

National Service Foundation



2023 Annual Report

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A Message From the National Service Foundation President

I've been a part of DAV for nearly 50 years. Since I was injured in combat, DAV has given me both a rewarding post-military mission and a passion to serve other veterans as a volunteer. In these roles, I've had the privilege to speak to and help thousands of my brothers- and sisters-in-arms.

Each of their stories is different, but a common thread through them all is DAV was—and continues to be—unfailingly there for them in their time of need. This is directly attributable to the National Service Foundation and its mission of developing financial resources to assist, aid, maintain, care for, support and rehabilitate sick and injured veterans and their families.

The Foundation, thanks to your generosity, allows DAV to provide robust no-cost services to our nation's veterans. Because of your financial gifts, our benefits advocates have access to the latest training, tools and resources that keep them ahead of their peers. You've ensured DAV Transportation Network coordinators and vehicles are in place to provide veterans rides to their Department of Veterans Affairs medical appointments. Your help has funded DAV department and chapter community service projects that benefit veterans.

Through faithful stewardship of your continued support, the Foundation is poised to remain a wellspring of support to DAV for generations to come.

It would be easy for many of us to dwell on or be consumed by the reminders of our time in service: the scars, the lingering pain, the mental tolls of war. Truth be told, that could've easily been me after my time in Vietnam. But those of us who have found DAV found a community of veterans willing to take care of their fellow veterans by any means necessary.

I saw that commitment on a personal level when I joined DAV in 1975. I saw it in the lives of veterans I helped throughout the 40-plus years I represented them as a benefits advocate. And I saw it on a grand scale when I had the honor of serving as DAV's national commander.

Stepping into my new role as the Foundation's president, I bring with me nearly a half-century of gratitude to you, our faithful donors. DAV wouldn't be the organization it is without you, but more importantly, millions of veterans—myself included—wouldn't be who we are today without your investment in our lives.

Thank you for your continued loyalty and support. You are why we can keep our promise to our nation's veterans.



Andrew H. Marshall
President

Statement of Purpose

The DAV National Service Foundation develops financial resources for the assistance, aid, maintenance, care, support and rehabilitation of ill and injured veterans and their families. In doing so, the Foundation offers direct services while also contributing to the established service programs of DAV offices nationwide.

Within these pages, veterans who have served and sacrificed in our armed forces are featured. While many were injured physically, all have carried with them the emotional scars of trauma experienced in the line of duty. In order to help them heal, the Foundation is ensuring it provides them with a lifetime of support.

Veterans Helping Veterans

Since DAV (Disabled American Veterans) was founded in 1920 as an organization of veterans helping veterans, it has served the nation's ill and injured heroes tirelessly and has become the most trusted advocate for this population.

NATIONAL SERVICE FOUNDATION

Incorporated originally in 1931 as the Disabled American Veterans Service Foundation, the DAV National Service Foundation was formally renamed and concurrently reincorporated in 1986. The Foundation's core mission is to support DAV's daily work to meet the most significant and immediate needs of veterans, which includes providing free, professional assistance with disability claims; no-cost transportation to and from medical appointments; assistance finding meaningful employment and navigating earned benefits; and other vital services imperative to enhancing the quality of life of veterans and their families.

Increasing public awareness about DAV's mission to help veterans is an extremely important component of what we do. When we are able to open the hearts and minds of the American people, they better understand the needs of ill and injured veterans and their families, enabling us all to help do our part to ensure they are properly cared for in the long term. It's also essential that veterans understand the services available at no cost to them and their families. Your support of the Foundation allows us to be there whenever our sick and wounded veterans need us.

DAV's commitment to helping our fellow veterans reinforces the common bond of military service shared by all veterans, no matter which conflict or era they served in. We've all faced the challenges of transitioning to civilian life and securing benefits earned through service.

That's why the work DAV does continues to be vital. Polling by the Pew Research Center has shown that nearly half of post-9/11 veterans say they've experienced difficulty transitioning to civilian life after the military.

Veterans should not have to struggle or be on their own after their lives are forever changed in service. DAV is here to provide benefits advocates to expertly guide veterans to a successful transition and set them up for long-term success.

