

OCTOBER 2010



DAV TRANSPORTATION NETWORK

Ford Motor Company has once again made it possible for the DAV to purchase and donate seven Ford E-350, 12-passenger vans to the DAV Transportation Network (TN). The donation took place during the opening session at the 89th National Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, July 31 – August 3, 2010. The VAMCs that received these new vehicles were: Detroit, Michigan; Nashville, Tennessee; Salt Lake City, Utah; Fort Wayne, Indiana; Tacoma, Washington; Marion, Illinois and Washington, D.C. Ford has donated a total of 148 vehicles to the DAVTN since 1996.

Ford Motor Company's continued commitment to veterans displays their great interest in the DAV's mission of service and transportation to the many veterans who have no other means of getting to their VA medical appointments. Ford's participation with us is a remarkable enhancement to the DAV Transportation Network program.

Thank you for your dedicated efforts to make your Transportation Network such an invaluable service for many disabled veterans across America.

2011 DAV TN Van Grants

Information is being forward to all National Officers, Departments and Chapters, Supervisory National Service Officers, and Hospital Service Coordinators about the 2011 Van Grant Program. The DAV's Transportation Network is perhaps the largest and most important volunteer program. DAV and Auxiliary volunteers and a growing number of generous nonmembers provided almost 2 million hours and drove 22 million miles, providing free rides to 595,000 veterans.

This year we have added an additional vehicle for your consideration. The Ford Flex offers an alternative to the popular Ford Explorer and Club Vans. Pricing information along with the minimum share amounts for Chapters and Departments is included in the announcement.

I ask that you carefully review the van grant criteria and fully and correctly complete the application forms provided with the announcement. The completed applications must be received by December 3, 2010. We expect that delivery will again be made in late spring 2011.

LOCAL VETERANS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LVAP)

Exactly three years ago this month, we initiated the Local Veterans Assistance Program with the intent to find new ways to recruit and engage new members and volunteers to many of the DAV programs.

Through LVAP, any volunteer activity that contributes to our mission of building better lives for disabled veterans and their families is recognized – therefore, volunteering is no longer limited to VA facilities alone.

Volunteers might perform yard work, help someone run errands, set up a computer system, clean out the gutters, shovel snow from a sidewalk, assist with cooking or cleaning, paint or perform home repairs – any task that might help and brighten a veteran's life. More importantly, you may have a special skill to share with those who match that need. Are you a former teacher, electrician, accountant, etc.? There's a disabled veteran that needs your professional skills in their everyday lives.

DAV and Auxiliary volunteers can receive credit for donating time to further the DAV's mission. Participation in sanctioned fundraising activities, outreach efforts, service officer activities and other official DAV and Auxiliary duties are all deserving of recognition through LVAP.

Youth volunteers who don't live near VA facilities can take advantage of LVAP hours which are eligible toward application for the Jesse Brown Memorial Youth Scholarship so long as they meet the minimum eligibility requirements for consideration.

Some Departments and Chapters are reporting great success with this program, while others aren't taking advantage of what this valuable program has to offer in such a close to home atmosphere of volunteering. Please make good use of this program by referring to the attached information, instructions and LVAP success story which appeared in the *DAV Magazine*. Who knows, the next story may be about you!

2011 JESSE BROWN MEMORIAL YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

**Nominations Being Accepted
December 1, 2010 – February 26, 2011**

Summer is over and all across America today's youth are attending school, some may be in their junior or senior year of high school with plans for attending college. Why not encourage them to participate in the DAV VAVS Volunteer Program at a local VA medical center or in our Local Veterans Assistance Program (LVAP)?

We are confident that more students will get involved if they are aware of the generous scholarships available as well as the vast opportunities to help veterans. Many academic programs include volunteer work as a course requirement, and students may as well volunteer in their local VA medical centers. Some of the benefits of volunteering at a local VA medical

center may include: scholarships for college, job experience, healthcare career possibilities, providing assistance to hospitalized veterans, completing high school volunteerism requirements and community involvement.

Eligibility

- Scholarships can be awarded to any volunteer who is age 21 or younger and has volunteered for a minimum of 100 hours during the previous calendar year. All volunteer hours must be credited to the Disabled American Veterans.
- Scholarships can be used at any accredited institution of higher learning; to include universities, colleges, community colleges, vocational schools, etc.
- Scholarships must be utilized in full prior to the recipient attaining the age of 25, or within 6 years of receiving the scholarship, whichever is later.
- Family members of the DAV national organization employees are eligible to receive a scholarship.
- Nominations for this award may be submitted by the Voluntary Service Program Manager at a VA medical center, DAV Departments, Chapters and other subordinate units, such as the Auxiliary, or the student may complete a self-nomination form which is available on-line. In addition, the DAV and DAVA Representatives and their Deputies and Hospital Chairpersons are also encouraged to submit a nomination.
- All nomination packets should include a nomination form, the student's essay discussing "What volunteering has meant to me" (essay should be 750 words or less) and any supporting documentation which you would like to have considered by the Selection Committee.
- Applications for the 2011 Jesse Brown Memorial Youth Scholarship Program will be accepted between *December 1, 2010 and February 26, 2011.*

Know a youth that is interested in volunteering? Our Volunteer Registration Form, Nomination Form, or Essay Form, which can be accessed on http://www.dav.org/volunteers/jesse_brown_scholarship.html should be completed and mailed to: Disabled American Veterans, National Headquarters, Voluntary Services Department, 3725 Alexandria Pike, Cold Spring, KY 41076.

