

## July Newsletter

#### 2023

USA Cares' mission is to provide post-9/11 military veterans, service members, and their families with financial assistance and post service skills training to create a foundation for long-term stability. Our services improve the quality of life for veterans and their families and reduce potential factors that can contribute to veteran suicide.

MAKE A DONATION



#### **MISSION MOMENT: Frank Whitehead**

Frank's transition out of the military after almost two decades in the Army National Guard brought new challenges he wasn't expecting. When he and is family faced losing their only form of transportation, USA Cares restored hope to this disheartened veteran. <u>READ HIS STORY</u> Dear Friends,



As we enter the month of July, we are excited to share our June adventures and accomplishments with our loyal supporters. Our dedicated staff and volunteers have been working tirelessly to extend USA Cares' reach across our network and make a positive impact in the lives of veterans.

In our news section, we are thrilled to provide an update on the Stars for Heroes campaign. We would like to express our deep appreciation to everyone who has taken the time to support this important fundraiser. We would also like to extend a tremendous thank you to all the Hardee's and Carl's Jr. restaurants who have played a crucial role in making this annual initiative a resounding success. With a few days remaining before its conclusion on July 4, we encourage you to visit your nearest participating restaurant and show your support.

We are encouraged by the support from elected officials here in Kentucky. It is truly an honor to have senators and representatives take time out of their busy schedules to visit our headquarters and learn more about USA Cares. Their support and commitment to serving our veteran community are invaluable, and we believe that their involvement can help us grow our resources and expand our reach.

In this newsletter, we have a dedicated section to express our gratitude to the organizations and companies that have recently made donations to USA Cares. We recognize that the start of our work begins with their generous support, and we are immensely grateful for their contributions.

Despite our recent accomplishments, it is important to remember that there is a persistent need for our services. Our call center remains busy, and we rely on the generous help of our supporters to provide assistance to those who have served our country. We encourage you to read through the three client stories we share this month - the courage of Frank, Bernice, and Charlotte - which serve as a reminder of the obstacles our veterans face both during and after their time in the military.

As we celebrate our nation's most important holiday, let us remember the 247 years of freedom we have enjoyed. We must also take this opportunity to surround those who have protected our freedom with love and compassion. May you have a happy and safe July 4th.

Thank you for your continued support.

**Trace Chesser** 

President & CEO, USA Cares





#### **Bernice Feagins**

A housing payment error threatened to force Army veteran, Bernice Feagins, into homelessness. Now she's determined to pay forward the life-changing assistance she got from USA Cares.



#### Charlotte White\*

Charlotte White's transition out of the Air Force coincided with the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, making her adjustment to civilian life even more difficult. USA Cares helped bridge her road to employment.

**Read Her Story** 

#### Read Her Story



401 Families with 515 Children Assisted



Year-to-Date Numbers

**\$747,101.10** of Financial Assistance Distributed



255 Evictions/Foreclosures Stopped

#### News

# \*\*\*HAPPY\*\*\* INDEPENDENCE \*DAY\*

Wishing you a happy and safe 4-th of July!

USA CARES VETERAN & FAMILY SUPPORT SYSTEM

2023 We Salute You Gala, Celebrating the First 20 Years



#### Buy Tickets

Don't miss your chance to join USA Cares to celebrate 20 years of support for our military, veterans, and their families. This elegant evening features guest speaker Retired US Army Major General Julie Bentz, gourmet food, a live band, and a few surprises for this special anniversary. Click the button above to purchase your tickets now!

#### CKE Restaurants' Stars for Heroes Campaign ends July 4th!





Have you visited your local participating **Carl's Jr**. ® or **Hardee's** ® yet? This national fundraiser has helped USA Cares provide emergency financial assistance to thousands of military families in crisis for more than a decade.

Doing your part is easy! Simply go to your local restaurant and ask to buy a Stars for Heroes star at the register for at least \$1. Don't forget to write your name on your star and snap a picture with it to send to USA Cares' social media accounts!

#### USA Cares and Carl's Jr. team up at US Army ceremony







Matt Castor enjoyed another great trip to California to join **Carl's Jr**. (B) in promoting Star for Heroes, which included this joint event with the Army where a brand new class of recruits took the Oath of Enlistment. Congratulations to these individuals and thank you to the wonderful support of CKE Restaurants that allows USA Cares to be a part of events like these!

#### Matt Castor and Board Member, Bill Dieruff, testify to Kentucky Legislature



USA Cares testified in front of Kentucky's Interim Joint Committee on Veteran and Military Affairs and Public Protection (VMAPP). Matt Castor and Bill Dieruff spoke about veteran suicide in the state and challenged lawmakers to help fund nonprofit organizations willing to tackle the issue.



Rebecca Raymer KY State Rep. District 15

After visiting USA Cares headquarters, Representative Raymer encouraged her fellow representatives to tour USA Cares and learn more about our work.



Sarah Stalker KY State Rep. District 34

Representative Stalker also toured USA Headquarters and shares extensive knowledge of nonprofits. We look forward to continue working together for our veterans and their families.

