



Michigan Chapter

The Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America (MPVA) has been working to make a difference in lives of veterans and people with disabilities since 1961. This past year was exciting as we returned to hosting face-to-face events, offering more support to members and friends, and continuing to expand services. I am proud to say that our Chapter continues to flourish and expand. Our work to enhance the quality of life for veterans has been unwavering, as we continue to provide information, advocacy, education, recreation, fellowship, and above all—hope!

When I reflect on our yearly accomplishments, I am reminded of the mission here at the MPVA—we are an organization whose members are, above all, resilient and tough! Our members constantly adapt and demonstrate that they can overcome any obstacle. We have seen our members and community supporters prove this through their desire to be more inclusive and active.

The Chapter hosted a variety of events ranging in topic. MPVA's informational webinars, including one on Estate Planning, allowed members and friends to learn and inquire about this a complicated topic and prepare for their futures. We were also proud to host membership events like our Annual Awareness Day at Madonna University's Welcome Center, a state-of-the-art facility, and we supported multiple sporting events through our support of Wheelin' Team 457. And our members enjoyed our annual picnic at the Miracle League of Plymouth.

The Chapter dialed up all of our communications: through our social media posts, newsletters, and membership calls. We truly love communicating more with our members, as well as sending out birthday cards and gift cards! Each call demonstrates that our members are special and deserving.

I know that our Chapter feels extraordinarily pleased that we were able honor our veterans this fall with a Veterans Luncheon and Movie Screening which proved a worthwhile endeavor, providing a delicious lunch, free raffle, and a chance to honor our brave service men and women.

We have worked hard to maintain our eight mandated programs of service and are proud to give you a snapshot of those in this Annual Report. I hope you take some time to read through the following pages of this document and see the accomplishments that our friends, families, partners, committees, and members made during FY 2023. Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every person that supported the MPVA—you are the reason we are able to continue carrying out our mission!

Sincerely,

*Michael F. Harris,
Chapter President*

2023 Annual Report
Making a difference since 1961!

Fiscal Year 2023

Advocacy & Legislation

The MPVA's Advocacy Program works with congress, federal and state agencies, local communities, and in conjunction with other disability organizations, to ensure that our members and all people with disabilities have equal opportunities to participate in all aspects of American society.

The MPVA addresses the needs of veterans and others who experience spinal cord dysfunction or disabilities through interaction with government at every level. Combining expertise and experience with commitment and energy, the staff at the MPVA seeks to ensure that the needs of our members are considered as public official's debate issues and develop policies. We continue the work to guarantee that benefits and rights of all veterans and citizens with disabilities are protected.

In FY 2023, the MPVA had many accomplishments, some of them include:

- Monitored settlement agreements on numerous civil rights complaints filed in federal court against municipalities throughout southeastern Michigan for violating Title II of the ADA
- Continued to serve on The Senior Alliance Board of Directors where members review existing policies/procedures to determine if they can improve the lives of people with disabilities and to ensure that they can live as independently as possible throughout southern and western Wayne County
- Appointed by Governor Whitmer to serve on the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Accessibility Advisory Board
- Informed and educated the public regarding disability rights laws, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and state and local buildings codes
- Worked as a member of the Coalition to Protect Auto No Fault (CPAN) to make sure that the Michigan's auto insurance industry fights to maintain the original no-fault promise it made to Michigan citizens when the law was passed in 1972

Communications

Our newsletter, the "Rollin' Times," is sent to members and friends four times a year. Our website and social media pages bring you up-to-date news and information. Follow us on our website at: www.michiganpva.org or on our Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/michiganpva.org.

Veterans Service & Liaison

The veterans benefits program has secured millions in new and current benefits claims for veterans and their survivors thanks to PVA's Service Officers who assisted local veterans with free services in filing or re-filing claims for VA benefits. MPVA reached out to offices in Detroit, Ann Arbor, and Battle Creek.

