

PUTTING VETERANS FIRST



2025
IMPACT REPORT



OUR MESSAGE TO YOU

Dear Friends,

Florida is home to more than 1.5 million veterans—one of the largest veteran communities in America. As we look back on 2025, the challenges our wounded and disabled veterans face remain significant. Many continue to battle physical and mental injuries, financial hardship, housing instability, and a critical lack of access to dental care. For far too many, the support you help provide is still their only hope.

Since 2009, Wounded Veterans Relief Fund (WVRF), a veteran-led 501(c)(3) nonprofit, has been dedicated to delivering urgent financial assistance and critical dental care to those who served. This past year, your generosity made an extraordinary difference—restoring stability, dignity, and safety for veterans who had nowhere else to turn.

As we move into 2026, our mission is more important than ever. The needs of our veterans continue to evolve, and meeting those needs requires all of us working together. Your support strengthens entire families and creates real change for the heroes who once stood for us.

In this 2025 Impact Report, you'll see how your compassion shaped lives across Florida. Thank you for standing with us as we build a stronger, more hopeful future for our veterans.



Mike Durkee

Mike Durkee
WVRF Executive Director



**YOUR HELP
MEANS WE HELP!**

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OUR MISSION

To provide urgent financial assistance and critical dental care to Florida's eligible wounded and disabled veterans.

THE NEED

THE FACTS ARE STAGGERING

- › Suicide rates among veterans are **1.5x the rate** of the civilian population.
- › Post-Traumatic Stress is the **#1 risk factor** for suicide.
- › Only about half of Florida veterans, **nearly 780,000**, are enrolled in Florida's VA.
- › Today, **150,000** of Florida veterans need critical dental care.



- › Veterans suffer **higher rates** of homelessness and financial instability than civilians.
- › Today, **460,000** of Florida veterans are wounded or disabled.
- › Florida is home to more than 1.4 million veterans, and **85%** of them do not qualify for VA dental care.

HELP IS HERE

WE'RE PUTTING VETERANS BACK ON THEIR FEET

Imagine being wounded in the line of duty. Then, after bravely sacrificing for America, you continue to suffer and live in constant fear that you can't work, afford a home, or support your family, much less get out of depression and find a way to smile. That's where WVRF comes in. Working in collaboration with the VA, County Veteran Service Officers, CareerSouce, local businesses and non-profits, we turn lives around through two primary programs: the Urgent Financial Assistance Program and the Critical Dental Assistance Program. Our statistics show that 82% of veterans we assist do not seek additional funding and are self-sufficient moving forward. Now that's making an impact.

URGENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (UFAP)

Our Urgent Financial Assistance Program was established in order to fill the financial gaps when our veterans are faced with various crisis situations including loss of employment, unplanned medical bills, fire, and natural disasters. We assist with the following:



Housing

move-in costs, eviction avoidance, late mortgage



Vehicle

past due vehicle loan or insurance payments



Basic Utilities

electric, water, gas, sewage



Temporary Childcare

for transitioning veterans starting new employment or vocational school

”

“This was truly a big deal, and I am very grateful. It was one of those **life-changing experiences** that restores your faith, strengthens your resolve, and allows you to stand a little taller. Thank you to you and WVRF for giving me this opportunity through your dental assistance program”

Wayne W.

Proud U.S. Veteran

”

“The Assistance they provided relieved a tremendous burden and allowed me to breathe easier knowing i wasn't alone in this journey. Their kindness goes beyond financial help, it's a reminder that people genuinely care about the well-being of veterans and their families”

Zachary G..

Proud U.S. Veteran

HELP IS HERE

WE'RE DOING WHAT NO ONE ELSE IS DOING

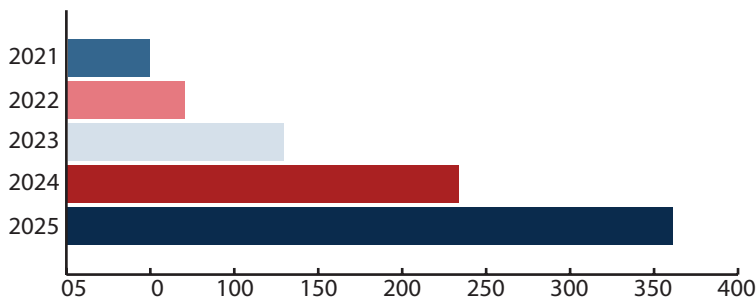
Critical Dental Assistance Program (CDAP)

Our unique dental program provides critical dental care to veterans who do not qualify for VA dental coverage or cannot afford dental insurance or the costly co-pays. Our program was created because an overwhelming number of our **veterans (85%) do not qualify for VA dental care**. This means the majority of our disabled veterans are at high risk for significant health problems, some potentially life-threatening.

Dental care is so crucial because it:

- › Treats infections and eliminates pain
- › Increases overall health and wellbeing
- › Increases employment opportunities
- › Boosts self-confidence and restores hope

Growth of veterans served



Wounded Veterans Relief Fund's dental program provides **100% FREE** critical dental care to our qualified disabled veterans who do not qualify for VA dental coverage.



We assist with life-saving critical dental needs.



WVRF can assist with dental needs such as extractions, implants, dentures, and periodontal disease treatments, and more.

”

“After 10 years of pain and repeated rejection from the VA, I never thought I’d smile again. Thanks to WVRF, I finally received the dental care I deserved. What this organization did for me changed my life.”

Richard Rossi

*U.S. Army, WW2 Veteran
Critical Dental Assistance Program*



BEFORE



AFTER

YOUR IMPACT

THE NUMBERS ARE GREAT. THE NEED IS HIGHER.

