



North Central Chapter

Paralyzed Veterans of America

North Central Chapter

209 N. Garfield Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57104

1-605-336-0494 * 1-800-505-4782

Email: info@ncpva.org

Website: www.ncpva.org

October 1, 2019 - September 30, 2020

Annual Report



Paralyzed Veterans of America

North Central Chapter

A Member Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America
Chartered by the Congress of the United States



Paralyzed Veterans of America

Mission Statement

Paralyzed Veterans of America, a congressionally chartered veterans service organization founded in 1946, has developed a unique expertise on a wide variety of issues involving the special needs of our members—veterans of the armed forces who have experienced spinal cord injury or dysfunction.

PVA will use that expertise to be the leading advocate for:

- Quality health care for our members,
- Research and education addressing spinal cord injury and dysfunction,
- Benefits available as a result of our members' military service,
- Civil rights and opportunities that maximize the independence of our members.

To enable PVA to continue to honor this commitment, we must recruit and retain members who have the experience, energy, dedication, and passion necessary to manage the organization and ensure adequate resources to sustain the programs essential for PVA to achieve its mission.

**Paralyzed Veterans of America
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OFFICERS

- ♦ **President**
Perry Grimme
- ♦ **Vice President**
Casey Davidson
- ♦ **Secretary**
Greg Brandner
- ♦ **Treasurer**
Gene Murphy

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Duane Biesboer
Charles Doom
Rodney Melcher



**Paralyzed Veterans
of America**

North Central Chapter

Annual Report

October 1, 2019—September 30, 2020

APPOINTMENTS

Service/Liaison:	Chuck Doom
Legislation Director:	Gene Murphy
Volunteer Coordinator:	Charles Doom
Membership Officer:	Duane Biesboer
Newsletter Editor:	Barbara Priesz
Sports Director:	Mike Olson

Sioux Falls VAVS Deputy Representative

Lisa Cummings

VAVS Representative

Sheri Rozeboom-Kloes

Black Hills Service/Liaison

Rodney Melcher

National Director: Michael Olson

Executive Director: Lisa Cummings

Government Relations Director: Terry Paulsen

Administrative Assistant: Barbara Priesz

PVA National Service Officer

Brad Friez

VA Dakota Regional Office

2501 W. 22nd St.

Sioux Falls, SD 57117

(605) 333-6801 * (800) 795-3632

Kristina Allen, Secretary II



Chapter Programs

The PVA North Central Chapter follows PVA National's Guidelines requiring member services in eight mandated programs: Administration, Service, Communications, Membership, Liaison, Fundraising, Advocacy and Sports & Recreation.

Administration

The Chapter Administration Program oversees the day to day activities and the overall management of the Chapter's operations. The Chapter has a full-time Executive Director and Government Relations Director and a part-time Administrative Assistant. The Chapter office is located at 209 N. Garfield Ave, Sioux Falls, SD 57104 and the regular office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Due to COVID this year, staff has been taking turns going into the office and working from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Service

Our National Service Officer (NSO) Brad Friez is located at the Dakota Regional Service Office, 2501 W. 22nd St., in Sioux Falls, SD. The NSO's duties are to ensure that our members are receiving the quality health care and benefits they are entitled to. Fiscal year 10/01/2019 - 09/30/2020 his office served 423 clients (Veterans and family members) and had 2,610 contacts for 469 issues which resulted in awards of \$ 2,737,698.00 in benefits for Veterans and/or family members. This year we were asked to assist with several clients from the Lincoln, NE Service Office and spent a considerable amount of time on their issues and concerns. If we counted the awards from assisting those clients and from one of our clients in NW Iowa just across the border from Sioux Falls we would have again reached 3 million dollars in awards much like last year. Sometimes the changes that VA makes allow us to do a better or more timely job in assisting our clients. The changes VA has made during this past year have made it even more of a challenge to serve our Veterans and family members.

Communications

The PVA North Central Chapter produces and distributes a bi-monthly newsletter to keep Chapter members informed of developments related the Chapter and National level. The newsletter provides information about recent and future activities as well as news releases and other pertinent information. In addition, the Chapter provides other direct mailings and emails on time sensitive information to all our members. The Chapter's website is at www.ncpva.org and is maintained on a regular basis with links, news, newsletters, calendar of events, membership forms, scholarship forms and much more. You can also find us on Facebook which you can connect from the homepage of our website.





Membership

Regular general membership meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at the Chapter Office. The Chapter Board of Directors meet every other month or as needed to formulate the policies and act on the general business of the organization.

