Montgomery County, MD - Veterans Network Directory

Volunteer / Charity Organizations

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This is a project of the Montgomery County Commission on Veterans Affairs. To submit an update, add or remove a listing, or request an alternative format, please contact: <u>MCCVA@montgomerycountymd.gov</u>..

Before donating, please review the Federal Trade Commission's Facts for Consumers: Before Giving to a Charity

Please note that we only list agencies and organizations that have met all <u>20 Standards for Charity Accountability</u> by the Better Business Bureau (BBB).

America's Vet Dogs

371 East Jericho Turnpike Smithtown, NY 11787-2976 Email: <u>info@vetdogs.org</u> www.vetdogs.org 1-866-838-3647 (Toll Free)

Not-for-profit organization founded by the accredited Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind and serves the needs of veterans and first responders. Provide guide dogs for veterans who are blind; service dogs for those with other physical or emotional disabilities; physical and occupational therapy dogs to work in military installations, military and VA medical centers, and VA nursing homes; and combat stress control dogs to be deployed in theater. All services are provided at no cost to veterans, and our funding comes from the generous contributions of individuals, corporations, foundations, businesses, and service and fraternal clubs.

Boot Campaign

Email: info@bootcampaign.org www.bootcampaign.org

501c3 non-profit corporation. Donations made to Boot Campaign fund efforts to improve the lives of service members, veterans and their families nationwide. Two signature programs focus on bettering the health and wellness of those who served in the military and the Seasons of Service Program makes the holidays joyful for those who would otherwise go without the uplifting traditions they deserve.

Blue Star Families

Email: info@bluestarfam.org https://bluestarfam.org

Blue Star Families designs and delivers programs that are geared for the military community. Blue Star Museums is a partnership with over 2,000 museums nationwide that serve over 680,000 military families. Museum admission is offered free of charge. Books on Bases is a program that facilitates the collection and distribution of over 38,000 new books to military children, schools and libraries across the country. Blue Star Careers supports military spouses by providing them with resources, tools and networking opportunities. The organization also reports that it conducts indepth research on the issues that affect the military family community, informs military and civilian leaders at the national level, and works collaboratively to find innovative and effective solutions.

Coalition to Salute America's Heroes

1769 Jamestown Road Suite 109 Williamsburg, VA 23185 Email: <u>info@saluteheroes.org</u> <u>https://saluteheroes.org</u>

Provide financial aid and help severely wounded veterans and families of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF), Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), and Operation New Dawn (OND) recover from their injuries and illnesses. Minimum eligibility requirements: an injury sustained during combat in OIF, OEF, OND, or in support of those operations in a hostile environment; a disability rating assigned by DoD or the VA of 30 percent or greater from a single, sustained injury; and currently experiencing severe financial hardship.

202-630-2583 (V)

1-888-447-2588 (Toll Free)

Disabled American Veterans (DAV)

National Service and Legislative Headquarters 1300 I Street NW, Suite 400 West Washington, DC 20005 www.dav.org

Provides free professional assistance to veterans and their families to help them secure government benefits. DAV's Voluntary Services Program operates a comprehensive network of volunteers who provide veterans free rides to and from VA medical facilities and improve care and morale for sick and disabled veterans.

Homes for Our Troops

Email: info@hfotusa.org www.hfotusa.org

Homes For Our Troops (HFOT) reports that each home it builds has over 40 major adaptations, which include roll under counters, sinks, stoves; roll in shower; wider halls and doorways; full home generator; pull down shelving; and storm room to provide barrier-free living to veterans. Additionally, HFOT stays in touch with their veterans after they move in, linking them with other non-profits and organizations that can assist them as they rebuild their lives. One aspect of this assistance is providing each veteran a pro-bono financial planner to assist them in building a solid financial foundation as they move forward.

Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation

909 North Washington Street, Suite 400 Alexandria, VA 22314

Assists the families of United States Marines and United States Navy Corpsmen by providing their children with scholarships to attend accredited community colleges, universities, and vocational and technical institutions.

Marine Toys for Tots Foundation

The Cooper Center 18251 Quantico Gateway Drive Triangle, VA 22172 www.toysfortots.org

Collect new, unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year, and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in the community in which the campaign is conducted. Local Toys for Tots Campaign Coordinators conduct an array of activities throughout the year, which include golf tournaments, foot races, bicycle races and other voluntary events designed to increase interest in Toys for Tots, and concurrently generate toys and monetary donations.

Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC)

Email: info@militarychild.org https://militarychild.org

Offers programs for students, parents, and professionals to address the educational and emotional needs of military and veteran-connected youth. The organization's student programs support military and veteran-connected children through peer-to-peer mentoring programs, the France Hesselbein student leadership program, student-focused webinars, and a Student Advisory Council. The organization's parent programs provide workshops that address academic, social, and emotional issues associated with a military family lifestyle. MCEC offers professional development for educators, youth-serving professionals, and parents to address the challenges facing military-connected children. Lastly, MCEC provides school districts that serve high populations of military-connected youth with a consultant to assist families with transition issues.

202-554-3501 (V) 1-877-426-2838 (Toll Free)

1-866-787-6677 (Toll Free)

703-640-9433 (V)

703-549-0060 (V)

254-953-1923 (V)

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Military Spouse Corporate Career Network

https://militaryspousejobs.org

Provides no-cost employment readiness, vocational training, and one-on-one job placement services for military spouses and caregivers of war wounded. The organization focuses on job search assistance, resume training and review, interview training and mock interviews, employment website training and optimization, skill gap assistance, and resources and referrals.

