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Biographical INFO

JOHN KLEINDIENST National Director of Voluntary Services DAV (Disabled American Veterans)

John Kleindienst was appointed National Director of Voluntary Services for the nearly 1.3 million-member DAV in August 2014. He is employed at National Headquarters in Cold Spring, Ky.



As National Director of Voluntary Services, Mr. Kleindienst is responsible for a corps of DAV volunteers who, along with DAV Auxiliary volunteers, donate more than 2.3 million hours a year to volunteer work at VA medical facilities. He also directs the nationwide DAV Transportation Network, in which DAV Hospital Service Coordinators arrange transportation for veterans who have no way to get to and from VA medical facilities. The Network provides more than 750,000 rides for veterans per year.

Additionally, Mr. Kleindienst directs and coordinates activities involving DAV co-sponsorship of the annual National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic, which employs sports such as skiing, sled hockey and other activities to promote physical rehabilitation and therapy for veterans struggling to overcome the impact of profound disability. The Clinic is the largest rehabilitation event of its kind in the world.

A native of Waco, Texas, Mr. Kleindienst enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in June 1996 and was medically discharged in October 2003 as a result of service-connected injuries. He joined DAV's professional staff as a National Service Officer trainee in February 2003 at DAV's National Service Office in Waco. Following service as an NSO in multiple U.S. locations, he was appointed Deputy Director of Human Resources at DAV National Headquarters in June, 2013 and served in that position until his recent appointment.

A 1996 graduate of Connally High School in Waco, he is a life member of Chapter 29 in Harker Heights, Texas. He studied criminal justice at Coastal Carolina Community College while in the Marine Corps and attended McLennan Community College in Waco after his discharge. He and his wife Melanie have two children.