HVAF of Indiana, Inc.
Helping Veterans And Families

DONOR IMPACT REPORT 2023



READ NAVY VETERAN ANNA'S STORY ON PAGE 8

30 YEARS SERVING



1993

HVAF first incorporated as a Far From Home Chapter

1995

HVAF opens its first home and serves its first veteran





1998

Case management is made available to veterans

1998

The Loyd House, named after co-founder Louise Loyd, opened for all female veterans





2000

HVAF developed its Veteran Services Center, and opens Carson Apartments



2023

HVAF renames its veterans community center - the central hub for all veterans seeking assistance - the Colonel Donald W. Moreau, Sr. Veterans Community Center

2022

HVAF partners with Woda Cooper Companies to open Proctor Place, providing 15 permanent housing units





2021

HVAF's Workforce Development program launches VetWorks: a 3-phase program that leads veterans to good and promising jobs in Central Indiana

2020

COVID-19 pandemic hits - but HVAF pushes through and provides 33,000+ services to 1,400+ veterans





2020

Don Moreau, Sr. Apts gets remodeled and turns into Permanent Supportive Housing unit known as Veterans Villa

HOOSIER HEROES

2002

HVAF opens up Warman Woods Property - 45 units available for homeless veterans



2007



HVAF Headquarters move to 10th Street - home to 70+ employees and food, clothing, & hygiene pantry

2008

Don Moreau, Sr. Apartments opens for veterans (known as Moreau Veterans Villa today)



2011



Manchester Apartments opens for homeless veterans - a 51-unit building connected to HVAF's Headquarters

2019

HVAF receives funding from The Indianapolis Housing Agency to open its first Permanent Supportive Housing units



2018



New housing programs - including Transition in Place & Emergency Service Grant - become available for near homeless veterans and their families

2017

HVAF's food, clothing, and hygiene pantry turns into an in-person shopping experience for veterans



2013



HVAF hires its first Employment Specialist

2011

Supportive Services for Veterans And Families (SSVF) program added to service offerings



The photos throughout this report are the veterans HVAF has served. We are thankful for their vulnerability and strength to share their story with us.

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IN 2023, VETERAN HOMELESSNESS INCREASED BY 9%

WE ARE WORKING TO CHANGE THAT.

Since 1993, HVAF has been helping homeless veterans return to self-sufficiency and engages at-risk veterans and their families to prevent them from becoming homeless by providing supportive housing assistance, case management, employment support, therapy, and basic needs including food, hygiene, and clothing. In 2023, we served 1,349 veterans and provided over 37,000 life-changing services!

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

ARNE PEDERSEN



Dear Friends:

Time flies when you go and celebrate a 30-year anniversary as HVAF did in 2023! Our agency continues to do magnificent work since our first CEO, Colonel Don Moreau (U.S. Army Retired) led us. HVAF served over 1,300 veterans in 2023 and continues to help homeless and near homeless veterans and their families. In these struggling times, the most vulnerable need all of us to help them. HVAF employees and volunteers continue to step up and stand with our veterans and their families.

Thanks to your support, 2023 saw a record-breaking fundraising year! Your contributions to our concert, Operation Alpha, and throughout the year are deeply appreciated! Our marketing department is also helping tell the story of HVAF, including in our first ever podcast aptly named "Roger That." I encourage you to listen to these well-sequenced podcasts on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Amazon Music, or YouTube.

HVAF's dedicated staff continue to provide exceptional service to veterans. Through our direct services, more veterans are being placed into permanent housing and stable employment. I am happy to report that at year end, our newest property—Proctor Place, was completely full. And, more veterans are being enrolled and graduating from our VetWorks program.

As a Board, we are pleased with the leadership and careful management of the agency fiscally and operationally. We approved a new Strategic Plan for the organization in 2023 to help guide the agency over the next three years. We are pleased to support efforts to grow HVAF outside of Central Indiana, while also working to expand services locally to ensure we are better meeting the needs of veterans.

It is important to note that we see all levels of leadership working together in concert to fulfill the mission of HVAF. In her second year as CEO, Emmy Hildebrand continues to grow into a well-known and respected non-profit organization leader in Indianapolis. Our COO, Bryan Dysert, continues to prove his passion and capabilities in hands-on leadership of our day-to-day operations. His passion to take care of our veterans and their families is contagious.

As we close the chapter on our 30th anniversary, we must continue to meet the challenge of always taking care of veterans. THAT IS WHAT LEADERS DO.

Respectfully,





EMMY HILDEBRAND

LETTER FROM THE CEO

Dear Friends:

2023 was a special year for HVAF—the year we turned 30! I'm so thankful to each of you who joined throughout the year to celebrate our anniversary! It was fun to look back together, but inspiring to continue forward in service to Hoosier veterans.

Last year was particularly meaningful for me. Throughout our anniversary celebrations, it was important for us to stop and remember the vision of our founders. We celebrated our first full-time CEO with the dedication of the Colonel Donald W. Moreau, Sr. Veterans Community Center in March. I had the privilege of meeting Colonel Moreau early in my professional career and it was an honor to join his family to rename our Community Center in his honor. I can think of no better way to honor a public servant like Colonel Moreau than serving veterans, in his name, every week.