Yet, there are many reasons some veterans never receive the benefits they earned. Many are simply unaware of what is available to them. Some can't apply on their own because their injuries are too severe. In the case of women who've served, studies have shown that many don't recognize themselves as veterans and never even pursue earned benefits. Other veterans may live in rural areas or otherwise lack transportation to meet with a claims specialist.

In every case, DAV stands ready to help, as it has a long history of advocating for veterans to get the care and benefits they have earned. As veterans themselves, DAV benefits advocates not only have firsthand experience with the claims process but also spend a year in specialized, on-the-job training. They continue receiving training and education throughout their careers to keep them at the leading edge of their field.

In 2023, DAV submitted more than 209,000 new claims for over 611,000 specific injuries and illnesses on behalf of veterans. DAV's service program took over 2.8 million actions to advocate for veterans and their families, such as representing claimants in hearings and appeals for benefits, reviewing and developing records, providing professional advice and responding to inquiries, and establishing new claims for earned benefits.



CLAIMS

More than

209,000 new claims filed for

over

611,000

specific injuries and illnesses on behalf of veterans

SERVICE PROGRAM

Over

2.8 million

actions to advocate for benefits for veterans and their families

Program Services Overview

TRANSPORTATION NETWORK



245,000+ rides 575,369 hours 9.2+ million miles

Since 1987, drivers have traveled over

752 million miles transporting more than

19.9 million veterans

THE COLUMBIA TRUST

The National Service Foundation's Columbia Trust is a restricted fund that provides direct support to help veterans and their families at the state and local levels. Through the Trust, funds support DAV departments and chapters that lack the financial resources needed to implement and maintain critical service projects for veterans and their families. Initiatives supported by the Trust are evaluated extensively to ensure service projects exhibit a compelling need and funds are used in the most efficient way possible.

Grants awarded from the Trust focus on four areas of service: transportation for veterans to and from Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities; hospital service coordination; department or chapter service officer programs, including service school expenses; and assistance for initiatives combating veteran homelessness. New and unique veteran service initiatives are also encouraged. In 2023, the Trust awarded grants totaling \$1.9 million to chapters and departments.

TRANSPORTATION

In 2023, the Columbia Trust helped chapters and departments purchase 100 new vehicles, which were donated to the VA as part of the DAV Transportation Network program. The Transportation Network allows ill and injured veterans to access lifesaving care at VA medical facilities and is one of the most vital services our organization offers.

DAV, Auxiliary and nonmember volunteers logged over 575,000 hours to keep this program running last year. These individuals drove over 9.2 million miles, providing 245,655 no-cost rides for veterans. Without this service, many veterans would go without the care they need.

HOSPITAL SERVICE COORDINATORS

The Transportation Network would not be able to function without the effort of DAV hospital service coordinators. At 248 VA medical centers around the country, 149 hospital service coordinators match volunteer drivers with transportation requests from veterans, as needed. Thanks to the continued efforts of hospital service coordinators, Transportation Network drivers have traveled over 752 million miles transporting nearly 20 million veterans since the program began in 1987.

STATE AND LOCAL SERVICE OFFICER PROGRAMS

To ensure as many veterans as possible can get assistance with their claims, nearly 240 state-level department service officers and 2,065 chapter service officers support DAV's primary mission of benefits advocacy in their local communities. Working with these volunteers is often the first interaction veterans and their families have with DAV and is instrumental in ensuring veterans are represented in their fight to achieve justice for service-connected disabilities. These claims are forwarded to accredited DAV national service officers for professional development to help ensure veterans and their families receive the benefits they earned.



BENEFIT ADVOCACY

Nearly

240

state-level department service officers and

2,065

chapter service officers support DAV's primary mission of benefits advocacy in their local communities

Navy veteran Dylan Ellis talks with Ken Pitchford, a chapter service officer, about claims assistance. It was Ellis' second time attending a Chapter 102 membership meeting.

Program Services Overview continued



In 2023, **35,574 veterans**experienced homelessness



95% Total program services2% Management and general

3% Fundraising

HOMELESS VETERANS ASSISTANCE

The Foundation helps support programs to end veteran homelessness, an epidemic that has affected far too many of our nation's heroes. During the 2023 national point-in-time count, the Department of Housing and Urban Development estimated that 35,574 veterans experienced homelessness on a single night in January, which is a 7.4% increase over 2022.

