

DAV Auxiliary Newsletter



860 Dolwick Dr., Erlanger, KY 41018

March 2024

Quota Achieved!

Congratulations to the following State Departments for reaching 2023-2024 Quota!

Alabama
Florida
Illinois
Louisiana
New Hampshire
New Mexico
Ohio
Oklahoma
Oregon
Pennsylvania
South Carolina
Texas
Vermont
Wyoming

Introducing the Family Assistance Program

We are excited to announce that under the Service Program Charter developed in 2020, and with the approval of the National Executive Committee, DAV Auxiliary has modified the Service Program. Now called the Family Assistance Program, DAV Auxiliary will once again be able to provide emergency financial assistance to those with **dire financial need** when it is needed most. Program highlights are as follows:

- **Eligibility** – An ill or injured disabled veteran, their spouse or their child experiencing **dire financial need** may apply for emergency financial assistance.
- The one-time maximum financial assistance amount granted will be up to \$1,000 and payable to the vendor/billing source, not the individual.
- The organization's national finance committee shall annually review the program funds and expenditures to determine a maximum annual amount to be disbursed during a calendar year (Jan.-Dec.). Once the allocated funds are exhausted, no further assistance will be granted for that calendar year.

Donations to the DAV Auxiliary Service Program are encouraged for fund stability and continuity, and to enable us to provide the financial support that is greatly needed by so many.

National Commander AnnMarie Hurley and I are thrilled that the Family Assistance Program is being announced so that we can continue serving those who need us the most. For additional information, please visit <https://auxiliary.dav.org/membership/programs/>.

DAV Caregiver Support Program

DAV Caregiver Support provides tailored support and resources to friends, family members and loved ones who provide care to those who served.

Not only do caregivers share in the sacrifices veterans incurred in service, but their contributions also enhance our veterans' quality of life and saves money for taxpayers who might otherwise be required to cover critical services. DAV believes the caregivers of our country's veterans deserve their own support.

Powered by TCARE, a Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business, the program allows veterans and their families to access tailored caregiver support and resources—including individual support from a trained specialist—at no cost.

Through DAV Caregivers Support, caregivers can access:

- Online resources and risk screening to better understand their role as a caregiver.
- Digital tools to support their caregiving responsibilities.
- Personalized care plans and one-on-one support from a trained caregiver specialist with experience supporting veterans and their loved ones.

By providing them with a proven support program, caregivers and the veterans they love benefit from:

- Reduced caregiver stress, depression and other negative health outcomes.
- Improved relationships between veterans and their caregivers.
- Increased resilience and ability to navigate complex caregiving responsibilities, including navigating health care systems and financial planning.

To register, please visit <https://together.mycare.ai/dav> using "DAV" as your registration code or call 800-421-5137.

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Legislative by Terry Grabowski, National Legislative Chairman

Hope everyone is surviving the weather. Now on to important things. I hope members belong to the Commanders Action Network (CAN), but if you don't, I would encourage you to join. It is so simple to join and all you need is to input your name, address, and email. That's it. Then whenever an important bill comes up, you are sent an email that is pre-filled out for your representative. Simply click to send and it does it for you. You should get a response back saying they received it from the person it was sent to. If you need help, let me know and I will help you.

If you possibly could attend the 2024 Mid-Winter Conference, it is March 7 – 9, 2024. Details are on the DAV site. National Commander AnnMarie Hurley will be laying the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns on Monday, March 4, 2024, at 1:15 p.m.

A few new bills that need to be sent to your representatives:

- H.R. 2413, the Dental Care for Veterans Act
- S. 3452: Fred Hamilton Veterans' Lost Records Act
- S. 3352: Restore Honor to Service Members Act of 2023
- H.R. 5890: Review Every Veterans Claim Act of 2023

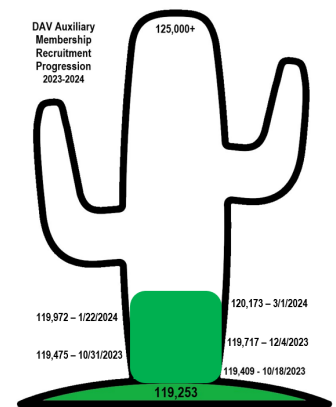
Membership by Melissa Pierce, National Membership Chairman

It's March. This year keeps marching on. It's time to march forward into the spring and summer months. It's time to march forward into our final fiscal quarter of the year. It's time to march forward to our Auxiliary State and National conventions. It's time to march forward to our 2023-2024 membership goal of 125,000 members strong!

It's March. Now is a great time to get out and plan that membership drive. Now is a great time to plan outreach events. Now is a great time to encourage recruitment of new members to our mission of service to Veterans and their families. Now is a great time to sign up new Junior members. Now is a great time to help National reach its membership goals. Now is a great time to remind members of the National membership recruiting incentives.

Speaking of recruiting incentives, as we march into this final recruiting quarter, I want to remind everyone of those incentives. This year, when you sign up new paid members (at least \$20 down) you earn chances into the drawing for a PAID trip to the 2024 Fall Conference in Lawrenceburg, IN, OR a PAID trip to the 2025 National Convention in Las Vegas, NV. Remember, if you sign up five new paid members you receive one entry. For each additional new paid member, you receive one additional entry. And if your State or Unit reaches quota plus one your unit and state department has a chance win a pizza party.

Arizona is just around the corner and our cactus needs your help! Can we fill the cactus? Can we reach our membership goal? Can we hit 125,000 members strong? Yes we can, but the only way we can accomplish it



DAV Auxiliary Outstanding Member of the Year

The DAV Auxiliary Outstanding Member of the Year is awarded annually to recognize the contributions and dedication of an outstanding member of the Auxiliary whose efforts have enhanced the goals of the Auxiliary, the Parent Organization, and has been active in the community since becoming an Auxiliary member.