We are a high-impact organization committed to ensuring that 80% or more of all contributions go directly to supporting veterans and their families in Florida. Unlike government-funded programs, our independence allows us greater flexibility in the ways we assist, enabling us to act swiftly and provide critical support within 24-72 hours. This rapid response ensures that veterans in crisis receive the help they need when they need it most.

2025 Urgent Financial Assistance in Florida

\$564,457
Year total

866

Veterans and family members served

2025 Critical Dental Assistance in Florida

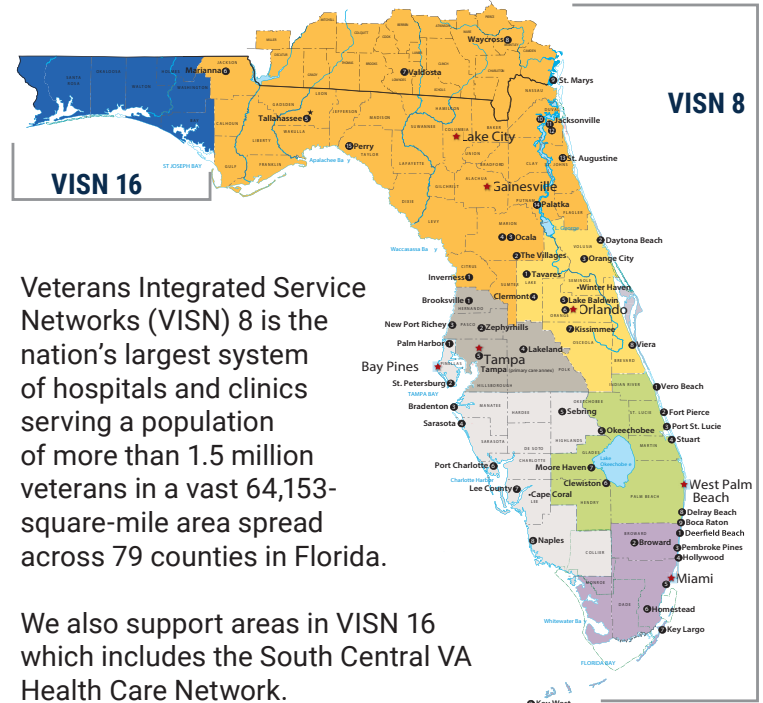
\$1,331,731
Year total

362
3,980

Veterans served
Dental procedures

As a **veteran-led nonprofit**, we understand the needs of our veterans because we've lived them. That's why more than **80% of every dollar** directly supports veterans and their families. Free from government delays, we can respond within **24-72 hours**, stepping in when a veteran is facing eviction, hunger, or debilitating pain. This ability to act quickly and compassionately is the core of our impact—veterans serving veterans.

SERVICE AREA



Veterans Integrated Service Networks (VISN) 8 is the nation's largest system of hospitals and clinics serving a population of more than 1.5 million veterans in a vast 64,153-square-mile area spread across 79 counties in Florida.

We also support areas in VISN 16 which includes the South Central VA Health Care Network.



**YOUR HELP
MEANS WE HELP!**

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Since the inception of the Critical Dental Assistance Program (CDAP) in 2021, we have delivered **\$4.6 million+** in direct dental assistance to Florida's wounded and disabled veterans.

In 2025 we delivered **\$1,896,188** in direct program assistance to Florida disabled veterans. A total of **1,228** veterans & family members were supported.

BECOME AN AMBASSADOR

Having Ambassadors in different locations across Florida for the Wounded Veterans Relief Fund is crucial for:

- › FUNDRAISING
- › OUTREACH
- › AWARENESS
- › SUPPORT

Our Ambassadors help to establish a strong presence, extend our reach and tailor support to the specific needs of veterans in various communities. Their involvement enhances community engagement, advocacy, and fundraising, ultimately leading to a greater impact on the lives of disabled veterans in Florida.

To become an Ambassador or for more information please contact us at Abby@wvrf.org



WANT TO HELP?

LET'S GO!

Ways to Contribute:

Since we are 100% donor funded, we need your support! We strive to have the resources available to help all the 1.5 million veterans in the state of Florida. Here are a few ways you can contribute to this critical cause:

- › Host/sponsor a fundraising event
- › Cash donation: one time or recurring
- › Donate auction items for our events
- › Nominate us as designated charity for your existing event
- › Facebook birthday fundraiser
- › Family foundation grant
- › Donor advised fund
- › Planned legacy giving
- › Employer matching
- › Stock donations
- › Attend events

For more information on ways to contribute please contact us at Courtney@wvrf.org



More Ways to Serve:

You can also provide us with hands-on help by donating your time. In addition, connecting us with people you think we should know can also help expand our network and mission.

You can:

- › Make an introduction to someone you think we should know
- › Apply to be a State Ambassador
- › Volunteer at events
- › Be our photographer/videographer

**WE ARE FUNDED BY YOU.
WE CAN'T HELP
WITHOUT YOUR HELP.
WVRF.ORG**



SIGNATURE EVENTS

JOIN THE FUN. SEE THE IMPACT.

We host various fundraising events throughout the year as well as being selected as a benefactor by other organizations. These events are crucial to our mission, but you'll also find them to be fun and meaningful. Here are some highlights from 2025:

Salute & Shoot | February 1, 2025 - Okeechobee, FL



Devil Dog 10K

September 28, 2025 - Boca Raton, FL



Running for Heroes | May 24, 2025 - Jupiter, FL



A Night of Honor Gala

November 1, 2025 - WPB, FL



Bonito Blast | August 8-9, 2025 - Stuart, FL



THANK YOU

CORPORATE SPONSORS



RAYMOND JAMES



THANK YOU

PARTNERS



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We are a 501(c)(3) tax exempt,
nonprofit charitable foundation.



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