

North Dakota Veterans Home Foundation

They Sacrificed To Protect Our Freedom

Have you ever stopped to think about all of the freedoms we enjoy in American society today? Have you considered how those freedoms were achieved? They were achieved by the sacrifices of American's veterans – those men and women who gave time out of their lives, and, in many cases, gave their lives to preserve the freedoms granted by the Constitution.

The American people have not forgotten the debt they owe to these veterans, and have responded generously. No other nation in the world can boast the high quality medical care and benefit programs American veterans enjoy today.

For more than half a century the Veterans Administration has provided veterans with health care of exemplary quality. However, the task is becoming more difficult as federal expenditures for domestic programs are reduced to help lower the deficit. At issue is whether or not the V.A. and the North Dakota Veterans Home can continue to provide high quality care to the growing number of veterans, while funds are being sharply reduced.

Is There A Need For New Resources For Veteran's Care?

Budget cuts have directly affected community health programs, medical research, and veterans' health care. Each of these programs have experienced substantial budget reductions, while the need for these programs has remained the same or increased. Proposed cutbacks in health care resources come at a critical time for the veteran. The veteran population is aging rapidly and is presenting different health care needs. More, not fewer, resources will be required to meet the nation's and the state's commitment to these veterans.

To maintain these programs requires substantial resources. Both the federal and the state governments have tried to maintain the level of spending necessary to keep health care and benefit programs standards very high. However, the economic conditions that America will undoubtedly result in a decrease in funding at the federal level, and more severe budget cuts at the state level.

Foundation For The Future

The North Dakota Veterans Home Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit organization established in 1987. The goal of the foundation is to build a permanent endowment from which investment income will be used for activities, programs, and equipment to enhance the quality of life for the residents of the North Dakota Veterans Home. The foundation

is a charitable organization recognized by the Internal Revenue Service under Section 501 (C) (3). This designation means there are substantial tax benefits to donors.

There are numerous programs of planned giving offered by the foundation, each with its own tax advantages. A special plan of giving can be tailored to the individual donor's needs. Plans to suit the smallest donor up to the largest personal or corporate gifts can be arranged through the foundation office. For the donor who wishes to make a sizeable gift, there is a variety of trusts and annuities to choose from. Donors wishing to make gifts through their wills can consult with the foundation attorney. There are special programs for veteran and fraternal organizations who wish to make gifts on a regular basis. Corporations can make tax deductible gifts up to \$10,000 per year. For individuals who wish to participate, there are charter memberships, sustaining memberships, life memberships, and non-structured gifts of the donor's choosing.

Who Manages The Foundation?

The Board of Directors is composed of civic minded leaders from every geographic area of the state. The board members have demonstrated a commitment to veterans, and a deep concern for their well-being.

This board provides guidance and approval for the three main activities necessary to accomplish the objectives of the foundation – (1) Promote giving. (2) Management and Investment of funds, and (3) the allocation of income from investments to the North Dakota Veterans Home. The Board uses the services of investment professionals to assist in managing the investment portfolio. The Board is also responsible for long-range planning and establishing goals and objectives.

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