

# October 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: Roselyn Young**

Army Veteran, Roselyn Young, had a list of more than 50 organizations and agencies to contact when she desperately needed help avoiding eviction. One by one, they all turned her away, until she found one that cared.

**READ HER STORY** 

Dear Friends,



Last month delivered some good news to Americans. According to <u>Bankrate's Wage To Inflation Index</u>, worker pay is finally rising faster than inflation "after losing ground for more than two years." While encouraging, the same index doesn't predict wages to recover total purchasing power until "some point in the fourth quarter of 2024..."

At USA Cares, the number of veteran and military families we assist is directly tied into two things: the economy and donations. Several years ago, \$1,000 could save a family from eviction and provide a couple weeks' worth of groceries. Today, in some parts of the country, it's barely enough to cover a fraction of a veteran's rent.

Roselyn Young, featured in our client testimonial above, deserved to have assistance that covered the entirety of her bills. Because of funding limitations, we were only able to help her with rent.

In our news section, you can read about all the wonderful companies, organizations, and initiatives that are providing incredible support to USA Cares. Carl's Jr. and the Star Franchise Association made another generous gift to USA Cares through their Stars for Heroes campaign that you, our supporters, helped make a success. I can't thank the SFA or CKE Restaurants enough for their ongoing support. I also want to extend my gratitude to those who participated in our annual Give For Good campaign and, in particular, the help MacLellan Integrated Services gave to make it a success.

Yet, despite the awe-inspiring generosity of organizations like these, the need for donations never ceases. Like Roselyn said, our veterans and service members are not immune to the problems on the "civilian side of the house." They, too, are faced with incredible financial challenges during economic uncertainty.

As we wait for a more balanced economy, I ask that you join USA Cares in providing help and hope to our struggling veterans, service members, and their families. I hope you'll find opportunities to make your impact in this newsletter, and you'll use promotional tools (like our 100-percent rating rom Charity Navigator) to find untapped resources in your network.

Together we can make a difference, save lives, and provide hope.

**Trace Chesser** 

President & CEO, USA Cares





"I'm so grateful for your help. My husband and I were so worried about the future but because of the great work you have done we can have a breath of fresh air 'til we get back our feet. Thank you so much!"

Jordan, Army Veteran

## Year-to-Date Numbers



664 Families with 875 Children Assisted



**\$1,163,120.15** of Financial Assistance Distributed



**420** Evictions/Foreclosures Stopped

## News

Carl's Jr. and Star Franchise Association gift USA Cares \$300,000 check



President & CEO Trace Chesser and Vice President of Government & Corporate Relations Matt Castor traveled to Arizona for the Star Franchise Association's annual **Star Franchise Association Conference**. As a result of Stars for Heroes, USA Cares was gifted a \$300,000 check from funds raised through Carl's Jr's Stars for Heroes Campaign. Thank you to the SFA, Carl's Jr. employees and CKE Restaurants for their generous support of USA Cares! By staying an informed consumer, you can support companies and organizations that support us.

#### USA Cares receiving top rating from Charity Navigator



Charity Navigator unveiled its new rating system and USA Cares has been given a perfect score! CharityNavigator.org lists and rates all 1.6 million IRS-registered nonprofits and USA Cares is part of the just 3.12% with a 100% rating. Learn more about the Charity Navigator's

rating methodology <u>here</u> and make sure to share this outstanding achievement when promoting USA Cares to your network!

Give for Good Thank You

# Thankyou

## Sparking Generosity in Kentuckiana #GiveforGoodLou



Thank you to all those that helped make 2023 Give For Good a success! With your support, we doubled our fundraising from 2022!

Special thanks to MacLellan Integrated Services for their continuing support of USA Cares.

Support USA Cares through Target Circle Giving



#### **Attention Target Shoppers!**

Now through the end of the year, you can give money to USA Cares simply by shopping at Target. All you have to do is make sure you're enrolled in Target Circle Rewards! For every purchase you make, you earn 'votes' that you can give to USA Cares by going to the My Target App or target.com/circle

#### Your votes = \$\$\$ for USA Cares!

NOTE: Only stores in the listed regions will feature USA Cares as a nonprofit to vote for. If you are not in one of the regions below, USA Cares will not be listed as a nonprofit to submit votes for.

