

VET NET Newsletter

May, 2021

*** HAPPY ***

MEMORIAL DAY

*** CELEBRATE * HONOR * REMEMBER ***



Sponsored by
Veterans' Outreach
Serving Veterans in AL, FL, KY, NY, OH & WV
veteransoutreach.org 888-2-VET-NET



Introduction

Memorial Day Honors the Nation's Deceased Military

Most people think of Memorial Day as the kickoff of our summer season, but it means so much more and it began with a selfless act of brotherly love.

Memorial Day was started by former slaves on May, 1, 1865 in Charleston, SC to honor 257 dead Union Soldiers who had been buried in a mass grave in a Confederate prison camp. They dug up the bodies and worked for two weeks to give them a proper burial as gratitude for fighting for their freedom. They then held a parade of 10,000 people led by 2,800 black children where they marched, sang and celebrated.

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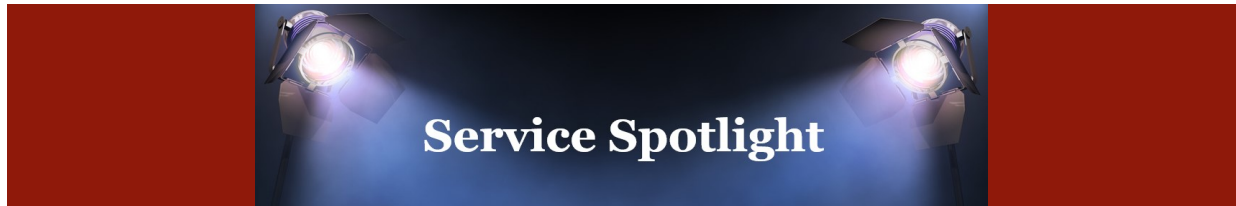
John Ely, President of Veterans' Outreach

Our Services For Veterans

Over the last 27 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 About Our Services →](#)



What We Do Everyday

A veteran recently visited our office after spending six weeks in the hospital with COVID 19. He had been very ill, lost over fifty pounds. He was still very weak and had been spending a lot of time at home in bed recovering. He had multiple needs, all related to the pandemic. He needed food, a gas card, and clothing since he lost so much weight. We were able to help him with all of those needs through our Direct Aid, Freedom Food Pantry, and the Heroes Closet Program. A generous supporter had donated a flat screen TV. We gave the veteran the TV for his bedroom where, thanks to COVID, he was spending a lot of time. As he realized all that we were able to do for him, he said that he was finally feeling like something was going right for him and he had hope for the future.



Recently, a homeless veteran was referred to us from the VA. The VA was able to secure housing for the veteran through the HUD VASH Program. However, the veteran needed kitchen items, bedding, and food. We were able to fill all of his needs on the same day through the generosity of donors.

For A Veteran In Need

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.



Help A Veteran Now

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

Inspired By His Fallen Son



Memorial Day never meant that much to Dr. Bill Krissoff. Maybe he'd catch a glimpse on TV of The President placing a wreath on a tomb at Arlington National Cemetery, but otherwise what the day said to him was that summer was almost here. Then his son Nate, a first lieutenant in the Marines, was killed by a roadside bomb in Iraq.

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News

A Moment In History



VA Expands 9/11 GI Bill



Armed Forces Week is celebrated in the week leading up to Armed Forces Day (the third Saturday in May). For American service members, Armed Forces Week is an occasion to remember past and present service for all branches of the service. Once upon a time there was a separate occasion for each branch of the military, later consolidated into a single remembrance.

[Read More →](#)

Benefits for Dependents

For many, the opportunity to pursue education and training beyond high school is not easily within reach. When military members are asked why they serve, the available **GI Bill® education benefits** are often one reason why. Active duty men and women can also transfer all or part of their Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to their spouse and/or dependent children.

[Read More →](#)

Veterans Affairs Bulletin



"Secretaries of VA, HUD joint statement on ending Veteran homelessness"

VA news release 2021

Collaboration is the first step of a multi-phased whole-of-government effort that will ultimately help us end Veteran homelessness. We will evaluate existing strategies, implement new approaches when necessary, and execute a plan to ensure we achieve tangible results that incorporate best practices, feedback, and lessons learned from Veterans, advocacy groups, and other stakeholders.

To fulfill this mission, we will:
Make ending Veteran homelessness a top priority – VA and HUD will

May Important Dates



Month of the Military Caregiver
Month of May

National Military Appreciation Month
Month of May

Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW)
First full week in May

Silver Star Service Banner Day
May 1

Loyalty Day
May 1

National Nurses Week
May 6 (begins), May 12 (ends), 2021

VE Day

prioritize this effort at the highest levels. Staff in both agencies will collaboratively develop a strategy to significantly reduce the number of Veterans experiencing homelessness, as well as a strategy to ensure that no Veteran experiences homelessness in the future. The secretaries will participate in listening sessions with stakeholder groups, including Veterans with lived expertise. Information and materials gathered will be analyzed for use during quarterly meetings with homeless program staff from both departments to inform decisions about changes to policies and programs. We will develop targets, assess progress, and hold our agencies accountable.

[Read More →](#)

May 8

Military Spouse Appreciation Day
Friday before Mother's Day

Armed Forces Week
Second Sat. Thru 3rd Sun. in May
(not official)

Children of Fallen Patriots Day
May 13

Peace Officers Memorial Day
May 15

Armed Forces Day
Third Saturday in May

Maritime Day
May 22

Memorial Day
Last Monday in May

Heroes' Passage

Veterans' Outreach was donated 110 acres of Kentucky wilderness. Plans are underway to develop Heroes' Passage, a healing environment for post 9/11 veterans that are having problems with transitioning to civilian life.



We are working with an expert in Renewable Energy to examine the potential for electric power generation with alternative sources such as solar-photovoltaic, geothermal, solar-thermal, hydroelectric, and other renewable sources.

Your generosity over the years has made a real difference.
Your kindness has helped over 100,000 veterans.



Veterans' Outreach



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