Contributed media and materials
- 15.3% Contributed services and facilities, primarily services
- 5.0% Interest and dividends
- 3.7% Realized investment gains
- 1.3% National per capita dues
- 0.2% List royalties
- 0.2% Miscellaneous revenue



- 82.2% Total program services
- 14.3% Fundraising costs
- 3.5% Administrative and general



- 35.6% Public service announcement program
- 20.8% Voluntary services program
- 18.7% Service program
- 11.1% Public awareness outreach
- 4.4% Communications program
- 3.8% Membership program
- 2.9% State services and disaster relief
- 1.2% Legislative program
- 1.1% Employment program
- 0.3% Entrepreneurial services
- 0.1% Caregiver support

Complete financial statements have been audited and received an unqualified opinion. Copies of the statements are available from our national headquarters upon request.

Board of Directors

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Utah

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Massachusetts

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Jerry D. Estes
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District 18
Don Brown
Hawaii

District 19
Brigitte G. Marker
Washington

District 20
Paul Shook
Texas

District 21
Vacant

DAV Structure

DAV continues to be the country's premier organization supporting veterans in the country, thanks entirely to the devotion of our members, volunteers, supporters and staff. The strength and dedication of our membership is unrivaled and integral in continuing to ensure veterans and their families are able to live fulfilling lives with respect and dignity.

DAV's professional staff oversees all of the organization's national programs—which serve veterans throughout the United States and its territories—under the leadership of CEO and National Adjutant Barry Jesinoski, who also serves as secretary for the DAV board of directors.

The seven-member, uncompensated volunteer board approves the annual budget and is responsible for the management and investment of DAV's assets. The directors are all DAV members, except the national adjutant, who is a DAV employee.

DAV's national commander—elected at each national convention—serves as the organization's official representative and chairs the National Executive Committee, which includes five vice commanders and 21 district representatives. These annually elected positions are filled by DAV members.

DAV's business structure is designed to provide our membership with the majority of control and to consistently evaluate program proficiency. Our mission of service to wounded, ill and injured veterans and their families depends on the dedication and commitment of our membership.

The members of DAV's 52 departments and more than 1,200 chapters across the nation provide additional local support to the service programs of the national organization. They also provide the essential framework for our membership activities.



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This report is available online at
dav.org/about-dav/annual-report.