Any active senior member of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary is eligible for this award with the exception of a previous winner of the Past National Commanders' Award, any Past National Commander, or an employee of the DAV and/or Auxiliary. Any DAV Auxiliary member in good standing may sponsor an individual for this award. **The postmark deadline for nominations is March 15, 2024.**

Applications can be found online at <https://auxiliary.dav.org/membership/resources/auxiliary-forms/>.

DAV Community Impact Day

DAV believes that “thank you for your service” is more than words; it’s action. When you give even an hour of your time to a veteran, you show them they are valued and appreciated. It doesn’t have to be complicated or time-consuming to get involved. One heartfelt, simple act of service added to others compounds to create an immeasurable effect.

Anyone, not just veterans, can volunteer with DAV. Everyone has a gift or a skill that can make a difference. Never underestimate what you offer. We hope this inspires more people to get involved in community service year-round.

April 6 is DAV Community Impact Day, so make a plan to get out there and serve! Teach, fix, host or donate—your imagination is your limit. Volunteering with others is more fun, so get your friends to join you to make an even bigger impact. This is a great opportunity to plan a unit project, wear your DAV Auxiliary swag, and make an impact on a veteran in your community.

Pledge your time by completing the [Community Impact Day Pledge Form](#). Then, share what you did by taking photos and videos, and uploading them to the [DAV Community Impact Day page](#)! Don’t forget to add captions and tell us who’s in the photos.

Remember, making an impact takes more than just one day, and there are always opportunities to make a difference.

Now Accepting Online Officer Reports

The wait is finally over! Beginning with the 2024-2025 election year, units will be able to submit their annual officer election report (OER) online utilizing www.mydav.org. Any previous reports must be submitted to our office in the traditional manner. No exceptions. Directions will be included in the upcoming mailing to all Unit Adjutants in April and will also be available on the [Auxiliary website](#).

Join us for the 2024 National Fall Conference

Join us for the 2024 National Fall Conference in Lawrenceburg, Indiana, September 26-28, at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Lawrenceburg, at 51 Walnut Street, Lawrenceburg, Indiana, 47025. Reservations can be made by calling 812-539-8888 and asking for the DAVA 2024 room block code or by using the [reservation link](#). Rooms are \$149.99 per night for single/double occupancy; \$159.99 for triple occupancy, and \$169.99 for quad occupancy, plus applicable taxes.

Additional accommodations will be available at the Hollywood Hotel and Casino, 777 Hollywood Blvd., Lawrenceburg, Indiana, 47025. Reservations can be made by calling 888-274-6797. This location is about five minutes from the conference hotel. Transportation between sites will not be provided.

All reservations must be made by September 10, 2024, or when the blocks are full, whichever is sooner.

Rates will include complimentary parking and breakfast. Those staying at the Hollywood Casino will be able to enjoy their complimentary breakfast once they arrive at the DoubleTree. Breakfast vouchers will be required. The DoubleTree by Hilton, Lawrenceburg, overlooks the Ohio River in downtown Lawrenceburg and is connected to the Lawrenceburg Event Center, where our conference sessions will be held. Every stay begins with a warm DoubleTree cookie.

While the final agenda is still to be determined, you can plan to see our annual patriotic night on Thursday, September 26. Plan to wear your red, white and blue while we kick-off the conference and hear from your 2024-2025 national officers and chairmen. We will once again have our fun night on Friday, September 27, and we are excited to welcome the Bunker Boyz, a fun band from Alexandria, Kentucky, that plays something for everyone! The event will conclude with a dinner and entertainment on Saturday, September 28.

Units should watch their April mailing for additional information. We can’t wait to see you in September!

Follow us on Social Media
for news and information
on the DAV Auxiliary.



Making a difference in the lives of disabled veterans and their families.

DAV AUXILIARY

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Reminders:

- ⇒ Unit officers have the ability to generate a membership list as needed by visiting www.mydav.org. If you have not already done so, please sign-up for access. If you need assistance, please contact our office. If you have forgotten your password, our office is **not** able to reset it for you. You **must** utilize the “**Forgot My Password**” option for a secure link to be sent to your inbox.
- ⇒ The [DAV Auxiliary Procedure and Program Manual](#) has been revised. Members are able to download and print the revised version at any time. Additional information on printed copies will be available in the future.
- ⇒ When submitting membership applications, please print legibly. This information is manually added into CRM, and to avoid delays with processing and/or issues with membership cards, please take your time filling out the application. Also, do not include abbreviations.
- ⇒ Under no circumstances may fundraising solicitations be sent by mail, email, or posted on internet/social media, nor in any way which gains access to support outside of their geographic boundaries. Exception: if the unit mails a newsletter to their Auxiliary members, a fundraiser solicitation may be included in the body of that newsletter provided that the fundraisers: 1) is to benefit a specific project; 2) has received necessary approval. Said fundraiser solicitation shall not in any way be the primary purpose of the newsletter.
- ⇒ Units and State Departments may not accumulate funds, whether for service purposes or otherwise, in excess of three times the expenses of their last fiscal year. Those entities affected must develop a plan to expend funds within a reasonable time. The expenditure of excess accumulated funds must be for service purposes only. Examples of permissible funds to donate to include DAVA Service Program Fund, DAVA Education Program Fund, DAVA 4 Kids, DAVA Caregiver Program, VA Medical Centers, DAV Transportation, DAV Disaster Relief, etc. When in doubt, reach out.
- ⇒ As a reminder, if your Unit still has a mandate owed to national headquarters, please be sure to pay it as soon as possible. Failure to do so will bar your unit delegates/alternates from having a voice/vote at the state and/or national convention.