In June, we hosted our first concert, Music at the Memorial, featuring Nashville recording artist Trey Taylor, as well as local performers Corey Cox and John Ryan. On the steps of the Indiana War Memorial, we also paused to recognize the volunteers that started HVAF in 1993. Louise Loyd, Russell Cox, and Rick Schwartz joined together in their passion for serving veterans to start the first organization in Indianapolis dedicated to serving veterans facing homelessness in Indianapolis.

While we celebrated, we also worked hard last year. We provided over 37,000 individual services to 1,349 veterans in 2023, setting a record for the annual number of services provided by the organization! We also increased the pounds of food, clothing and hygiene items distributed to veterans—distributing over 83,000 pounds to veterans in need.

Finally, we set big goals last year in our new 3-year strategic plan, including expanding into underserved areas of the state, expanding services to meet veterans' needs, and strengthening the corporate functions of our organization. We are making steady progress on these goals and look forward to reporting more progress in the future.

Thank you for your steadfast support of HVAF and the veterans we serve. On behalf of our staff, thank you for your generosity and encouragement.

Respectfully,





THANKS TO YOU, NAVY VETERAN ANNA AND HER BABY HAVE A SAFE PLACE TO CALL HOME.

HVAF is there in the most crucial moments. Navy veteran Anna and her 2-year-old son, Amir, were forced to live in her car after fleeing an unsafe housing situation at the beginning of 2023.

Luckily, her uncle who is also a veteran, knew about HVAF and told her to call for help with housing. She did and everything changed for the single mom and her son.

The same day she called HVAF for help, they were quickly connected with one of our housing case managers, Brittany, and were booked into a hotel. Brittany made sure they had food and other essential items and worked daily to keep them engaged, eventually enrolling them in permanent housing.

It took a few months, but the wait was worth it! Anna and Amir were the first veteran family to move into HVAF's newest permanent supportive housing apartment units at Proctor Place. They made a 2-bedroom apartment home!

"When they brought me in here, I started jumping up and down!" Anna said. "It's really nice and quiet. I love it."

Proctor Place is a brand new 61-unit affordable housing apartment complex on Indy's Near Westside where 15 units are exclusively for veterans being assisted by HVAF. The families living in those units also have access to an onsite case manager who's available to work one-on-one with each family to ensure they remain stably housed.

"I am so proud of her because she stuck through it and she did what she needed to do to keep the process going," Brittany said. "She has goals for herself that she can focus on, and I want to see her meet those goals."

Now safely and permanently housed and no longer in survival mode, she is able to focus on finding a new routine that works for her and Amir and work toward new goals like going back to school.

PROVIDING PERMANENT HOUSING SINCE 2019



PROCTOR PLACE

After hearing Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett's call for more Permanent Supportive Housing for homeless veterans in 2019, HVAF took action. We repurposed some of our properties and turned them into 47 Permanent Supportive Housing units for vulnerable veterans and their families. While living in one of these homes, veterans also have access to a case manager, a peer mentor, and all of HVAF's programs and services.



CARSON APARTMENTS



VETERANS VILLA

Together with Woda Cooper Companies, HVAF opened Proctor Place at the end of 2022. This apartment building provides 15 units for our veterans and their families. Proctor Place is named in honor of Sergeant Joseph Eugene (Joey) Proctor, a member of the Indiana Army National Guard killed in action during combat operations in Iraq on May 3, 2006.



LAFEVER HOUSE

Here, you can see the six properties HVAF has for permanent housing - providing 62 units total.

PAUL HOUSE



KELTNER HOUSE



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Louie V. Hider AMVETS Post 99 Auxiliary
Plainfield Correctional Facility
PNC Foundation
Rolls-Royce Veteran Connection Employee Network
Salesforce
Sammy L. Davis VVA Chapter 295
Scale Computing
Science Applications International Corporation
Team Endicott
The Nottingham Team LLC.
Total Lawn Care
Toyota
UNITS Moving and Portable Storage of Indianapolis
Veteran Strategies, INC
Veterans Memorial Chapel, Inc.
Women In Networking (WIN)

$100-$499

All Souls Unitarian Church, Inc
Amazon Smile
American Legion Auxiliary 11th District
American Legion Auxiliary National
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 276
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 331
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 64
American Legion Post 252
American Legion Unit Auxiliary 230
American Structurepoint
B of L E Division 548
Baird Foundation
ClusterTruck
Curran Architecture
Endress & Hauser
Federal Aviation Retired Employees
Fr. Patrick Assembly Knights of Columbus
Fraternal Order of Eagles Auxiliary
Greenwood American Legion Sons of the Legion
Indiana Brewery Running Series
Indiana Oxygen
Knights of Columbus #3228
Lawrence County Salon #638
Morans Computer Services
Pfizer
SEP Foundation, a fund of Hamilton County Community Foundation
Sons of the American Legion Post 252
Stewart Tire and Auto Service
Stitched Designs
United Health Group
UPS
VFW Auxiliary Post 2067
VFW Auxiliary Post 5582
WCA Group, LLC WCA Group, LLC
Westfield Middle School
Wild Championship Wrestling Outlaws
Wyndham Destinations

$1-$99

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 182
Arconic
AT&T
Avon American Legion Auxiliary Unit 145
Church of the Nativity
Delta Faucet Company
Fevo
Guidon Design
Indiana Farmers Mutual Insurance
IT & Cleaning Professionals
JLH Recipes, LLC
Mutual of America Foundation
National Bank of Indianapolis
Raytheon Company
Roche Diagnostics Corporation
St. Joseph Neighborhood
TOPS IN 1524
Towne Meadow Elementary School

**Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this listing. We apologize for any inadvertent errors or ommissions.*

DONOR HIGHLIGHT

BREEDERS CROWN AT HOOSIER PARK

HVAF had the privilege of being part of the Charity Challenge at the 2023 Breeders Crown. The Breeders Crown is known as "The Super Bowl of Harness Racing."

