



# **Veterans serving veterans** **THE COLUMBIA TRUST**

The Columbia Trust is administered by



**National Service Foundation**



The Columbia Trust is about creative generosity and providing the means to help others. It targets our funds to where the need is greatest—to support the services DAV chapters and departments provide for ill and injured veterans and their families.

The Trust allows us to share who we are and what we do. It enables us to both give and receive. It provides the means to accomplish our mission of empowering veterans to live high-quality and fulfilled lives with respect and dignity.

## **Veterans serving veterans**

The Trust is led by ill and injured veterans who focus on carefully managing resources to fund new and unique programs for fellow ill and injured veterans and their families nationwide.

## **Extending hope**

Beyond supporting innovative service programs, the Trust helps maintain the hallmark services that improve quality of life for all veterans. Often, it is the driving force behind chapter and department service initiatives.

## **Extending care**

The Trust supplements the DAV Transportation Network, which helps sick and injured veterans get to and from Department of Veterans Affairs medical appointments. The Trust also augments the hospital service coordinators and department and chapter service officer programs, which support volunteerism in VA facilities nationwide.



## How the Trust works

Within the DAV National Service Foundation, the Trust exists as a “restricted fund.” Regional chapters and state-level departments contribute to the Trust from funds that are obligated to be spent for service.

The use of Trust funds is limited to the purpose for which they were collected—service to veterans and their families at the local level. No other use is permissible.

Chapter and department leaders are encouraged to identify unmet needs and develop creative projects to serve veterans in their communities. When funds from the Trust are necessary to initiate or maintain programs, chapters and departments are encouraged to apply for grants.

Grant-seeking chapters and departments must submit an application, which can be accessed online at **[nsf.dav.org/columbia-trust](https://nsf.dav.org/columbia-trust)**.

Grant applications are accepted during a time period identified annually in a memo distributed by DAV National Service Foundation’s president. Each chapter or department applying for financial assistance must have its annual financial report from the prior membership year approved by DAV National Headquarters before requesting a grant.

The administrator of the DAV National Service Foundation reviews grant requests and recommends spending funds for specific purposes. The National Service Foundation Board of Directors is the final arbiter of the grant.

Grants are not awarded to chapters and departments that exceed the asset accumulation limitation spelled out in DAV’s National Bylaws. Chapters and departments that show an ongoing ability to meet their proposed service obligations are ineligible.

**[nsf.dav.org/columbia-trust](https://nsf.dav.org/columbia-trust)**

# Help DAV extend hope to veterans nationwide

## Building a legacy through service

Established in 1996 as a special initiative by the Department of Colorado, the Trust has since progressed to a reliable resource ensuring nationwide accessibility to DAV programs and services.

One of the most successful functions of the Trust is its role as a catalyst bridging resources from well-populated departments and chapters of strong solvency to chapters and departments in need.

DAV is a self-help organization of veterans serving veterans. The Trust helps DAV fill in gaps of service that the government isn't able to cover.

## Heroes helping heroes

Chapters and departments that enjoy a surplus of funds can help underserved veterans across the country by channeling excess funds through the Trust. This helps those chapters and departments that need funds to maintain their basic service programs.

### Checks can be made payable to:

The Columbia Trust  
DAV National Service Foundation  
860 Dolwick Drive  
Erlanger, KY 41018

### NATIONAL SERVICE FOUNDATION

860 Dolwick Drive | Erlanger, KY 41018  
859-441-7300 | Toll Free 877-426-2838, option 6

[nsf.dav.org/columbia-trust](https://nsf.dav.org/columbia-trust)