VET NET Newsletter August 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 support our work with trust and confidence.

Unity in Action: Embracing Our Shared Values for a Stronger Nation

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we usher in the month of August, I find myself reflecting deeply on the state of our great nation. The United States is a country built on the principles of freedom, equality, and justice for all. These principles have guided us through times of prosperity and times of adversity. Today, we stand at a crossroads, and it is crucial that we remember what binds us together rather than what drives us apart.

Our country is facing numerous challenges, from economic uncertainties and global conflicts to social issues that test the fabric of our communities. However, with every challenge comes an opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to the values that have made us strong. It is more important now than ever to stand up for what we believe in, to love our neighbors, and to reach across our differences.

Standing up for what you believe in does not mean imposing your views on others. It means engaging in respectful dialogue, seeking common ground, and working together to find solutions that benefit everyone. In a time when it often feels like division and discord are the loudest voices in the room, we must be the ones to champion unity and understanding.

Loving your neighbor is not just a saying; it is a call to action. It means showing kindness and compassion, offering help to those in need, and being a source of support and encouragement. Our veterans, who have sacrificed so much for our country, exemplify this spirit. They remind us that service to others is the highest form of patriotism.

Reaching across our differences is the cornerstone of a thriving democracy. It is in our diversity that we find our strength. By embracing different perspectives, cultures, and ideas, we can build a more inclusive and resilient society. This requires us to listen actively, empathize with others, and work collaboratively towards a common goal.

At Veterans' Outreach, we are dedicated to supporting those who have served our country with honor and distinction. We believe that by standing together and supporting one another, we can overcome any challenge. Our mission is to provide assistance, resources, and hope to veterans and their families, ensuring that they receive the care and recognition they deserve.

As we move forward, let us carry the torch of unity and solidarity. Let us be the voices of reason and the bearers of hope. Together, we can create a future that honors our past, embraces our present, and inspires generations to come.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our cause. May we all strive to make our nation a place where every individual is valued and every voice is heard.

With gratitude, Elisha Henry Social Media Director Veterans' Outreach

The History Of The Purple Heart



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**.

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Agent Orange Awareness Day August 10th

Agent Orange was a chemical herbicide used by the United States military during the Vietnam War to clear vegetation and destroy crops. There is an effort to educate communities about the dangerous chemical and its effects on American veterans

and Vietnamese civilians. The first use of Agent Orange in Vietnam was on <u>August</u> <u>10, 1961</u>, and the U.S. Air Force sprayed nearly 11 million gallons of the chemical between 1962 and 1971. Exposure to Agent Orange can cause a range of negative health effects, including:

- AL amyloidosis
- Bladder cancer
- Chronic B-cell leukemia
- Chloracne
- Diabetes mellitus type 2
- Hypertension
- Hodgkin's disease
- Hypothyroidism
- Multiple myeloma
- Parkinson's disease
- Prostate cancer
- Respiratory cancer
- Soft tissue sarcoma

More recent evidence suggests that the effects of Agent Orange may not be limited to the children of exposed veterans, but could extend to their grandchildren.

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What We Do Everyday

A Helping Hand for Our Heroes

Recently, a disabled veteran in our community faced a challenging situation when his car was impounded, and the towing company demanded \$2500 for its release. The financial burden was overwhelming for him.

At Veterans Outreach, we knew we had to help. Collaborating closely with the veteran's sister, we negotiated with the towing company and managed to reduce the fee from \$2500 to \$500.

We contributed \$200 towards the reduced fee, and the veteran's sister was able to provide the remaining \$300. Together, we successfully secured the release of his car. This story highlights the power of community and the impact we can make when we come together to support our veterans. At Veterans Outreach, we are committed to standing by our heroes and helping them overcome challenges.

Thank you to everyone who supports our mission. Together, we make a difference!

Events



POKER RUN

VFW POST 870 Richwood, OH

August 17th

Registration 10-1145/Kickstands Up @ 12 Last hand turned in by 1600 \$25/bike \$15/Passenger CASH ONLY!



Proceeds go to:
Veterans' Outreach
VKAS- Veteran Kids Against Silence
For more info contact Kim Gilley (740) 361-3230

Youngstown Foundation Event Center

Located at Veterans' Outreach, 17 Colonial Drive, Youngstown, OH 44505

Book Your Event Today!

- 4,000 sq ft of space
- Perfect for any occasion
- Kitchen available
- Tables and chairs provided for up to 80 guests
- Available for bookings on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, with some evening availability during the week
- All proceeds benefit Veterans'
 Outreach
- Accessible bathrooms on-site
- Call for pricing and availability

tely@veteransoutreach.org 330-755-5792 x2

Support our veterans and book your event at the Youngstown Foundation Event Center today!







Support For Our Veterans

We are thrilled to share the wonderful news of our successful journey through the first half of 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.

Special Donation from the Trumbull County Veterans Service Commission



We are beyond excited to announce that the Trumbull County Veterans Service Commission has generously donated \$90,000 to our cause. This substantial contribution will be pivotal in expanding our services and resources for veterans in need. The donation underscores the importance of our mission and provides a significant boost to our efforts in making a lasting difference in the lives of those who have served our country. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Trumbull County Veterans Service Commission for their incredible support.

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 set the stage for a meaningful collaboration. Their commitment to matching all donations was a testament to their dedication to the well-being of our veterans. Thanks to your generosity and support, the drive, which ran from January 1st through March 31st at Sheely's North Lima and Aurora locations, made a significant impact on our initiatives. We deeply appreciate Sheely's and all who contributed to this successful campaign.

Hollywood Gaming



For years now, Hollywood Gaming at Mahoning Valley Race Course has been a steadfast 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.

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





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

August

Discounts





<u>Antiterrorism Awareness Month</u> Month of August

Coast Guard Day Aug. 4

<u>Purple Heart Day</u> Aug. 7

<u>U.S. Department of Defense</u> <u>Birthday</u> Aug. 10

Agent Orange Awareness Day Aug. 10

Navajo Code Talkers Day Aug. 14

National Airborne Day Aug. 16

Marine Corps Reserve Birthday Aug. 29



Businesses that support our military through numerous military discounts, deals and freebies for active duty service members, veterans and their families.

Read More →

- Auto Discounts
- Auto Insurance
- Lodging Discounts for Military
- Amusement Parks
- Computers and Software
- Cellular and Wireless Communication
- Life Insurance
- 2024 Veterans Day Deals, Discounts and Freebies
- Home and Garden
- Home Insurance

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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Veterans' Outreach



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