

MAY | 2023

# HEROES

## THANKING HEROES

*Rebuilding Lives. Restoring Hope.*



## The Coalition is a Family

*Written Anonymously by a Heroes Thanking  
Heroes Representative*

I am a wife, mother, and caregiver. I love baking, and recently started trying my hand at gardening. I love to be outside trying new things. I met my husband soon after he was discharged from the Marine Corps. I was starting grad school and he was starting a new chapter in life as a civilian.



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***"While sitting in that hospital room I came across the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes website. What a lifeline!"***

The paralysis that had begun as very intermittent and short-lived began to occur more frequently and last longer. At one point I was sitting in a hospital room wondering if my husband would ever walk again. Will he live? Will his lower organs function again? How will we pay the bills? How is this happening now, he has been home from war for years. How can I best support him? How will we raise our daughters? They were 2 and 4 years old at the time. While sitting in that hospital room I came across the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes website. What a lifeline!

He served in the Marine Corps for 8 years and deployed 9 times. Throughout his deployments, my husband sustained multiple TBIs, PTSD, and a list of other diagnoses. He was impacted by multiple IEDs and a building was blown out from under him. He was dug out of the rubble and continued to fight. I wouldn't learn about these injuries until years later when his lingering symptoms became more prominent in our life.



## **WHAT IS HEROES THANKING HEROES?**

The Heroes Thanking Heroes program provides six month transitional part-time, flexible employment to wounded veterans or their primary caregivers, enabling them to make phone calls from their homes, most often to personally thank donors for their contributions to the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes. The program also offers qualified participants some basic training and experience working in a "virtual call center," thereby preparing them for other potential jobs requiring similar skills.

As the medical appointments began to slow down, I reached out to the Heroes Thanking Heroes Program. Now, I can work remotely, part-time allowing me to be home to help with my husband's medical care. Some symptoms remain but we are working every day toward living the best lives we can. I am so grateful that the Coalition exists not only in times of crisis but also as support while we navigate this new normal. I am so grateful to have a job that not only helps provide for my family financially, but is flexible, sets a good example for our children, and boosts my self-esteem.

Being able to call and thank donors who have helped my family and other families like mine is a very unique opportunity. When I call and thank donors it is very sincere, and heartfelt. Hearing their support and well wishes brings tears to my eyes some days. The Coalition and those who donate have been such a blessing in our lives.



If you or someone you know has been impacted by the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes, please take a moment to rate us on [GREAT NONPROFITS](https://www.greatnonprofits.org). Thank you for your support!

### UPCOMING FOOD TRUCKS

MON | 29 | MAY | 2023  
29 Palms California

THU | 21 | SEP | 2023  
Baltimore, MD

THU | 05 | OCT | 2023  
Wright Patterson AFB, Dayton OH



### RETIRING YOUR BOOTS BLOG

Read the newest blog *"To Love Someone is to Attend a Thousand Funerals of the People They Used to be"* Written by our very own Antoinette; Veterans Circle Program Manager, caregiver and wife of Spc. Batchelor who previously shared his blog *"Self Addressed Envelope"* on the recent 19th anniversary of his alive day.



**ACT NOW**

**GIVE WHAT YOU CAN TO HELP VETERAN FAMILIES AVOID HUNGER, HOMELESSNESS AND OTHER FINANCIAL CRISES.**



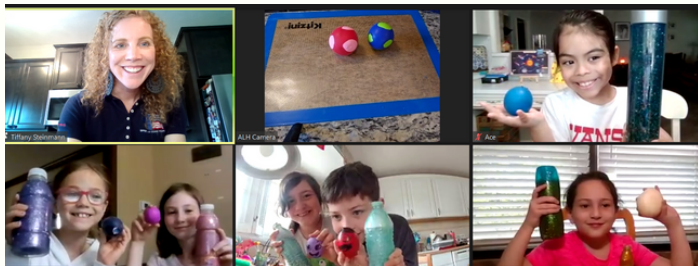
## EMPLOYMENT RESOURCES

- [Military Spouse Magazine](#)
- [G.I Jobs Magazine](#)
- [4 Must-Have Items on Your Resume](#)
- [Military Spouse Employment 101](#)
- [Recruit Military Veteran Job Fair Schedule](#)



## AMERICA'S LITTLE HELPERS

Old or young; we all experience big emotions and sometimes just need a little help sorting them out. This month, ALH members learned new skills like gardening and art to cope with everyday stressors.



Little heroes used common household items like water bottles, water, and flour with a little help from the craft box to create DIY stress balls and calming jars. Our older heroes started a DIY herb garden, which will be used for a later cooking event! We are all getting excited for the upcoming summer clubs!

*Connect With Us On Social Media!*



**We all know about Murphy's Law:  
Anything that can go wrong will go  
wrong. But have you heard of Cole's  
Law? It's thinly sliced cabbage.**

**MADE YA' LAUGH!**