## VET NET Newsletter November 2023



# VETERANS' OUTREACH



Serving our veterans in Ohio, Kentucky, Alabama, Florida, West Virginia & New York since 1994



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## The Unwavering Spirit of Veterans' Outreach: Honoring Our Heroes

Dear Friends,

For the past 29 years, Veterans' Outreach has been more than just an organization; it has been a resolute ally, offering unwavering support to our courageous servicemen and women. They are not mere soldiers; they are our comrades, our brothers, sisters, sons, daughters, mothers, fathers, friends, and fellow Americans. Their presence is intricately woven into the tapestry of our lives, and they deserve every ounce of assistance we can provide as they navigate their way back into our society, regardless of the era they served.

With a family history that traces back to the Revolutionary War, I firmly believe that nearly everyone can trace their lineage to a veteran or service member. For three decades, Veterans' Outreach has been a beacon of hope during the darkest hours for veterans in need. Our mission is encapsulated in our motto, "to serve and honor," and it's a commitment we uphold with unwavering dedication.

As we gather this month to honor our veterans, let us remember the timeless phrase, "Some gave all, all gave some." These brave individuals made monumental sacrifices for the freedoms we cherish today, and no tribute can ever suffice to express our gratitude.

I am immensely proud that the divine hand has blessed us with a significant milestone for our charity—the Veterans' Outreach Complex. This remarkable complex, formerly Arby's first national headquarters, was acquired through an auction. I envision it standing tall not just in this century but also in the next. As long as conflicts persist, Veterans' Outreach will remain a steadfast support for our veterans.

The Veterans' Outreach Complex comprises three robust brick buildings, a 2.6-acre parking lot, and a total office space of 27,000 square feet, a remarkable expansion from our previous corporate headquarters, which covered a mere 3,500 square feet. On November 16th of this month, we will make the transition to our new home. Not only will we continue to provide essential services, but we will also expand our programs and collaborate with other non-profits to serve veterans even more effectively.

Our new complex offers an expanded program service region, "The VO Depot" thrift shop, a spacious meeting area, additional executive offices, two large kitchens, and facilities for other renters. Furthermore, we've established a storage building for donations, which is already brimming with overflow donations. At "The VO Depot," you'll discover a diverse array of items, from baby shoes and clothing to collectibles, antiques, furniture, appliances, cars, and more. Every purchase supports our financial services for veterans in need.

I invite you to consider making a donation, offering sponsorship, volunteering, or simply taking the opportunity to get involved in supporting our veterans. Veterans' Outreach is ready to assist veterans in numerous ways, offering individual consulting and interviews to address their immediate needs.

Visit our website, VeteransOutreach.org, to learn more about our programs and services that are changing the lives of so many veterans. May God bless our veterans and the United States of America!

Warm regards, John Ely President, Veterans' Outreach

For involvement or feedback, please call 888.2.VET.NET or 888.283.8638, or email jely@veteransoutreach.org.

## Regional Chamber Take 5 Interview Veterans' Outreach



**Veterans Day** 



"Amazing Grace"

Veterans Day is a U.S. legal holiday dedicated to American veterans of all wars, and Veterans Day 2023 will occur on Saturday, November 11. In 1918, on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, was declared between the Allied nations and Germany in World War I, then known as "the Great War."

### **Our Programs For Veterans**

Over the last 29 years, we have helped veterans more than 100,000 times. Our motto is to "respectfully serve and honor all veterans".

We have developed programs that perform our mission to help veterans that include the Direct Aid Program, the Outreach Program, the Heroes' Closet Program, and the Freedom Food Pantry Program.

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### What We Do Everyday



Compassionate Initiative Provides Essential Support for Those Who Served

In a heartwarming display of compassion and community spirit, two dedicated women from Southern Care Hospice led a successful food drive to benefit Veterans' Outreach, ensuring that local veterans facing hardship received much-needed support. This selfless initiative left an indelible mark on the community and stood as a testament to the dedication of Southern Care Hospice.

Southern Care Hospice recognized the challenges many veterans faced in their local community. Determined to make a difference, they initiated a project to support veterans who had made profound sacrifices for their country.

The response was overwhelming, with an outpouring of support from the community. The culmination of this heartwarming endeavor came with the delivery of the collected items to Veterans' Outreach. We were deeply moved by the abundance of support and supplies we received. Shelves were stocked with essentials, and the veterans felt reassured and uplifted by the knowledge that their community stood firmly behind them.

Veterans' Outreach expressed profound gratitude for the support received, saying, "We are profoundly grateful for the support we received. Thank you so much for making a difference in the lives of those who served their country with honor and courage." This remarkable initiative not only provided essential supplies to local veterans in need but also reinforced the bonds of unity and compassion in the community. It served as a poignant reminder that even in challenging times, acts of kindness and generosity could have a profound impact.



