

ABOUT US

The Minnesota Paralyzed Veterans of America was granted chapter status in 1993. Our office is located within the Minneapolis VA Medical Center in Minneapolis, MN. Our current membership is over 350. The Minnesota PVA is an IRS, tax exempt - 501 (c) 3 organization registered with the State of Minnesota and as such, all gifts are tax deductible. The National Paralyzed Veterans of America was founded in 1946, with a total membership of over 19,000 in all 50 states, including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. PVA is the only congressionally chartered Veterans service organization dedicated solely for the benefit and representation of individuals with spinal cord injury or disease.

PVA MISSION STATEMENT

Founded in 1946, the Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA) is a national organization dedicated to serving former members of the U.S. Armed Forces who have suffered catastrophic paralysis as a result of spinal cord injury or disease. By Public law 92-93 (1971), the U.S. Congress chartered PVA.



Paralyzed Veterans of America

Minnesota Chapter



Phone: 612-467-2263 or
1-800-663-6782

1 Veterans Dr. SC1-238
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55417

Email: mnpva@qwestoffice.net
Website: mnpva.org



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PROGRAMS

MNPVA serves its' members by providing a variety of programs that fulfill our organizational mission. In specific, MNPVA is mandated by charter to discharge (8) eight nationally directed programs:

ADMINISTRATION

MNPVA maintains an administrative office within the Minneapolis VA Health Care Systems, One Veterans Drive, SCI – 238, Minneapolis, MN 55417, to service the needs and interests of the membership. The office hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday.

ADVOCACY

MNPVA advocates for our Veterans and the disabled community by remaining cognizant of local and national disability issues. We remain actively vigilant in assisting and representing our members affecting their civil rights when issues regarding disabilities arise. MNPVA also maintains a vocal and visible presence on disability related issues within the community. We strive to promote fair opportunity and equal access for all.

COMMUNICATION

MNPVA maintains active communication with our members and the disabled community through a variety of resources. We publish newsletters, hold meetings of the membership at various locations throughout the State of Minnesota, and provide special mailings to the membership when necessary. We also work with local disability organizations to ensure national and local information regarding disability issues are provided to our membership.

FUNDRAISING

We actively solicit grants from other entities to help support our members and hold various fundraising events throughout the year. We also continue to sell the Kelly Leg Bands (leg retainers) and Minnesota Bowling Ramps.

LIAISON

MNPVA continues to have an excellent relationship with the Minneapolis VA Medical Center. Patients are visited Monday through Friday by MNPVA and the National Service Officer visits them twice a week. MNPVA visits each VA Facility in the state to visit with patients there. We continually provide support for several recreational programs within our hospital and Veterans Homes throughout the State.

MEMBERSHIP

MNPVA has an active membership throughout the state of Minnesota. We also hold general membership meetings throughout the state. Our annual picnic is held in June and our annual banquet is held in September/October of every year. We actively pursue new members and volunteers on a continual basis.

SPORTS AND RECREATION

MNPVA maintains an active sports and recreation program for its members and all persons with disabilities. Our primary goal is to get the members involved whether young or old, and newly injured or long time wheelchair users. This program provides health benefits by keeping active. Support among the members during each event and the camaraderie developed among the athletes is priceless.

SERVICE OFFICE

PVA currently has a National PVA service office staff to assist Veterans with benefits and health care, plus a National Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor.

Jason Stephenson - Senior Benefits Advocate
612-629-7022

Tami Anderson - National Service Officer III
612-970-5668

Jim Arndt - National Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor
612-629-7021

KEY OBJECTIVES

The key objective of the Paralyzed Veterans of America is to take those actions necessary to restore spinal cord injury or diseased victims' bodies and life potentials as closely as humanly possible to those Americans not suffering spinal cord dysfunction. This will be accomplished by the coordinated efforts of the PVA organization through its programs to:

- Advocate for and monitor the delivery of high quality and appropriate health care benefits and services
- Identify and secure veterans' benefits for paralyzed veterans and others as appropriate
- Promote medical research to cure spinal cord dysfunction and other related problems
- Educate society about the attitudinal, physical, and legal barriers that confront persons with disabilities in order to influence the removal of those barriers
- Provide information and opportunities for health
- Promotion, recreation, employment, sports, services, and camaraderie for paralyzed veterans and others
- Appropriately educate the public with the current and ongoing contribution needs as well as current and past contributions of America's veterans
- Educate the public with simple and effective means for reducing the risk of or preventing spinal cord injury
- Promote involvement of the public in national and local activities that support PVA'S mission



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