

PRESS RELEASE

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Coalition to Salute America's Heroes Awards \$7,500 in Grants to VA Hospitals Across Western U.S.

Multi-state grants will fund variety of services for wounded veterans

LEESBURG, VA (June 26, 2013) – The <u>Coalition to Salute America's Heroes</u> (Coalition), a leading not-for-profit organization dedicated to rebuilding the lives of severely <u>wounded veterans</u> of the War on Terror, today awarded a total of \$7,500 in grants to VA Health Care Systems in Denver, Phoenix, Los Angeles and San Diego.

The grants were awarded to four different VA hospitals and will be applied to a variety of programs, all designed to address the immediate needs of wounded veterans. The organizations were supported as follows:

VA Phoenix Health Care System (\$1,000) – for items such as gasoline and telephone gift cards, bus passes and other subsistence needs for wounded veterans;

VA Eastern Colorado Health Care System (\$3,000) – to fund public transportation costs for handicapped hospital volunteers;

VA Eastern Colorado Health Care System (\$1,000) – to cover meal coupons for 200 veterans utilizing outpatient medical treatment at the hospital;

VA Greater Los Angeles Health Care System (\$1,500) – to purchase discounted business suits for veterans seeking employment, thus enabling them to project a positive image and self-confidence. Some gasoline cards will also be provided for those needing assistance; and,

VA San Diego Health Care System (\$1,000) – for emergency funds needed for returning OIF/OEF/OND veterans.

"We'd all like to think that the VA is sufficiently funded to cover the immediate needs of our wounded veterans, but they simply are not," said David Walker, President & CEO of the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes. "These grants will provide direct assistance to hundreds of brave men and women who deserve to be treated like the heroes they are. It's not much, but we pray that the funding will come at the right time in the right amount for those that need it." 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. 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, and to learn how you can support the Coalition's mission, visit www.saluteheroes.org.

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