

# IMPACT REPORT

Health and Comfort Program  
1st Quarter 2017  
Prepared by NB Enterprises



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# 2017 1st Quarter Summary



**This quarter, DVNF partnered with four organizations, taking on two new, promising program partners.**

- Thanks to John Paruch's tenacity, a collection of well-made professional clothing from corporate donor Jos. A. Banks was distributed to 152 veterans through the Detroit VA Medical Center.
- This quarter's other new partner, Operation Troop Appreciation, is located in McKeesport, PA and has a program dedicated to lightening the financial load of physically and mentally disabled veterans who are struggling to regain their footing in society. Having assisted thousands of veterans in the past few years, this is an organization making a significant impact in the veteran community.
- Loads were also sent to DVNF's longtime partner in Albany, NY, Jezreel International, and another partner acquired through last year's SpartanNash Grant: Black Hills Healthcare System in Ft. Meade, SD.



## 1st Quarter Shipments

|                   |           |
|-------------------|-----------|
| 01 Albany, NY     | \$173,374 |
| 02 Ft. Meade, SD  | \$101,130 |
| 03 Detroit, MI    | \$90,485  |
| 04 McKeesport, PA | \$90,455  |

**TOTAL \$473,843**

**YTD TOTAL \$473,843**

## In this quarter

**1,000+**

Veterans Served

**1,376**

Comfort Kits Distributed

**1**

Stand Down Attended

**1**

Corporate Shipment

# Jezreel International

## Albany, NY



Jezreel International, an Albany-based humanitarian aid organization, was established in 1996 and has since served over 40 nations. Then in November 2014, its veteran-specific program, Veterans Miracle Center (VMC), was established. Developed by Jezreel President Barry Feinman, the VMC was established as a

free store with the goal of providing disabled veterans and veterans in need with real solutions to enhance their lives.

The VMC is located in a 1,500-square-foot facility where veterans and their families from the surrounding 16 counties can come and “shop” for items like clothing, household goods, and health and hygiene products. Specialists are also available to provide counsel for personal needs, jobs, housing, or financing. All

goods and services are available free-of-charge.

Since opening, the VMC has served over 3,600 veterans, not only in New York but in the surrounding states. Aside from the free store, Jezreel also annually partners with Eastern New York Homeless Veterans Coalition to offer three stand downs to veterans throughout New York state. The VMC is well-connected to the community and looks for opportunities to support veteran organizations.

## DVNF Partners with Jezreel

Every winter, DVNF sends Jezreel's VMC as much warm clothing as possible, this year providing over 200 pairs of gloves, hats, scarves, and jackets. Other items included toiletries, reading glasses, and dish cloths for those with kitchen needs. On average, VMC sees 13 to 18 veterans and their families each day, Monday through Friday, so the items DVNF sends are a great help in meeting the wide variety of needs VMC encounters. This year, DVNF's items went to veterans who are recovering from house fires, enrolled in college, or living on the street.





The VMC does what it can to support veteran events and organizations in the Albany area, and with **DVNF's** added impact, they were able to contribute to this year's Freeze Out hosted by the Sheehy Palmer VFW. The event helps raise awareness of the number of homeless veterans in the capital region. **DVNF** provided the VMC with enough comfort kits, warm winter gear, socks, and blankets to share not only with veterans who spent the night outside during the event, but the homeless veterans whom they serve.



The VMC's General Manager Jim Pratt, in a photo with two ladies from Vassar College who came by to get some supplies for their veterans' Battle Buddy Room.

Albany is home to many great colleges that offer outstanding programs to assist returning veterans with the GI Bill. The VMC partners with 12 colleges to support one of those programs, Battle Buddy Rooms, which offers activities to promote camaraderie and encourage veterans to give and receive mutual support. Each month, the administrator of the region's Rooms visits the VMC to pick up items needed by the veteran students they serve. This year the VMC provided these students with day-to-day necessities, as well as **DVNF-supplied** blankets, warm socks, and winter gear.



