

HEROES THANKING HEROES

MARCH 2023

REBUILDING LIVES. RESTORING HOPE.



“I’M CALLING TO SIMPLY SAY THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION OR RECENT DONATIONS...”

I’m sure most anyone familiar with the HTH program know the rest of this sentence or paragraph, right?

One thing I love about the Coalition is that we’re the only ones that take the mission focused donations and turn them into an opportunity for those being served by the organization to be helped, by helping themselves. Sometimes the hours don’t come easy but when YOU earn the pay that YOU worked for, it’s worth it yeah?

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We are only a few reviews away from receiving our 2023 Top-Rated Status! Are you a proud supporter of our mission? We’d love for you to give us a positive review on [GreatNonprofits!](#)

Coalition to Salute
America’s Heroes



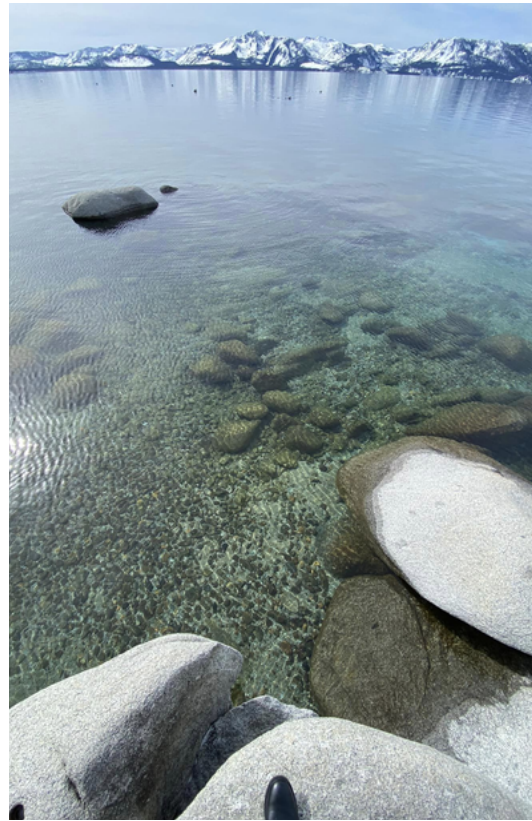
DID YOU KNOW...

that there's another side of the outreach to our donors that comes from working with Stephen, Alex, James, and Kayla? Yup. It's called our 'Strategic Initiatives Division' and it mirrors some of the ways the Coalition shares our mission with Americans all over the country. Through a small, targeted campaign we send letters, updates, and the current needs of our organization to folks who believe what we believe, who support groups like ours and some are even major business or corporation owners. A majority though, are what we call "salt of the earth, everyday Americans" and I'd even call them Patriots. They see the mailing talking about our issues we're helping Veteran families face and they respond! Ultimately a successful outreach culminates with them making a donation or two throughout the year OR with Mary or one sitting across from them, in their living room or local café giving them our firsthand accounts of how their support has made a difference in our work and why we need more now than ever.

"I am eternally grateful to be Working from home with the Coalition. With a busy and chaotic family schedule this changes everything. Thank you Donors."

-HTH REPRESENTATIVE

This is where my fun starts. This year we've been busier than ever with the 'High Donor Outreach Visits' or (HDV's) as I call them. We get a plan of where the visits will take place then we attempt to get 2, 3 or more in the same day or 2 period so we can save on travel. Have you ever seen my travel philosophy? It's fly and stay cheap; use coupon codes and eat near the hotel! *Ask my wife.... She has to verify any travel plans I make for the family because, well, mistakes have been made.



Once we have the location, meeting and travel laid out I perform my usual packing routine. This consists of me getting stuff together "packing" at around the time I should be leaving for the airport. Not kidding at all. TSA Pre Check has given me a type of "travel confidence" that has me showing up to the airport security line about 20 minutes prior to my flight boarding. As of the time I'm writing this IT HASN'T FAILED ME YET!

At the airport, either with James, Kayla or Alex as the meeting "manager" we're waiting at the airport for whoever gets in later. No need to leave the airport when it can only be an hour or 2 right? Sometimes this sucks a little but it's nice to get (or give) the "I'm in the passenger pickup line in a XXXX make XXXX car" and it begins.

CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



This year we've been in San Gabriel California, Huntington Beach California, Houston Texas, San Antonio & New Braunfels Texas, Vero Beach Florida, New York City NY, Pelham NY, Salt Lake City UT, Reno NV, West Palm Beach FL, Boca Raton FL, Woodside CA, Jackson MS and Shreveport LA! These are the in-person events and doesn't include the same number done from my computer in a virtual setting meeting with our donors over the phone or zoom!

