



**DVNF** | Disabled  
Veterans  
National  
Foundation

**ANNUAL REPORT 2016**

# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

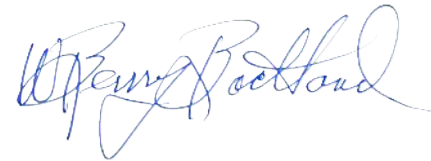
Dear Friends,

Thank you for taking a look at our 2016 Annual Report! This was a critical year in the growth and development of the Disabled Veterans National Foundation. In this report, you will see the scope of our work, and our dedication to serving American heroes of all walks of life.

In 2016, DVNF sent 17 shipments of our Health & Comfort supplies to stand downs and other events around the country. By sending items like basic hygiene necessities, clothing, and so much more, DVNF helps homeless and low-income veterans to alleviate some of their financial strain. This also helps bring these veterans who are in need to the stand down events in the first place. There, they can receive many of the other critical services they need, from health screenings to casework, and everything in between.

DVNF also built vital partnerships through our Capacity Building Grants program. 32 organizations were supported in 2016, and this has substantially benefitted thousands of veterans. Funding programs like recreational therapy, art therapy, yoga, and other unique approaches to combatting mental stress has given countless veterans a new outlook on life. These grants will also better equip our partner organizations with resources to continue growing their important programs, and we're proud to be a part of what they're doing in their respective communities.

We are pleased with how 2016 progressed, and look forward to even more great things in 2017. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we are able to keep making such a vital difference around the country, and we thank all of our supporters for their commitment to giving back to our veterans.



Benny Bachand  
President  
Disabled Veterans National Foundation



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Benny Bachand**, President

**Barry Walter**, Vice President

**Joshua Johnson**, Secretary

**Denise Perry**, Treasurer

**Marla Brunell**

**Lionel Harris**

**Tashawnya McCullough**

**Steven Weyher**

# ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP

**Joseph Van Fonda**, Chief Executive Officer  
Sergeant Major (USMC Ret)

**Delese Harvey**, Deputy Director

**Kevin Stafford**, Chief Financial Officer

**John Paruch**, Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations

**Doug Walker**, Communications Director

**Patrick Heron**, Direct Mail Director

**Leander Brereton**, Director of Operations

**Danielle Abbassi**, Development Associate



# Where We Are

## 1) REBRANDING

As DVNF has worked for 10 years to serve our veterans, our programs, priorities, and our approach to serving these veterans have shifted over time, but our goal has remained the same.

To make sure that we adequately provide the best services possible to our heroes, DVNF has identified several ways we can improve our efforts.

10 years ago, there was an overwhelming wave of patriotism throughout the nation, and when DVNF chose its first logo, it was intended to be a clear reflection of that. The patriotism hasn't gone away but, as troops have come home in large numbers from conflicts overseas, our veterans are losing position at the forefront of everyone's mind. Our new logo incorporates our feelings of pride in those who have served, and those who are still serving. With a new look, we are reinvigorating our mission and reflecting the contemporary approach to our programs and our image.



# WHERE WE'RE HEADED

## 2) NEW WEBSITE

In this modernization effort, we felt it was time to improve our website. We want to make it more interactive, user-friendly, and much easier to navigate. We're doing this because we want veterans in search of information and resources to be able to access it effortlessly. We also want to tell our story better when donors and advocates visit our site. We think it is important for people to know the struggles and the successes of veterans who have stood in our defense.

## 3) ENHANCED PROGRAMS

The Foundation's programs work to provide critically needed support to disabled veterans as they strive to achieve economic security and access mental and physical wellness services.

The **Capacity Building** grants enable program partners to increase impact on among the communities being served. In 2016 DVNF funded **32** program partners, and anticipates supporting approximately **60** organizations across the nation in 2017.

The **Health and Comfort Program** provides Comfort Kits to partner organizations, which contain a variety of items that can be used to alleviate the challenges associated with homelessness. In 2016 DVNF impacted **10,000** veterans. It is our hope to reach **40,000** veterans in 2017.

In 2017 the Foundation hopes to launch two new programs, **Technical Assistance Grants** and the **Homelessness to Housing program**. These programs will increase the impact DVNF is making, but also develop a national coalition of nonprofit organizations dedicated to eradicating veteran homelessness and helping disabled veterans achieve economic security.