For several months, we participated in a variety of challenges - including HVAF CEO Emmy Hildebrand participating in a horse race (on buggy), receiving the most Facebook likes, participating in a gala at Hoosier Park, and more.



Thanks to everyone's hard work and participation, we won first place and a check for $84k+! This huge win has impacted our Hoosier Heroes in major ways.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2023 DONORS

TRIBUTES

INDIVIDUALS

Mitchell Abel
in memory of Col. Richard Pedersen

Rosa Alexander
in memory of James G. Morrow, Jr.

Michael Belter
in memory of Col. Richard Pedersen

Lawrence & Carolyn Bunting
in memory of Col. Richard Pedersen

Tonya Burris-Mallory
in honor of Phillip L. Burris

Andrea Carlile
in honor of Wesley Carlile

Matt Chandler
in memory of Barry David O'Sha

Donna Coaxum
in memory of Marion Clinkscales

Morgan Denny
in memory of Col. Richard Pedersen

Caroline A. Dewey
in honor of Balkegh

J. Edward & Rosalyn Doyle
in memory of Col. Donald W. Moreau, Sr.

Phil Faccenda, Jr.
in memory of Col. Donald W. Moreau, Sr.

Christopher Felts
in memory of Col. Donald W. Moreau, Sr.

Virginia Forbes
in memory of Col. Donald W. Moreau, Sr.

Kyle Ford
in honor of Caleb Truax

Benjamin Greenfield
in honor of Dan Moore

Bethanne Gruner
in memory of Paul Wells

Cynthia Hackett
in memory of Aaron Rosman & John Ross

Jessica Hancock
in memory of Col. Richard Pedersen

Janet Hannam
in memory of Col. Richard Pedersen

Friends of Steve Gault
in honor of Steve Gault

John Higgins
in memory of Andy Grabowski

Gloria E. Jacobs
in memory of Don I. Higgins

Renee Justice
in memory of John Burns, Jr.

Dorel Juvenile
in memory of Col. Richard Pedersen

Steve & Cheryl Karn
in memory of Col. Donald W. Moreau Sr.

Gregg Keesling
in honor of Kiara Walker

Stephen & Susan Kraabel
in memory of World War II Veterans who have recently passed

James Lauck
in memory of Col. Donald W. Moreau, Sr.

John & Carol Longfellow
in honor of Jordan Stevens

Gail & Stuart Lowry
in honor of Bill & Ann Moreau

Jeanine Lugo
in memory of Col. Richard Pedersen

Jim & Pat McConnell
in memory of Col. Richard Pedersen

Kathleen McElhannon
in honor of Brad Potts

Anonymous
in memory of SSG Jonathan Metzger

Brianna Molyneaux
in memory of Marion Clinkscales

Ann & Bill Moreau
in memory of Col. Donald W. Moreau, Sr.

Lisa Morin
in honor of Philip L. Burris

John Mullin
in memory of Col. Richard Pedersen

Fred & Nancy Nation
in honor of Ann & Bill Moreau

Nathan Newburn
in memory of Marion Clinkscales

Susan Nix
in memory of Col. Richard Pedersen

David Opel
in memory of Vilis Lisments USMC

Stacey Parker
in memory of Master Sgt Richard D. Parker

Charles Patrick
in memory of George D. Miller

Lawrence Paynter
in memory of John Brancheau

Joy Putnam
in memory of Col. Richard Pedersen

Robert Ramsower
in honor of Chip Sinders

Joy Lynn Rothrock
in memory of Col. Donald W. Moreau, Sr.

Linda Rushing
in memory of Logan Rushing

Tina Schager
in memory of Col. Richard Pedersen

Pamela Schwarz
in memory of Major Michael (Mike) Dorne

Jerry & Rosemary Semler
in honor of Bill Moreau

Ava M Smith
in memory of LTC (ret.) Robert F. Smith

Rich Stumpf
in memory of Richard Jacob Kallahan, USMC

Karen Swarts
in memory of Marion Clinkscales

Philip Thieler
in memory of Col. Richard Pedersen

Trent Thomas
in memory of Marion Clinkscales

Heidi Tripp
in memory of Barry David O'Sha

James Vaughn (MAJ, USA, Retired)
in memory of Col. Richard Pedersen

Jeanne Warlick
in honor of Louise Loyd

Brian Williams & Susan Brock Williams
in memory of Col. Richard Pedersen

Nancy Withington
in memory of Col. Richard Pedersen

ORGANIZATIONS

Central Indiana Community Foundation
in honor of Bill Moreau & Col. Donald W. Moreau, Sr.

Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana
in honor of Lady Connie Whisner

Jessie E. Jones Charitable Trust
in memory of Rubel & Jessie Jones

Retired Officers Wives Club
in memory of Col. Richard Pedersen

VCARING.ORG
in honor of John Cook & Dr. John Allen

VRE Family
in memory of Marion Clinkscales

COLONEL'S CLUB MEMBERS

INDIVIDUALS

Kerry Baugh
Jason Beatty
Jason & Kerri Bell
Dennis and Elaine Biggerstaff
Kenneth Bland
Tonya Burris-Mallory
Milton Cobb
Jeff Fahy
David Fields
Jack Fortune
Robert & Susan Haas
Trenton Hahn
Eric Hannon
Steven Harper
Kristin Hayes
Tim and Floy Heidenreich
Jay Hildebrand
Mike & Amber Jaarda
Mark King
Stephen & Susan Kraabel
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Rodman Lange
Sravant Lavu
Leeanne Lollar
David Love
Rachael Mayer
Mark & Tabitha Meier
Rebecca Moore
Col(R) Jim & LTG(R) Carol Mutter
Mark Nicholson
Charles Patrick
Adam Pierce
Nathan Plack
Ali Pournourbakhsh
Carol Rader
Phillip & Rebecca Reagan
Anonymous
Barry Schatz
Joel Schrader
Jeffrey Sexton
Michael & Jamie Simek
William L Spellman
Darrel & Rose Stultz
Jerry & Pamela Troxel
Lynn C. Tyler
Joseph Weldon
Zachary Willis
Bryan Yates

ORGANIZATIONS

American Legion Post 230
AMVETS Post 26
Common Ground Charities Inc.
Lawrence County Salon #638
Uncommon Charitable Impact, Inc.
VCARING.ORG

**Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this listing. We apologize for any inadvertent errors or ommissions.*

THANK YOU TO OUR IN KIND DONORS

INDIVIDUALS

Steve & Mellissa Boggs
Karla Bohm
Amy Boots
Larry & Betty Brookins
Jesse & Shirley Camacho
Andrea Carlile
Lauren Carpenter
Dan & Ellyn Casey
Angela Chisholm
Sarah Christian
Madelyn Cook
Brian & Donna Copes
Amy Crawford-Hale
Max Dalton
Becky Defeo
Fred Edwards
Mustafa Ercan
Cynthia Galto
Kris Glomski
Robert Griffin
Sandra Gurnell
Emmy & Jay Hildebrand
Ashley Hodapp
Cynthia Jobin
Veda Johnson
Jimmy Jones
Rhonda Jones
Michelle Kautman
Ashley Kindred
Bob Kindred
James Leech
David Leonard
Lauretta Long
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Mack & Julie Magana
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Ashlee Walls-Pierce & Adam Pierce
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Phillip & Rebecca Reagan
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Mary Russell
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Erin Spencer
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Robert Stapert
Cody Studebaker
Mr. Russell and Mrs. Bonnie Sweeney
Guy Weeks
Mark Weigand
Benjamin Wickler
Jason Williams
Sarah Williams
Robert Wilson

ORGANIZATIONS

5.11 Tactical
AMC Washington Square 12
American Legion Auxiliary 479
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 103
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 155
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 34
American Legion Beech Grove
American Legion District 11
American Legion Post 155
American Legion Post 205
American Legion Post 230
American Legion Post 34
American Legion Post 355 - Auxiliary/ Legion Riders
American Legion Post 495
American Legion Post 497
American Legion Post 500
Amercian Legion Post Post 510
American Legion Wayne Post 64
AMVETS 99
Avon American Legion Auxiliary Unit 145
Avon American Legion Post 145
B of L E Division 548
Bethel United Methodist Church
Brian Bowman VFW Post 1431
Calling All Angels
Camacho Janitorial
Caroline Scott Harrison Chapter NSDAR
Center for Inquiry School 70
Chapel Rock Christian Church
Checkered Flag Tavern
Circle City Relief - Conquest Cycling
Citizens Energy Group
Columbus Club
Cornelia Cole Fairbanks Chapter-DAR
Cornerstone Lutheran Church
Crossroads Engineers, PC
Cummins Global Distribution Headquarters
Cummins Inc.
Dometic North America
Eight Eleven Group
Electrical Maintenance Specialist, LLC
Eli Lilly and Company
EnviroForensics
ESA Gamma Pi Chapter
Fade To Win
Franklin Elks Lodge #1818
Freedom Staffing
Generations Grill
Gibson Teldata, Inc.
GoldMember Cigars
Gradison Design Build
Greenwood American Legion
Holy Spirit Parish at Geist
Hotel Tango Distillery
Hunter's Moon Harley-Davidson
Indiana Society Dames of the Court of Honor
Indiana Statewide Eligibility and Enrollment. Department of Child Services
Indianapolis Crochet Guild
Indy Honor Flight
International Medical Group
Jack's Donuts
JCC Indianapolis
John Conner DAR Chapter
Johnson County Public Library
Kamrex, Inc
KG's Pub
Kite Realty
Knights of Columbus #3228
Labcorp - VERG
Lapel Middle School
Leo's Barber & Beauty
Long's Bakery
Major Hugh Dinwiddie DAR Chapter
Mars Hill Charity Riders
Mercy Road Church
American Legion Post 230
New Bethel Chapter DAR
New Hope Presbyterian Church
Noblesville VFW Auxiliary Post 6246
O'Neal Manufacturing Services
Operation Comfort Warriors (OCW)
Plainfield Eagle Riders 3207
Professional Management Enterprises
Pulte Homes
Quest Diagnostics
Rare Bird, Inc.
Roche Diagnostics Corporation
Rushville DAR Chapter
Salesforce Vetforce
Sammy L. Davis VVA Chapter 295
Sons of American Legion Post 145
Speedway Christian Church
St. Joseph American Legion 464
St. Joseph American Legion Post 464
St. Joseph Historic Neighborhood Association
St. Joseph Neighborhood
Stifel Investment Services
Style Threads Boutique
Sunbelt Rentals
Sun King Brewery
The Home Depot Foundation
Thrivant
TOPS IN 1524
Trailside Elementary School
Upland Brewing Company
U.S. Army Financial Management Command
Union Elementary
Valley Mills Christian Church
Vandalia Military Group
Veterans Memorial Chapel, Inc.
VFW - Spencer Memorial 1405
VFW Auxiliary Post 261
VFW Auxiliary Post 98
VFW Post 1587 Auxiliary
VFW Post 9107 Auxiliary
VFW Post 98
VFW Riders Post 261
Westfield Middle School
Wrap It Up, LLC
Zionsville American Legion Post 79
Zotec Partners