MAJOR LEAGUE UMPIRES VISIT VA MEDICAL CENTERS

Retired Major League Umpire Larry Barnett visited the following VA medical centers in August and October: Cheyenne, Wyoming; Grand Junction, Pueblo and Denver, Colorado; Houston, San Antonio, Kerrville, Temple, Waco, Bonham and Dallas, Texas.

Major League Umpire Jerry Layne visited the following VA medical centers in July, August, September and October: Palo Alto, San Francisco, West Los Angeles, San Diego and Sepulveda, California; Brecksville and Cleveland, Ohio; St. Louis and Jefferson Barracks

Division, Missouri; Dallas and Houston, Texas; Jesse Brown and Hines in Chicago, Illinois; Denver, Colorado; Baltimore Rehabilitation and Extended Care Center and Baltimore, Maryland; Washington, D.C.; Bronx, New York; Phoenix, Arizona and Minneapolis, Minnesota; Seattle and Tacoma, Washington; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Atlanta, Georgia and West Roxbury, Massachusetts.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you should have any questions about the information in this bulletin.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael J. Walsh". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

MICHAEL J. WALSH
National Director of Voluntary Services

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Attachments

MEMORANDUM

TO: Supervisory National Service Officers
DAV Department Commanders and Adjutants
DAVA Department Commanders and Adjutants
Chapter and Unit Commanders and Adjutants
VAVS State Chairmen
Hospital Service Coordinators
VAVS Representatives and Deputy Representatives

FROM: Edward E. Hartman, National Director of Voluntary Services

SUBJECT: Local Veterans Assistance Program (LVAP)

DATE: October 3, 2007

Opportunities have always existed for individuals to assist veterans and their dependents -- and members of Disabled American Veterans (DAV) and the Auxiliary have always answered that call. We see examples of this each and every day aimed at meeting the main objective of our organization to build better lives for America's disabled veterans and their dependents. With this in mind, I am pleased to announce the creation of the Local Veterans Assistance Program (LVAP).

We have always enjoyed the success of a great corps of volunteers who volunteer in Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Voluntary Service (VAVS) programs at VA medical centers as well as our Transportation Network. Given the fact that not all volunteers live in close proximity to a VA medical center or other VA facility, the LVAP will allow volunteers to provide needed services to veterans and their families in their local community and be recognized for that service.

We can't afford to have volunteers who currently volunteer in VAVS programs or drivers in our Transportation Network reallocate their volunteer time in this new program. Our VAVS and Transportation Network volunteers are vital to the continued success of those programs and the veterans who rely on them each and every day. We simply needed to create a program for those who want to do something for veterans and their families, but could not due to their geographical location in relationship to VA facilities.

DAV is the only veterans service organization which has a national volunteer recognition program to provide incentive awards for volunteers who provide service in activities in the name of DAV. LVAP volunteers will receive the same incentive awards as enjoyed by volunteers in the VAVS program.

LVAP volunteers may report volunteer time for a variety of activities which include, but are not limited to:

1. Chapter and Department Service Officer work.
2. DAV specific outreach efforts (DAV Airshow Outreach Program, Harley's Heroes, National Guard mobilizations and demobilizations, etc.).
3. Fundraising efforts (Forget-Me-Not and other approved fundraisers).
4. Direct assistance to veterans, widows, or families (yard work, home repairs, grocery shopping, etc.).

We invite each chapter to report the activities of their LVAP volunteers to the designated department representative. Please be sure you report only the time volunteered under the LVAP. The Hospital Service Coordinator and DAV VAWS Representative will continue to report time for the Transportation Network and programs within VAWS.

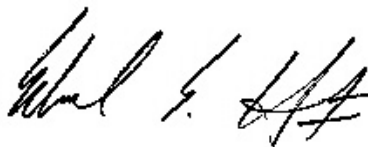
It will be necessary to have a department representative responsible for reporting the volunteer time for the activities of volunteers in their state on a monthly basis. Perhaps the VAWS State Chairman, department officer or an employee of the department would be an appropriate person.

A user friendly online web based reporting program has been developed. A separate memo will be sent to departments which will include the username and password for their department and should be maintained by the person authorized to submit the report for their department. Information reported by the department will include the volunteer's first and last name, last 4 digits of their social security number, mailing address, telephone number and total number of volunteer hours for the month and type of activity. It is very important to provide all of the information so we can accurately identify and recognize each volunteer.