Sports and Recreation

The MPVA supports many adaptive sports programs statewide. The Chapter participated in local and nationwide programs such as the National Veterans Games.

Wheelin' Team 457 was also able to host an array of sporting events at for many of our athletes. We are so proud to support Wheelin' Team 457, which conducts seasonal hunting, fishing, bowling, billiards, and so much more throughout central Michigan.

Membership

The MPVA currently reaches out to 364 members, all honorably discharged veterans with spinal cord injury or disease. We welcome 154 associate members, who join to show their solidarity with our mission and to participate in MPVA programs. Veterans with service-related injuries are members for life at no cost to them. Associate members pay a one-time \$50 fee. The MPVA's Board of Directors is selected from and elected by the members of our Chapter.

Administration

The MPVA is proud to operate out of the Michigan Life Science and Innovation Center (MLSIC) located at: 46701 Commerce Center Dr. in Plymouth. Our location is conveniently located north of metropolitan Detroit between the Detroit VA Medical Center and Ann Arbor VA Medical Center.

Fundraising

The MPVA hosted a Veterans Day Luncheon and Movie Screening in honor of our brave service men and women. We are so lucky to have our generous supporters help offset costs for this event! Sponsors and supporters of the event included: Al Bourdeau Insurance Agency, Jeff Panko, Littler, LTI IT, Michael Harris, Mission BBQ, Pietrzyk Pierogi, Pop Daddy, RIM Foundation, Sinas Dramis, Susan Reck/Merrill Lynch, Tim Agajejian, Tommy Stowers, Walk the Line, and Wolfson, Bolton, Kochis

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Assets Without Donor Restriction	Assets With Donor Restriction	Total
REVENUE AND SUPPORT			
PVA grants	\$ 151,737	\$ -	\$ 151,737
Contributions and other grants	92,137	-	92,137
In-kind contributions	10,599	-	10,599
Other	3,725	-	3,725
Investment income, net	121,680	13,414	135,094
	<u>379,878</u>	<u>13,414</u>	<u>393,292</u>
Net assets released from restrictions	<u>18,500</u>	<u>(18,500)</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT	<u>398,378</u>	<u>(5,086)</u>	<u>393,292</u>
EXPENSES			
Program services			
Membership benefits & services	249,506	-	249,506
Advocacy & government relations	42,442	-	42,442
Communication & public relations	52,974	-	52,974
Total Program Services	<u>344,922</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>344,922</u>
Supporting services			
Management and general	24,775	-	24,775
Fundraising	21,261	-	21,261
Total supporting services	<u>46,036</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>46,036</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>390,958</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>390,958</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	7,419	(5,086)	2,333
NET ASSETS, beginning of year	<u>953,212</u>	<u>363,347</u>	<u>1,316,559</u>
NET ASSETS, end of year	<u>\$ 960,631</u>	<u>\$ 358,261</u>	<u>\$ 1,318,892</u>

**Audited financial report completed by Schultz & Associates, PLC of Plymouth Michigan dated January 24, 2023.*

Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America
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Plymouth, MI 48170

Non-Profit Organization
Zip+4
U.S. Postage
PAID
Plymouth, MI Permit
No. 245



MPVA Officers FY 23

President.....Michael Harris
Vice PresidentRobert Vance
SecretaryClark Shuler
Treasurer.....Timothy Agajeenian
DirectorRay Brown
DirectorDavid Peck
DirectorScot Severn

MPVA Staff

Jaelyn K. Kochis	Executive Director
Brenda A. Wheeler	Administrative Assistant
Linda K. Highland	Financial Officer
Robin L. Bennett	Development Coordinator

Our Mission...

The mission of the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America (MPVA) is to enhance the quality of life of veterans with spinal cord injury or disease, as well as all citizens with disabilities, by: advocating for civil rights, assuring quality health care, supporting continued recreation, research, education and healthy living.

**Thank You for
Supporting Our Mission!**
www.michiganpva.org