Even a single veteran without a home is too many, and DAV is disheartened to learn of this increase. The Foundation supports efforts to bring veterans from the street and into VA facilities, where they are provided a free hot meal, medical and dental care, health screenings, warm clothing and access to benefits information. The VA also recently announced that it permanently housed more than 46,000 veterans in 2023, surpassing its goal of 38,000. Through efforts such as these, the estimated number of veterans experiencing homelessness in the United States has declined by more than 55% since 2010.

THE DAV NATIONAL SERVICE PROGRAM

Throughout 2023, the Foundation disbursed nearly \$4.6 million to assist the national organization in providing vital services to veterans and their families. Mostly, this support aided DAV's National Service Program, which delivers no-cost professional claims service to veterans throughout the nation.

These funds helped DAV benefits advocates receive essential supplies and equipment, including laptops, webcams and headsets; more frequent Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) updates; and a public-facing disability combination tool accessible from DAV's website. Financial resources also helped enhance the online training platform, iTRAK (Interactive Training, Research, Advocacy and Knowledge), which extends the institutional knowledge of our professional corps of advocates nationwide.

Contributors to the DAV National Service Foundation are truly humbling in their compassion and generosity. During 2023, the Foundation's supporters donated roughly \$3.2 million in contributions and bequests.

Veterans can be best honored through wise stewardship of each dollar entrusted to the Foundation. The Foundation clearly demonstrated its unwavering commitment to this model through the more than \$6.5 million, or 95%, of total expenditures that went toward direct program services for veterans and their families last year. Fundraising and administrative costs accounted for just 5% of total expenditures.

Even throughout a continued period of economic uncertainty and a turbulent securities market, prudent investment strategies and fastidious management have continued to guide the Foundation. Because of careful management, the Foundation's investments totaled \$168 million in 2023. At year-end, the Foundation reported approximately \$171.5 million in net assets, which helps to ensure the longevity of services to our nation's heroes.

2023 Financials

NET ASSETS

Change in Net Assets

Net Assets - Beginning of Year

Total Without Donor Restrictions

Total With Donor Restrictions

TOTAL NET ASSETS-End of Year

Net Assets - End of Year

UPPORT AND REVENUE	
upport	
Contributions—Without Donor Restrictions	
Contributions - Donor Purpose Restricted Mission	
Contributions - Donor Purpose Restricted The Columbia Trust	
Bequests	
Total Support	\$3,183,784
evenue	
Interest and Dividends Income—Net	
Gain (Loss) on Sale of Investment Securities	\$4,351,032
Total Revenue	\$8,336,809
OTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	\$11,520,593
XPENSES	
rogram Services	
Grants—The Columbia Trust	
Appropriations—DAV National Service Program and Other Service Programs	\$4,554,814
Total Program Services	
upporting Services	
Management and General	
Fundraising	\$165,522
rundialing	
Total Supporting Services	\$327,218
	\$327,218 \$6,849,288
Total Supporting Services	•

The complete financial statements have been audited and received an unqualified statement A copy of the audited statement is available online at nsf.dav.org/resources.

\$16,914,075

\$154,572,457

\$171,486,532

\$89,910,435

\$81,576,097

\$171,486,532

Recognizing Our Supporters



We recognize your support for veterans!

Donate \$100

or more in a year and be a part of our donor recognition program



It is with sincere appreciation that we recognize donors who have given so generously to support the DAV National Service Foundation. Within these pages, you will view varying levels of exceptional generosity and recognition of donors who achieved special giving thresholds in 2023.

The Foundation extends its heartfelt thanks for all gifts, no matter the amount, as each one plays an important role in the advocacy and rehabilitation of injured veterans across the nation. Our generous supporters are the reason why the Foundation can execute its mission and continue to benefit veterans and their families.

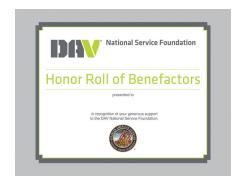
PERPETUAL REHABILITATION FUND

The Foundation's Perpetual Rehabilitation Fund is designed to ensure funds are available to serve America's veterans and their families of today, tomorrow and well into the future.

