



Disabled
Veterans
National
Foundation

IMPACT REPORT

Health and Comfort Program

4th Quarter 2017

Prepared by NB Enterprises



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*Happy
New Year!*

DVNF exists to provide critically needed support to disabled and at-risk veterans who leave the military wounded—physically or psychologically—after defending our nation's safety and freedom.

2017 4th Quarter Summary



Highlights

- This year's 4th quarter proved to be DVNF's greatest end-of-year impact since 2013! Two more shipments went out in comparison to last year's schedule and the number of veterans served more than tripled!
- DVNF met the needs of hundreds of women veterans through its partnerships this quarter. Check out pages 3 and 11 for the details.
- A brand new program partner out of West Virginia distributed a DVNF shipment at its first ever event in November. See pages 8-10 for the story and photos!

4th Quarter Shipments

21 Jacksonville, FL	\$70,608
22 Newark, NJ	\$66,938
23 DVNF Veterans Day	\$512,461
24 Princeton, WV	\$60,124
25 Accokeek, MD	\$26,441

TOTAL **\$736,572**

YTD TOTAL **\$2,313,331**

This Quarter

1,700+

Veterans
Served

1,241

Comfort Kits
Distributed

2

Events
Attended

Northeast Florida Women Veterans, Inc.

Jacksonville, FL

DVNF sends shipment of professional women’s clothing to Florida

Founded in 2012, Northeast Florida Women Veterans, Inc. (NEFWV) strives to ensure women who have served on active duty, in the National Guard, or in the Reserves transition into the civilian community with the tools they need to become self-sufficient.

While DVNF sends men’s items for the Jacksonville stand down NEFWV partners with every year, they are also sure to send women’s items. This year Deloris Quaranta specifically requested interview clothing and DVNF was glad to be

able to provide it!

Veteran Natalie Carter, a recipient of the clothing, shared: “I wanted to thank NEFWV and Disabled Veterans National Foundation for the blazers and clothing I received during the stand down. I’m a homeless veteran and often feel helpless and alone and unworthy. I wore one of the blazers to the Her Total Wellness class put on by NEFWV and I received so many compliments. It’s amazing how an outfit can me look and feel like I’m somebody. Thank you for actively caring about me.”



\$70,608

JACKSONVILLE, FL

PALLETS	QUANTITY	VALUE
Facial Cream - Korres Brand	288	\$6,832.08
Lip Gloss - Liquimat Brand	200	\$3,674.50
Black Makeup Eyeliner - Be Chic Brand	300	\$2,047.50
Men’s Leather Shoes - Buffalo Jackson Brand	140	\$27,643.00
Moccasins - Bamboo Brand	432	\$11,899.44
Sunblock and Insect Repellant - Sawyer Brand - SPF30	540	\$2,420.55
Women's Long-sleeved Shirts	215	\$6,657.05
Women's Blazers	193	\$3,449.25
Women's Short-sleeved Sweaters	217	\$5,748.87



New Jersey Department of Veterans Affairs

Newark, NJ



Longtime partner receives shipment from DVNF

The Stand Down of North Jersey, sponsored via the New Jersey Department of Veterans Affairs, is an annual event staffed entirely by volunteers with assistance from VA employees and the New Jersey National Guard. Every October, this one-day event assists homeless and at-risk veterans and their families, working to ensure the basic needs of our most vulnerable and disenfranchised veterans are met.

A longtime partner, DVNF once again teamed up with the NJ VA to provide blankets, shoes, DVNF Comfort Kits, and knee and ankle braces to the 400+ disabled veterans and veterans in need who attended the

event on Oct. 14 at Newark's JFK Recreation Center. As usual, DVNF was also sure to send a pallet of women's sweaters for the stand down's special sectioned-off area for women veterans.

This stand down has become the most popular one in the state. Veterans within a 200-mile radius throughout New Jersey and Pennsylvania were bused in for the event. Politicians representing the various counties came out in support as well.

The items DVNF provides every year are part of the reason for the huge draw. Emerson Crooks, one of the

stand down coordinators, has taken advantage of this, developing a system to ensure veterans are fully briefed on the services available to them: they must get the signatures of every service provider before waiting in line for the giveaways.