DONOR HIGHLIGHT

VFW AUXILIARY



Indiana VFW Auxiliary chose HVAF as its 2022-2023 state project. VFW Auxiliaries across the state held various fundaisers to support our mission. By the end of the campaign, they had raised $39,000! We are so thankful for all of the VFW Auxiliaries who supported our Hoosier Heroes!





VFW Post 1127 Auxiliary hosted such a fun event full of pie throwing and dunk tanks! And major shoutout to Community Engagement Coordinator Andrea Carlile for taking one for the team with pies to her face and getting dunked in the tank!



2023 OUTCOMES

1,349 veterans served

300 veterans permanently housed

297 veterans received employment services

3,522 pantry visits

37,126 services provided to veterans

82,408 lbs of food and clothing items distributed to veterans



HVAF VETERAN DEMOGRAPHICS

AGE

RACE

GENDER

2023 FINANCIAL REPORT

Despite expected decreases in governmental grant revenue due to the official end of the COVID-19 pandemic, HVAF finished 2023 in a solid financial position. As a result of strong fiscal management, as well as strategic use of funds awarded, HVAF was able to increase cash reserves and the Building Maintenance Endowment this year. These resources, along with the Lilly Endowment Sustainability Endowment awarded in 2018 ensure that HVAF has stable financial footing and will be serving veterans for many years to come.

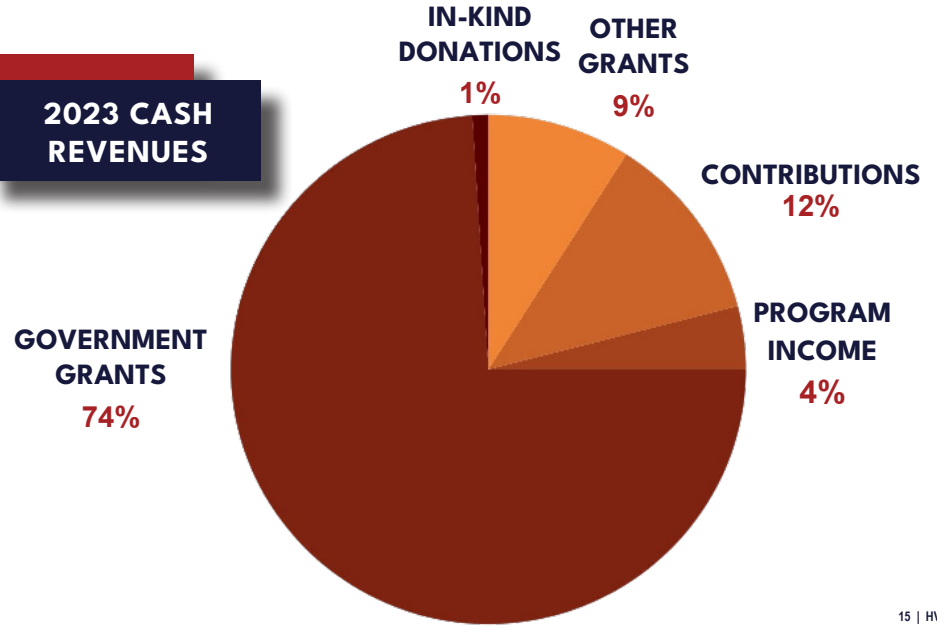
We owe a special thanks to our donors, who through their generosity helped us set a fundraising record last year! We are grateful to report nearly $100,000 of in-kind donations to support our food, clothing, and hygiene pantries. Your continued support, including financial and in-kind donations, provides valuable assistance to the most vulnerable veterans in our community.

Also special thanks to our partners at Realtor Foundation, Cummins, OrtholndyFoundation, Tom and Julie Wood Foundation, Nicholas H. Noyes Foundation, the Indianapolis Colts Foundation, the Bob Woodruff Foundation, the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust, United Way of Central Indiana, the City of Indianapolis, Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority, and many others including Harrah's Hoosier Park, and the VFW Department of Indiana Ladies Auxiliary. We are grateful for their investment in HVAF and the important work we are doing to end veteran homelessness.

