

February 18, 2009

DAV Chapter 5
Los Angeles, CA 90015

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in hopes that your organization may again be able to help provide funding for the upcoming 23rd National Veterans Golden Age Games (NVGAG). This year the Games will be held June 1-15th in Birmingham, Alabama. As you know, the NVGAG is a multi-event sports and therapeutic recreation program for veterans who are 55 years of age and older and receiving care through a VA facility. We are proud to say that these games are the premier senior adaptive rehabilitation program in the United States and the only national seniors' program designed to improve the quality of life for all older veterans, including those with a wide range of abilities and disabilities. The NVGAG also provides many avenues for socialization and camaraderie that our veterans really look forward to every year.

The veterans of the Day Treatment and OUR PLAC programs at LAACC/ELA have been participating in the Games for the last 19 years and the Team is composed of veterans that are currently in treatment at the Los Angeles Ambulatory Care Center and the East Los Angeles Community Based Outpatient Clinic. Because of generous donations from organizations such as yours, last year we were able to send 31 veterans to the games that were held in Indianapolis, Indiana. The games were very successful and provided a memorable experience for all who attended. The competition was very intense with over 650 veterans from all across the U.S.A participating in the games.

At this time 35 veterans have expressed an interest in attending this year's games. We estimate that it will cost at least \$800.00 to send each veteran. We continue to give priority to veterans who have never attended the Games before. We were hoping that your organization might again be able to help so that we can send as many veterans as possible. This year our goal is to raise \$19,000. Our deadline for providing full payment for the games is March 15, 2009. Any amount that you might be able to contribute would be greatly appreciated. Our veterans are very thankful for the support of veterans' organizations such as yours, and know that otherwise they would be unable to attend.

The following are veterans who plan to attend the Golden Age Games. Most if not all are DAV members: John Mishow, Henry Black, Frank Southard, Mike Gonzalez, Cecilio Garcia, Rod Carbonell, Manny Saldivar, Jimmy Peguero, Eddie Amaya, Scott Baty, Robert Jaramillo, George Gallegos, George Reedy, Ruben Macias, Ralph Castro, John Rader, Fred Paz, William Barnett, Holsey Knowlton, Mindy Schneider, Robert Ashford, John Brice, Art Caudillo, Luis Sanchez, Ernie Esparza, Walter Phillips, Chuck Berry, Kirk Hill, Robert Gonzales, LeAnn Hobbs.

Thank you for your consideration. Checks can be made out to: Cecilio Garcia and in the memo section please put Golden Age Games. For further information about the Golden Age Games event itself, you can contact Retha Mays at 323-725-7557 x236.

Sincerely,

Cecilio A. Garcia
Chapter 5. Commander