Many gifts are given to honor DAV national service officers, departments, chapters, Auxiliary units and individual members, and some are made in honor or memory of friends and family. Moreover, some gifts are given as part of living trusts, life insurance policies or other estate plans. As a component of our appreciation, the Foundation has established a program to recognize those who have donated \$100 or more during a given year, and these gifts are reflected annually in the Foundation's Honor Roll of Benefactors.

Honor Roll of Benefactors

The National Service Foundation's Honor Roll of Benefactors was established in 1986 as the Judge John B. McClernan Grand Memorial Honor Roll and The Honor Roll. It recognized DAV department and chapter donors. The program eventually evolved into an all-inclusive donor recognition program and was renamed the Grand Memorial Honor Roll of Distinguished Donors and Honor Roll of Benefactors.



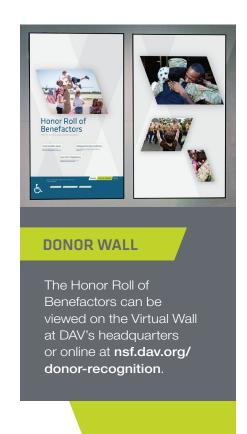
If it weren't for the continued, outstanding support of the individuals and organizations who contribute to the Foundation, veterans and their families simply would not be able to access the same level of unparalleled and vital services needed for progress. Each of these individuals—every veteran and family member—owes thanks to the supporters of this Foundation. The Foundation's Honor Roll of Benefactors is only one small expression of gratitude for these individuals' part in helping to keep the nation's promise to veterans.

Caring for our nation's injured heroes is a progressively challenging task that requires incredible compassion and understanding on a personal level. What follows is a tribute to the individuals and organizations who have answered the call to aid in this meaningful mission. If you know someone who has made an important contribution, do not hesitate to thank that person for the commitment and support. Individuals who are part of a contributing organization—be it a DAV chapter, Auxiliary unit, department or other group—can take pride in knowing that their contributions greatly affected others in a significant way.

The Foundation recognizes donors—both individuals and organizations—based on the generous contributions received annually and, in total, over time. A contribution of \$100 or more in cumulative giving will be recognized in the year in which the donor meets that threshold. This benchmark earns donors a spot on the Honor Roll of Benefactors Virtual Wall, located at nsf.dav.org/donor-recognition.

To those individuals listed, DAV offers its most sincere appreciation. The kindness of the Foundation's benefactors will never get overlooked, as it is their support that has helped to change the lives of countless veterans and their family members. The support enables DAV to provide continual services to those who've served.

On the next few pages, you will see listings for various awards, along with what Honor Roll members have done to achieve those awards. These individuals have years to achieve a given goal and are an example of what others can accomplish. We have made every effort to ensure each listing is accurate. If we have inadvertently made an error or omitted any individual or organization, please accept our sincerest apologies.



Honor Roll of Benefactors continued



DISTINGUISHED DONOR CERTIFICATE

Donors with a lifetime giving total of \$250 to \$999 achieved during a given year will earn the Distinguished Donor Certificate and be recognized on the Honor Roll of Benefactors Virtual Wall.

COMMENDATION AWARD

Donors with a lifetime giving total of \$1,000 to \$4,999 achieved during a given year will earn the National Service Foundation Commendation Award and be recognized on the Honor Roll of Benefactors Virtual Wall and in the printed annual report.



Aldridge Gives Foundation American Legion Post 556 John R. Arena Arthur E. Ashley Sr. Judy Baker Bank Of New Hampshire Glenn Bartholomew **Dorothy Bennett** Robert W. Brooks Harry G. Bryan Norman Z. Burkholder Frank A. Cammarata Dale L. Carrington Susan Carter Cedar Creek Lake Parrot Head Club, Inc.

