

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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## Coalition to Salute America's Heroes Awards \$25,000 Grant to Boulder Crest Retreat

Donation to new Virginia facility to provide therapeutic services for wounded warriors

*LEESBURG, VA* (March 19, 2013) – The Coalition to Salute America's Heroes (Coalition), a leading not-for-profit organization dedicated to rebuilding the lives of severely <u>wounded veterans</u> of the War on Terror, today presented a \$25,000 grant to <u>Boulder Crest Retreat</u> in Bluemont, VA. The grant will fund the construction of a therapeutic fishing pier at the new retreat being built for veterans seeking physical, mental and spiritual recovery from the wounds of war.

"In some cases, the most meaningful thing we can do for the brave men and women returning from the War on Terror is to give them a sanctuary for healing," said David Walker, President & CEO of the <u>Coalition to Salute America's Heroes</u>. "That's exactly why we are supporting Boulder Crest, which we believe will become one of the premier retreats of its kind in the world. We're thrilled to be of assistance, and we intend to direct many of the wounded warriors we serve to their facility."

In recognition of its support, the Coalition's name will adorn the retreat's fishing pier, which isexpected to be complete in May. Boulder Crest Retreat will feature four handicap-accessible cabins, a meeting house, organic gardens and trails, a pond and bird sanctuary, and a workshop. The retreat will provide wounded military and their families with a scenic and peaceful environment to spend time with each other while enjoying activities such as nature walks, yoga and meditation classes, as well as off-site excursions.

Boulder Crest, which will serve 250-500 families each year at no cost to the guests, has been scheduled for a September 6, 2013, grand opening.

"Boulder Crest wouldn't be possible without the generous support of organizations that understand the critical importance of incorporating non-clinical, therapeutic services to wounded veterans as part of their recovery," said Ken Falke, founder of Boulder Crest Retreat. "We're proud that the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes recognized the lifesustaining work we gearing up to do, and we can't thank them enough for providing the much-needed funds for our retreat and fishing pier." For more information about Coalition to Salute America's Heroes, visit <u>www.saluteheroes.org</u>. For more on Boulder Crest Retreat, please visit <u>www.bouldercrestretreat.org</u>.

## **About Boulder Crest Retreat**

Located just 50 miles outside of Washington, D.C., in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Bluemont, Va., Boulder Crest Retreat is a rural sanctuary for wounded military warriors and their families to enjoy non-clinical, recreational therapeutic activities aimed at assisting with their physical, mental and spiritual recovery. Currently under construction, it is slated for opening in September 2013. Founded by Ken Falke, a retired US Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Technician, the retreat is being developed on 37 acres of donated land, with funding and volunteer contributions coming from local and national corporations, non-profit organizations and private citizens. For more information, or to make a tax-deductible donation, please visit www.bouldercrestretreat.org.

## About the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes

The Coalition to Salute America's Heroes, based in Leesburg, VA, has provided an invaluable lifeline to thousands of America's wounded veterans since its establishment in 2004. Its mission is to help severely wounded veterans of the War on Terror, and their families, to recover from their injuries and illnesses, and to inspire other organizations and the general public to participate in the effort. The Coalition is distinguished from other veteran-focused organizations by its direct financial assistance to America's wounded heroes. Its Emergency Financial Aid program has stopped foreclosure proceedings on veterans' homes and kept their vehicles from being repossessed. The organization regularly provides gift checks to cover meals, medical and utility bills, clothing, car repairs and even baby diapers. For more information, visit <u>www.saluteheroes.org</u>.

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