

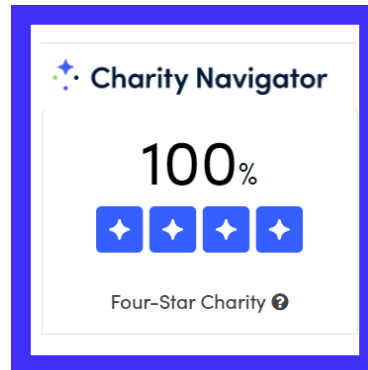
VET NET Newsletter  
April 2024



# VETERANS' OUTREACH



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



Platinum  
Transparency  
2023

**Candid.**

Check out our #NonprofitProfile <https://www.guidestar.org/profile/22-3272976> to see the great work we do for our community. We want to make sure you have the progress updates you need to confidently support our work with trust and confidence.

## Milestone Events

A milestone is an event marking a significant change or stage in development, and we have more than a couple of them to share.

Greetings everyone,

It's with great pride and gratitude that we announce several milestones within Veterans Outreach this year. Firstly, we're commemorating our 30-year anniversary, marking three decades of unwavering dedication to supporting veterans in need. This milestone stands as a testament to the enduring commitment of our organization and the profound impact we've had on countless lives.

In addition, April marks the 3-year anniversary of our esteemed newsletter, The VetNet News Journal. Serving as a beacon of hope and information for our community, this publication has become a vital platform for sharing stories, resources, and updates on our ongoing initiatives. We invite you to visit [VeteransOutreach.org](http://VeteransOutreach.org) to become a member and receive this invaluable resource each month, free of charge. You can also explore our website's archive, which houses every newsletter from the past three years.

Furthermore, we're thrilled to announce a significant transition as we move into a larger, more accommodating complex. This new space, which is 700% larger than our previous building, not only provides enhanced facilities but also symbolizes a new chapter of growth and opportunity for our organization. It's worth noting the historical significance of this complex, once serving as the original National Headquarters of Arby's, adding a unique touch to our journey forward.

Our expansion into the Western United States marks another milestone in our journey. With Texas becoming our 7th registered state, joining New York, West Virginia, Florida, Ohio, Kentucky, and Alabama, we are poised to extend our reach and impact to even more veterans in need. The presence of Veterans Outreach in these seven states signifies a deep commitment to serving our nation's heroes wherever they may be.

Reflecting on our humble beginnings in 1994, it's clear that our journey has been guided by passion, dedication, and a profound sense of purpose. What started as a personal mission to support our veterans has blossomed into a lifelong commitment to serving those who have sacrificed so much for our country.

I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge the invaluable contributions of my wife, Teri, whose unwavering support and dedication have been instrumental in our success. Together, we uphold the highest standards of transparency and accountability, ensuring that every action we take is in service of our veterans and their families.

As I celebrate my 70th birthday this month, I am filled with gratitude for the opportunity to continue serving our veterans. Looking ahead, we remain steadfast in our mission, guided by faith and fueled by the belief that every veteran deserves our unwavering support.

To all those who share our passion for serving those who have served, we invite you to join us on this journey. Whether through volunteering, fundraising, or becoming a sponsor, your support enables us to make a tangible difference in the lives of veterans across the country.

As we navigate the road ahead, we do so with a sense of purpose and determination, knowing that together, we can continue to honor and serve those who have bravely served us all.

With heartfelt appreciation,

John Ely  
Founder, Veterans Outreach

For feedback or inquiries, please contact:

[jely@veteransoutreach.org](mailto:jely@veteransoutreach.org)

866-212-5592

VeteransOutreach.org

"To serve and honor"

**National Former POW Recognition Day**



## Our Programs For Veterans

Over the last 30 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.

[Read More →](#)

## Prevent Veteran Homelessness



The Homeless Programs Office (HPO) information about VA's ongoing effort to prevent and end homelessness among Veterans.

Veterans who are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness are strongly encouraged to contact the [National Call Center for Homeless Veterans](#) at (877) 4AID-VET (877-424-3838) for assistance.

### Message From Monica Diaz, Executive Director, VHA Homeless Programs Office

It's widely known that protecting our country can leave Veterans with the invisible scars of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). What is less well known is the additional compounded trauma that homeless Veterans often face.

Even if they avoid any acutely damaging events while unhoused, being homeless is distressing on its own. It's traumatic to not know where you can safely sleep. To be hungry and not know where your next meal is coming from. To be unsheltered and facing harsh weather and uncertain surroundings.

The experience wears you down and colors how you see the world for years to come—even long after you've found stability and safe housing.

As we work to house at least 41,000 Veterans this year, we know it's crucial that we apply the [principles of trauma-informed care](#) to every interaction we have with Veterans. We strive to create safe and transparent environments where we can collaborate with Veterans, empowering them and giving them a voice in their journey back from homelessness.

[Read More →](#)

## What We Do Everyday

"We must find time to stop  
and thank the people who  
make a difference in our  
lives."

- John F. Kennedy

### A Journey of Resilience and Gratitude

At the heart of our mission lies the commitment to stand by our veterans in their times of need, offering support and hope when the path ahead seems daunting. Recently, we had the privilege to witness a remarkable journey of resilience and gratitude unfold.

Over several years, a veteran leaned on Veterans' Outreach during some of his toughest moments, receiving vital financial assistance and guidance. Despite facing seemingly insurmountable challenges, he remained steadfast in his pursuit of self-sufficiency, working through conflicts and aiming for a brighter future.

