

# KEY PROGRAMS Text

The Coalition provides critically needed assistance to combat-wounded troops in a number of ways, including:

## Emergency Financial Aid

With these funds, we help severely wounded service members meet a wide range of day-to-day financial needs – particularly if they are waiting for their disability benefits to begin or have lost income because their spouse had to quit working to become their primary caregiver. Most often, this aid is used to cover pressing basic expenses such as:

- ★ Utility bills
- ★ Mortgage and rent payments
- ★ Car payments and repairs
- ★ Auto insurance
- ★ Food and household supplies
- ★ Home repair
- ★ Medical bills and co-payments

## Holiday Gift Program



The difficulties that disabled service members and their families face can become even more acute around the holidays, particularly if their financial resources are limited. To ensure these heroes are able to enjoy such occasions and are aware of the public's gratitude for their sacrifices, the Coalition annually distributes gift

checks/cards ranging from \$60 to \$500 in advance of such major holidays as:

- ★ Christmas
- ★ Thanksgiving
- ★ Easter



## Road to Recovery Conference and Tribute

This is a multi-day educational and motivational event the Coalition hosts periodically for wounded service members and their families to enable them to approach the future with hope and to be better prepared for the challenges that lie ahead. The all-expenses-paid program typically features seminars, workshops and panel discussions where attendees can learn about many of the resources and services available to them. Experts from government, the private sector and other veteran-focused non-profit groups are also on hand to offer advice and guidance on such topics as:

- ★ Career counseling
- ★ Résumé writing/interview skills
- ★ VA benefits
- ★ Healthcare
- ★ Housing assistance
- ★ Enhancing personal relationships

## Heroes Thanking Heroes Program

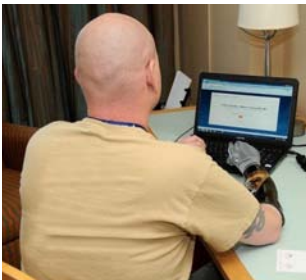
This program recognizes that many wounded service members are unable to work in jobs outside the home, and that their spouses often must stop working to stay at home and assume a caregiver role. To help one or both earn much-needed additional income and become more independent, the program provides them the following:

# KEY PROGRAMS (CONTINUED)

- ★ Part-time, flexible employment making calls from their homes to thank Coalition donors for their support.
- ★ Basic training and experience working part- or full-time in a “virtual call center” at home, which also prepares them for other jobs requiring similar skills.

## Online Training

As those injured in Afghanistan and Iraq adjust to civilian life, an important ingredient in their empowerment is ensuring they have the



training to be self-sufficient. Through our partnership with SkillSoft, a leading provider of e-learning programs, qualified service members can take free, self-paced classes from among

more than 1,500 courses available. These courses offer them the chance to earn credit toward all of the following:

- ★ College degrees
- ★ Continuing education units
- ★ Business certifications

## Special Programs

Equally critical to wounded service members rebuilding their lives is making certain they have opportunities to socialize and demonstrate their capabilities. To that end, we host or help sponsor occasional events and outings that encourage these actions, such as:

- ★ Hunting, fishing, dog-sledding trips
- ★ Pizza parties

## Public Outreach

Wounded military veterans and those on active duty deserve to know emotionally and intellectually, as well as financially, that their sacrifices have not been overlooked. For that reason, we are committed to various outreach activities that demonstrate to them the country’s appreciation for their service. Our efforts include:

- ★ A Thank You and Get Well Gift Card Program through which over 250,000 cards signed by donors and other grateful Americans are distributed annually to injured service members at VA and military hospitals nationwide.
- ★ Communications to Congress and the American public about the need for U.S. government to provide long-term aid to severely wounded veterans