#### California Southern Los Angeles

New York Central

**Texas Western** 

Virginia Southern

Wisconsin Milwaukee Southern Atlanta

California San Jose

Arizona Phoenix

**Rhode Island Statewide** 

Minnesota Southern Twin Cities

Ohio Cincinnati Dayton Oregon Portland

Minnesota Northern Twin Cities

Minnesota Central Twin Cities

Pennsylvania Western Philadelphia

Tennessee Western

North Carolina Western

#### **Government Relations with USA Cares**



USA Cares is working closely with lawmakers in Kentucky, Ohio, Texas and Washington DC to continue to keep the crisis of veteran suicide top of mind. While many say we lose 22 veterans per day to suicide, others claim it is much higher. The truth is, it is too many and funding to veteran service organizations like USA Cares is critical to meet the overwhelming need for supportive services. Private organizations can respond quickly, effectively and often for much less money than a government program. We will continue to meet with government officials and we also encourage you to contact your representatives to urge them to support organizations like USA Cares. Together, we can make a big difference.

#### Welcome to the team, Tiffany!



TO THE TEAM! TIFFANY AMICK

# Family Resource Specialist

We are thrilled to welcome Tiffany Amick to the USA Cares team! With her experience as a military spouse and VA Benefits Advisor, Tiffany brings a wealth of knowledge to our programs team that will undoubtedly help our veterans receive the compassion and support they deserve.

#### MEET TIFFANY:

"I am excited to be a new resource specialist here at USA Cares. My husband and I recently just moved to the area from MCB Camp Pendleton located in CA. While at Camp Pendleton, I worked as the Center Operations Specialist at the USO, coordinating all military family programing. Most recently, I became a VA Benefits Advisor teaching the DoD TAP class weekly and providing one-on-one services to transitioning service members. Living near Camp Pendleton my whole life, then later becoming a military spouse, helping service members and veterans has always been on my heart. I'm excited to be a part of a team that puts the mission of assisting service members first.

My other biggest priority other than working is being a dog mom to a husky and a lab/pit mix which brings me plenty of joy. I also enjoy trying out new recipes, watching football games for my alma mater, Boise State (Go Broncos!!) and being crafty in any way possible. Lastly, I've been spending time with my husband as much as possible since the lifestyle of deployments, field ops and the military lifestyle is finally over!

I am looking forward to making a difference here at USA Cares!"

#### Spots still available for 5th Annual USA Cares Golf Open



# **OCTOBER 9, 2023**

HURSTBOURNE COUNTRY CLUB 9000 HURSTBOURNE CLUB LANE, LOUISVILLE, KY 40242 REGISTRATION 9:00 - 10:00 AM SHOTGUN START - 11:00 AM

FOURSOMES AND INDIVIDUAL TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE \$625 PER PLAYER/ \$2500 PER FOURSOME



Interested in participating in this event at one of Kentucky's premier golf courses? Click <u>HERE</u> to register!

USA CA



Fort Knox Chapter kicks off with family-friendly event



Our Fort Knox Chapter is up and running! Thank you to all those who helped put on a great event to kickoff the newest addition to our Chapters Program.

Attendees enjoyed live music, delicious food, Kona Ice, a cornhole tournament and silent auction, all while learning more about the USA Cares.

Special Thanks: Abound Credit Union, First Command Financial Services, Grafenburg Band, Kona Ice, Goldenrod Tavern



Chapters Outreach Director, Tim Metheny, led a wonderful conversation on the USA Cares Podcast with retired First Sergeant Matt Eversmann. Eversmann's experience leading a team of Army Rangers in the Battle of Mogadishu is depicted in the 2002 film, *Black Hawk Down*. The battle's 30th anniversary is Oct. 3-4. To listen to both episodes, click the red button below or stream on your favorite platform.

#### Upcoming Chapter Events:

Oct. 7 -- Mogadishu Mile Pensacola (30th Anniversary) | Pensacola, FL Chapter Nov. 8 -- Veterans Day Breakfast | Cincinnati, OH Chapter Nov. 9 -- Topgolf | St. Louis, MO Chapter Nov. 9 -- Topgolf | Cleveland, OH Chapter Nov. 10 -- Country Boy Brewing | Louisville, KY Chapter

To learn more about our Chapters Program or to get involved, email JB Bradham (Chapters Outreach Manager) at james.bradham@usacares.org.

#### 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.

September episodes include interviews with COO of CKE Restaurants, Chris Bode, and new Chapter ED and paleontologist, Tom Hebert. Make sure to subscribe so you don't miss an episode.



Listen Here!



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.



#### USA Cares Merchandise Store

Proudly show your support of USA Cares by shopping our merchandise store. You can find men's and women's styles for all types of weather, while knowing 25% of every purchase will be donated to our Military Assistance Response Program that helps veteran and military families in crisis.

Comments or Questions?

Send Us A Message

Keep in Touch!

USA Cares | 11760 Commonwealth Drive, Louisville, KY 40299

<u>Unsubscribe amy@usacares.org</u> <u>Constant Contact Data Notice</u> Sent byannice@usacares.org