



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For more information, contact:

Ashlynn Schreiner

ashlynn@oshkoshchamber.com

DAV Chapter 17 and Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce Join Forces to Launch Groundbreaking Veterans Transportation Program

OSHKOSH (November 30, 2023) — In a pioneering collaboration, the Disabled American Veterans Ray H Fuller Winnebago County Chapter 17 (DAV Chapter 17) and the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce are proud to announce the launch of a dedicated transportation program for disabled veterans residing in Oshkosh, Omro, and Winneconne.

Scheduled to roll out on January 2nd, 2024, the program aims to provide seamless transportation services for veterans attending medical appointments at the VA facilities in Appleton and Green Bay. The Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce will play a vital role in hosting the vehicles, which volunteers will use to pick up veterans directly from their homes.

Key Program Highlights:

- **Service Area:** Veterans in Oshkosh, Omro, and Winneconne.
- **Pickup Locations:** Directly from veterans' homes.
- **Destination:** VA appointments in Appleton and Green Bay.
- **Scheduling:** Thursday mornings available for phone calls, with an online scheduling link.

The DAV Chapter 17 office, conveniently located within the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce Building, will oversee the program. Additional services provided by the DAV Chapter 17 include assistance with Veteran's benefit claims, transportation to VA medical appointments, aid in transitioning military to civilian employment, raising public awareness of DAV legislative priorities, and fostering camaraderie among local veterans and their families.



Barbara Belmont, Commander of DAV Chapter 17, expressed her enthusiasm for the program, stating, "This collaboration with the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce is a testament to our commitment to empowering veterans. We believe this transportation program will significantly improve the lives of our local heroes, ensuring they receive the care they have earned."

"The Oshkosh Chamber is proud to support the DAV Chapter 17 and we are excited to have the opportunity to collaborate with them on this innovative approach to improve the lives of our local veterans," said Rob Kleman, President & CEO of the Oshkosh Chamber.

Kyle Newkirk, Voluntary Services Specialist at the VA in Green Bay, added, "The Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce and Disabled American Veterans Chapter 17 are excited to announce that DAV transportation services in the Oshkosh area will begin soon. Chapter 17 is looking for volunteer drivers to pick up and transport Veterans of Oshkosh, Omro, and Winneconne for appointments at the Appleton and Green Bay VA Community Outpatient Clinic. Anyone interested in being a part of this exceptional volunteer task force should contact Kyle Newkirk at 920-431-2639 for more information."

This unique partnership between the DAV and the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce is expected to set a precedent for other DAV chapters across the nation, encouraging collaboration with local chambers to better serve the needs of veterans.

About Disabled American Veterans Chapter 17:

The DAV Chapter 17 is dedicated to empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity. As an accredited charity by the Better Business Bureau's Wise Giving Alliance, DAV Chapter 17 strives to make a meaningful impact on the lives of veterans in the Winnebago County community.

About the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce

For more than 100 years, the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce has served as the advocate and guardian of business and industry to support the thriving Oshkosh and northeast Wisconsin region. As a five-star accredited Chamber of Commerce, our non-profit represents over 900 members, from small businesses to international corporations.

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