Emerson is always so grateful for DVNF's continued involvement, "We all have an opportunity to do small things," he says. "Every little bit counts. Look at great rivers supported by tiny streams. If those streams dry up those rivers don't flow. DVNF is like a tiny stream, touching those who are among the least of us. You're playing your part in contributing to our society. You should feel proud."

"Of all the New Jersey stand downs, this is the one that everyone talks about. Everyone looks forward to it. Veterans ask about it. It's the one they don't want to miss. And I think it has to do with the stuff DVNF sends every year. At other stand downs, the civilian stuff is usually always secondhand, never new."

—Emerson Crooks, Marine Corp Veteran and Stand Down Coordinator



“Sometimes people send you stuff and you don’t even want to give it to anybody because it’s junk. But that has never been the case with DVNF. Everything I get from DVNF is stuff our veterans marvel at. They can’t believe someone would send brand new clothes to homeless folks.”

—Emerson Crooks



The veterans particularly loved the shoes DVNF sent. The guys said we’re gonna have the best dressed homeless guys anywhere!



A homeless Army vet in his late 40s came to the stand down having had everything he owned stolen. With winter fast approaching he needed anything the stand down could provide to help weather the elements. Emerson gave him warm clothing and pulled from DVNF’s stock to provide him with blankets, a DVNF Comfort Kit, and shoes.



Emerson explained that DVNF’s goods add a little flavor to the stand down’s giveaways. The veterans call it the “civilian stuff.” The stand down always hands out military gear like boots, sleeping bags, duffle bags, etc., which is brand new and comes straight from military bases. But it’s all the same green color. When DVNF’s stuff comes, though, it softens up the atmosphere and tells them they are not just military but human beings.



\$66,938

NEWARK,
NJ

PALLETS	QUANTITY	VALUE
Emergency Blankets	512	\$10,704.64
Adjustable Ankle Braces - ACE Brand	186	\$3,557.72
Stabilizer Knee Braces - ACE Brand	288	\$3,814.56
DVNF Comfort Kits	192	\$11,988.48
Men's Leather Shoes - Buffalo Jackson Brand	140	\$27,643.00
Moccasins - Bamboo Brand	216	\$5,949.72
Women's Sweaters - RL Polo Brand	24	\$3,280.02



DVNF Veterans Day Resource Fair

Lanham, MD

DVNF holds first annual Resource Fair

DVNF hosted its first annual Veterans Day Resource Fair on November 9th to support veterans in the DC Metro area.

In honor of Veterans Day, DVNF wanted to recognize the service and sacrifice of all veterans not only by thanking them, but by giving back. The purpose of this event was to give veterans in the DC area an opportunity to receive the many services available through local government and nonprofit organizations.

DC, Maryland, and Virginia

employment and education officials were in attendance, as well as several nonprofits that offer a variety of services to veterans, from benefits information to recreational therapy, and more.

Held at Silver Spring Civic Building in Silver Spring, MD, over 35 veterans of four branches of service attended.

Veterans walked away with free suits, food, Comfort Kits, gift cards, raffle items, and yoga classes. In all, 56 dress shirts, 29 pairs of shoes, and 34 suits were distributed to the veterans in attendance!



\$512,461

LANHAM, MD

PALLETS	QUANTITY	VALUE
DVNF Comfort Kits	141	\$8,820.96
Men's Belts - JAB	100	\$5,950
Men's Shoes - JAB	209	\$25,336.55
Men's Blazers - JAB	292	\$109,719
Men's Dress Shirts - JAB	461	\$18,209.50
Men's Suit Coats - JAB	712	\$267,534
Men's Dress Pants - JAB	449	\$76,891.25



Operation Compassion of Mercer County, Inc.

Princeton, WV



Overlooked West Virginia veterans receive relief from DVNF

Operation Compassion of Mercer County (OC) is an organization established to assist those in need. Their monthly food distribution serves over 100 veterans, and once a year, they collaborate with Bojangles to host a Community Veterans Breakfast as a way to honor veterans and their families.

In 2017, however, Operation Compassion joined forces with the VA, as well as other grassroots and civic leaders, to hold a stand down in conjunction with the breakfast.