The first months of the year were difficult for many veterans in the capital region. In addition to the cold weather, numerous house fires devastated veterans and active duty service members. At one point, seven veterans lost their homes and all of their belongings in the same evening. The day after these fires, the VMC was asked to clothe the victims and their families, and provide them with personal hygiene items. Thanks to **DVNF**, the VMC was able to give each person a blanket, Comfort Kit, warm socks, a hat, gloves, and a scarf. Because of **DVNF's** contribution, these veterans were equipped to face the remainder of winter with everything they needed to stay warm. In all, **DVNF** and the VMC assisted 18 fire victims.

Thomas (left), an Army veteran, has pain in his feet due to bone spurs. The VMC found some cushioned insoles to help make him more comfortable. He also left with an area rug, **DVNF** heat wraps, a watch, vitamins, paper products, personal hygiene products, and food for his pantry.



**\$173,374**

**ALBANY,  
NY**

| <b>PALLETS</b>                                | <b>QUANTITY</b> | <b>VALUE</b> |
|---|-----------------|--------------|
| Emergency Relief Blankets                     | 128             | \$2,676.16   |
| Emergency Relief Blankets                     | 128             | \$2,676.16   |
| Brace Knee Stabilizer XL ACE Brand            | 294             | \$3,894.03   |
| Dish Cloths - Scotch Brite Brand              | 2,592           | \$6,603.12   |
| Comfort Kits                                  | 32              | \$1,575.04   |
| Comfort Kits                                  | 96              | \$8,370.24   |
| Comfort Kits                                  | 96              | \$7,385.28   |
| Comfort Kits                                  | 96              | \$7,385.28   |
| Reading Glasses                               | 2,452           | \$28,768.09  |
| Hand Sanitizer                                | 8,207           | \$18,055.40  |
| Hat, Scarf, and Gloves Set - Muk Luks Brand   | 80              | \$4,477.60   |
| Hat, Scarf, and Gloves Set - Muk Luks Brand   | 80              | \$4,477.60   |
| Hat, Scarf, and Gloves Set - Muk Luks Brand   | 80              | \$4,477.60   |
| Men's Jackets - Blackhawk Brand               | 156             | \$22,228.44  |
| Men's Jackets - Blackhawk Brand               | 192             | \$27,358.08  |
| Lotion Mens Neutrogena Triple Protect w/SPF20 | 3,024           | \$18,763.92  |
| Pain Patches - Salonpas Brand                 | 142             | \$1,521.89   |
| Long-sleeved T-shirts                         | 330             | \$2,680.43   |



# Black Hills Healthcare System

Ft. Meade, SD

## DVNF reaches out to at-risk veterans in Nebraska

In operation since 1952, the Black Hills Health Care System in Ft. Meade, SD, has been facilitating stand downs for over three decades. Due to the high need of at-risk veterans in the area, Black Hills recently began hosting three events per year across western South Dakota, North Dakota, and western Nebraska. Many of these target Native American Reservations, with the goal of providing significant outreach to this rural, under-served veteran population.

After receiving a load from DVNF last year via the SpartanNash Grant, stand down coordinator Jamison Hild enthusiastically requested another load of comfort kits as well as hygiene and clothing items for Black Hills' 2017 stand downs. The first of these three events will take place April 13 at the Western Nebraska Community College in Scottsbluff, NE. This Impact Report will be updated with the stories and photos from this event once they are received.



**\$101,130**

**FT. MEADE, SD**

| PALLETS                                     | QUANTITY | VALUE       |
|---|----------|-------------|
| Hat, Scarf, and Gloves Set - Muk Luks Brand | 80       | \$4,477.60  |
| Hat, Scarf, and Gloves Set - Muk Luks Brand | 80       | \$4,477.60  |
| Hat, Scarf, and Gloves Set - Muk Luks Brand | 80       | \$4,477.60  |
| Leather Duffel Bags - Polo Brand            | 83       | \$34,361.59 |
| Soap Bars                                   | 9,000    | \$1,462.50  |
| Comfort Kits                                | 96       | \$7,385.28  |
| Emergency Relief Blankets                   | 128      | \$2,676.16  |
| Emergency Relief Blankets                   | 128      | \$2,676.16  |
| Emergency Relief Blankets                   | 128      | \$2,676.16  |
| Sport Sunscreen SPF 30 - Neutrogena Brand   | 720      | \$6,300.00  |
| Duffel Bags - High Sierra Brand             | 19       | \$618.55    |



# Detroit VA Medical Center

## Detroit, MI

### DVNF helps Detroit veterans to “Suit Up!”

Jos. A. Bank Clothiers and DVNF partnered together with the Detroit VA Medical Center to help Detroit veterans overcome a significant challenge for re-entering the civilian workforce: Dressing professionally for a job interview.