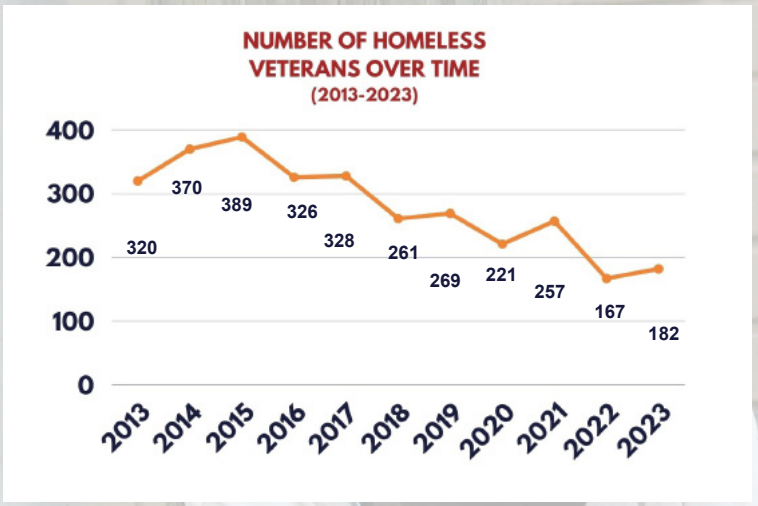
2023 CASH EXPENDITURES



2023 CASH REVENUES



INDY'S HOMELESS VETERANS



The Point in Time (PIT) Count – required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development – is a count of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness in January. Volunteers from various local organizations – including Helping Veterans HVAF – administered the survey over a 5-day period to determine how many individuals were homeless.

This year's results show that veteran homelessness in Marion County increased by 9 percent. The number of veterans experiencing homelessness increased from 167 in 2022 to 182 in 2023.

According to IU Public Policy Institute (PPI) and the Coalition for Homelessness Intervention and Prevention (CHIP) it's projected that there are 700-800 veterans experiencing homelessness in Indianapolis.

HOW DOES HVAF REACH INDY'S HOMELESS VETERANS?



Day in and day out, Rodney Jackson goes out to Indy's homeless camps and develops relationships with veterans. He gives unsheltered veterans food, clothing, and hygiene items - and encourages them to come to HVAF for help.

Rodney served in the U.S. Navy for 17 years, before being honorably discharged. After his time in the military, Rodney experienced homelessness himself for a bit. Now, he spends his days giving back to his fellow veterans.

"I don't come here to judge, I just try to come out here to try to help them out," Rodney says. "But it takes a community to help these people. They need help with housing, mental health, hygiene, food, and clothing."

HVAF is always accepting donations. To support this work, visit our "Take Action" page to see our current needs: hvafofindiana.org/take-action.

2023 MARKED 30 YEARS OF HVAF SERVING VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

2023 was a special year for HVAF as it was our 30th anniversary! 30 years ago, a group of volunteers came together with one mission: to end veteran homelessness. Starting with one house for veterans, HVAF has grown to be the LARGEST nonprofit provider for veterans facing homelessness in the state! You only turn 30 once and we took full advantage with a year full of celebrations!



Pictured, from left to right: HVAF Board Member and Don Moreau's son, Bill Moreau, Don's wife Linda, HVAF Board Chairman Arne Pedersen, HVAF Community Center Specialist Katie Zackery, and HVAF CEO Emmy Hildebrand

MARCH: RENAMED THE COMMUNITY CENTER AFTER FIRST CEO

HVAF's veterans community center – our central hub for all veterans seeking assistance – was officially renamed the Colonel Donald W. Moreau, Sr. Veterans Community Center. The center is named after HVAF's first full-time CEO: the late Donald W, Moreau Moreau, Sr.

The Veterans Community Center offers veterans access to a robust food, clothing, and hygiene pantry, computer lab, meeting space, and library containing Col. Moreau's book collection. In the lobby, you will find his uniform, eight Sagamore of the Wabash awards, and additional memorabilia from his extensive military and civic service careers.

JUNE: HOSTED FIRST-EVER CONCERT AND RAISED $40K

We hosted a one-night-only *Music at the Memorial* concert as a special way to commemorate the 30th anniversary. The event seemed to tug on the heartstrings – and guitar strings – of many as we raised more than $40,000! 100% of the proceeds benefitted HVAF's mission, so we are so thankful for everyone who made this special concert possible.

Attendees were able to enjoy Johnson's BBQ and Chilly Water brews as they grabbed a seat to enjoy live country music right on the steps of the Indiana War Memorial. We're not sure about you, but it was one of the coolest venues we've been to for live music! Nashville Recording Artist Trey Taylor and local artists John Ryan and Corey Cox put on incredible sets for everyone there. We are grateful they used their talents to give back to Hoosier Heroes!

The jamming doesn't have to stop as we have all of the performances on our YouTube Channel! Check it out: youtube.com/HVAFVeterans



Thank you to Trey Taylor, John Ryan, and Corey Cox for performing at our 30th anniversary concert, *Music at the Memorial!*



Travis Barnes (center) and wife, Hilary Barnes (right of Travis) started Hotel Tango in 2014 and started Operation Alpha to support HVAF. Ginger Barnes (left) is a Navy veteran who serves on HVAF's Board of Directors.

NOVEMBER: THE 10TH ANNUAL OPERATION ALPHA RAISED $150K

We say this every year, and thankfully we get to say it again – this year was the BIGGEST & BESTEST Operation Alpha yet! Nearly 400 amazing people came out and enjoyed the evening – and helped us raise $150,000! Hotel Tango Artisan Distillery's Founder and CEO, disabled U.S. Marine Corps veteran Travis Barnes, started Operation Alpha in 2014. He founded the event as a way to raise funds for HVAF's operations, programs, and services.

"I was absolutely blown away with everyone's generosity during the event and still can't believe we reached our goal," HVAF VP for Advancement Ashlee Walls-Pierce said. "To say I'm grateful would be an understatement."

Save the Date: Operation Alpha 2024

November 8 | Biltwell Event Center

For more information on tickets and sponsorship information: hvafofindiana.org/events



ARMY NATIONAL GUARD VETERAN KYLA IS THANKFUL FOR YOUR SUPPORT SO SHE AND HER FAMILY COULD HAVE A SECOND CHANCE.

When Kyla graduated from high school, she decided to enlist in the Army National Guard.

While in medic school during her military training, she received the devastating news that her father had unexpectedly passed away. At just 19, the loss sent her life to spiral out of control for almost a decade.

She was overcome with guilt, sadness, anger, and resentment. The only way she knew to cope was to run away and do whatever she could to numb those feelings and fill the void of her father's absence. The instability affected her tenure with the military and continued into her civilian life which eventually led them to being homeless.

Kyla's young family were staying in a local shelter when they were referred to HVAF for housing assistance. HVAF case manager, Anne, quickly moved Kyla and her family out of the shelter and into an apartment of their own that HVAF would temporarily pay for.

This allowed Kyla to focus on addressing the barriers preventing her from being self-sufficient.

Together, Anne and Kyla worked to repair Kyla's credit score and worked on budgeting skills. Anne connected the family with other community services and even helped her purchase a vehicle.

It wasn't long before things started falling into place and Kyla was healthy, stable, and ready to be self-sufficient. She could start looking to the future for her and her family.

"I am so thankful for the program and the amazing people that make it all possible," Kyla said. "HVAF has helped me get into stable housing, they have connected me with other services and resources that have provided me with additional opportunities to better myself and my life."

"I am deeply grateful for your support to work with HVAF and Anne. HVAF is a true blessing to the community and organization. It was through their services I was able to purchase a new vehicle and obtain stable housing. Without your generosity, none of this would be possible.
THANK YOU!"

THANK YOU NOTES FROM SOME HOOSIER HEROES YOU'VE HELPED:

"I'm honored and I'm very thankful. The food, the clothes, the houseware has really helped me when I fell short. I really appreciate your donations!"

Thank you,
Marine Corps Veteran Brianca



"I want to thank you for your support because without it, I wouldn't have a roof over my head. So your support really helps!"

Thank you,
Navy Veteran Al



"I would love to say thank you to all of the gracious donors because you have helped me AND my children. Everything you do, we truly appreciate it!"

Thank you,
Navy Veteran Porshia



"I would like to thank you for all that you do. I am very appreciative and your support can really turn a veteran's life into a new day. "

Thank you,
Air Force Veteran Greg



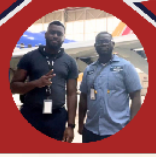
"It's awesome just knowing there are actually people out here who care for veterans that are having a hard time after coming out of the service."

Thank you,
Army Veteran Tanisha



"I think it's awesome knowing someone helped me. You didn't just help me, you helped my son as well."

Thank you,
Army Veteran Coray



Stories & videos on the veterans we serve are always available for you on our blog: hvafofindiana.org/blog



THERAPY HAS BEEN LIFE CHANGING FOR ARMY VETERAN ROSCOE

After the Army

After serving in the Army for almost a year and a half, Roscoe received his honorable discharge. Looking back, he regrets getting out so soon.

"I got out in December 1978. That first day, I went over to my sister's and her boyfriend had cocaine. I wanted to try it, and I liked it," Roscoe said. "In October 1979, I was in prison. It was terrible."

Roscoe spent decades in and out of prison and off and on drugs. But there were some positive experiences during his time in prison, including receiving two associate degrees and an EMT certification.

Coming to HVAF

In 2017, Roscoe moved from Illinois to Indiana but had nowhere to live. The day after he moved here, he went to the VA Hospital for help. They referred him to HVAF and two days later, he moved into one of our transitional houses until he was able to live on his own.

In addition to housing assistance, HVAF has helped Roscoe with pantry items, employment services, and most recently, therapy.

"They have helped me a lot. I'm not used to people helping me without me having to do something," Roscoe said. "But these people just help me just because it's what they do."

Last year, Roscoe went through HVAF's workforce development program: VetWorks. VetWorks – Veterans Workforce Renewing Knowledge and Skills – is an intensive 3 phase work, learn and earn program designed to skill up our veterans to achieve their earning potential. The program provided funding for Roscoe to complete a recovery coach class and peer mentor training.

Roscoe's VetWorks employment specialist encouraged Roscoe to get plugged in with Recovery Café – whose mission is to, "support development of the mind, body and spirit of individuals desiring recovery." Now, he uses his recovery coach and peer mentor training to facilitate a recovery support group there each week.

"It's keeping me from using drugs because I talk a lot about it," Roscoe said. "And I don't want to go backwards. I've come a long way to be where I'm at today."

"Growing up, I kept stuff in so long and I never had anyone to talk to. I love (therapy). Every time I'm here in her office, I'm talking. It's really something and I recommend it now anywhere I go."

Next steps

Since March 2023, Roscoe has been seeing HVAF's therapist, Kascha, every other week. He said he never thought he would go to therapy.