Richard Clark Margaret Cohen Kenneth A. Davidson Marjorie Deibel Casimir P. Denys Sr. Hasko K. W. Eckel Ilene Fowler Ronald A. Frank Dr. Ned W. Garriques David W. Gorman Henry Hao Tanya Harroff Eugene Haux Margie Hughes John R. Hutchinson Theodore C. Johnson Stevie R. Latham Lisa Lemons Ray Lentz Katherine Lombardo Angel L. Lopez-Rosario Frank Manganiello Eileen M. Manning John Massman Diana Masters Masters Gallery Foods Corporate Office Midway #14, NE John M. Mieszczak Eugene C. Migneault Terry Motsinger

Thomas Chivers

National Sojourners Walter Reed Chapter #303 John H. Nelson New Port Rlichey #78, FL Richard A. Nuesslein John A. O'Connell Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation Regal Rexnord Corporation Charitable Foundation Ronald & Linda Rego Ronald C. Rhone Charles F. Rice Robert E. Coulter, Jr. Post 1941 Herman J. Rodemacher III Jose Rodriguez-Torres Jaime L. Rosario Michael Roth Gerald B. Runnebaum Kenneth B. Russell Roger Russell Michael Samborn Sanvi Charitable Foundation Jerry Schmutte Robert A. Singer Ann R. Smith SNPJ Sunkist Lodge 723 **Textron Aviation** Titusville #109, FL Veterans Of Lake Barrington Shores Gorddon L. Wall Cecil R. Whitlock Why Project

Levels of Exceptional Generosity

GRAND MEMORIAL HONOR ROLL OF DISTINGUISHED DONORS

The following exceptional supporters of the Foundation achieved recognition on the Grand Memorial Honor Roll of Distinguished Donors for total contributions that reached the levels shown below during 2023.

2023 Inductees

Richard Charles
Sidney P. Broussard \$5,000
Christine Broda
Nancy Allen
Department of Alaska
MSgt Kimberly R. Tatham USAF Ret\$6,000
Robert F. Cudworth Sr
LTC Glynn E. Parker Ret
Visions Federal Credit Union
Serving The Spirit Foundation
Dirk & Valerie Doverspike
Annamarie Cossey
Manatee County #18, FL
LTCol Peter L. Tancredi USA (RET)\$10,300
General Washington #7, VA
Gone But Not Forgotten Foundation
Mary J. Mars
Gloria L. Rogers
Edmund Nowakowski
Ethel Connelly
Big D #57, TX\$25,150
Department of Maine
Department of Louisiana\$26,552
Moral Rearmament League
Department of Illinois

BRONZE LEVEL

Donors achieve Bronze Level recognition for cumulative giving at various tiers ranging from \$5,000 to \$499,999. Donors with a lifetime giving total of \$5,000 achieved during a given year will earn a Star Award plaque and be recognized on the Grand Memorial Honor Roll of Distinguished Donors Virtual Wall and in the printed annual report.

Donors can earn bronze stars to add to the plaque as contribution totals increase. Recognition on the virtual wall will also be updated to reflect the most current Bronze Level achievement.

The Foundation is proud to highlight DAV Department of Illinois for meeting a lifetime giving threshold of \$104,140 in 2023, earning its fourth bronze star.

Department of Illinois \$104,140



Donors receive a Bronze Level Star Award plaque upon achieving \$5,000 in cumulative giving. Bronze star updates can be earned for each of the following (cumulative) giving thresholds thereafter:

*	\$10,000
**	\$25,000
***	\$50,000
***	\$100,000
****	\$250,000

Levels of Exceptional Generosity continued

SILVER LEVEL

Donors achieve Silver Level recognition for cumulative giving at various tiers ranging from \$500,000 to \$999,999. Donors with a lifetime giving total of \$500,000 achieved during a given year will earn the Silver Level award and be recognized on the Grand Memorial Honor Roll of Distinguished Donors Virtual Wall and in the printed annual report.

As contributions increase, donors can earn dark gray acrylic stars to add to the award. Recognition on the virtual wall will also be updated to reflect the most current Silver Level achievement.

This year, the Foundation is pleased to recognize Ernestine Schumann-Heink Chapter 2 in Kansas City, Missouri, which has displayed overwhelming commitment to the Foundation since 1979. In 2019, the chapter became the first recipient of the Silver Level Star Award. The award featured two stars to represent cumulative giving of \$650,000 or more. The chapter earned its third star in 2022 for cumulative giving exceeding \$777,000. In 2023, the total lifetime donations increased to over \$797,000.