## OUR MISSION

The Disabled Veterans National Foundation (DVNF) exists to provide critically needed support to disabled and at-risk veterans who leave the military wounded—physically or psychologically—after defending our safety and our freedom.

We achieve this mission by:

- Offering direct financial support to veteran organizations that address the unique needs of veterans, and whose missions align with that of DVNF.
- Providing supplemental assistance to homeless and low-income veterans through the Health & Comfort program.
- Providing an online resource database that allows veterans to navigate the complex process of seeking resources.
- Serving as a thought leader on critical policy issues within the veteran community.

## WHY WE DO IT

**THERE ARE NEARLY  
40,000 HOMELESS  
VETERANS  
ON ANY GIVEN NIGHT,  
OVER HALF SUFFERING  
FROM A DISABILITY.**

A willingness to defend our nation and put everything on the line is a heroic act and the Disabled Veterans National Foundation envisions a nation where no hero is forgotten or left homeless or suffering from a disability.

DVNF is taking a different approach to serving our veterans by looking at the bigger picture. We have focused our efforts on two priority areas that are crucial to ensuring our veterans are taken care of.

Although combat has decreased dramatically in recent years, veterans are coming home with heavy hearts and busy minds. Some can transition to civilian life effectively but, for thousands of veterans, this isn't the case.

Lasting impacts of combat, or traumatic experiences from their military service continue for years. With 22 veterans on average taking their own lives every day, it's our goal to ensure these men and women don't feel left behind.

**OVER  
250,000 VETERANS  
SUFFER FROM  
TRAUMATIC BRAIN  
INJURY (TBI).**

**AN ESTIMATED  
1 IN 5 VETERANS  
OF ALL ERAS SUFFER  
FROM POST-TRAUMATIC  
STRESS DISORDER  
(PTSD).**



# OUR IMPACT IN 2016



## HEALTH AND COMFORT

**5,800+** estimated number of veterans who received assistance through the Health & Comfort program



**\$1,944,496.35**

total value of goods sent to veterans



**5,500+**

Comfort Kits were provided to low-income and homeless veterans



**17 PROGRAM PARTNERS**

received Health & Comfort items (including: clothing, hygiene product, blankets and delivered to stand downs and free stores)



**15 STATES**

received support from the Health & Comfort program



# HEALTH AND COMFORT

The Disabled Veterans National Foundation delivers immediate impact and relief through the Health and Comfort Program. As a leader in the veteran community, DVNF understands the importance of urgency as our veterans struggle to gain access to resources needed to get through the day.

The Health and Comfort program serves low-income and homeless populations across the United States that demonstrate a high need – within the veteran community. DVNF provides Comfort Kits including items such as: first aid kits, hygiene items, clothing, shoes, emergency blankets and more.

To learn more or donate to our Health and Comfort program, please visit [www.dvnf.org](http://www.dvnf.org).



## 2016 PROGRAM PARTNERS & EVENTS

**Washington, DC VAMC** – Washington, DC

**Jezreel International** – Albany, NY

**American Legion Mundy-Beck Post 911** – Atlanta, GA

**Northeast Florida Women Veterans, Inc.** – Jacksonville, FL

**Aurora Veterans Advisory Council** – Aurora, IL

**Vaughn Respite** – Detroit, MI

**USO Warrior Week** – Virginia Beach, VA

**VA Healthcare for Homeless Veterans** – Buffalo, NY

**National Veterans Wheelchair Games** – Salt Lake City, UT

**Community Service Council** – Tulsa, OK

**Yuba Sutter Veterans Stand Down** – Marysville, CA

**Visually Impaired Veterans Experiencing the Road** – Greendale, WI

**Operation Stand Down RI** – Johnston, RI

**Aleda E. Lutz VAMC** – Atlanta, MI

**The Servant Center** – Greensboro, NC

**NJ Department of Veterans Affairs** – Newark, NJ

**Black Hills Healthcare System** – Rapid City, SD



# OUR IMPACT IN 2016



## CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM

25,000+ estimated veterans were impacted by Capacity Building grants



**\$325,000+**

was awarded to aid disabled veterans



**32**

program partners were awarded grants



**18 STATES**

were impacted through Capacity Building Grants



**20%**

more veterans were impacted than the previous year.