On Saturday, February 25, and again on Monday, March 13, thanks to Jos. A. Banks generosity, 152 veterans were able to choose from a high-quality selection of a brand-new suits, dress shirts, belts, dress shoes, and socks.

The immediate goal of these “Suit Up” events was to assist transitioning veterans to prepare for the Military Job Fair hosted by the Detroit VA on Saturday, March 18. DVNF’s John Paruch was present to welcome the attending vets and encourage them with a \$50 Visa gift card to cover the cost of any necessary suit alterations.

Branches of the military represented at the “Suit Up!” events included Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines, and Navy.

Please see the Jos. A. Banks Corporate Impact Report for more photos and the complete story!



**\$90,485**

**DETROIT, MI**

| PALLETS   | QUANTITY | VALUE       |
|---|----------|-------------|
| DVNF Men's Dress Pants Assorted Sizes and Colors  | 100      | \$8,400.00  |
| DVNF Men's Pants                                  | 100      | \$17,125.00 |
| DVNF Men's Suits Assorted Sizes and Colors        | 50       | \$29,900.00 |
| DVNF Men's Dress Shirts Assorted Colors and Sizes | 100      | \$4,699.25  |
| DVNF Hangers                                      | 100      | \$0.00      |
| DVNF Men's Socks                                  | 100      | \$2,950.00  |
| DVNF Men's Shoes Assorted Sizes and Colors        | 50       | \$6,061.38  |
| DVNF Men's Blazers Assorted Sizes and Colors      | 100      | \$15,875.00 |
| DVNF Men's Belts Assorted Sizes and Colors        | 100      | \$5,474.00  |



# Operation Troop Appreciation

## McKeesport, PA

### DVNF sends toiletries to “Welcome Home” program for veterans

Operation Troop Appreciation (OTA) was originally founded in 2004 as a wish list program for soldiers deployed abroad. However as deployment has steadily declined within the past few years, OTA used its increasing funds to develop a domestic program geared toward helping veterans re-enter society. The program, called “Welcome Home,” provides financial assistance to homeless or at-risk veterans who are dealing with financial hardship, physical/psychological disabilities, and/or substance abuse. Welcome Home defrays the costs associated with establishing a new home by providing Welcome Home Kits, packages that include necessary household items such as dishes, mattresses, cleaning supplies, etc. In 2015, OTA assisted 980 veterans.

Monica Orluk, OTA’s President and COO, sought out DVNF in December 2016 and requested a shipment of toiletries, as well as blankets and sunscreen, to be included in OTA’s Welcome Home Kits. DVNF shipped the items to OTA on March 23. Monica will be providing stories and photos of DVNF’s impact. Once received, these will be included in an updated Impact Report.



**\$90,455**

**McKEESPORT, PA**

| PALLETS  | QUANTITY | VALUE       |
|--|----------|-------------|
| Blanket Emergency Relief                         | 384      | \$8,028.48  |
| DVNF Care Kits                                   | 96       | \$4,725.12  |
| DVNF Care Kits                                   | 96       | \$7,385.28  |
| Care Kits  | 192      | \$17,099.52 |
| Care Kits  | 192      | \$17,099.52 |
| Lip Balm .35oz Pure Brand                        | 200      | \$1,411.50  |
| Moisturizing Creme 3 pack Korres Yoghurt Brand   | 299      | \$12,923.53 |
| Soap bar 1.2oz                                   | 12,960   | \$2,106.00  |
| Sunscreen Neutrogena Cool Dry Sport SPF 30 147ml | 1,920    | \$16,800.00 |
| Candy Fruit Chews Torrie and Howard 4oz bag      | 769      | \$2,876.06  |