PVANCC serves North Dakota, South Dakota and Southwest, MN (along with members we have in MT, WY and Western Iowa border). The Membership Program is maintained on a database at the Chapter office. The Chapter Membership Program Director Duane Biesboer and the Executive Director update the membership database as needed and files monthly reports with National PVA. The Membership Program Director also provides an updated membership report at the monthly membership meeting. As of September 30, 2020 the Chapter had a total of 179 members (90 Service Connected and 89 Non Service Connected) and 92 Associate Members. ***Regular Membership is free. If you know of someone who is member eligible please have them call our office. We need to increase our membership numbers!*** Dues for Associate Members (individuals/businesses who do not qualify for regular membership) can join the Chapter for \$30/year or a Life Membership for \$200.00. Associate Members have the same rights and privileges as our regular membership, except Associate Members do not have voting rights.

Wellness Center Reimbursement: The Chapter reimburses members up to \$25 a month for membership fees to a wellness center of their choice or to a member who is currently enrolled at a wellness center. To receive reimbursement: 1) Member must attend a minimum of two to three times per week and show proof of attendance. 2) Member must bring in a monthly receipt (proof of payment) for the \$25 monthly membership fee reimbursement.

Leisure Time Activities Reimbursement: A member in good standing will be reimbursed for Leisure Time Activities up to \$12.50 per ticket and not to exceed \$25 for each event attended for up to 24 tickets per fiscal year OR a one-time per Chapter fiscal year reimbursement for an event not to exceed \$300 (e.g. season tickets). Receipts for events must be submitted to the Chapter within 10 business days after the event. The maximum amount any member can receive in leisure time activities is \$300.00 per the Chapters Fiscal Year. *For an activity to be eligible for reimbursement it must be outside the Members home (e.g. ball games, concerts, movies, dinner and etc.).





Fundraising

The PVA North Central Chapter is a IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization. We receive no federal funding or federal grant support. Corporate sponsors, foundation grants, families and individuals who contribute to the PVA North Central Chapter make our mission possible. The Chapter's fundraising efforts are conducted in accordance with state solicitation guidelines that we represent.

The Chapter continues to maintain the Seals we earned from Charity Navigator, GuideStar, Better Business Bureau and the Charities Review Council. These seals are very important to us and to our donors know they are donating to a reputable organization.

The Chapter has various fundraising programs to raise funds in support of the programs and services we provide to our members, veterans and other individuals with disabilities. Our current fundraising activities include two Mailing Campaigns, Grant and Letter Writing, Combined Federal Campaign, Thrivent Choice Dollars, Amazon Smile, IGive, Network for Good, Action Donation Services (unwanted vehicles, and property) Raffles, Vendor Booths, Poker Run, Trapshoot, Chapter Contribution Program; Bulletin Booster Program along with receiving generous donations from Chapter supporters. All fundraising activities have prior approval from National PVA.

The North Central Chapter accepts donations, endowments, bequests and other planned giving donations. Please consider the PVA North Central Chapter when planning your Wills, Estates and Charitable Remainder Trusts so that we will be able to sustain for many years to come.

Thank you to everyone that has continued to support our veterans and our Chapter. We could not provide our services without your support!





Government Relations/Advocacy-Terry Paulsen

The PVA North Central Chapter's Government Relations/Advocacy program is committed to defending the civil rights of people with disabilities, offering solutions for the removal of architectural barriers and working with all levels of government to protect veteran's benefits, ensure quality health care and safeguard the rights of all citizens with disabilities.

North Central Chapter works closely with our National PVA Staff, PVA members, and Congressional Delegation from throughout the Region on issues affecting veterans and the disabled community. The North Central Chapter GRD represented the North Central Chapter at the 2020 Advocacy/Legislation Seminar in Washington DC. The GRD met with the Congressional leaders of South Dakota, North Dakota, and Minnesota to seek their support on

1. VA Comprehensive Caregiver Program
2. Improving Access to Air Travel
3. Protecting Access to VA Specialized Services
4. Automobile Allowance and Adaptive Equipment
5. Specially Adapted Housing
6. Benefits for Surviving Spouses of ALS Veterans
7. Increase Compliance with the ADA

The Chapter GRD continues to serve as the President of the South Dakota Veterans Council. The SD Veterans Council consists of the PVA, DAV, VFW, MOPH, VVA and the American Legion. The council works to ensure that Veterans issues/concerns are addressed in a timely manner and conducts roundtable discussions with State legislators, Department of Veterans Affairs and other VSO's to review and propose new legislation each year.