#### A Day of Support, Camaraderie, and Essential Services for Veterans in Need

In a remarkable demonstration of unwavering support for the men and women who have served our country, the 18th Annual Laura's Summit County Stand Down took place at Guy's Party Center in Akron, Ohio, bringing together the community and local veterans in a day filled with essential services and heartfelt camaraderie.

This beloved event, named after its tireless founder, Laura, has consistently grown in scale and impact since its inception. Year after year, it has become a beacon of hope and support for veterans in Summit County and beyond. The 18th installment of this incredible event was no exception.

On this special day, hundreds of veterans gathered to receive an array of services that are often out of reach for those who have given so much to our country. The event offered access to VA screenings, free haircuts, essential supplies, cell phones, hygiene items, and even boots. But more than just providing basic necessities, Laura's Summit County Stand Down also focused on empowering veterans with employment opportunities and job training, enabling them to rebuild their lives.

The atmosphere was brimming with fellowship and support as veterans from all walks of life came together to connect, share stories, and forge lasting bonds. It was a day to honor their sacrifices, acknowledge their courage, and offer a helping hand to those

who have dedicated their lives to serving our nation.

Laura, the driving force behind this heartwarming initiative, emphasized the importance of community involvement. "Our event wouldn't be possible without the incredible support we receive from our volunteers and local organizations. It's their dedication that allows us to continue growing and serving our veterans year after year." As the 18th Annual Laura's Summit County Stand Down concluded, it left a profound impact on all who attended. It served as a reminder that through unity, compassion, and unwavering support, we can make a significant difference in the lives of those who have served and sacrificed for our country.

The success and continued growth of this event are a testament to the power of community, and it exemplifies how together, we can give back to those who have given so much. Laura's Summit County Stand Down is not merely an event; it is a symbol of gratitude and an enduring commitment to those who have dedicated their lives to protecting our freedoms. We are so grateful to have been a part of this wonderful event.

#### **Donate Now**

We thank all of you that have supported our Mission through your donations, thoughts, and prayers. You made it possible to **help tens of thousands of Veterans** with financial assistance, food, and clothing. Your pledge of support is needed to continue our mission to serve and honor all veterans. **Will you make a small monthly pledge of \$10 or more? This gift can immediately make a difference for a Veteran in need.** 



#### **Donate Now**



#### **Events**

## Veterans Day Brunch November 11 @ 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Location: The Barn at Firestone Farms

Date: November 11th, 2023

Cost: \$15

This veterans day, we're proud to offer our gratitude and honor to those who have served our nation. Join us at The Barn for a special Veterans Day Brunch, where we'll pay tribute to our brave heroes. RESERVATIONS ONLY! Reserve your seat now below:

#### Make A Reservation



#### Iron Workers Fall Raffle

November 11 @ 3:00 pm - 8:00 pm Youngstown Harley Davidson 5700 Patriot Blvd, Youngstown, OH, United States

\$10 donation enters you to win! 1st Prize: Queen Size H-D T-Shirt Quilt 2nd Prize: 2 H-D T-Shirt Pillows 3rd Prize: 1 H-D T-Shirt Pillow Drawing at 3pm at Youngstown Harley Davidson FOR TICKETS CALL: MIKE @ 330-792-4365 OR PURCHASE AT Harley Davidson 5700 Patriot Blvd. Youngstown, OH 44515 The drawing is on Veterans Day,



#### Brothers in Arms: The Veterans' Outreach Gun Raffle

November 11 @ 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm

The Youngstown Event Center 12 East Dewey Avenue, Youngstown, OH, United States Join us at the Youngstown Event Center on Saturday, November 11! Proceeds from this event will go towards the construction of a flagpole at the NEW Veterans' Outreach headquarters in Youngstown. Tickets are limited to 100 participants. With your \$200 donation, you'll enjoy a fun evening of camaraderie and have the opportunity to win 1



#### News

**November** 

**Veterans Day** 



U.S. Marine Corps Established (1775)
VETERANS DAY (observed)\
November 10th

Signing of WWI Armistice (1918) VETERANS DAY November 11th

Grenada Campaign Ended (1983) November 21st

Thanksgiving Day November 23rd



#### 2023 Veterans Day Free Meals and Restaurant Deals and Discounts

Restaurants are saluting Veterans Day with free meals and discounts for veterans, service members and their families.

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## Heroes' Passage In Kentucky

Veterans' Outreach was donated 110 acres of Kentucky wilderness. Plans are underway for the development of Heroes' Passage, a veteran retreat with a healing environment for veterans that are having problems with transitioning to civilian life.



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