"Growing up, I kept stuff in so long and I never had anyone to talk to," Roscoe said. "I love it. Every time I'm here in her office, I'm talking. It's really something and I recommend it now anywhere I go."

In addition to leading the support group at Recovery Café, Roscoe cofacilitates a class called Nurturing Fathers through Dads Inc. He teaches the men how to be good fathers for their children.

"Because I'm a big guy, they wouldn't think that I would see a therapist or anything like that," Roscoe said. "But hopefully I can present it and say Roscoe does it, he's seeing a therapist, it must not be too bad."

IN 2023,

73% OF HVAF VETERANS REPORTED

A MENTAL HEALTH DIAGNOSIS*

HVAF'S THERAPIST IS ADDRESSING THIS NEED.

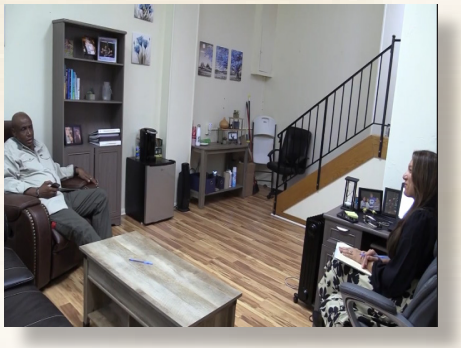


HVAF strives to provide essential wrap-around services for Hoosier Heroes in need – including mental health services. Mental health assistance for veterans is vital. The Veterans Crisis Line, managed by the Department of Veterans Affairs, reported a record number of calls in March 2023. The suicide hotline received over 88,000 calls, texts, and chats seeking assistance — that's almost 3,000 calls every day!

Realizing that the presence of mental disorders (substance-related disorders and/or mental illness) is the strongest predictor of becoming homeless after discharge from the military, HVAF offers intensive therapy services through a full-time Licensed Mental Health Clinician and three full-time peer mentors.

Kascha – HVAF's therapist – provides intensive individual therapy including individual and family counseling, substance abuse psycho-education, sexual trauma counseling, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder treatment, and suicide prevention.

HVAF is thankful for funding from the Colts' Kicking the Stigma Initiative – as the therapy program would not be possible without their support.



Kascha has been with HVAF for seven years, starting as a case manager and now serving as the full-time therapist. Her years of serving HVAF's veterans have prepared her to understand the importance of addressing their mental health as it can hinder them from a life of self-sufficiency.

"A lot of our veterans don't want to appear as though they need help. They've always had an image of being strong, they're people who have defended our country and so to say I need help, a lot of them don't want to because of that negative stigma that's attached to it," Kascha said. "Veterans in particular have a lot more stressors. They're exposed to more trauma than the average person. There is nothing wrong with seeking out help. It doesn't mean that it's a weakness it just means that you're human."



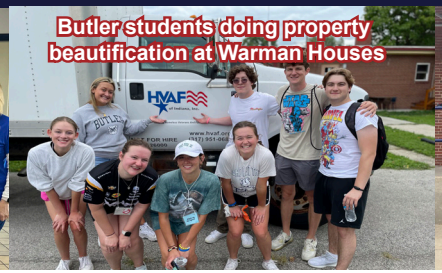
"Some days I go in for a meeting, and I'm feeling not so good. By the time I leave, I'm feeling great. Kascha is always there to help and listen. Sometimes people need someone to do that. And she's there for that."

-Army Veteran Mike

*73% of veterans served at HVAF reported a mental health and/or substance use diagnosis.













THANK YOU TO OUR

VOLUNTEERS

747

TOTAL VOLUNTEERS

5,575

TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS

$142,873

TOTAL VALUE OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE

























VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

VIETNAM VETERAN DOMINIC SERVES HIS FELLOW VETERANS IN HVAF'S CLOTHING PANTRY



Q: Why do you like volunteering at HVAF?

A: Besides personal satisfaction in giving back to a unique group of people, I enjoy the camaraderie with both the staff and volunteers and the veterans being served. Secondly, the impact that HVAF makes in helping our vets to be successful is much bigger than any of us could do alone.

Q: Why do you want to serve veterans?

A: Being a Vietnam era veteran, I have gone through some of the same issues our vets face so I feel I can be empathetic in helping to serve them. Because they have sacrificed so much for our country, I treat this as an opportunity to minister to them by listening, encouraging, respecting, and valuing them while they receive the much needed help they deserve.



Q: What is your favorite memory with a veteran at HVAF?

A: When helping a veteran with clothing, he selected a Chicago Cubs jersey and that opened up a conversation between us about the all-time greats like Ron Santo, Don Kissinger, Fergie Jenkins, etc. of the 1969 Cubs. Come to find out we had the same birthday month, same age, enlisted at the same time and grew up within a mile or so of each other in Chicago. Although we had never met, it was like a reunion with handshakes, hugging and just a neat time together rehashing our early years.

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING AT HVAF?

E-MAIL US:

Volunteer@HVAF.org

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES.



MISSION:

HVAF of Indiana houses, supports, and advocates for all veterans and their families to help them achieve the best possible quality of life.

VISION:

Hope, housing, and self-sufficiency for all veterans and their families.

CONNECT WITH US:

964 N. Pennsylvania St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204

hvaf.org hvaf@hvaf.org 317.951.0688

@hvafofindiana

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