Youth volunteers who serve in the LVAP will also be eligible to apply for a scholarship through the Jesse Brown Memorial Youth Scholarship Program so long as they meet the minimum eligibility requirements for consideration.

We are constantly looking for new ways to recruit and engage new members and volunteers and I hope you use this new program to our advantage.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions or concerns regarding this or any other DAV Voluntary Service program.



EDWARD E. HARTMAN
National Director of Voluntary Services

EEH:lrd

MEMORANDUM

TO: DAV Department Commanders and Adjutants

FROM: Edward E. Hartman, National Director of Voluntary Services

SUBJECT: Local Veterans Assistance Program (LVAP)

DATE: October 29, 2007

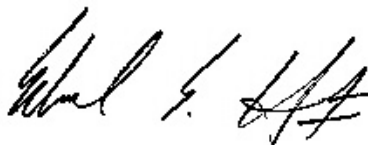
As mentioned in my previous memorandum announcing the Local Veterans Assistance Program (LVAP) dated October 3, 2007, I am providing you with the necessary information to report the activities of your department in the LVAP.

It will be necessary to have a department representative responsible for reporting the volunteer time for the activities of volunteers in your state on a monthly basis. Perhaps the VAVS State Chairman, department officer or an employee of the department would be an appropriate person. All reporting should be submitted via the internet by typing <http://www.dav.org/lvap/reporting/> in your internet browser. Your department's unique username and password are provided below and should be supplied to the individual responsible for inputting the data monthly.

USERNAME: ##
PASSWORD: *****
(Username and password are case sensitive.)

The reporting procedures are self-explanatory, but please feel free to contact me should you have any questions or concerns regarding this or any other DAV Voluntary Service program.

Sincerely,



EDWARD E. HARTMAN
National Director of Voluntary Services

EEH:lrd



DAV PHOTOS: KRIEGER/GETTY

Kevin Quigley, right, a retired Ford employee, helps Alvin Hoffman, a disabled World War II veteran, at a local grocery store. The DAV's Local Veterans Assistance Program is designed to encourage and reward creative volunteerism to improve the lives of veterans and advance the DAV's mission.

A Special Difference for Disabled Veterans

By D. Clare

Kevin Quigley was driving toward an expressway on-ramp near his Wayne County, Mich., home when he first laid eyes on Alvin Hoffman. The World War II veteran seemed out of place as he trudged along with his groceries.

"I circled back around and found him on a rock. I thought he was lost. There weren't a lot of homes. It was a mile and a half from the grocery store and he was walking," recalled Quigley.

What began as a simple act of kindness, with Quigley giving the elderly man a ride home, soon turned into a pleasant routine. For the past 14 years, Quigley has helped Hoffman get his groceries and done odd jobs around his home.

Quigley is one of three people in the elderly man's life who make independent living possible. Along with Hoffman's neighbors all of the retired automotive industry employee's basic needs are met.

Over the years, Quigley learned about the Army veteran's combat service — service which contributed to his extreme loss of hearing.

"He's my friend, and he's an amazing connection to the past. There just aren't that many World War II veterans left. I appreciate his service and enjoy the time I get to spend with him," said Quigley, who is a retired Ford metal model maker.

With veterans of Hoffman's generation aging and a new

generation of veterans returning from the battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan, the needs of disabled veterans are on the rise.

"Our traditional voluntary service programs make an incredible difference for hundreds of thousands of veterans every year. But the unique, random acts of kindness that brighten lives deserve recognition as well," said National Director of Voluntary Services Edward E. Hartman.

The new Local Veterans Assistance Program, or LVAP, was established to encourage DAV members, youths and patriotic citizens to use their time, talents and good will to help veterans. It recognizes the quiet heroes who reach out in creative ways to make a difference.

"Just about any service someone provides to enhance the lives of veterans is considered worthy of consideration," Hartman said. "From a DAV member participating in service work or fundraising activities, to a friendly neighbor who cleans an elderly veteran's gutters or gives a young veteran a lift to the base when his buddies are returning from deployment."

In addition to honoring the DAV through their compassion, credited hours give volunteers the recognition they deserve, according to Hartman. Volunteers with special skills or cer-

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A Special Difference

(Continued from page 10)

tifications are encouraged to use their abilities to better the lives of veterans in need.

Youth participants can use LVAP hours to apply for the Jesse Brown Memorial Youth Scholarship. Eligible

volunteers under the age of 21 can earn up to \$15,000 toward college tuition.

Program representatives at local state and community levels—DAV departments and chapters—maintain records and report LVAP progress.

“The personal contributions of volunteers have always been a heartwarming source of inspiration and hope for veterans in need,” said

National Adjutant Arthur H. Wilson. “When they volunteer in the name of the DAV, they honor our efforts and recognize our community. This is a great program and I hope everyone will go out of their way to get involved.”

For more information, contact the Voluntary Services Department at (859) 441-7300 or voluntaryservices@dav.org.