The North Central Chapter continues to monitor and provide assistance to the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs regarding the construction of the new State Veterans Cemetery in South Dakota. Completion of the State Veterans Cemetery is expected in April 2021. The North Central Chapter proposed and supported legislation regarding property tax exemptions for 100% disabled veterans, veterans paid tuition at post-secondary schools, and appropriations to continue the veterans bonus program. All the legislation proposed passed resoundingly during the last session of the State Legislature. The North Central Chapter also proposed and passed through the legislature to allow the South Dakota Veterans Council to act as the main voice for veterans' issues/concerns for the Governor of South Dakota. The North Central Chapter meets often with the South Dakota Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Governor to discuss veterans' concerns.

The Chapter GRD attends the following meeting each month, SD Veterans Council, VA Stakeholders meeting with the State VA Health Care System, Military Veterans affairs Chamber of Commerce, and the Military Family Support Coalition.

Advocacy

The chapter advocacy program continues to focus on defending the civil rights of people with disabilities and offering solutions for the removal of architectural barriers. The chapter is a network member of the Rocky Mountain ADA Center.

The chapter office is very active in providing technical assistance both locally and throughout the region. The Chapter GRD conducts site surveys for organizations that require ADA compliance prior to closing on mortgage loans. The chapter routinely provides guidance and assistance on issues ranging from Fair Housing Litigation, accessible parking, para transit and facility compliance. The chapter continues to work with state and local contractors, design professionals and National PVA architects in reviewing plans for new construction to ensure they meet federal ADA accessibility guidelines and local building codes.

The Chapter GRD serves and attends several board/committee meetings to include, Public Transportation Advisory Board, ADA Review Board, and the Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities.





Sports & Recreation

The Chapter Sports and Recreation program is designed to improve the quality of life for our members and other persons with disabilities.

**DUE TO COVID-19
ALL CHAPTER AND NATIONAL PVA EVENTS
WERE CANCELLED
IN 2020**





Volunteer Program

The North Central Chapter's Volunteer Program has many dedicated volunteers who donate long hours to both the Chapter as well as VA Hospitals. Volunteers donated 2,358 hours to the Chapter this fiscal year.

Volunteer Certificates & Pins were presented to our volunteers throughout the year for their accumulated hours. The Chapter also shows our appreciation by recognizing two volunteers each month with a gift certificate. The volunteer coordinator oversees the volunteer activities and submits all data to National PVA on a monthly basis.

Chapter Research & Education Program

The Chapter maintains an in-house resource library consisting of books, videos, and other relevant materials that increases knowledge and understanding of spinal cord dysfunction. The library is available for Chapter members, their families, health care providers as well as anyone interested in SCI. The Chapter offers an Educational Scholarship Program for qualified individuals obtaining a post-secondary education from accredited colleges and universities. In 2019-2020 the Chapter received three scholarship applications and awarded \$500.00 to each recipient. The Chapter also provided funding to the National PVA's Research Foundation (\$500.00) and Education Foundation (\$500.00) for a total of \$1,000.00.

Community Relations

The PVA North Central Chapter works diligently with numerous organizations both locally and throughout the Region that the Chapter serves, providing services to veterans and individuals with disabilities. Among others, funding for programs were provided to the following VA's: Sioux Falls; Ft. Meade; Hot Springs; Fargo, ND; Montana; Wyoming; Michael J. Fitzmaurice State Veterans Home in Hot Springs and the Minnesota State Veterans Home in Luverne, MN. We also donate to many other worthy organizations throughout the year.

SCI Clinic

The Chapter continues to work with the VA Medical Center staff at Sioux Falls, SD; Black Hills and Fargo, ND to enhance services to our members. A Team of VA staff have been developed and trained for each of these clinic's to provide our members with "one stop" service to better address their Spinal Cord Injury related needs. These teams consist of a Physician, a Nurse, Social Worker and several therapists that will allow our members to build an ongoing relationship and receive a one stop point of contact.



GRANT AND WILLIAMS, INC.

Certified Public Accountants

Rose M. Grant, CPA, MST, CGMA
Aleene A. Williams, CPA
Ladonna Clark, Enrolled Agent

312 S. Conklin Ave.
Sioux Falls, SD 57103
(605) 274-2163
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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Directors
Paralyzed Veterans of America, Inc.,
North Central Chapter
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Paralyzed Veterans of America, Inc., North Central Chapter (a nonprofit corporation), which comprise the statements of financial position as of September 30, 2020 and 2019 and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Paralyzed Veterans of America, Inc., North Central Chapter as of September 30, 2020 and 2019, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Grant and Williams, Inc.