# 2016 CAPACITY BUILDING

# GRANT RECIPIENTS

**21st Century Heroes** – \$10,000.00

Jackson, Wyoming

**Brain Injury Services of Southwest Virginia** – \$8,000.00

Roanoke, Virginia

**Center for Life Management** – \$10,000.00

Derry, New Hampshire

**Chicago Association for Research and Education in Science (CARES)** – \$10,000.00

Hines, Illinois

**Chicago Park District** – \$10,000.00

Chicago, Illinois

**Community Rowing, Inc.** – \$10,000.00

Brighton, Massachusetts

**English River Outfitters** – \$10,000.00

Washington, Iowa

**The Fenwick Foundation** – \$5,000.00

Arlington, Virginia

**Happy's Farm, Inc.** – \$8,000.00

Salisbury, North Carolina

**Healing Warriors Program** – \$10,000.00

Boulder, Colorado

**Heart of Horse Sense** – \$10,000.00

Marshall, North Carolina

**Helios Warriors, Inc.** – \$10,000.00

Asheville, North Carolina

**ICD-Institute for Career Development** – \$8,000.00

New York, New York

**Life Through Dance Inc., DBA Robin Becker Dance** – \$10,000.00

New York, New York

**National Veterans Legal Services Program** – \$10,000.00

Washington, District Of Columbia

**Northeast Florida Women Veterans, Inc** – \$10,000.00

Jacksonville, Florida

**Patton Veterans Project** – \$10,000.00

New York, New York

**Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing Inc.** – \$10,000.00

La Plata, Maryland

**Queen of Hearts Therapeutic Riding Center, Inc.** – \$10,000.00

Jurupa Valley, California

**Reining Liberty Ranch** – \$5,000.00

Traverse City, Michigan

**Resounding Joy Inc** – \$10,000.00

San Diego, California

**The Right Path Riding Academy Incorporated** – \$10,000.00

Drumright, Oklahoma

**Soldier Strong** – \$18,000.00

Stanford, Connecticut

**Soldiers Who Salsa (SWS)** – \$10,000.00

San Diego, California

**Stay The Course Veteran Services** – \$10,000.00

Fort Worth, Texas

**Sycamore Lane Therapeutic Riding Center** – \$10,000.00

Oregon City, Oregon

**United States Veterans Initiative (U.S.VETS)** – \$10,000.00

Los Angeles, California

**Veterans Coalition of North Central Texas** – \$12,000.00

Dallas, Texas

**Veterans Healing Veterans from the Inside Out** – \$15,000.00

San Quentin, California

**Veterans' Rowing and Kayaking** – \$15,000.00

Trumbull, Connecticut

**Windrush Farm Therapeutic Equitation, INC** – \$10,000.00

North Andover, Massachusetts

**Women Veterans Interactive** – \$11,000.00

Accokeek, Maryland





## TULSA, OK 2016 STAND DOWN

“THE TULSA STAND DOWN WAS GREAT. I COUNT ON THIS EVERY YEAR TO HELP GET MY FAMILY THROUGH THE END OF THE YEAR. I REALLY LIKED THE EYE GLASSES OFFERED THIS YEAR. THEY’VE NEVER HANDED THOSE OUT BEFORE. IT’S NICE TO SEE THEM ADD THINGS TO GIVE AWAY. MAKES ME FEEL LIKE THEY ARE REALLY TRYING TO MEET THE NEEDS OF US OUT HERE. IT’S REAL NICE.”



