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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Minnesota Veterans 4 Veterans Trust Fund (V4V) approve \$40,000.00 in two Grants to assist Minnesota Veterans.

At the October 20, 2021, monthly Minnesota Veterans 4 Veterans Trust fund meeting, the following grants were approved by the eight-member board of directors:

MN Adult and Teen Challenge Organization was awarded **\$10,000** for their efforts in providing support for veterans. The grant will be used to assist veterans that have coinciding mental health issues as well as substance abuse/ addiction problems. It is common for men and women who have served in the military to suffer from PTSD and consequently, addiction struggles. These issues are unique to the active-duty experience. As part of our strategic Veteran Programming, MnTC meets the unique needs of veteran's addiction in providing therapy and counseling catered specifically to a veteran experience. We will continue to do this through group counseling and programming that is veteran only. This allows veteran clients to relate and share with one another while getting treatment and is both healing and motivating for their recovery process.

The Four Major Department of MN VSO Auxiliary Organizations were awarded **\$7,500** each (**total of \$30,000**) for their efforts in supporting hospitalized veterans over the coming holiday season. The awards to the **MOPH, VFW, DAV, American Legion Auxiliaries** are to be used to provide programs/projects of their choice for veteran patients and residents in MN VA medical facilities, Veterans homes and/or Nursing homes over the November/December Holiday season. They are asked to send a brief report back to the V4V Board as to how the funds were spent.

The Minnesota Veterans 4 Veterans (V4V) Trust Fund is a 501c (19) non-profit organization established as the result of the 2006 sale of Lake Minnetonka Big Island Disabled Veterans Camp. The non-profit organization has eight board members, two veterans each who are appointed by the DAV, VFW, MOPH, and American Legion. The board oversees the funds from the sale of the island to the City of Orono and has a grant application process on their website. Grants are made to organizations serving MN veterans in a way that conforms to the criteria the V4V has documented online at their website, mnv4v.org

To learn more about the history of the Big Island Veterans Camp see:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Big_Island_Park

And

<https://minnehahacreek.org/sites/minnehahacreek.org/files/Big%20Island%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf>

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