



PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA NEWS

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Paralyzed Veterans Receive Grant from The Colorado Trust

Denver, Colorado — The Paralyzed Veterans of America Mountain States Chapter (MSCPVA) is pleased to announce the receipt of a \$25,000 grant from The Colorado Trust Directed Contributions Program. This grant directly benefits the 2010 National Veterans Wheelchair Games being co-hosted by MSCPVA and the Department of Veterans Affairs Eastern Colorado Health Care System (ECHCS).

The National Veterans Wheelchair Games, taking place in Denver, Colorado, July 4-9, 2010, is the largest annual sporting event of its kind in the world. The Games attract more than 500 veteran athletes to participate in 17 sports in venues located throughout Denver. In addition to producing national and world-class champions, the Games provide opportunities for newly disabled veterans to gain sports skills and be exposed to other wheelchair athletes. In past years, one-quarter of the competitors have never before participated in any type of organized wheelchair sports competition.

John L. Samuelson, The Colorado Trust's Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, presented Mark Shepherd, Sr., Executive Director of MSCPVA, the grant at the National Veterans Wheelchair Games Business Community Kick-Off event on January 11, 2010. The kick-off included remarks from Colorado Governor Bill Ritter, Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper and Congressman Ed Perlmutter. In addition to The Colorado Trust, representatives from the Adolph Coors Foundation, UPS and Invacare provided testimonials.

The grant will provide the Games' hosts with needed funds to support this multi-day event, which includes sports competitions in swimming, table tennis, weightlifting, archery, air guns, trapshooting, basketball, softball, quad rugby, track, bowling, handcycling, wheelchair slalom, 9-ball, power soccer, a motorized wheelchair rally and field events.

Through the assistance of dedicated supporters such as The Colorado Trust, MSCPVA and ECHCS are able to carry out the broad mission of the Games. The veteran community will benefit greatly from this generous grant.

For more information about the Paralyzed Veterans of America Mountain States Chapter, call 1-800-833-9400 or visit www.mscpva.org. For more information on The Colorado Trust, call 303-837-1200 or visit www.coloradotruster.org. To learn more about the National Veterans Wheelchair Games, visit www.wheelchairgames.va.gov.

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The Mountain States Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, a veterans service organization, was established in 1955 and serves paralyzed veterans in Colorado, Montana, Wyoming and Utah, all of whom have catastrophic paralysis caused by spinal cord injury or disease. A Public Service Announcement made for PVA is available from the chapter.