In following up the veterans

breakfast with this stand down event, Judge Omar Aboulhosn, stand down coordinator, explained that OC hopes draw out disabled veterans and veterans in need out and launch a process to track and keep in touch with them so that OC can play a part in meeting the needs of this under-served population.

By percentages, West Virginia has one of the highest volunteer rates in the military, so it's not surprising that a high number of veterans reside in the Princeton community. Located in southern West Virginia, Princeton's Mercer County is an economically

depressed area where many if not most of the resident veterans are economically disadvantaged.

DVNF noted OC's partnership with the VA and reached out to Omar who was thrilled that of all the veteran populations in the country, DVNF chose to help those struggling in Princeton.

DVNF sent an abundant shipment of shoes and blankets and Comfort Kits for OC's Nov. 4 event. Over 200 veterans showed up and all were filled with awe and gratitude at the generosity and care of the community and its partners, like DVNF.

“The items supplied by DVNF were incredibly beneficial to the vets in attendance. It was overwhelming to receive such a generous shipment of products to distribute to at-risk veterans, and it was particularly heartwarming to see the looks of gratitude from the veterans upon receiving the items. I hope that this becomes an annual event between Operation Compassion, DVNF, and the Community Veterans Breakfast. On behalf of Operation Compassion please accept our sincerest appreciation for your contribution.”

— Judge Omar Aboulhosn, Stand Down Coordinator



“Wow, what an incredible shipment of useful items to distribute to veterans. I want to thank DVNF for partnering with Operation Compassion to help this area’s at-risk veterans. The joining of forces was incredibly smooth and extremely beneficial. I heard over and over again how appreciative the veterans were to receive the items.”

— Pastor J.B. Hurt, Operation Compassion Volunteer



Disabled Vietnam Veteran Joe Thomas, pictured above, told Omar: “This was a fantastic event. Thank you and everyone else who helped to put this together.”



\$60,124

PRINCETON,
WV

PALLETS	QUANTITY	VALUE
Emergency Blankets	180	\$3,425.85
XL Knee Braces - ACE Brand	294	\$3,894.03
DVNF Comfort Kits	192	\$11,988.48
DVNF Comfort Kits	192	\$11,988.48
Cleansing Cloths	1,212	\$7,005.36
Reading Glasses - Foster Grant Brand - 1.00 Strength	300	\$3,519.75
Reading Glasses - Foster Grant Brand - 2.75 Strength	300	\$3,519.75
Men's Jerseys Assorted Colors and Sizes	198	\$1,607.27
Men's Leather Sandals - Buffalo Jackson Brand	83	\$4,107.26
Shampoo	954	\$3,498.80
Moccasins - Bamboo Brand	216	\$5,949.72



Women Veterans Interactive

Accokeek, MD

DVNF sends hundreds of hygiene items to women veterans

A network of over 15,000 members, participants and steadfast volunteers, Women Veterans Interactive (WVI) was created to address the unique and often unrecognized challenges facing the nation's 1.8 million woman veterans as they return to civilian life. WVI provides outreach and support services to more than 1,500 women veterans and their families.

Having already received a financial grant from DVNF in 2017, WVI partnered with the Health and Comfort program this winter to pack and distribute over 600 "Totes for Hope" to women veterans who are homeless, living in transitional housing, or patients at VA medical centers.

WVI and volunteers came together Nov. 9 to assemble these totes, filling up each box with items provided by DVNF, such as razors, body wash, combs, moist towelettes, and socks. Ginger Miller, founder and CEO of WVI, explained that these items are meaningful to women veterans who can become depressed during the holidays as they struggle to hold onto hope and provide for their most basic needs.

Ginger shared, "I commend DVNF for supporting homeless women veterans. This was an awesome event with a great show of community support for the homeless women veteran population, and it would not have been possible without DVNF."



Over 130 volunteers showed up to pack 650+ care kits for women veterans using the hygiene items DVNF provided.



\$26,441

ACCOKEEK, MD

PALLETS	QUANTITY	VALUE
Comfort Kits	224	\$11,849.60
Comfort Kits	108	\$5,275.80
Comfort Kits	192	\$9,315.84