Sioux Falls, South Dakota
December 29, 2020

**Paralyzed Veterans of America, Inc.,
North Central Chapter
Statements of Financial Position
September 30, 2020 and 2019**

<u>ASSETS</u>	2020	2019
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 30,341	\$ 55,786
Accounts receivable	682	-
Prepaid expenses	4,052	2,480
Inventory	4,682	5,186
Marketable securities	835,587	764,838
Total current assets	<u>875,344</u>	<u>828,290</u>
Land	\$ 42,600	\$ 42,600
Building & Improvements	329,142	329,142
Equipment	74,549	74,549
	<u>446,291</u>	<u>446,291</u>
Less Accumulated Depreciation		
Building & Improvements	(195,296)	(186,579)
Equipment	(74,490)	(74,490)
	<u>(269,786)</u>	<u>(261,069)</u>
Net book value	<u>176,505</u>	<u>185,222</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>\$ 1,051,849</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,013,512</u></u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>		
Accounts payable	\$ 7,435	\$ 8,509
Accrued compensated absences	19,060	16,611
Unearned revenue	740	390
PPP Loan	28,012	-
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>55,247</u>	<u>25,510</u>
<u>NET ASSETS</u>		
Net assets without donor restrictions	986,501	982,050
Net assets with donor restrictions	10,101	5,952
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>996,602</u>	<u>988,002</u>
 TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	 <u><u>\$ 1,051,849</u></u>	 <u><u>\$ 1,013,512</u></u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

**Paralyzed Veterans of America, Inc.,
North Central Chapter
Statements of Activities and Changes in Net Assets
For the Years Ended September 30, 2020 and 2019**

			Totals	
	Without donor Restrictions	With donor Restrictions	2020	2019
SUPPORT AND REVENUE				
National PVA Grant	\$ 142,290	\$ -	\$ 142,290	\$ 142,290
Investment return, net	67,852	-	67,852	22,904
Other	2,539	-	2,539	14,854
Contributions	41,700	5,000	46,700	52,787
Total Support and Revenue	254,381	5,000	259,381	232,835
EXPENSES				
Program Services				
Public affairs	91,193		91,193	130,658
Membership and benefits	99,036	851	99,887	103,096
Research and education	2,750		2,750	2,250
Supporting Activities				
General and administrative	47,958		47,958	46,549
Fundraising	8,993		8,993	18,386
Total Expenses	249,930	851	250,781	300,939
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	4,451	4,149	8,600	(68,104)
NET ASSETS--BEGINNING OF YEAR	982,050	5,952	988,002	1,056,106
NET ASSETS--END OF YEAR	\$ 986,501	\$ 10,101	\$ 996,602	\$ 988,002

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Paralyzed Veterans of America, Inc., North Central Chapter
Statement of Functional Expenses
Year Ended September 30, 2020

	Public Affairs		Membership and Benefits			Research
	Government		Service to			
	Relations	Sports	Newsletter	Veterans	Membership	Grants
Compensation	\$ 56,341	\$ 18,780	\$ 7,824	\$ 17,215	\$ 17,215	\$ -
Professional and Consulting	-	-	-	-	-	-
Occupancy	-	-	-	-	15,695	-
Office supplies	-	-	274	-	9,408	-
Postage	-	-	1,217	-	844	-
Printing, publication, and promotion	-	3,300	-	1,009	8,771	-
Dues and subscriptions	390	20	-	750	393	-
Conferences, meeting, and travel	1,569	6,269	-	670	5,647	-
Awards and grants	-	340	-	6,217	4,384	2,750
Subtotal	58,300	28,709	9,315	25,861	62,357	2,750
Depreciation	3,138	1,046	436	959	959	-
Grand total	\$ 61,438	\$ 29,755	\$ 9,751	\$ 26,820	\$ 63,316	\$ 2,750

Total Program Services	Supporting Activities			Total Program and Supporting Activities	2019 Total Program and Supporting Activities
	General and Administrative	Fundraising	Subtotal		
\$ 117,375	\$ 31,301	\$ 7,825	\$ 39,126	\$ 156,501	\$ 148,375
-	11,300	-	11,300	11,300	11,552
15,695	2,121	-	2,121	17,816	19,810
9,682	1,350	(88)	1,262	10,944	19,287
2,061	94	-	94	2,155	2,891
13,080	49	-	49	13,129	8,547
1,553	-	820	820	2,373	2,226
14,155	-	-	-	14,155	67,288
13,691	-	-	-	13,691	12,283
187,292	46,215	8,557	54,772	242,064	292,259
6,538	1,743	436	2,179	8,717	8,680
\$ 193,830	\$ 47,958	\$ 8,993	\$ 56,951	\$ 250,781	\$ 300,939



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Address Service Requested