

## WOUNDED WARRIORS OF SOUTH FLORIDA 1335 OLD DIXIE HIGHWAY #3 LAKE PARK, FLORIDA 33403 P: 561-855-4207 F: 561-444-3255

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## MISSION STATEMENT

The Wounded Warriors of South Florida (WWofSF), a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization, was formed in 2009 by a group of Marines wanting to help veterans who had served in the wars since 9/11. In 2012, the organization's Board of Directors changed the direction of fund raising activities. As a result of the growth and success achieved, the Board voted in late 2013 to contract a consulting Executive Director and a part time Office Manager.

WWofSF's area of coverage is from the Orlando VA's area of operations to Melbourne, south to the Florida Keys, west to Naples - Marco Island, and north to the Tampa Bay area. It is a vast area, which requires a tremendous amount of administrative support.

WWofSF's mission is to provide temporary emergency financial assistance to eligible disabled service connected veterans who have served in the wars and conflicts since 9/11. The Veterans Administration (VA) determines which veterans are eligible to receive assistance by using the DD Form 214 and the medical records of the veteran. Our mission is accomplished in several ways. First, the Wounded Warriors of South Florida (WWofSF) provides pre paid \$50 debit cards each month (depending upon the need) to seven Veterans Administration medical facilities and two Veteran Centers. The VA Wounded Warrior Case Managers and Social Workers are able to provide for the immediate emergency needs to eligible disabled veterans according to our organization's criteria. Generally this requires up to \$25,000 of funding each month. The VA medical facilities and veteran centers additionally refer veterans that are in financial crisis. WWofSF attempts to pay these bills within 48 hours once they are vetted by the VA Case Managers and Social Workers. Normal payments include rent/mortgage, home repairs, utilities, auto repairs, loan payments, insurance payments, license payments, and other emergency bill. Bills are paid directly to the landlord, car dealer, and utility company or to whoever the applicable creditor may be. Cash payments are never given to the Wounded Warrior or their families. Our goal is to meet the needs of our returning veterans with privacy, dignity, and respect for them and their families, helping them to integrate back into their communities in a meaningful and dignified way.

In the past 3 years our donations have more than doubled each year. In 2012 - \$131,000 donations, 2013 - \$287,000 in donations and in 2014 the WWofSF received just over \$697,000 in donations and provided assistance to more than 1,500 veterans. In 2015, we raised just under 1 million dollars and in total have helped over 3000 Disabled Veterans throughout South Florida

The WWofSF volunteer board shares the same concerns donors do about administrative costs. The more these costs are held down, the more funds available to help Wounded Warriors. The WWofSF strives to keep administrative costs below 15% by ensuring overhead and fund raising expenses are kept to a minimum. In 2013, the administrative costs were 9 percent; allowing over 90 cents of every dollar went to serve veterans. In 2014 the administrative costs were 9.4 percent. Our financial records are maintained by a CPA firm to observe, monitor, and audit the financial accounts and also to accomplish tax preparation and submission.

WWofSF's volunteer board of fifteen members, an Executive Director, Office Manager and Marketing Manager, all work tirelessly ensuring the administrative and financial records are responsive, timely, accurate and transparent for all to see, as well as managing constituents and Veteran Services throughout South Florida.



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## Short summary of Wounded Warriors of South Florida Board:

**Current President:** Army retired Lt. General. He has served as Deputy Director, George C. Marshall Center for Security Studies in Germany, European Manager for a Defense Contractor, and Director, DTRA Field Office in Europe.

Past President: Navy Reserve retired Captain 30 years of service having held five different commands, and retired as a Judge with 31 years on the Bench in Palm Beach County, with 24 years as Circuit Court Judge.

**Vice President:** Marine Corps retired CWO3, Vice President of Marketing and Development for Gulfstream Goodwill Industries and Light House for the Blind of the Palm Beaches, Executive Director for five counties for Goodwill's Foundation.

**Treasurer:** Former New York Law Enforcement Officer, and was a first responder to the World Trade Center on 9/11 and was at ground zero during collapse of North Tower, in 2013 was voted number one Manger of the Year for the gated community managers association.

Secretary: Marine Corps retired Lt. Col JAG Officer, Staff Director for political appointee in the Office of the Secretary of the Navy, General Counsel to a national corporation, member of large international law firm, still practicing mergers, acquisitions, and general corporate law.

Sergeant at Arms: Navy honorable service for seven years: He comes from a large military family, and he is a detective for the Palm Beach Sheriff's Office and has just completed his 29th year of service.

**Board Member:** Special Agent Homeland Security, She has completed 10 years of service, and has been very effective in the Drug Enforcement Agency, and she is also performing liaison duties for the Board in the Miami area.

**Board Member:** Marine Corps officer departed active duty honorably after six years at the grade of Captain: She is the co-founder of Florida's first corporate fruit delivery service, and an active volunteer for the American Cancer Society.

**Board Member:** Army aviation CWO served with honorable service for eleven years. Successfully worked operations, project, and financial management issues, supported air operations in tactical environment in Afghanistan for 2000 US and NATO personnel, and is currently President of Operations for a local LLC.

**Board Member:** Army honorable service for three years: She has had positions of increasing importance and responsibility in Djibouti and Dubai for a noted defense contractor for six years, and she has a MBA and is currently serving as a project manager for the Florida Power and Light Company.

**Board Member:** Marine Corps member who departed active duty honorably with six years of service: Was a SGT in a reconnaissance battalion, first marines on ground in Afghanistan, worked six years as a government security contactor In Iraq, and currently he and his partner own a security company that is the leader in training instruction in Palm Beach County.

**Board Member:** Navy honorable enlisted service: He is a retired executive from Chrysler Financial after 36 years, and his last position was serving as Executive Vice President in charge of the Northeast Business Center serving over 500 dealerships.

**Board Member:** Marine Corps retired Colonel after 30 years service: she has a doctorate degree in philosophy, has served in the Department of Defense Inspector General's office, and worked for a noted defense contractor for 14 years.

**Board Member:** Tax accountant and lawyer, has over 20 years of professional experience in the financial services industry focused on private wealth management.

**Board Member:** Retired Naval officer, with over 20 years of active duty. Currently working as general manager at G4S in Boca Raton Florida. Currently G4s is the largest security company in the United States and Overseas and currently employs thousands of military veterans.

**Executive Director:** Severed honorably in the Marine Corps. Built and acquired five drug stores, owned and operated a noted security company in Chicago, and served as a volunteer criminal investigator for over two years for the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Department. He served on the Board as treasurer prior to his current position