## GREENSBORO, NC 2016 STAND DOWN

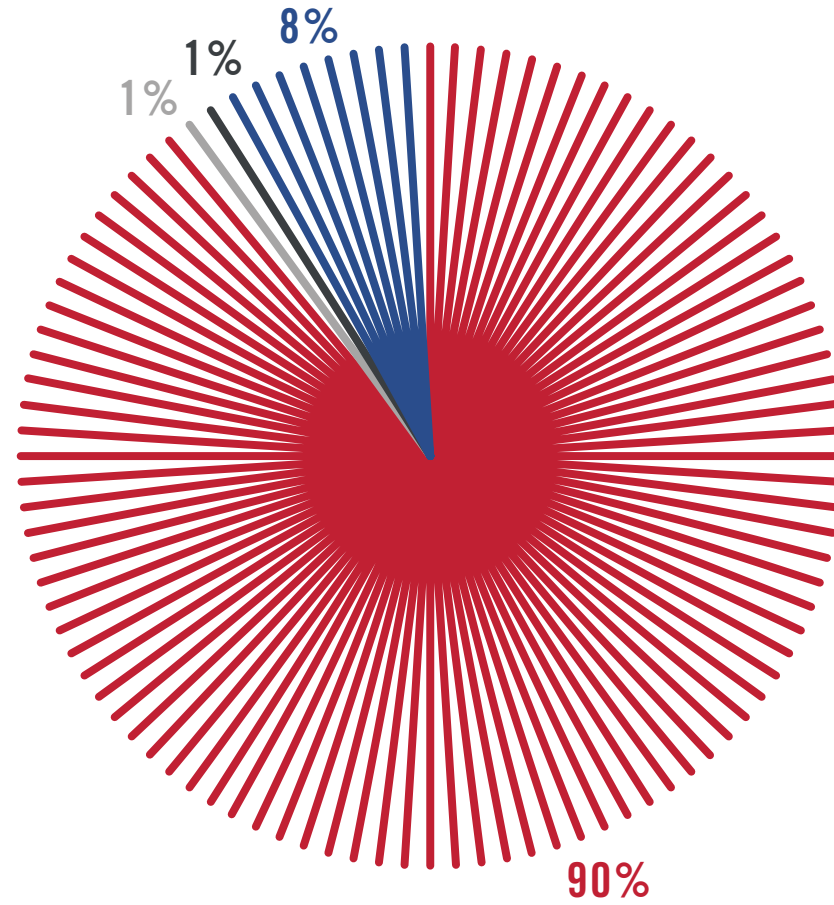
“NEVER HAVE I BEEN TO AN EVENT WHERE SUCH THOUGHT WAS PUT INTO WHAT WE (VETERANS) NEED. RECEIVING CHAP STICK, NEW SHOES, A BLANKET—AS WELL AS BUG REPELLENT—WAS SUCH A SHOCK TO ME. I MEAN THESE ARE THE THINGS I NEED. THIS SHOWS THAT SOMEONE IS THINKING ABOUT US; I CAN’T THANK YOU ENOUGH.”



