

Michigan Veteran Homes

A Place of Honor & Compassion

March 2024



Springtime at MVH

There's always something going on at [Michigan Veteran Homes](#). However, the January-February period after the holidays tends to (sometimes, arguably) be a tad quieter than the other months of the year. March brings the arrival of spring, and with it an increase in outdoor activities and much more for members of MVH.

Amongst many other opportunities, March brings the [Navy Reserve Birthday](#) (3/3), [K-9 Veterans Day](#) (3/13), [Medal of Honor Day](#) (3/25), the anniversary of the [victory at Iwo Jima](#) (3/26), and [Vietnam War Veterans Day](#) (3/29).

At MVH, we continuously strive to honor those men and women who've served us, and March will again provide us new opportunities on that journey. Perhaps our greatest means of doing so is providing our members the care and quality of life they earned, and deserve - that's *our* duty, because they did their duty.



Remarkable People, Serving Remarkable People

Every hour of every day, staff at Michigan Veteran Homes are caring for those who wore the uniform. They're present on Christmas morning and the 4th of July, for Thanksgiving dinner, through Labor Day weekend, and every day and hour before, after, and in between. And they provide compassionate care and quality of life worthy of those who wore the uniform. Indeed, we've got some pretty remarkable people on the team at MVH.

Each Home takes the opportunity to recognize these remarkable people in varying ways for the positive impact they're having on our mission and our members. At MVH D.J. Jacobetti (MVHDJJ), one means of doing so is the presentation of the "Beyond the Call of Duty Award." In February, they [recognized Andrew Longtine - from the housekeeping team - with the award](#), for his "infectious positivity and dedication to our Home and members," also noting that he "has a special way of making everyone feel welcome and important."

And meanwhile, the [MVHDJJ Employee of the Quarter Committee recognized Jonathan Crabb](#) on the maintenance team.

Crabb's "performance consistently exemplifies excellence, teamwork, respect for members and staff, and a willingness to go above and beyond," an amazing staff member, and an asset to the Home.



Love & Support for MVH Veterans on Valentine's Day

Veterans at Michigan Veteran Homes are incredibly fortunate for the immense support from the loving communities in which they reside. This Valentine's Day was no exception, and saw wonderful activities for MVH veterans at each of our three homes.

MVH at Chesterfield Twp veterans were blessed with a party, [hosted by American Legion Auxiliary Unit #510](#), with entertainment, food, and a chocolate bar, while their evening saw a "Couple's Night" event with music and a delicious dessert bar.

At MVH D.J. Jacobetti, the halls were decked-out with artwork and other decor, with plentiful Valentine's cards and live music for all. The [Jacobetti Veterans Facility Coordinators sponsored the event](#), and it was a day to remember.

However you serve those who've served us - with your time, talents, or treasures - we hope to see you around MVH this spring. We're changing lives for the better, and invite you to be a part of that mission. And for those already doing it - we share our ongoing and incredible gratitude. It takes a village.



State Veteran Homes: National Impact

State Veteran Homes (SVHs) have had a special partnership with the federal government since the 1880s, when federal aid began being provided to SVHs for caring for veterans (\$100/year, at that time). Today, there are [165 SVHs across the nation](#) - at least one in every state, and Puerto Rico - providing nearly 30,000 long-term care beds to veterans and their loved ones.

Through the [National Assoc. of State Veterans Homes](#), SVHs come together to share best practices, learn from one another, grow professionally, provide a shared voice to the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs, and educate

We love comfy chairs, clean windows, good books, bingo, good food, and so many other *things*. But it's *the people* that make all the difference. We're proud of the incredible people we have at MVH serving veterans and their loved ones.



Curious About Our Impact on Michigan Veterans?

Come See For Yourself

At MVH, our Homes are just that - the *Homes* of the veterans we're privileged to serve. And while our veterans enjoy their Home with the right to privacy and everything else that accompanies a homelike environment, there's also opportunity for our generous and supportive communities to join MVH, its members, and our work.