Morgan McGarvey invites USA Cares to Town Hall





Thank you to Kentucky State Senator Morgan McGarvey for holding a town hall to discuss the important issues facing our military and veteran families, and for allowing an opportunity for USA Cares to join in the conversation.



USA Cares named Louisville Business First 2023 Best Place to Work

We are excited to announce that USA Cares was named a **2023 Best Place to Work in Greater Louisville** by Louisville Business First for the second year in a row.

"These honorees were selected because of their employees' feedback and not through outside judges like we use for some of our other programs. The survey asks employees to evaluate the organization in areas that include team effectiveness, alignment with goals, trust with coworkers, manager effectiveness and feeling valued, among other areas." - <u>LBF</u>

UC-Harrodsburg Men's Soccer hosting USA Cares benefit game



### SATURDAY JULY 8, 2023 7 PM EST CU HARRODSBURG SOCCER COMPLEX 600 LEGION DR. HARRODSBURG, KY 40330

JOIN US FOR A FUN MEMORABLE DAY AS WE PARTNER TOGETHER WITH USA Cares Inc. to raise funds to benefit veterans and their families.



Soccer Fans! Will you be in the Harrodsburg, Kentucky area this week? Don't miss this exciting opportunity to catch a great game while supporting USA Cares!

Can't make it but still want to contribute? Click the button below!

Sponsor the Event

MacLellan Integrated Services hears from USA Cares during leadership meeting in Lexington, KY





USA Cares has a unique relationship with MacLellan Integrated Services. Over the past 10 years, MacLellan's employees have banded together to support veteran families through USA Cares. Collectively, they have raised more than \$1.27 million and continue to expand the program throughout the U.S.

Congratulations, Graduates!



Congratulations to the recent graduates or our CSP Corporate Fellowship Program. We are so excited to see you begin your next chapter!

Interested in hiring veterans? Get your company involved in our program by contacting Greg Bishop (greg@usacares.org) or Paula Redding (paula@usacares.org).

## Thank You For your support

USA CARES



Beam Suntory, the parent company of Jim Beam, made a \$10,000 donation to



VetLinks works closely with USA Cares to provide financial assistance to our USA Cares.



The Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels awarded USA Cares a \$10,000 grant to be used to supply food cards to veteran and military families in crisis. most vulnerable military families. We are grateful for the lives we are able to change through our shared purpose of providing support and assistance to our military families.









The month of June proved very productive for our Chapters Program. There were multiple successful fundraising events and I'm am thrilled to say we've expanded the program to over 40 Executive Directors across 33 states nationwide. Louisville Chapter Executive Director, Stephen Brown, organized his first event at the newly opened Topgolf (pictures above). USA Cares staff and Board Members were in attendance for the event. A big thank you to **Carl's Jr.** (B) and **Hardee's** (B) for their sponsorship. Their Stars for Heroes campaign also allowed all our Chapters to stay involved and connected throughout June.

July will be another busy month with more opportunities to support our veterans. Two great upcoming events are the <u>CU-Harrodsburg Men's Soccer</u> game on July 8 and then the <u>Cincinnati Chapter's Topgolf event</u> on July 18. There is still time to purchase tickets for both! Thank you to James Clark of Cincinnati and Coach Brown of CU-Harrodsburg for putting together these great events.

For our golf players, consider joining us Aug. 7 at the Champion Trace Golf Course in Nicholasville, Kentucky for the second annual golf event honoring CPL Nich Dieruf. Click <u>here</u> to register today!

Another way that you can assist <u>Veterans is the Certified Military Housing Certification</u> that is offered on the USA Cares website. This program is designed to assist real estate professionals and mortgage lenders in understanding the military pay system, benefits, and eligibility requirements that will allow them to help find quality housing for our military and veteran populations.

Looking forward to a great month! Thank you to all our veterans as we celebrate the 4 <sup>th</sup> of July! Don't forget about our Gala on Aug. 19!

#### Tim Metheny, USA Cares Chapter Outreach Director

#### Check Out This Week's Episode

Join Annice, Matt, and Josh every week for the podcast series that shares the voices of veterans, military members, and the people around them in an authentic, conversational setting.

June episodes include interviews with former Navy SEAL and Mack Belts CEO, Mack Alexander, and Army veteran and owner of Harley's Treats, Tony Richardson. Make sure to subscribe so you don't miss an episode.





Every donation USA Cares receives helps to change a veteran and their family's life. With the financial need for each veteran continuing to increase, many feel feel like their single donation is not doing enough. This is where the Cadence Monthly Giving Program comes in.

An automated donation of \$35 every month (\$420/year) pays for a veteran's monthly grocery bill; \$50 per month (\$600/year) pays a monthly car payment; \$100 per month (\$1,200/year) pays a monthly mortgage payment. Your commitment provides USA Cares with a steady, reliable income stream and is the best way to allow us to focus on helping our veteran heroes and their families.



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Unsubscribe amy@usacares.org

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