Yesterday marked a poignant moment as this same veteran, now on more stable ground, reached out to give back. In a touching gesture of gratitude, he made a

generous donation to Veterans' Outreach, expressing his appreciation for the support he received during his time of need.

His story is a powerful reminder of the transformative impact of collective support and unwavering resilience. While his journey with us may have concluded, his legacy of perseverance and gratitude will continue to inspire us all.

We extend our deepest gratitude to all who have supported Veterans' Outreach, whether through donations, volunteering, or simply spreading the word. Together, we're making a tangible difference in the lives of our veterans, reaffirming our commitment to be there when they need us most.



### **Panera's Heartfelt Doughnations: Supporting Our Veterans!**

We're excited to shine a spotlight on a generous act of kindness that brightens up our Mondays and Tuesdays! Every week, we're incredibly grateful to receive a delicious donation of baked goods from Panera Bread. This wonderful gesture comes from the Southwoods store every Monday and the New Springfield store every Tuesday.

For almost a year now, Panera has been supporting our mission to serve veterans in our community, and we couldn't be more appreciative. These fresh treats not only provide a tasty treat for our veterans but also remind them that they're valued and supported.

We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to Panera Bread for their ongoing generosity and support. Your commitment to giving back to our veterans is truly inspiring and makes a real difference in their lives. Let's all give a big shoutout to Panera for their continued dedication to our cause!

## **Events**



Veterans' Outreach Presents our

# 9TH ANNUAL GOLF SCRAMBLE

For the benefit of local veterans

**BEDFORD TRAILS GOLF COURSE**

**713 BEDFORD ROAD**

**LOWELLVILLE, OH 44436**

(330) 755-5792 || [www.veteransoutreach.org](http://www.veteransoutreach.org)

**6 SEPTEMBER 2024 || SAVE THE DATE**



**Support For Our Veterans**

We are thrilled to share the wonderful news of our strong start to 2024, made possible by the unwavering support of these organizations, and, of course, all of our readers, donors, and supporters. Your generosity has been instrumental in propelling Veterans' Outreach toward new heights, and we extend our deepest thanks for your continued commitment to our mission.

## The Youngstown Foundation



A special thank you to The Youngstown Foundation for providing grant funds to facilitate our transition to a new headquarters. The funds allocated for the flagpole, security cameras, and signage are instrumental in creating a safe and welcoming space for our veterans. We are deeply grateful for your support. Your contributions serve as a beacon of hope for the veterans we serve, empowering us to forge ahead with renewed determination. Together, we are making a lasting impact on the lives of those who have sacrificed so much for our freedom.

## Sheely's Furniture and Appliance



A heartfelt thank you to Sheely's Furniture and Appliance for the fantastic partnership initiated during the first quarter of 2024. The overwhelming response to the survey has set the stage for a meaningful collaboration. Their commitment to matching all donations is a testament to their dedication to the well-being of our veterans. Donations will be collected from January 1st through March 31st at Sheely's North Lima and Aurora locations, making a significant impact on our initiatives. Stay tuned for more opportunities to contribute throughout the quarter!

## Hollywood Gaming



For years now, Hollywood Gaming at Mahoning Valley Race Course has been a supporter of ours. We are so grateful for them and their kindness. These much needed funds go towards renovating our new building location. Thank you Hollywood Gaming!



## Target Circle



we're excited to report the positive outcome of our collaboration with Target Circle. Your votes and support have significantly impacted our cause, allowing us to make a tangible difference in the lives of veterans. Their recognition of our mission's importance means so much. Thank you for being a crucial part of our journey

## Humana's Sponsorship

# Humana

We're deeply honored to announce Humana's sponsorship. This invaluable support ensures the continuity of our programs, allowing us to reach more veterans facing challenging times and expanding our impact on their lives.

## TCC Gives



Our gratitude extends to TCC Gives for their generous donation of \$2500 towards food for our Freedom Food Pantry. Their support ensures that essential resources are readily available to our veterans. We appreciate their commitment to making a positive impact in our community and are honored to have their support.

Your contributions serve as a beacon of hope for the veterans we serve, empowering us to forge ahead with renewed determination. Together, we are making a lasting impact on the lives of those who have sacrificed so much for our freedom.

## 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](#)



You can also call 888-2-VET-NET and speak with Teri Ely to donate.

## News

### April



Military Child Month

Gold Star Spouses  
April 5th

### Veteran Employers



Army Day  
April 6th

National Former POW Recognition  
Day  
April 9th

Persian Gulf War Official Cease Fire  
(1991)  
April 11th

Earth Day  
Passover Begins  
April 22nd

Administrative Professionals Day  
April 24th

Arbor Day  
April 26th

National Military Brats Day  
April 30th

Military experience can give you a leg-up in the civilian job market. While most companies appreciate the job training and values that come with military experience, some companies go the extra mile to help military members transition to civilian life by providing lucrative career opportunities and training for veterans.

Veteran.com's list of veteran-friendly employers is not an endorsement of any of the companies. Listed employers advertise unique opportunities and supportive programs for veterans, National Guardsmen, reservists and military spouses.

## Veteran Employment and Military Friendly Employers

Military.com has compiled a list of companies with specific goals for hiring veteran. Check out the employers looking for military skills and experience.

[Read More](#)

## 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.

[Read More →](#)



## Veterans' Outreach



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**New York**  
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**West VA**  
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