LETTER FROM THE CEO

2017 has been a year of continued growth for DVNF. There were many milestones we aimed to reach and we are proud to say that while some priorities may have shifted throughout the year, we successfully reached our major points of emphasis.

One of those milestones we were determined to reach was our level of giving for the Capacity Building Grants program. Our goal was to give $1 million in funding to partner organizations with programs focusing on the mental and physical wellness of veterans in their communities and regions. We reached that goal, providing $1 million to 59 different organizations.

In addition to our million-dollar goal for grants, our goal for the Health & Comfort program in 2017 was to also outdo our 2016 benchmark of sending 18 shipments to stand down events, veteran shelters, and other outreach events for veterans. We met that goal, distributing 24 shipments of Comfort Kits, clothing, toiletries, and other necessities. The total value of aid DVNF sent through this program in 2017 was over $2 million!

While we also aimed to launch a new program called Homeless to Housing (H2H), which would reach homeless veterans who were in the process of getting back on their feet, we had to delay the implementation of the program, but for very good reason – we launched a different program we weren’t expecting!

Due to a fortuitous turn of events and a generous commitment to our veterans, Joseph A. Bank, the men’s clothing chain, decided to partner with DVNF to launch the Tailored for Troops program. Through this program, DVNF works with transitional services organizations helping veterans prepare for civilian life to provide these job seekers with a brand new suit! DVNF also provides gift cards to veterans to cover the cost of any alterations.

Through DVNF’s programs, and our strategic partnerships, we helped approximately 60,000 veterans in 2017.

We continue to be pleased with how far we’ve come as an organization, and look forward to an even more productive 2018 so that we can honor the men and women who served our nation so faithfully.

Serving our nation’s heroes,

Joseph VanFonda (USMC Sgt. Maj. Ret.)
CEO
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
Scott Carson
CPT Adam Street, DO

ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Joseph Van Fonda, Chief Executive Officer
Sergeant Major (USMC Ret)
Delese Harvey, Deputy Director
Mildred Mesembe, Chief Financial Officer
John Paruch, Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations
Lisa Medley, Marketing and Communications Officer
Patrick Heron, Direct Mail Director
Leander Brereton, Director of Operations
Danielle Abbassi, Development Associate
In 2017, DVNF decided to push forward with a fresh new vision for its future. On top of new programs, and improving our current programs, the organization also wanted this cultural shift to be reflected to the outside world.

In March, DVNF launched its brand new website. It has a cleaner look and feel, that is easier to navigate and better demonstrates the work DVNF aims to do for veterans in need.

As part of this image shift, DVNF also felt this would be an ideal time to introduce a new logo. We wanted to show a more modern look that represents the organization’s commitment past, present, and future generations of veterans who have served in our defense.

As we bring in these new changes, our commitment to serving our nation’s heroes remains unchanged, and we will continue to focus our work on the tremendous needs our veterans are still facing.
A NEW PROGRAM DIRECTION

Tailored for Troops

Thanks to a generous commitment from Joseph A. Bank, the men’s clothing retailer, DVNF launched the Tailored for Troops program. Through this program, DVNF provides new Joseph A. Bank business attire to job-seeking veterans through various program partners offering employment services such as transitional support programs.

As part of this program, DVNF also provides $50 gift cards to veterans who receive clothing through this program to cover the cost of tailoring the suit they choose.

DVNF works with many program partners around the country who help veterans with transitional services, including employment training and job placement. Veterans within these selected programs are eligible to receive new Joseph A. Bank business attire.
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.
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 around 20 veterans on average taking their own lives every day, it’s our goal to ensure these men and women don’t feel left behind.

**WHY WE DO IT**

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

**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).**

There are nearly 40,000 homeless veterans on any given night, over half suffering from a disability.

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).
HEALTH AND COMFORT

7,000+ estimated number of veterans who received assistance through the Health & Comfort program

$2,313,331 total value of goods sent to veterans

7,047 Comfort Kits were provided to low-income and homeless veterans

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

19 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. Through this program, DVNF provides items like Comfort Kits, first aid supplies, hygiene items, clothing, shoes, emergency blankets and more.

To learn more or donate to our Health and Comfort program, please visit www.dvnf.org.
2017 PROGRAM PARTNERS & EVENTS

Veterans Miracle Center – Albany, NY
Black Hills Healthcare System – Ft. Meade, SD
Detroit VA Medical Center – Detroit, MI
Operation Troop Appreciation – McKeesport, PA
Bay Pines VA – Bay Pines, FL
Onward to Opportunity – Camp Lejeune, NC
Volunteers of America – Knoxville, TN
Aurora Veterans Advisory Council – Aurora, IL
Heart of America Foundation – Kansas City, MO
USO Warrior Week - Virginia Beach, VA
Buffalo VA Healthcare for Homeless Vets – Buffalo, NY
Operation Stand Down Rhode Island – Johnston, RI
National Veterans Wheelchair Games – Cincinnati, OH
American Legion Mundy-Beck, Post 9-1-1 – Atlanta, GA
Operation Stand Down Midsouth – Memphis, TN
Yuba-Sutter Veterans Stand Down – Marysville, CA
VIPER Ride – Greendale, WI
Community Service Council of Greater Tulsa – Tulsa, OK
Goodwill Industries of Michiana – South Bend, IN
Northeast Florida Women Veterans - Jacksonville, FL
New Jersey VA - Newark, NJ
Operation Compass of Mercer County - Princeton, WV
CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM

45,000+ estimated veterans were impacted by Capacity Building grants

- $1,000,000 was awarded to aid disabled veterans
- 59 program partners were awarded grants
- 26 STATES were impacted through Capacity Building Grants
- 80% more veterans were impacted than the previous year.
2017 CAPACITY BUILDING

21st Century Heroes - $8,000
Jackson, Wyoming

Blue Star Ranch, Serving Our Nations’ Veterans - $14,000
Canyon Country, California

Boise Rescue Mission Ministries - $20,000
Boise, Idaho

Camillus House, Inc - $25,000
Miami, Florida

CDS Monarch, INC - $25,000
Webster, New York

Charlotte Bridge Home - $15,000
Charlotte, North Carolina

Companions for Heroes - $24,998
Simons Island, Georgia

Elysian Fields Transformational Community - $25,000
Campbell, California

Embrace A Vet - $22,000
Topsham, Maine

Family Endeavors - $25,000
San Antonio, Texas

Garden-Raised Bounty - $22,000
Olympia, Washington

Habitat for Humanity, San Fernando/Santa Clarita Valleys - $25,000
Woodland Hills, California

Healing Warriors Program - $25,000
Boulder, Colorado

Heart of Horse Sense - $24,830
Marshall, North Carolina

Hearts & Hooves - $15,000
Sherwood, Arkansas

Home for Heroes, Inc - $25,000
Charlotte, North Carolina

Honoring Our Vets - $25,000
Jackson, Wyoming

Human Engineering Research Laboratories - $25,000
Pittsburgh, PA

Institute for Career Development - $25,000
New York, New York

Institute for Healing of Memories - $25,000
White Plains, New York

Join-Up International - $10,000
Solvang, CA

National AMBUCS - $10,000
High Point, North Carolina

National Veterans Legal Services Program - $10,000
Washington, DC

New England Center and Home for Veterans - $25,000
Boston, Massachusetts
GRANT RECIPIENTS

Operation Appreciation, Inc - $18,000
Dallas, Georgia

Operation Military Embrace - $25,000
Tomball, Texas

Outward Bound - $25,000
New York, New York

Park Nicollet Foundation - $22,500
Saint Louis Park, Minnesota

Pikes Peak Therapeutic Riding Center (PPTRC) - $5,000
Elbert, Colorado

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing Inc - $20,000
La Plata, Maryland

Project Sanctuary - $10,000
Granby, Colorado

Queen of Hearts Therapeutic Riding Center, Inc - $10,000
Jurupa Valley, California

Rush University Medical Center - $15,000
Chicago, Illinois

Red-White and Blue Charity - $6,000
San Jose, California

Resounding Joy Inc - $10,000
San Diego, California

Salute Military Golf Association - $10,000
Silver Spring, Maryland

Sheepdog Impact Assistance - $10,000
Rogers, Arkansas

Sisters of St. Francis of Tiffin, Ohio - $3,000
Tiffin, Ohio

Soldier Strong - $25,000
Stanford, Connecticut

Stay The Course Veteran Services - $10,000
Fort Worth, Texas

Susan J. Rheem Adult Day Center - $10,000
Prescott, Arizona

The Fenwick Foundation - $15,000
Arlington, Virginia

The Kentucky Center for the Arts Foundation - $10,000
Louisville, Kentucky

The Veteran's K-9 Corps (America's Vet Dogs) - $20,000
Smithtown, NY

USA Cares - $25,000
Radcliff, Kentucky

United States Veterans Initiative - $15,000
Los Angeles, California

Veterans Coalition of North Central Texas - $15,000
Dallas, Texas

Veterans’ Rowing and Kayaking, Inc - $10,000
Trumbull, Connecticut

Veterans’ Rowing and Kayaking - $10,000
Trumbull, Connecticut

Veterans Yoga Project - $8,000
Alameda, California

VFV 8195 - $6,000
West Park, Florida

Volunteers of America Colorado

Veteran Services Division - $10,000
Denver, Colorado

VSA Texas - $10,000
Austin, Texas

Warriors’ Best Friend Foundation - $10,000
Liberty, Missouri

Warrior Bonfire Program - $10,000
Clinton, Mississippi

WITH Foundation - $10,000
Coeur D’Alene, Idaho

Women Veterans Interactive - $12,500
Accokeek, Maryland

Won Institute - $10,000
Glenside, Pennsylvania

YMCA of Greater Indianapolis - $10,000
Indianapolis, Indiana
“NOW I DON’T HAVE TO [SPEND MONEY ON TOILETRIES]. IT WAS ALL GIVEN TO ME HERE, MORE THAN I COULD HAVE ASKED FOR ACTUALLY. AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY GRANDDAUGHTER’S SIX YEARS SHE’LL BE GETTING A GIFT FROM HER GRANDFATHER. I DON’T THINK THERE’S MUCH MORE THAT NEEDS TO BE SAID THAN THAT, EXCEPT FOR THE FACT THAT I’M EXTREMELY HUMBLED AND THANKFUL.”
“I AM SO GLAD I WENT [TO THE STAND DOWN]. I HAVE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE WHAT YOU GUYS PUT ON OUTSIDE OF THE MILITARY. THE SHOES AND BLANKETS PROVIDED COULD NOT HAVE COME AT A BETTER TIME. I HOPE YOU GUYS REALIZE HOW MUCH YOU DID FOR US VETS OUT THERE. GOD BLESS YOU, AND THANK YOU SO MUCH.”
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.

JOIN THE FORCE – BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR
Your reoccurring 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.

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!

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.
THE DISABLED VETERANS NATIONAL FOUNDATION EXIST 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.