



**Request for Proposal**  
**340 S. Main Street, Coolidge, AZ 85128**

Who are the Disabled American Veterans?

**DAV National [dav.org](http://dav.org)**

DAV is a 100-year-old nonprofit charity that provides a lifetime of support for veterans of all generations and their families, helping more than 1 million veterans in positive, life-changing ways each year. The organization provides nearly 615,000 rides for veterans attending medical appointments and assists veterans with more than 250,000 benefit claims annually. In 2017, DAV helped attain more than \$4 billion in new and retroactive benefits to care for veterans, their families and survivors.

DAV is also a leader in connecting veterans with meaningful employment, hosting job fairs and providing resources to ensure they can participate in the American Dream their sacrifices have made possible.

With almost 1,300 chapters and more than 1 million members across the country, DAV empowers our nation's heroes and their families by helping to provide the resources they need and ensuring our nation keeps the promises made to them.

**DAV State of Arizona: [azdav.com](http://azdav.com)**

DAV Department of Arizona is Home to 16 Chapters throughout the State. Each of these chapters perform vital services that improve the lives of our Disabled Veterans.

DAV Department of Arizona Purchases Vans and Donates them to the VA for transportation to and from their VA appointments. We also recruit the volunteers to drive these vans and we do the logistics necessary to transport veterans from some of the most remote locations in the state.

DAV Department of Arizona Supports Many Homeless Programs Throughout the State. We contributed this year alone \$9000.00 to Stand-downs in Prescott, Phoenix, and Tucson. We have given grants to homeless programs such as shelters, rehab centers, and various assistance programs totaling \$20,000 of our annual budget.

DAV Department of Arizona has started a program providing Free Legal Help to veterans and their spouses through our Legal Clinic Program.

We provide financial support to the National Service Office where our specially trained service officers provide benefit counseling and assistance to thousands of veterans every year. DAV Department of Arizona also employs 3 Hospital Service Officers to provide claims assistance.

Our Ritual Team is tasked to perform burial rituals at the National Cemetery every 3 months with over 906 donated hours of their time.

We take our Mission very seriously and we will not stop until every veteran is adequately cared for.

### **DAV Chapter 36 dav36.org**

In addition to the National and State efforts, Disabled American Veterans Chapter 36, Pinal County, is here to serve the Veterans in Pinal County.

1. To help with their transition back to civilian life by linking them with services that address their physical, emotional and financial needs.
2. We give emergency grants to the ill and injured.
3. We are the boots on the ground in Pinal County, with five Chapter Service Officers to help Veterans apply and get all that was promised to them for their service to our Country.
4. We are Veterans helping veterans locally 24 X 7... because no one should have to go it alone

### **Our Vision for 340 S. Main Street:**

To have a one stop location to house clothing, medical equipment, personal hygiene items, water/food for veterans in need. Currently all these items are stored in several locations around the county and are not accessible when we need them.

To provide Veterans with access to computers. Currently we have 20 computers without a home. This will enable veterans to access VA websites, produce resumes, send and receive communication to/from service organizations, and to learn basic computer skills.

To have location where DAV 36 can hold fund raisers. Such as:

- Family movie night
- Bingo night
- A clothing / small item thrift store from our current ongoing clothing drive
- Provide a meeting place that other non-profit organizations can access
- Monthly Dinners
- Hosting a centralized meeting site for other DAV Chapters

Our vision is to have 340 S. Main Street be an asset to the City of Coolidge, to Pinal County Veterans, and to the community at large. DAV 36 wants to contribute positively to the city's revitalization plan for the downtown area.

### **Phase 1: Repair and Remodel**

Our plan is to invest in approximately \$50,000 in materials and labor to cover all the major components of the building inside and out should they need repair to include:

- Roof
- Plumbing
- Electrical
- Sewer
- Air conditioning system
- Bathroom facilities – men/women
- Restructuring inside
- Painting (inside and out)
- Installing an IT infrastructure

We plan to apply for grants available to us through the State DAV Organization and its affiliates. DAV volunteers from around the State have committed labor resources to come and assist us in remodeling the building. Local businesses and local citizens will also be utilized.

**Phase 2: Operation/Management**

Operation of the site will be overseen by the DAV 36 Executive Committee and daily management will be by the active DAV Volunteers including:

- The newly formed DAVA (Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary)
- DAV 36 Membership
- Local Volunteers

**Phase 3: Maintenance**

The cost of maintaining the building, utilities and required insurance will be funded through the already existing annual fund-raising efforts of DAV 36 as well as those proposed above. Some of our yearly fund raisers are:

- Annual Golf Tournament
- Gourd Festival
- Pinal County Fair
- Golden Corral
- Bi-annual Gun Drawings
- Monthly Clothing Drive (*3 additional sites to be added Q2 2018*)
- Flag replacement/retirement
- Plus, the proposed fund-raising efforts to be held in the new building

**Proposed Monthly Lease:**

Our plan is to have the City of Coolidge credit us for the monies invested into the building (approximately \$50,000) in lieu of a monthly payment. This could be computed into years of lease to cover a period of 10 years.

**IN CONCLUSION**

We, DAV Chapter 36, believe our contribution to the City of Coolidge and Pinal County thus far has been significant.

DAV 36 Contribution in Fiscal Year 2017-2018 to Pinal County Veterans

Volunteer Hours	7,000 Hours	
Chapter Service Officer	1,500 Hours	To Apply for Benefits
Grants Given to Veterans	\$12,600	
Medical Equipment and Supplies	\$14,700	
Transportation for Veterans	\$6,800	Includes a donated van to Eloy Veterans
Annual Stand down	Homeless Vets	Clothing, Hygiene Supplies, Food

The City of Coolidge has been a vital part in support of what we do. The City stepped up to help when no other major city in Pinal County would. Without your backing we could not have accomplished all that has been done for the Veterans. We applaud the City Council, the Mayor, the City Manager and the local businesses and citizens for the help we have received.

When our State Commander, John Burden, comes to Coolidge he is astounded by the strong support our Chapter receives from the City of Coolidge and the Community. He states that he wished all Communities would show the type of support that ours does! We have Chapters all over Arizona, so this is not something he says lightly!

Again, thank you!

Respectfully Submitted



Ronnie Smith, Commander

**Submitted by:**

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