



FACT SHEET

Mission

To honor and empower wounded warriors

Vision

To foster the most successful, well-adjusted generation of wounded warriors in our nation's history

Purpose

To raise awareness and to enlist the public's aid for the needs of injured service members, to help injured service men and women aid and assist each other, and to provide unique, direct programs and services to meet their needs

Executive Director

Steven Nardizzi, Esq.

Headquarters

The Sacrifice Center serves as Jacksonville headquarters; additional program offices located in New York City and Washington, DC.

Established

2003 in Roanoke, Virginia; relocated to Jacksonville, FL in 2006

History

Wounded Warrior Project (WWP) began when several veterans and friends, moved by stories of the first wounded service members returning home from Afghanistan and Iraq, took action to help others in need. What started as a program to provide comfort items to wounded service members has grown into a complete rehabilitative effort to assist warriors as they recover and transition back to civilian life. Thousands of wounded warriors and caregivers receive support each year through WWP programs designed to nurture the mind and body, and encourage economic empowerment

Program A current listing of WWP programs and services can be viewed at woundedwarriorproject.org.

Combat Stress Recovery Program was developed to address one of the signature yet invisible injuries of the current conflicts. With our specialized knowledge of the population, the CSRP was developed to respond to the mental health needs of our warriors and the key issues linked to combat stress including stigma and access to care. WWP has designed innovative programming and therapeutic options for the various stages of the re-adjustment process like Project Odyssey, the Online Combat Stress Program, and WWP Restore.

Policy & Government Affairs provides a voice to the thousands of warriors we represent at the Federal level. WWP creates, advocates for and helps to implement legislation that will maintain warriors and their families far into the future and keeps warriors informed about changes in laws and programs that will impact them.

Family Support provides assistance and respite for a warrior's family, and/or caregiver. When a service member is wounded, the injury places tremendous stress on the individual's family members, many of whom face a new role as a full-time caregiver and advocate. The program provides unique services to these caregivers who are integral to the warrior's successful recovery.

Benefits Services provides support and education; advising warriors on their benefits and providing information on how to access them through the Department of Defense, Department of Veterans Affairs, and Social Security. WWP has service personnel who specialize in benefits counseling and representation and can walk warriors through each step of the process.

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WWP Packs contain essential care and comfort items including clothing, toiletries, calling cards; all designed to make a warrior's hospital stay more comfortable. The backpacks are provided to severely wounded service members arriving at military trauma centers. Transitional Care Packs, a smaller version, are sent directly to Iraq and Afghanistan to provide immediate comfort during a warrior's relocation to a U.S. military trauma center.

Soldier Ride is a WWP initiative that provides adaptive cycling opportunities for wounded warriors across the country. Typically 3-5 days long, rides are geared toward warriors of all abilities, with both adaptive and standard cycling equipment provided. In addition to the physical benefits, Soldier Ride raises public awareness of the issues warriors face through public events held throughout the ride. From the South Lawn of the White House to Southern California, warriors have the opportunity to take part in events that build their muscles and confidence.

Physical Health & Rehabilitation has four strategic objectives: 1) provide comprehensive recreation and sports programs to optimize the physical and psychological well-being of warriors; 2) develop physical health promotion strategies to improve a warrior's physical health; 3) ensure warriors with severe physical injuries have access to secondary physical rehabilitation and the latest technology to maximize their independence and; 4) identify and pursue legislative policy changes in support of physical health and wellness. The program serves all warriors including those with amputations, spinal cord injuries, burns, visual impairments, traumatic brain injuries, PTSD and other cognitive or mental health conditions.

WWP Alumni offers a range of programs and events designed for individuals' needs during and beyond their hospital stay. WWP Alumni offers assistance, communication, and camaraderie for wounded warriors as they continue life beyond injury. Throughout the year, WWP offers a wide range of activities including educational sessions, sporting and social events that give individuals a chance to connect with each other.

TRACK is the first education center in the nation designed specifically for wounded warriors. It's a one-of-a-kind, student-centric learning and training community that empowers wounded warriors in mind, body, and spirit through a unique collaboration of partners in a comfortable and innovative environment. TRACK is a one-year, on-site program in Jacksonville, FL, and San Antonio, TX with both academic and vocational training.

Transition Training Academy (TTA) provides warriors with innovative information technology (IT) training. Created as a joint effort with the Department of Labor, Cisco Systems, and WWP, the program helps warriors explore IT as a potential career field. The program develops new career skills with real-world applications to empower warriors during their transition to the civilian workforce.

Warriors to Work assists warriors with their transition to the workforce. The program offers warriors a complete package of employment assistance services including resume assistance, interviewing skills, networking, and job training.

Peer Mentoring is often the most positive influence during a wounded warrior's initial recovery. Through the friendship and understanding of a fellow wounded warrior, the newly injured know that someone has traveled before them on the same rocky road. WWP Peer Mentors are trained to be resources, listeners and "hospital buddies" who can share their understanding and perspective with the warrior and their family.

International WWP continues to grow and expand in Germany and internationally with the partnership of the USO. This program provides international support for service members with the provision of more comfort items supplied to warriors in Europe and downrange. We have created a ground-breaking resiliency program supporting the dedicated personnel who care for the wounded and their families in the first days and weeks after injury. This program increases the hospital staff's morale at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center (LRMC), Ramstein Air Base, and other hospitals downrange through a poster and video campaign with warrior success stories.

Outreach provides tangible comfort and support to warriors upon their return from the war. The program begins at the bedside but continues through the rehabilitation process. The program staff consists of hospital outreach coordinators (HOCs) and benefits liaisons. In addition to providing peer support, HOCs distribute WWP backpacks, comfort items, supplies, provide information on available government benefits, and help introduce warriors to relevant WWP programs.

Wounded Warrior Project is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization.

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