

Our Mission...

The mission of the MPVA is to enhance the lives of veterans with spinal-cord injury or disease, as well as all citizens with disabilities, by advocating for civil rights, assuring quality health care, supporting continued research and education, and encouraging independence and healthy living through various health, sports and recreational programs. MPVA shall continue striving to remain at the forefront of both veterans' benefits services and disability rights, while working toward a better quality of life for all American citizens.

Thank You for
Supporting Our Mission!

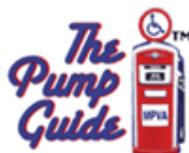


Who We Are...

The Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America (MPVA) is one of 34 chapters of the Washington, D.C.-based Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA). As a Congressionally chartered veterans service organization, the MPVA has been assisting veterans with spinal-cord injuries or disease, including Multiple Sclerosis and ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, better known as Lou Gehrig's Disease) in Michigan since 1961.

MPVA services include:

- Veterans Benefits
- Wheelchair Sports & Recreation
- Spinal-Cord Injury Research
- Equipment Donation
- Advocacy to eliminate architectural barriers and protect civil rights for persons with disabilities
- Referral Services for assistive devices, housing, employment, and transportation
- Literature on a variety of topics, including self-care, independent living and disability rights
- The Pump Guide (www.thepumpguide.com): an online directory of Michigan gas stations that will pump gas at the self-serve price for persons with disabilities



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MPVA in the Community

MPVA has become a major voice in the veterans community as it helps to meet the needs of millions of Americans with disabilities (veterans & non-veterans). MPVA is committed to assisting and supporting all individuals with disabilities through the following avenues: research, education, sports, advocacy, legislation, and veterans benefits.



Above: In 2006, MPVA was able to work with Comerica Park to ensure that the wheelchair accessible seating had cup holders.



Above: The 2008 Michigan football season introduced renovated wheelchair accessible seating to Michigan football fans due to a landmark agreement between MPVA, Department of Justice (DOJ), and U of M.

Research & Education

MPVA supports the development and treatment of those with spinal-cord injuries and dysfunction. Ultimately, MPVA's Research and Education program is dedicated to supporting a cure for spinal-cord dysfunction (SCD) and enhance the quality of life for those with SCD until a cure is found. Additionally, MPVA's community outreach program educates students on spinal-cord injuries and helps to fund several scholarships for Michigan students who are working to obtain degrees in nursing, occupational therapy, and physical therapy. Nationally, PVA is one of the top supporters of spinal-cord research—giving more than \$3 million in the last 10 years to such projects.

Government Relations

The MPVA works to ensure that paralyzed veterans are included in policy debates at the local, state, and national level so that all citizens with disabilities receive the benefits and rights they deserve.



Some of our key programs in Government Relations & Advocacy department include: barrier-free design, ensuring accessible design and advocating civil rights. MPVA works closely with elected officials on a variety of veterans and disability issues.

Sports & Recreation



Above: The 2008 Michigan Wheelchair Game athletes compete to the finish line!



Above: In 2006, Angeline LeVasseur & Scot Severn, MPVA Sports Director, participated in the Mackinac Bridge Run

MPVA has always recognized wheelchair sports as a powerful tool for rehabilitation and social interaction for our members and others with disabilities. We offer both indoor and outdoor activities throughout Michigan and participants vary in age, ability, and experience.

The MPVA even sponsors large-scale events like the Detroit Free Press Marathon "Wheeler Division," the Michigan Wheelchair Games, the National Veterans Wheelchair Games, and the Athletes with Disabilities Hall of Fame.

Some of MPVA sports include:

- Wheelchair Basketball
- Power Soccer
- Sled Hockey
- Hand-cycling
- Hunting
- Fishing



How You Can Help!

Here are some ways you can make a difference in the lives of Michigan's paralyzed veterans.

Make a contribution:

- Direct Donation
- Planned Giving
- Join the MPVA
- Volunteer with the MPVA

Where can I find out more about making a contribution?

Please contact the MPVA about any questions you may have at (248) 476-9000 or at www.michiganpva.org

- I would like to make a contribution today! Enclosed is my gift of \$_____ to further MPVA's mission and programs.



Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Telephone _____
 Email _____
 Paying By: Master Card Visa
 Credit Card # _____
 Expiration Date _____
 Signature _____

The MPVA is a non-profit, 501 (c) (3), organization: your contribution can be made tax-deductible

Please make checks payable to:

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