National Military Family Association

2800 Eisenhower Avenue, Suite 250 Alexandria, VA 22314 Email: info@militaryfamily.org www.militaryfamily.org

Educate uniformed services families on the benefits and services available to them and to inform them of the issues that affect their lives. Programs include Operation Purple Camps, which are free summer camps for the children of soldiers deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. Operation Purple Camps aims to give kids the coping skills and support networks of peers to better handle these issues. Joanne Holbrook Patton Military Spouse Scholarships are awarded to spouses of uniformed service members (active duty, National Guard and Reserve, retirees, and survivors) to obtain professional certification or to attend post secondary or graduate school.

Operation Homefront

Email: info@operationhomefront.org www.operationhomefront.org

Provide financial assistance, emergency food, emergency home repairs, critical baby items: formula, food and diapers, home and appliance repair, furniture and household items, local moving assistance, community events, and Wounded Warrior Transitional Family Housing. Operation Homefront Village allows returning service members disabled from injuries to live rent free while they go through the transition process. Operation Homefront Village - Bethesda is located in Gaithersburg, MD and serves those primarily being treated at Bethesda Naval Medical Center and Walter Reed National Military Medical Center.

Soldiers' Angels

https://soldiersangels.org

Supports the military and veteran community through each stage of military service. The organization offers care packages, homeless services, low income food programs, transportation services for VA appointments, hygiene kits, box lunches, and canteen gift cards.

Team Red, White and Blue (RWB)

https://about.teamrwb.org

Supports veterans as they prioritize their well-being by offering real-life and virtual opportunities to build a healthier lifestyle, with a strong focus on mental and physical health. The organization has 192 local chapters that allow veterans to connect in their communities. Team RWB hosts national events to join members and communities together to raise mission awareness and bring connectedness within the organization's community. In 2021, the organization launched Eagle Expeditions, which allows members to participate in nature expeditions including backcountry hiking in the Adirondacks, remote Alaska fishing, and running in the Grand Canyon.

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703-931-6632 (V)

1-800-722-6098 (Toll Free)

1-833-832-6792 (Toll Free)

210-629-0020 (V)



United Spinal Association

Email: info@unitedspinal.org www.unitedspinal.org

VetsFirst program advocates for all generations of veterans, including individuals living with post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injuries. VetsFirst's network of National Service Officers provides free assistance, resources, and representation for Veterans struggling to navigate the intricate and often confusing VA claims process.

USO

www.uso.org

The USO offers a variety of programs and services that support the morale, welfare, social and entertainment needs of American service men and women and their families. The USO delivers its programs and services at more than 130 centers located worldwide. Each center provides programs and services geared to the needs of the community it supports, whether it be airport centers, family and community centers or Mobile USOs which reach out to troops in remote and sometimes unstable locations. Such programs and services include free Internet and e-mail access, libraries and reading rooms, housing assistance, family crisis counseling, support groups, game rooms, nursery facilities, cultural education, and recreational activities. USO celebrity entertainment tours provide concerts, comedy shows, sports clinics and celebrity handshake tours to entertain, lift morale and express the gratitude and support of the American people.

Veterans of Foreign Wars National Home for Children

www.vfwnationalhome.org

Works to provide children and families of active-duty soldiers and war veterans with opportunities for growth in a nurturing community. The organization is located on a 629-acre campus and provides direct resources to approximately 140 residents at any given time. Residents have access to a variety of community supports, including professional case management services, on-site childcare, life skills training, tutoring and other educational services, as well as recreational and community service opportunities. In addition, the organization offers a free telephone Helpline service, which provides information and support to struggling families across the country and serves as the first step to living at the National Home.

Wounded Warrior Project

www.woundedwarriorproject.org

Wounded Warrior Project™ (WWP) exists to honor and empower Wounded Warriors who incur service-connected wounds, injuries, and illnesses on or after September 11, 2001. The Backpack Program provides comfort items in male and female versions as the severely wounded arrive at military trauma centers in the United States. A compact version is provided in Iraq and Afghanistan. WWP benefits counselors identify government benefits and services for patients in their communities and to re-enter civilian life. The Wounded Warrior Disabled Sports Project offers snow skiing, water skiing, canoeing, golf, cycling, and rock climbing to injured service members and their families, helping develop a positive selfimage and outlook and combat depression and alienation. WWP Outdoors allows veterans to be outdoors and active while hunting, fishing, shooting, camping, and boating, so they build friendships and have a feeling of empowerment in their healing process. Warriors to Work finds occupational direction and possible employment based on injured service members' skill sets, interests, and employment opportunities. With outside groups, WWP develops tools for disabled applicants and employers. Two-day "Coping with Combat Stress" seminars help disabled and able-bodied service members deal with the effects of combat stress while reintegrating into civilian life. The Wounded Warrior Service Excellence Scholar Program offers severely injured Veterans a stipend for living expenses during college while helping other injured service members.

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1-888-484-3876 (Toll Free)

1-800-424-8360 (Toll Free)

1-877-832-6997 (Toll Free)

718-803-3782 (V)