



Paralyzed Veterans of America

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, 2018, was no different! The MPVA worked to enhance the quality of life of tens of thousands veterans by providing services, information, advocacy, education, recreation, fellowship, and above all—hope!

Our past Fiscal Year was extraordinarily exciting as we embarked on a new journey in selling the building the Chapter had owned since the early 1990’s. Our goal in selling was to downsize to a smaller location that would be more fiscally advantageous to our members. Not only did our goal to sell happen, but we have been beyond fortunate to land an office space at the Michigan Life Science and Innovation Center located in Plymouth, MI. This state of the art building and new locale has offered us up more freedom to focus even more on our programs and member services!

Besides our big office move, FY 2018 was filled with great strides engaging and serving Michigan’s veteran and disabled community. From the success of our athletes at the Nation Veterans Wheelchair Games to our continued sponsorship of the Detroit Free Press Marathon Wheelers and Hand Cyclists Division—these are just a few of the accomplishments that the MPVA achieved in FY 2018.

As I reflect back on FY 2018, I know that our Chapter feels extraordinarily thankful for all of the support we have received. This years Annual Salute to Veterans event and our Open House were extremely successful! 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 2018. 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 Harris, Chapter President

2018 Annual Report

Making a difference since 1961...

Fiscal Year 2018

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 and guarantee that benefits and rights of all veterans and citizens with disabilities are protected.

In FY 2018, the MPVA had many accomplishments, some of them include:

- Advised the Michigan Department of Transportation to ensure that they are properly installing "public right-of-ways" under Michigan accessibility codes
- 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 see if they can be improved upon the lives of people with disabilities and ensure that they can live as independently as possible through out southern and western Wayne County
- Appointed by Governor Snyder to serve on the Michigan Department Natural Resources Accessibility Advisory Board
- Supported the Michigan Regional Future City Competition by presenting the "Best City of People with Disabilities Award" to middle aged students

- Informed and educated the public regarding disability rights laws, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and state and local buildings codes
- Continued to make progress from the Oakland Township Settlement—an agreement that will ensure that veterans with disabilities are granted the possibility to live in a newly built, state of the art, living opportunity.
- Worked to preserve Michigan's model auto no-fault system and to make sure that the Michigan's auto insurance industry keeps 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. Additionally, we provide services that are available on a daily basis that include: The Pump Guide at www.ThePumpguide.com, with its interactive search capabilities that allow disabled drivers to locate 1,000 Michigan gas stations that are ready to provide full services assistance at self-service pricing. Our website, www.Michiganpva.org, which is updated regularly with news and information.

Veterans Service & Liaison

The MPVA veterans benefits system 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 from offices in Detroit, Ann Arbor, and Battle Creek.

Sports and Recreation

The MPVA supports many adaptive sports programs state-wide. FY 2018 brought forth many more exciting sports and recreational moments and milestones. This year also marked the Chapter's 13th year sponsoring the Disability Division of the *Detroit Free Press Marathon*. MPVA sponsored: veterans attending the 38th National Veterans Games, the Michigan Sports Unlimited Rugby Tournament, and the Annual "Thunder in the Valley" Games hosted by the Michigan Sports Unlimited which were held in June of this year and all ages and levels of disabilities were welcomed to participate—to name just a few!

From our sponsorship of the regional Great Lakes Storm quad rugby team, to the local groups such as Thumb-based Wheelin' Team 457, which conducts seasonal hunting and fishing events in central Michigan, the MPVA was able to reach out across the state supporting recreation activities!

Membership

The MPVA currently reaches out to 410 members, all honorably discharged veterans with spinal cord injury or dysfunction. We welcome 165 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. MPVA's Board of Directors is selected from and elected by the members of our Chapter.

Administration

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

**MICHIGAN PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2018**

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
REVENUE AND SUPPORT				
PVA Grants	\$ 154,147	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 154,147
Contribution	174,367	0	0	174,367
In-Kind Contributions	23,354	0	0	23,354
Other	6,595	0	0	6,595
Investment Income	37,523	2,923	0	40,446
Gain on Sale of Building	422,312	0	0	422,312
	<u>818,298</u>	<u>2,923</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>821,221</u>
Net assets released from restrictions	<u>9,500</u>	<u>(9,500)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT	<u>827,798</u>	<u>(6,577)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>821,221</u>
EXPENSES				
Program Services				
Membership Benefits & Services	162,080	0	0	162,080
Advocacy & Government Relations	28,747	0	0	28,747
Communication & Public Relations	38,108	0	0	38,108
Total Program Services	<u>228,935</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>228,935</u>
Supporting Services				
Management and General	101,102	0	0	101,102
Fundraising	76,345	0	0	76,345
Total Supporting Services	<u>177,447</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>177,447</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>406,382</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>406,382</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	421,416	(6,577)	0	414,839
Prior Period Adjustment	(5,002)	5,002	0	0
NET ASSETS, beginning of year	<u>824,810</u>	<u>400,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,224,810</u>
NET ASSETS, end of year	<u>\$ 1,241,224</u>	<u>\$ 398,425</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 1,639,649</u>

Fundraising

Our Annual "Salute to Veterans," MPVA's largest annual fundraiser, attracted approximately 200 attendees who honored veterans from all eras. Sponsors and volunteers of the event included: BIAMI, Eisenhower Center, Fiat Chrysler Group, George Googasian, Health Partners, HVPC, LLC, Indian Trails, Littler, Michael Harris, Michigan Mobility Solutions, Mocerri, Morgan Stanley, Nyman Turkish, One Magnify, Quality Home Medical, RIM, Star Rehab, Suburban Collection Showplace, Walk the Line, and Wolfson Bolton.

Another rewarding activity that took place in FY 18 included MPVA's Open House after our move to our new location in Plymouth where many of our members and supporters joined us for an afternoon of fellowship and fun. FY 2018 was also positively influenced by the support of the Plymouth Miracle League who graciously opens their field, and fully accessible pavilion, to our members! The MPVA would like to thank each and every person and organization that was able to contribute in FY 2018!

Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America
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Paralyzed Veterans of America

Michigan Chapter

MPVA Officers FY 18

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Vice PresidentRobert Vance
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DirectorRay Brown
DirectorDavid Peck
DirectorScot Severn

MPVA Staff

Jaclyn K. Kochis	Executive Director
Brenda A. Wheeler	Administrative Assistant
Linda K. Highland	Financial Officer

Our Mission...

The mission of the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America (MPVA) is to enhance the quality of lives 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!**