# 2017 FINANCES

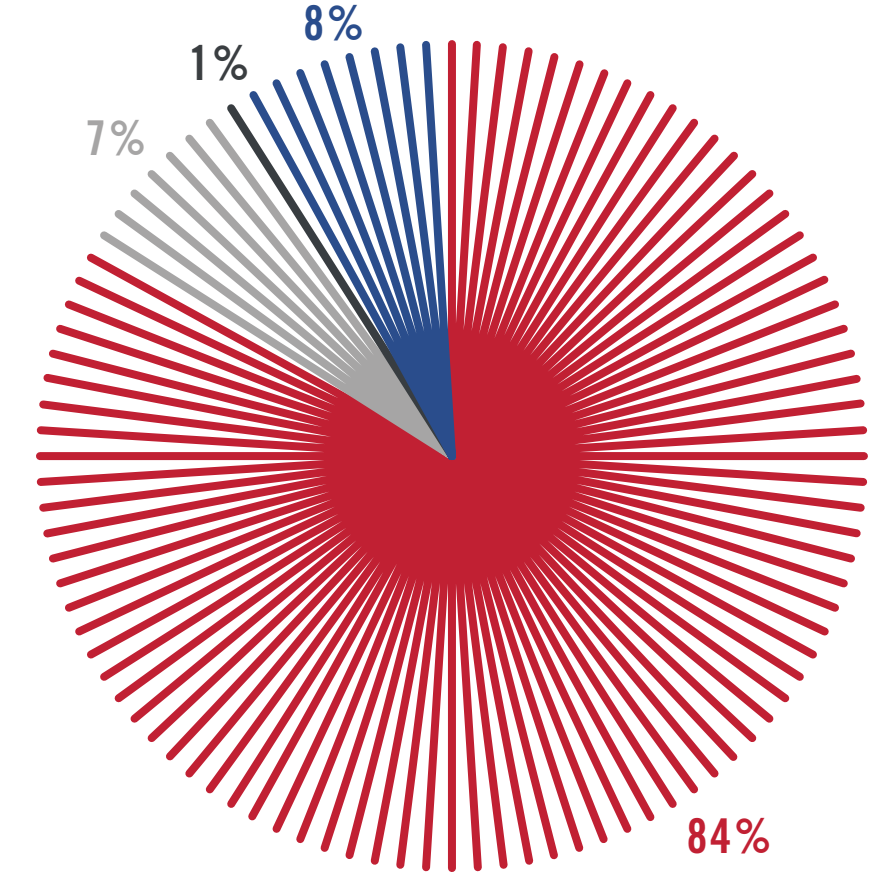
## REVENUE

Public Support	\$25,020,806
Name Rental Revenue	96,186
<b>Total Annual Operating Revenue</b>	<b>25,116,992</b>
Other	178,949
In-Kind Contributions	2,444,675
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$27,740,616</b>



## EXPENSES

Program Services and Fundraising	\$24,855,619
Management & General	1,994,367
<b>Total Annual Expenditures</b>	<b>26,849,986</b>
Depreciation	6,456
In-Kind Contributions	2,444,675
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$29,301,117</b>





# LETTER FROM THE CEO

2016 has been an incredible year for the Disabled Veterans National Foundation (DVNF), and I am proud to have been a part of the growth and development for the organization. As we continue to build our programs and the process of fine-tuning our operations, we expect this success to be even greater going forward.

One of our most impactful programs has been the Health & Comfort program. When I came to DVNF, I was blown away by just how important this program is – not only to the veterans we serve – but also to our program partners who depend on DVNF’s shipments of goods. With shipments valued at approximately \$1,944,496.35, DVNF assisted over 5,800 veterans with this type of assistance through our Health & Comfort program!

While veteran homelessness is a key focus area for DVNF, so too are mental and physical wellness. An estimated 1 in 5 veterans of all eras suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and/or depression. More than a quarter million OEF/OIF veterans suffers from traumatic brain injury (TBI). DVNF works with many other community organizations providing targeted support to address these focus areas.

Through our Capacity Building grants, Technical Assistance grants, and other important program efforts, DVNF is lending knowledge, collaboration, and funding to support these

organizations in executing their missions and improving the services offered to veterans. In 2016, DVNF funded 32 organizations, supporting over 25,000 veterans!

As we celebrate 10 years of the Disabled Veterans National Foundation in 2017, we are more excited by what is to come for the organization going forward. We know that the veterans we serve will continue to have needs in the coming years, and we will be at the forefront of the efforts to support them.

Your support means everything to us, and your commitment to the men and women of our military, past and present, allows us to make a difference in their lives!



Joseph VanFonda (USMC SgtMaj Ret.)  
CEO  
Disabled Veterans National Foundation







# WAYS TO SERVE

## GIVING BACK TO THOSE WHO DEFENDED OUR COUNTRY!



### CORPORATE SPONSOR

By becoming a corporate sponsor – your company is aligning itself with an organization providing much needed support to our wounded warriors. To learn more, contact the Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations, John Paruch at [jparuch@dvnf.org](mailto:jparuch@dvnf.org).



### TEXT TO GIVE

The Disabled Veterans National Foundation has made it easier for donors to give. No matter where you are across these United States – you can make a donation to us via text. Just message 202-759-0483 – put a dollar amount in the body of the text and we will receive that dollar amount. All donations are tax deductible – so make a donation to support our veterans today!



### JOIN THE FORCE – BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR

Your recurring gift provides reliable support to the thousands of veterans we serve yearly. To help these wounded warriors, consider becoming a member of the Force Multiplier giving program. Your gift of \$20 or more a month can help provide a disabled veteran the mental and physical help needed upon returning home.



### MAILING LIST

The Disabled Veterans National Foundation prides itself on being a thought leader in the veteran community. To keep up with the latest veteran trends or learn from expert leaders in the veteran community, please subscribe to our mailing list by visiting [www.dvnf.org](http://www.dvnf.org).





**THE DISABLED VETERANS NATIONAL FOUNDATION  
EXISTS TO PROVIDE CRITICALLY NEEDED SUPPORT  
TO DISABLED AND AT-RISK VETERANS WHO LEAVE  
THE MILITARY WOUNDED—PHYSICALLY OR  
PSYCHOLOGICALLY—AFTER DEFENDING OUR  
SAFETY AND OUR FREEDOM.**