"WE'RE KICKING BUTT OUT HERE IN THE FIELD AND DOING EVERYTHING IN OUR POWER TO GENERATE MORE FUNDS THAT CAN TRANSLATE TO PROGRAM SUPPORT."

Once we get inside, I start the meeting with giving them my thanks for the support, and I talk about my personal story. My injury, getting shot in the face and leaving my young family in Iowa when I went to Iraq. I then weave my story and recovery, both physically and mentally into the evolution of the Coalition's programs and why they're so important to me.

Did you know that when I came home from Camp Pendleton and my medical retirement in August of 2005 that I quickly came to terms with the physical limitations my injury put on me and after not being able to go back to commercial construction I began to put a wall up around me emotionally and didn't want to do anything outside of my house? Yup. Me. I did that and if you've met me and find this to be surprising, trust me, sometimes it's hard to say it out loud when I'm such an advocate for sharing your story and engaging in your communities. One of the Coalition's founding members was good friends with my twin brother and my VA benefits rep in Des Moines so he got in touch with me pretty quickly and convinced me to get out, to accept the thanks of a grateful nation for the sacrifices my family had made and it changed the way I saw my recovery. I began to get more involved;



I started reaching out to other wounded troops like me and helped them to take down (or stop building) the wall of isolation. Eventually I began working in the Partner Appreciation Program (so glad they changed the name) and from there I was trained to be a national spokesman for the organization. I think that if you follow our pages and our stories you know that I'm now in a very different role but I'm accepting this responsibility and the ability to put the Coalition and the families we serve in front of businesses, business owners and Patriots all over the US and guess what? We're kicking butt out here in the field and doing everything in our power to generate more funds that can translate to program support! Yes there are lot of early mornings and late, late nights but I've been able to meet our donors in their homes in nearly every state during my time here and I've loved almost every minute of it.



WHAT ARE MY NOTES FROM THE ROAD YOU ASK?

Go take a drive through San Francisco. Go over the Golden Gate bridge when it's not foggy so you can see just how beautiful the bay is. Choose window seats in front of the wings so you can take in the beautiful sunrises and the "God painted sky" sunsets. They all look different at 30,000 feet. When going into Tacoma / Seattle Washington take in the awe that is Mt Rainier.



Seeing its head pop out above the clouds is truly, truly a beautiful site. It's a 14'er as my Colorado folks know means it's taller than 14,000 feet. Visiting the South is also a special treat. Cypress and Pine trees standing tall over the town while the azaleas and magnolia trees give off the smell of heaven on earth.



"Lastly, I would say that no matter where you go, always find a few minutes to see your surroundings."



Check out the lake areas, pack flip flops so you can dig your toes in the sand. Look for the snow-covered mountain caps and splash some insanely cold fresh mountain spring water in your face.

To say that I enjoy what I do would be an understatement. I always take a challenge coin and a few hero bands with me wherever I go because you'll never know when someone (A TSA agent at HOU airport) will see the logo on my shirt and say "Hey! I donate to that group" which led to a high five and an impromptu hero band presentation.

**As Paul Harvey would say
at the end of his
broadcasts on the radio
*"Now you know the rest of
the story."***



Donny Daughenbaugh out!

EMPLOYMENT RESOURCES



HireVeterans is a job board platform that caters to employers and U.S. veteran, transitioning members and military spouses job seekers.

- [2023 Military Friendly Employers](#)
- [Search thousands of job openings in your area](#)
- [6 Things Veterans Should Have Ready for a Job Interview](#)

SALUTE HEROES FAMILY NETWORK

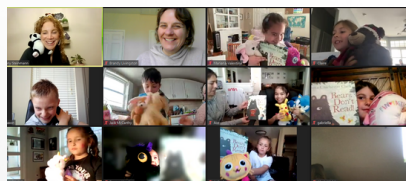
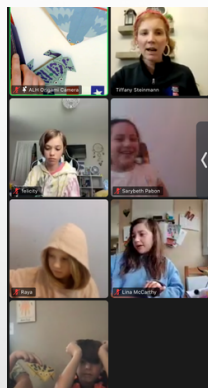


Whether you are the Veteran, Caregiver, or have children who could use some additional support being in a wounded veteran family, the Salute Heroes Network has a program for you. **Explore here.**

AMERICA'S LITTLE HELPERS



*April is Month of the
Military Child!*



America's Little Helpers has been busy as usual! March brought Origami lessons, Storytime, and a fun game of Wheel of Fortune; prizes were won, and skills were acquired!

[SUPPORT THIS SPECIAL PROGRAM BY CLICKING HERE!](#)

RETIRING YOUR BOOTS BLOG

Catch up on our **[newly published blog](#)** "Are you Full?" Written from the heart by an anonymous caregiver who shares the importance of your relationship with YOURSELF.