While our Activities Departments are hard at work daily planning and providing wonderful opportunities for our members, there are also more public-facing events for community members, organizations, and

[MVH at Grand Rapids](#) had the AARP Cupid Crew stop by with flowers and goodies for every member before lunch, and the team from UPS visited veterans in the afternoon with cookies, snacks, and cards.

MVH is able to provide special and unique experiences to our veterans in late-in-life and end-of-life care because of many reason - and a huge reason is because of the support of our communities. Thanks to all who support our mission, and our members.



Creative Ways to Make an Impact

MVH was grateful recently to accept a [donation from Filer Credit Union](#) - funds raised from their employees donating to wear jeans on Fridays at work: a creative, fun, and worthwhile way to make an impact. The team at Filer Credit Union selects a different charitable organization quarterly to direct their generosity toward, and we're grateful for their impact on MVH veterans and our mission.

Jeans on Fridays? Rounding up to the nearest dollar at your

elected leaders on the strengths and opportunities of the SVH Program, and veteran long-term care.

And ultimately, the quality of *care* and quality of *life* for veterans at SVHs here in Michigan - and across the nation - is *better* because of those opportunities in learning and that shared, collective voice. Indeed, what started well over a century ago as a few states caring for those who bore the burden of service, has grown to become the largest provider of long-term care beds to veterans across the country.

The SVH program and its unique State-Federal partnership in supporting the care of America's veterans is ensuring veterans across the country get the care and quality of life they earned, and deserve. [Michigan Veteran Homes](#) is proud to be amongst them, serving those who've served us with high-quality long-term care.



other supporters to come see our work firsthand, and be a part of our impact on veterans. *Some* of those are listed below. If you have interest in joining, reach out. We'd love to show you around MVH, and these events - amongst others - help illustrate the story of how we're changing the lives of veterans.

- 3/21 March Madness (GR)
- 3/29 Viet. Vet Ceremony CT/DJJ
- 4/5 Tigers Opening Day (DJJ)
- 5/2 Vegas Day (GR)
- 5/11 5k Walk, Run, and Roll (CT)
- 5/22 Flag Placement (GR)
- 5/27 Mem. Day Ceremony (DJJ)
- 5/30 Mem. Day Ceremony (GR)
- 6/6 Dog Show (GR)
- 6/12 Fishing Contest (GR)
- 6/14 Flag Day Event (DJJ)
- 6/27 Golf Outing (DJJ)
- 7/25 Summer Celebration (GR)
- 8/21 Carnival (DJJ)
- 9/12 End of Summer Luau (CT)
- 9/15 Classic Car Show (CT)
- 11/9 Veterans Day 5 Race (GR)
- 11/11 Veterans Day (GR/DJJ/CT)
- 12/14 Wreath Laying (GR)

See something above you or your organization has interest in attending and/or supporting? [Contact us](#).

Legend:

GR - MVH at Grand Rapids

CT - MVH at Chesterfield Township

DJJ - MVH D.J. Jacobetti

business, and donating that additional profit? Matching gift drive? Other avenues of impact?

The means by which to make a positive difference are nearly infinite, and MVH encourages creativity to compel generous giving in the spirit of social impact. And while we *love* when people and organizations see and believe in *our* work - and want to invest in it - there are also plenty of other great organizations making an impact in the lives of veterans and other worthy causes.

Wherever your passion lies in social impact - as an individual, group, or organization - we encourage you to find that passion, and give toward it generously with time, talents, and/or treasures. Because if you won't, who will?

Never underestimate the power of good.

Donations to MVH are tax-deductible under section 170(c) of the IRC.

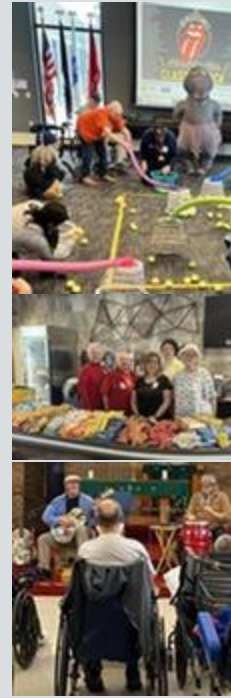
Michigan Veteran Homes are making a difference in the lives of MI veterans and their loved ones.

[Join us.](#)

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