

## DAV Wisconsin Transportation Network Update



From the Transportation Managers:

Quite often we receive inquiries from around the state of Wisconsin regarding the reasons for not having our Transportation Program operating in that area.

The first thing that must be brought up, is whether or not the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs has a program going in that area which may prohibit DAV from operating there...this comes into play in a number of counties.

Another very important item is who and what are the resources in that area for maintaining a program. Any program will require a Coordinator – someone who is willing to take calls for ride requests and do the scheduling of the vans as required.

The next – and probably the most important item – is recruiting volunteer drivers to make the program a reality. These are people who have a sincere desire to assist veterans and their families in a very serious sense, and willing to make a long-term commitment to supporting the program...without their dedication, we have no program.

Oftentimes a County Veterans Service Office can be the center point for the operation, although that is not necessarily the case. Some coordinators work from their home or an office where space might be offered by the city, county, etc.

Other major considerations will be the acceptance of the vehicle by a VA Medical Center in whose jurisdiction the program will be located, as well as agreements with the VA with whom we partner in this program.

If you are willing to get involved in this most worthy program of assistance to veterans and their families, call Patty Davis (Southern Wisconsin) at 414.384.2000 Ext. 45715, or Dick Marbes (Northern Wisconsin) at 920.562.8837.

Thank you for your interest and concern for Wisconsin's veterans.