Chapter 2 Adjutant David Gerke said his chapter is fortunate to have the income to be able to give to the Foundation, and they're proud to do so to reflect the priority each member places on DAV's mission of taking care of veterans.



Ernestine Schumann-Heink Chapter 2, MO

\$797,020

Donors receive a Silver Level Star Award upon reaching \$500,000 and earn a dark gray acrylic star for each of the following (cumulative) giving thresholds thereafter:

 ★
 \$575,000

 ★
 \$650,000

 \$725,000
 \$800,000

 ★
 \$875,000

"We want to support our outstanding national service officers. The veterans in Missouri are grateful for how hard they work. We know that any veteran in our state who has filed a claim with DAV has been directly impacted by the Foundation."

-David Gerke

GOLD LEVEL

Donors achieve Gold Level recognition for cumulative giving at various tiers ranging from \$1,000,000 to \$4,999,999. Donors with a lifetime giving total of \$1,000,000 achieved during a given year will earn the Gold Level award and be recognized on the Grand Memorial Honor Roll of Distinguished Donors Virtual Wall and in the printed annual report. Subsequently, donors can earn a new Gold Level award at each \$1,000,000 threshold. Recognition on the virtual wall will be updated to reflect the most current Gold Level achievement.

The Foundation is honored to highlight the Washington, D.C.-based law firm Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner LLP. In 2013, the firm was the first donor to receive the DAV National Service Foundation Exceptional Donor Award for its remarkable contributions to the Foundation.

The firm's legendary generosity continues to this day, with its total lifetime contributions approaching \$2.9 million. In addition, Finnegan participates in DAV's pro bono program for veterans requiring legal representation at the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.

Thomas Sullivan, who is a counsel with the Veterans Pro Bono Assistance Program at Finnegan, said it's been a rewarding experience to not only help disabled veterans through the court system but also contribute to the work DAV does for veterans by donating the equal access to justice fees the firm collects to the Foundation.





Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner LLP \$2.893.244

"DAV is a beneficiary, but DAV is also a partner with us. We have enormous, immense pride working with [DAV] ... and helping to support your mission."

-Thomas Sullivan

Governing Board

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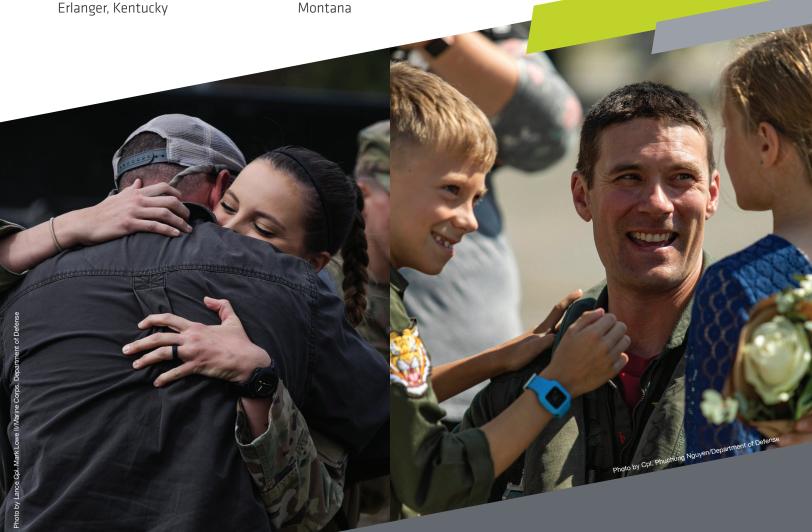
California

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER

Joseph P. Parsetich



The DAV National Service Foundation is a tax-exempt organization, and all contributions made to it are tax-deductible. The Foundation is a nonprofit organization incorporated in the District of Columbia. It is exempt from tax under 26 U.S.C. \$501(c)(4). Contributions to the Foundation are deductible pursuant to 26 U.S.C. \$170(c).







DAV NATIONAL SERVICE FOUNDATION

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nsf.dav.org

This report is available online at nsf.dav.org/resources.