

CIAV ORGANIZATIONS

THE AD COUNCIL
 AIR COMPASSION FOR VETERANS
 AMERICAN PAIN FOUNDATION
 ARMED SERVICES YMCA
 BRAVE NEW FOUNDATION
 CA NATIONAL GUARD FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FUND
 COMFORT FOR AMERICA'S UNIFORMED SERVICES (CAUSE)
 COMING HOME PROJECT
 THE DALLAS FOUNDATION
 DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
 FISHER HOUSE FOUNDATION
 HOMES FOR OUR TROOPS
 IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN VETERANS OF AMERICA (IAVA)
 INJURED MARINE SEMPER FI FUND
 INTREPID FALLEN HEROES FUND
 JACOB'S LIGHT FOUNDATION
 MARINE CORPS SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION
 MICHIGAN NATIONAL GUARD FAMILY FUND
 NATIONAL MILITARY FAMILY ASSOCIATION
 NAVY-MARINE CORPS RELIEF SOCIETY
 NATIONAL VETERANS FOUNDATION
 NATIONAL VETERANS LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM
 NEW DIRECTIONS
 ONE FREEDOM
 OPERATION HOMEFRONT
 OUR MILITARY KIDS
 THE PATHWAY HOME
 THE PENTAGON FEDERAL CREDIT UNION FOUNDATION
 PERMIAN BASIN AREA FOUNDATION
 PROJECT RETURN TO WORK
 PROJECT VICTORY
 SALVATION ARMY LIBERTY PROGRAM
 SAN ANTONIO AREA FOUNDATION
 SENTINELS OF FREEDOM SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION
 SESAME WORKSHOP
 SWORDS TO PLOWSHARES
 TRAGEDY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR SURVIVORS
 UNITED THROUGH READING
 USA CARES
 VETERAN HOMESTEAD
 VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS FOUNDATION
 VETERANS VILLAGE OF SAN DIEGO
 VETS4VETS
 ZERO TO THREE

NEXT STEPS FOR THE COALITION:

As a diverse group of agencies, the CIAV pulls from all of our individual strengths to further help the military, veterans, families, and survivors that we serve.

Building on the success of the 1st Annual CIAV Conference, the CIAV will be back in Washington DC. May 5-8, 2009.

Our 2nd Annual Conference will focus on strengthening the community of care for those affected by the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. The CIAV organizations will come together to exchange experience and knowledge, as well as plan future collaborative efforts such as retreats for returning service members.

In addition to internal dialogue, the conference will be open to the public Thursday, May 7, 2009. *"Moving Forward and Making a Difference"* section of this newsletter for more information.) Save the date for this exciting and dynamic event.

The CIAV is active in communities nationwide. From summer camps for children of severely injured parents, to couples retreats, to drop-in services for homeless veterans, the CIAV provides tangible resources for those we serve.

In addition to local services, the individual agencies operate many useful programs and tools via the internet and over the phone.

2009 Annual Conference and exciting year-round opportunities for you to get involved!

National Veterans Foundation operates both a live chat and hotline; while Sesame Project's *"Talk, Listen, Connect: Deployments, Homecomings, and Changes®"* DVD is freely distributed by Military OneSource.



Copyright Sesame Workshop 2008

2009 brings many exciting developments and programs within the diverse CIAV agencies. Several organizations including Disabled American Veterans (DAV), Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA), and the National Military Family Association (NMFA) will be unveiling important legislative actions that the public can support; such as veteran healthcare, education benefits for those who have served, and support for caregivers. Visit their websites for the most current legislative updates!

*By Tia Christopher
 Outreach Associate*

The Current Climate

It is undeniable that we are facing hard times. In the current economic climate it is more difficult to secure funding for our charitable work. And more difficult for our military and veteran community members facing their own financial struggles, on top of the stresses of deployment, injury, transition and the loss of a loved one.

BY AMY FAIRWEATHER, CIAV DIRECTOR

That said, this is a time for all Americans to come together and find new solutions in support of our military and veteran community. We, as CIAV agencies have a unique perspective of what is needed, we are in the thick of it, serving families and warriors every day. We are agile, effective and efficient. We have to be. And so, we encourage the foundations, researchers, DOD, VA, state and local health departments, and individuals to take a close look at what our agencies do for those impacted by the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. There are many ways to show your support.

Air Compassion in Action



**SIGN UP
 HERE**



www.CoalitionforVeterans.org

The creation of the Coalition for Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans (CIAV) has made it possible for over 50 organizations to strengthen services and advocacy for active duty, veterans, families, and survivors. This relationship has also led to networking and joint efforts by many of the agencies. Air Compassion for Veterans is one non-profit that has greatly helped the work of fellow Coalition organizations.

Since November 2006, Air Compassion for Veterans (ACV) has flown over 8,200 flights with over 388 being for Coalition for Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans (CIAV) organizations.

Their Financial Development and Public Outreach Director, Heidi Greer-Davis comments, "Air Compassion for Veterans is proud to be a part of the CIAV and its collective

veteran organizations serving our wounded warriors and adversely affected family members."

ACV has provided flights for CIAV organizations including: The Coming Home Project, Fisher House, Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund, IAVA, Operation Homefront, Our Military Kids, Project Return to Work, TAPS, USA Cares, The Pathway Home, and Vets4Vets.

Abel Moreno, the Community Development Director of Vets4Vets credits ACV's assistance as invaluable. He says, "Their support has enabled us to fly more than 80% of our veterans to peer support workshops in the last year. It is collaborative efforts such as these that show the true heart of a strong coalition."

*By Tia Christopher
 Outreach Associate*

Moving Forward...

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The new administration wants to provide resources for our military and veteran communities, and they will benefit from knowing about the services we offer and learning how we can work together without reinventing the wheel. Our goals are the same, now it's time to start the discussion."

You can learn more about the forum and how to register to attend by visiting www.CoalitionforVeterans.org. Panel topics will include PTSD, TBI, and pain care management; peer support, giving voice to female veterans, media coverage and the war, and other topics.

By Megan Klein

Communications + Program Development

OUR MISSION

The Coalition for Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans (CIAV) is a national non-partisan partnership of organizations committed to working with and on behalf of all military, veterans, families, survivors and providers to strengthen the existing system of care and support for all those affected by the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

*Please direct any questions, comments, or concerns regarding this directory to the editor: Megan Klein
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*Contact us at
info@coalitionforveterans.org*

The views and opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of all organizations associated with the Coalition for Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans.