



# REIMAGINING RECOVERY

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**INFINITE HERO FOUNDATION  
REPORT 2012-2017**



# INFINITE GRATITUDE

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“At Infinite Hero, we believe that mental and physical rehabilitation for our veterans can and must be better. Our heroes deserve it and we will deliver it. Infinite Hero looks for the impossible challenges and drives through to find solutions. We define the problems that veterans are facing, empower collaboration across sectors and inject targeted investments into innovations that have the power to revolutionize the way we treat the injuries of war.”

Colin Baden  
Board President  
Founder of Infinite Hero Foundation







As president and then CEO of Oakley, Colin Baden forged friendships through Oakley's military business with many elite operators who returned home with mental, physical or emotional wounds. He believed that these high-character servant leaders deserved more effective tools for reintegration and recovery.

Compelled by their honor and heroism, Baden spearheaded a team of dedicated volunteers to drive solutions incorporating Oakley's core values of authenticity, innovation and humility. Infinite Hero Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, launched in 2012 with a vision to fund the most cutting-edge and promising approaches for our military heroes and families. The Foundation set out to convene and inspire collaboration of the top minds in technology, community, medical research and mental health care.

Oakley, founding corporate partner of the Infinite Hero, is fully vested in supporting the Foundation. Oakley manufactures and sells an Infinite Hero product collection with 15 percent of revenues donated back to the Foundation. In addition, Oakley has donated design, marketing, legal and financial services as well as office space for the executive director.





# FRONTLINE ISSUES

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Infinite Hero Foundation believes that the service-related mental and physical health challenges our military heroes and their families face are foundational issues. In the case of physical injury, the veteran family must undergo extensive medical treatment and rehabilitation. Post-traumatic stress, traumatic brain injury and other mental injuries are much more insidious and can go undetected for several months or more before the symptoms drive the individual or family to seek treatment. Innovations are needed to develop more effective treatments and ensure accessibility for every military hero and family regardless of geography or resources.



# OUR PLEDGE

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Infinite Hero's pledge to those who have risked their lives is to reward their sacrifice and bravery with support that articulates our gratitude.

We partner with like-minded organizations to provide access to innovative rehabilitation programs that address the unique needs of veterans and their families.

The measure of our impact is positive outcomes, not merely gestures.

Like the heroes we serve, we refuse to shy away from a challenge. Where boundaries exist, we will plow through them.

Where strategies and solutions have not yet been found, we will create them. We will marshal the resources of technology, community, medical research and mental health care to foster collaborative innovation and affect positive change for our heroes in need.



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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# REDEFINING REHABILITATION

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## A WALK TO REMEMBER

**“Of all the walks we have taken, this will be our greatest. I love you.” Allyssa Lind, October 29, 2016.**

These simple words from a daughter to her father on her wedding day held great meaning for Chief Warrant Officer 5 Gary Linfoot. Linfoot is a retired U.S. Army officer with 5,000 flight hours and 1,200 hours of combat operations; he is a veteran of Afghanistan (Operation Enduring Freedom, 2001) and Iraq (Operation Iraqi Freedom, 2003-08); and a member of the Army’s elite 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne) Night Stalkers.


During a helicopter crash on his 20th combat tour in Iraq in 2008, he suffered grave injuries and lost the use of his legs. Advances in medical technology have contributed to a much lower death toll in recent conflicts. More veterans are returning to their loved ones with serious injuries. The need is critical to invest in technologies that will revolutionize the way we treat the injuries of war.

“As a military spouse, I prepared myself for the reality that he might not return from war,” Mari Linfoot shares. “I always thought he would either come back the same as he left or that he wouldn’t come back at all. The thought that he would come back paralyzed never crossed my mind.”

In October 2013 at Airpower Foundation’s Skyball XI, Linfoot became the first military recipient of the Ekso Bionics exoskeleton through a grant from the Infinite Hero Foundation. His participation as a high-tech pioneer in a successful year-long mobility study is extending the availability of this device to other veterans.

“It is very difficult to put into words what it meant to me and my family to receive the Ekso exoskeleton for home use. To say it changed our lives would be an understatement. It has given back a portion of what was taken in a terrible helicopter crash. The Ekso has helped return some dignity by giving me the ability to once again stand on my own two feet, walk in some form and look someone in the eye at six feet tall,” recounted Linfoot.

Gary, along with his wife Mari and their three children, have used their adversity as an opportunity to instill hope in other veterans and plant the seeds of creativity in the minds of children. They currently serve as co-chairmen of the Infinite Hero Grant Committee.



To view Gary Linfoot's journey, please visit  
YouTube and search **Reimagine Recovery -**  
**CW05 Gary Linfoot, US Army (Ret.)**



# REDEFINING REHABILITATION

## MAPPING RECOVERY: CUTTING-EDGE BRAIN SCIENCE FOR VETERANS

The human brain is delicate and complex, making it difficult for the average person to understand the mental health issues facing our veterans today. Lieutenant (Ret.) Morgan Luttrell, U.S. Navy, Senior Advisor for Veterans Relations at the Department of Energy, explains the science and innovations that are revolutionizing treatment for veterans with PTSD and TBI.

**Infinite Hero:** You are pursuing a doctoral degree as a cognitive neuroscientist and are dedicated to providing personalized treatment approaches for veterans dealing with cognitive, physical, and emotional injuries. Tell us about your unique perspective on the needs of veterans.

**Lt. Morgan Luttrell, U.S. Navy, Ret.:** I like to say that I am bilingual - I speak "brain science" and "veteran." I spent 14 years as a Navy SEAL. In 2009, I was in a Blackhawk helicopter crash which broke my back in six places and caused major damage to my spinal cord. The incident also left me unconscious for 48 hours and a semi-conscious state for two months. After being in a body cast for six months, my chief focus was to recover physically. I achieved this goal,

was to recover physically. I achieved this goal, thanks to EXOS, and re-deployed again. It was not until after this deployment that I realized that I was suffering from a traumatic brain injury. I underwent every brain treatment program I could find.

**Infinite Hero:** What prompted you to pursue your doctoral degree in this area of brain science and start helping other veterans?

**Luttrell:** Partaking in all of my TBI treatment protocols inspired me to learn how the brain works. During my studies, I began receiving calls from my SEAL buddies and their families, asking about treatment options and facilities. Some were middle-of-the-night suicide calls and I had to act quickly. I started asking the Boot Campaign and other organizations for money to pay for expenses such as plane tickets and facility fees. Veterans called me back to tell me how the treatment had saved their life. There was so much satisfaction that came from knowing that I had helped them. I felt as if I had found my new purpose in life.

**Infinite Hero:** What are some of the challenges and gaps in the treatment process that you've seen for those experiencing TBI and PTSD?

**Luttrell:** Currently, there is no effective initial assessments for cognitive or emotional functioning in the military. Without this baseline measurement, it is very difficult to discern if a service member is experiencing a decline in functioning. There are various facilities offering different treatments, but they are expensive and inaccessible. If someone is



lucky, they can go to one facility and receive one treatment. If it doesn't help them, then they are out of options. There is no evidence-based treatment sequence, which means that veterans don't know where to start when they finally decide to ask for help.

**Infinite Hero:** You are taking a really innovative approach to these issues through a program called ReBOOT. How does ReBoot stand apart from other treatment programs?

**Luttrell:** ReBOOT sequences world-class diagnostics with cutting-edge cognitive and physical treatments so that veterans can build upon their growth during each phase of the program. It gives veterans their life back.

Participants are flown to Dallas for the diagnostic phase beginning with a full day of testing from the neck down. Leading medical experts continue on the second day with a diagnostic assessment of the brain through functional MRIs, a 64 lead EEGs and a neuroconsult. An analysis of their results and a personal interview with the participant informs the treatment approach. Typically participants deal with one or more of the following: TBI, PTSD, Chronic Pain, Addiction, or Insomnia.

For the next two weeks, participants receive therapies including cognitive processing therapy (CPT), cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT), transcranial direct current stimulation (TDCS), and repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation

(RTMS). We are able to "map" the brain and determine where there are disruptions. Because of something called neuroplasticity, we are able to restore function to the brain by stimulating regrowth of neurons or creating new connections. We don't have a cure for PTSD or TBI, but we are continuing to test out promising, innovative treatments. Our hope is to find the proper algorithm of treatment that will actually cure these issues.

During the next phase, veterans address physical fitness and nutrition at the Virginia High Performance Institute. This rigorous program lasts 4-9 weeks and includes speech therapy, medical, and holistic treatments. Participants also benefit from informal talk therapy with the instructors, all of whom are veterans. Physical training is critical to long term improvement because our bodies will drag our brains down if they are functioning poorly.

Upon completion of the program the participants are retested for diagnostic comparison and outcomes. We also follow up with each participant to help with transition and continuation of improvements.

**Infinite Hero:** How is the support from Infinite Hero changing the way that you are able to treat veterans through ReBoot?

**Luttrell:** When we received funding, we had candidates lined up to participate in ReBOOT. Typically, foundations are hesitant to fund pilot programs. Infinite Hero invested in ReBOOT because they believed our model would revolutionize the treatment of cognitive, emotional, and physical injuries. We needed to act quickly to save lives and we were able to do that because of Infinite Hero.



# REDEFINING REHABILITATION

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“There isn’t a one-size-fits-all solution. Depending on the person and the circumstances of trauma that triggered post-traumatic stress or traumatic brain injury, a unique therapy or combination of therapies is going to be needed for each veteran. This is why we are investing in promising new technologies and brain treatments so that we can better match veterans to the rehabilitation programs that they need.”

Erick Poston  
Director  
Military/Government  
Oakley, Inc.





# REDEFINING REHABILITATION

## ALPHA STIMULATORS: VETERANS TAKE OWNERSHIP OF RECOVERY

"I was suffering from severe anxiety and insomnia. After using the Alpha Stimulator for a short time, I found that my depression and anxiety decreased and that my mood was more resilient." shared a Marine combat veteran who survived multiple IED detonations from a truck accident in October 2005.

Infinite Hero has partnered with Semper Fi Fund to provide critical funding for individualized, effective treatments for veterans dealing with PTSD, TBI, and chronic pain. Several innovation grants increased access to Alpha-Stims, Irlen Spectral Filters and adaptive equipment assistance for service members in need, regardless of geography or resources.

"We believe that each veteran needs to be connected to their physician and therapist and we also know that they can benefit from innovative approaches to dealing with PTSD, TBI, and chronic pain that may not be mainstream yet. We can now offer a non-invasive, drug-free approach to help our service members deal with these issues," said Wendy Lethin, Vice President

of Community Outreach for Semper Fi Fund.

The Alpha-Stim is a medical device for in-home use that utilizes cranial electrotherapy stimulation to help alleviate symptoms of anxiety, insomnia, depression, and chronic pain. Results are cumulative and residual, enabling patients to decrease the frequency of treatments while maintaining the same level of symptom relief.

Irlen Spectral Filters are precision-tinted lenses that provide comprehensive light filtering to alleviate problems associated with headaches, migraines, light sensitivity, and more.

"My Alpha Stim is my new weapon — it continues to be a force multiplier in the treatment of my combat related conditions," concluded the Marine combat veteran.

Ownership of these devices empowers heroes to manage their own care by allowing them to act preemptively, significantly lessening and even preventing symptoms from occurring. For more information: [www.semperfund.org](http://www.semperfund.org)





# REDEFINING REHABILITATION

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## INNOVATING SOLUTIONS

Infinite Hero has been on the front lines pursuing cutting-edge brain treatment programs through a partnership with the Airpower Foundation. The Brain Treatment Center based in Newport Beach, California, received funding for MRT Treatment, which uses non-invasive neuromodulation to treat the physiological cause of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). It restores normal brainwave activity to reduce stress, anxiety, depression, and anger, and improves sleep patterns. The Cerebrum Health Center (formerly Carrick Brain Center) in Irving, Texas, combines evidence-based diagnostic testing with leading-edge technologies and treatments, allowing doctors to identify what parts of the brain have functional deficits and improving functionality of the brain in a highly targeted way. For more information: [www.braintreatmentcenter.com](http://www.braintreatmentcenter.com) and [www.cerebrum.com](http://www.cerebrum.com)

Infinite Hero has also funded the Brainline Military website to provide military-specific resources on traumatic brain injury to veterans, active-duty service members, and their support networks. Those whose lives have been affected

by TBI can learn about brain injury symptoms and treatment, rehabilitation, and family issues associated with TBI care and recovery. Resources include video, webcasts, articles, personal stories, research briefs, and current news. For more information: [www.brainlinemilitary.org](http://www.brainlinemilitary.org)

IAVA Community of Veterans Network received funding from Infinite Hero towards the development of its Community of Veterans (COV) program. COV was the first online social network created exclusively for veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Infinite Hero grants strengthened both online and offline access to mental health support. For more information: [www.iava.org](http://www.iava.org)

USC Institute for Creative Technologies received funding from Infinite Hero to provide virtual reality exposure therapy specifically addressing the needs of combat medics and corpsmen. The Infinite Hero grant also funded a pilot study of the impact of Stress Resilience in Virtual Environments (STRIVE). For more information: <http://ict.usc.edu/>



# REDEFINING REHABILITATION

## STRENGTHEN THE BODY, RESTORE THE MIND

“Physical training is part of the daily routine in the military. When someone is injured, this is taken away from them. Providing avenues for adaptive physical activity is mission critical for them to get back in control of their lives,” declares Tom Davin, retired Marine Corps Captain and Chairman of 5.11 Tactical, Inc.

Infinite Hero Foundation aids innovative programs that employ physical activities to restore physical abilities and provide therapeutic support for PTSD, TBI, and other mental health challenges.

With the support of Infinite Hero, Challenged Athletes Foundation (CAF) is developing their Operation Rebound program, which provides sports and fitness programs for American military personnel, veterans and first responders with physical challenges. The grant is specifically designed to encourage more female and first-time participants. For more information: <http://www.challengedathletes.org/programs/operation-rebound>

In addition to being an excellent way to connect on a social level, physical activity is proven to be therapeutic and healthy for both the body and the mind. According to Navy Medical Doctor Robert Koffman, physical activity has many benefits that are critical

to veterans, including reduced stress and anxiety, improved sleep patterns, improved self-confidence, a sharper memory, better control over addictive impulses, a force multiplier for therapeutic efforts, increased energy, and an improved overall mood.

Heartbeat Serving Wounded Warriors received several grants from Infinite Hero for its Scuba Warriors program, which provides critical physical and mental health healing to members of the military community through underwater diving. Heartbeat is expanding from Washington State to other bases throughout the United States through a portion of this funding. For more information: [www.heartbeatforwarriors.org](http://www.heartbeatforwarriors.org)

Rebuilding America's Warriors received a grant from our Foundation to provide aesthetic reconstructive procedures and dental restoration to wounded and disfigured veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars by matching the need to medical specialists willing to donate their time and services. For more information: <http://www.rebuildingamericaswarriors.com>

“Exercise increases the production of a protein in the brain that's important for helping brain cells and neurons grow and form important connections with other neurons...scientists will be talking much more about [this] as they tackle a significant concern for veterans — traumatic brain injury,” wrote Koffman.

Infinite Hero's first two grants to Vail Veterans Program funded their Winter Program events. These therapeutic programs are specifically designed to dramatically decrease the isolating effects of physical and mental wounds by bringing together service members who survived severe combat-related injuries, their families, and therapists.





# RECOMMISSIONING LEADERS TO SAVE LIVES

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"Our Armed Forces possess unwavering dedication to their mission and to each other. Throughout multiple deployments, they operate within a well-defined command structure and with constant support from their unit. Upon discharge, however, they often find themselves alone in transitioning to civilian life and dealing with the trauma and losses of war. Compound that with TBI or PTSD and you start to understand why veteran suicide has become such an issue."

Col. Robert Coates, U.S.  
Marine Corps Ret.





# RECOMMISSIONING LEADERS TO SAVE LIVES

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## SUICIDE RATES AMONG VETERANS: A TROUBLING INCREASE

According to a 2014 VA study:

More than 7,400 veterans took their own lives, accounting for 18 percent of all suicides in America. Veterans make up less than 9 percent of the U.S. population.

Approximately 70 percent of veterans who took their own lives were not regular users of VA services.

The risk of suicide for veterans was 21 percent higher when compared to civilian adults. From 2001 to 2014, as the civilian suicide rate rose about 23.3 percent, the rate of suicide among veterans jumped more than 32 percent.

The problem is particularly worrisome among female veterans, whose suicide rates rose more than 85 percent over that time, compared to about 40 percent for civilian women.

***"As someone who has hit rock bottom, and clawed my way back up, this mission is near and dear to my heart. Suicide is NEVER the answer. We always have each other's backs, deployed and back home. No matter how much life can crush you one moment, you can kick it right in the face, and push forward."***

Cpl Rory Patrick Hamill  
U.S. Marine Corps Ret.

# RECOMMISSIONING LEADERS TO SAVE LIVES

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## UNTIMELY DEATH PROMPTS LIFE-SAVING PEER MENTOR PROGRAM

Project Sanctuary tackles the issue of veteran suicide with a new program - 'Walton's Warriors,' piloting through a grant from Infinite Hero. The 10-month training program equips a dedicated team of veteran leaders through retreats, classroom and online training, and counseling; preparing them to coach fellow veterans struggling with PTSD and reintegration into civilian life.

Former U.S. Army Special Forces and Project Sanctuary member Brian Walton inspired the eponymous program after ending his life in March 2016. His untimely death prompted founder and CEO Heather Ehle to search for programs that could train veterans to provide peer support. Walton's Warriors was born after her search failed to yield any comprehensive, clinically based options.

In addition to surrounding returning service members with a network of support similar to their unit, Walton's Warriors brings purpose to peer mentors, reinforcing their empowerment by paying it forward to others. Veterans who strategically and dynamically work through their own

trauma demonstrate to current participants that healing and hope is possible.

Project Sanctuary retreat administrator, retired Army Ranger Ronie Huddleston, asserts, "The role of a peer mentor is to be the shoulders for brothers and sisters to rest upon, ears that can listen, and legs that can carry them through the bad times until they are strong enough to carry themselves."

Combat trauma involves an entire deployment of life-threatening experiences and requires a specialized approach to resiliency formation, rather than a focus on one traumatic event. Recognizing this, Project Sanctuary partnered with Lt. Col. David Tharp, Psy.D., to create a 30-module Combat PTSD Training Program as a critical tool for Walton's Warriors.

"Our veterans want to stop the suicide epidemic - they simply need the tools and the ongoing support to be able to help themselves while they help others," suggested Ehle. Project Sanctuary will collaborate and share their model for Walton's Warriors with other organizations serving veterans and their families. For more information: [www.projectsanctuary.us](http://www.projectsanctuary.us)



The background of the entire page is a photograph of soldiers in full combat gear, including helmets and rifles, moving through a wooded area. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent purple geometric shape, possibly a triangle or a large 'V', which serves as a design element. The text is placed over the lighter, less detailed parts of the image to ensure readability.

# RECOMMISSIONING LEADERS TO SAVE LIVES

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"In my interactions with veterans through the Infinite Hero Foundation, I have observed a common theme. Those who have successfully transitioned to productive and fulfilling lives post-service have done so because they've found their new purpose. Our military personnel are servant leaders who put their lives on the line so that we can live our American dream. Now we need to help them rediscover their purpose so they can live theirs."

Kevin Collins,  
Managing Partner  
The Club at Ravenna

*First of all I'd like to say thank you, not only for your husband's sacrifices, but for you and your family as well. I can't imagine losing a spouse and I'm so terribly sorry. Next I'd like to tell you that I was not far from becoming a statistic. However thanks to Project Sanctuary and Walton's Warriors my life is saved. I finally have found a purpose and a home and it's because of your husband that I get to do this. My goal is #22TilNone - however unrealistic that may sound, I truly have my heart and soul in the cause. So in closing I would like to say from the bottom of my heart "Thank You!"*

*With much love,*

*Joe C.*



# RECOMMISSIONING LEADERS TO SAVE LIVES

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## PURPOSE DISCOVERED THROUGH SERVICE

Veterans have made unimaginable sacrifices and many have received significant physical and invisible injuries from war, but we must strive to see veterans as civic assets rather than broken or untouchably heroic.

In response to the disastrous earthquake in Haiti in 2010, Jake Wood and a team of 7 other veterans and first responders traveled across the Haitian-Dominican border, treating patients and going to areas deemed too dangerous by other groups.

Wood, now co-founder and CEO of Team Rubicon USA, perceived that veterans possessed skills and experience that uniquely equipped them for disaster response. Over time, he witnessed how involvement in these missions was instrumental in veterans' transition from military to civilian life.

"Team Rubicon seeks to provide veterans with three things they lose after leaving the military: A new sense of purpose, gained through helping others with disaster relief; community, built by serving with other like-minded individuals; and

identity or self-worth, from recognizing the impact one individual can make," states Wood.

In 2016, Infinite Hero funded Team Rubicon's Applied Suicide Interventions Skills Training (ASIST) program. This grant will allow them to train their volunteer leaders to recognize and intervene with individuals who are at risk for suicide.

Clay Hunt, an original member of Team Rubicon, served in the U.S. Marine Corps with Wood, and deployed in the same section to both Iraq and Afghanistan with 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines. Tragically, Hunt took his own life in March 2011 after battling PTSD and depression, but his story has inspired Wood and many others to find a new mission through Team Rubicon.

***"If I had one thing to say to my fellow veterans, it would be this: Continue to serve, even though we have taken off our uniforms. No matter how great or small your service is, it is desired and needed by the world we live in today," wrote Clay Hunt in a reflection in January 2011.***

Infinite Hero collaborates with Team Rubicon because of their innovative approach to developing purpose and community for veterans to mitigate the isolation, depression and other transitional challenges they face. For more information visit: [www.TeamRubiconUSA.org](http://www.TeamRubiconUSA.org)

# RECONNECTING TO FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

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“When a service member returns from war injured, the impact on the family becomes even more pronounced. It’s not just the veteran who has to adjust to the new normal. The spouse and children all become caregivers and roles are reversed. This can negatively affect marriages as well as children’s school performance and behavior. This is why it’s critical for resources for the family to be there.”

Kimberly Mitchell  
CEO  
Veterans Village  
of San Diego



# RECONNECTING TO FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

## FAMILIES SERVE TOO

In addition to normal daily challenges that families face, military-connected families deal with a unique set of hardships - such as multiple relocations, being separated from a service member parent, the deployment of a service member parent to a war zone, changing peer groups, and fear of death/injury of a service member parent. According to a study by the Caster Family Center for Nonprofit and Philanthropic Research, children of injured service members are often more resilient and empathetic than their peers, but they can also be more troubled by self-esteem issues and a loss of childhood because they often take on a parental role.

While we drive toward solutions to meet the needs of veterans who have sacrificed for our freedoms, we also innovate to provide critical support to their families through the following programs.

Teaching Kids to Cope-Military (TKC-M) is a ground-breaking initiative with wide reach that will empower military adolescents with a voice, a community, and the resiliency needed to cope

with and overcome the challenges unique to military adolescents. Infinite Hero is proud to fund the development of the TKC-M app, called MilTeenChat, placing support at the fingertips of military-connected youth through a partnership with the Center for Military Medicine Research and the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing. For more information: <http://www.cmmr.pitt.edu>

Infinite Hero provided access for special operations forces (SOF), their families, and gold star children to attend Station Foundation camps and workshops. These programs provide targeted support to improve stress management, self-care, resilience and family connectedness for those who have given the most for our country. For more information: <http://www.thestationfoundation.org>







# RECONNECTING TO FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

## WRITING A NEW STORY

***"I had become so detached from my family and friends. I felt very depressed and had lost my sense of why I am here in this world. This was more than a life changer for me," Sgt. First Class Henry Escobedo, U.S. Army, Ret. reflected.***

Escobedo is one of 38 wounded veterans experiencing transformation through the ground-breaking 'Veterans Path to Success' program, a partnership between Vail Veterans Program (VVP), Infinite Hero, and Johnson & Johnson's Human Performance Institute.

"People can change. We tend to be defined by our old story. The Path to Success program helps the veterans define their new story," observes Cheryl Jensen, VVP Executive Director and Founder.

VVP transforms the lives of military injured and their families through innovative, free-of-charge recreational programs, as well as caregiver-specific wellness events and empowerment training. Veterans gain confidence and lifelong relationships, but Jensen often wondered what more

VVP could do to have a lasting impact.

The answer came through the Infinite Hero Foundation's Veterans Innovation Summit for Investing & Technology (VISIT) in 2013. Fulfilling its intended purpose, VISIT convened leaders in medicine, technology, academia, and community to improve the lives of veterans. Jensen connected with Dr. Jim Loehr, world-renowned psychologist and co-founder of the Human Performance Institute (HPI). Dr. Loehr invited Jensen and one of their wounded veterans to experience the Institute.

HPI's pioneering, science-based, holistic approach to sustainable behavior change had been honed with elite athletes and high performers over the past 30 years and now Dr. Loehr decided to bring it to the veterans community. Equipped with a grant from Infinite Hero, VVP set out to prove the concept and transform lives. Almost immediately Johnson & Johnson witnessed the need for "Veterans Path to Success" and funded a multi-million dollar grant to take it over.

***"The program gave me insight into how to react to challenges, situations and arguments. I now have the tools to make a difference within my life and the life of my family." Escobedo concludes.***

The three-day training focuses on performance psychology, exercise physiology, and nutrition. Participants learn how to expand their capacity in key areas in order to develop resiliency, improve engagement, and increase performance. For more information: [www.vailveteransprogram.org](http://www.vailveteransprogram.org)

# RECONNECTING TO FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

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## LEADING THE NEXT GENERATION

U.S. Army Ranger Brandon Young got married, lost his mother-in-law to cancer, and deployed to the Middle East all within a week following the tragic events of 9/11. After 30 days of deployment, he was able to call home for the first time and learned that his new wife was pregnant. Through repeated deployments to Afghanistan, he missed the birth of his son and most of his first years of life.

Leading within the 75th Ranger Regiment for nearly 10 years, Young formed incredible bonds - a family. He mastered the required skill of indifference toward his emotions and instincts, enabling him to run toward danger. It became hard to engage with his family at home during leave. His Ranger family and the experiences of war felt more real. In 2009, he made the difficult decision to leave the Army and pursue life as a civilian.

***"My son didn't know who I was, my wife barely knew who I was and I wasn't sure that I knew who I was," Young confessed.***

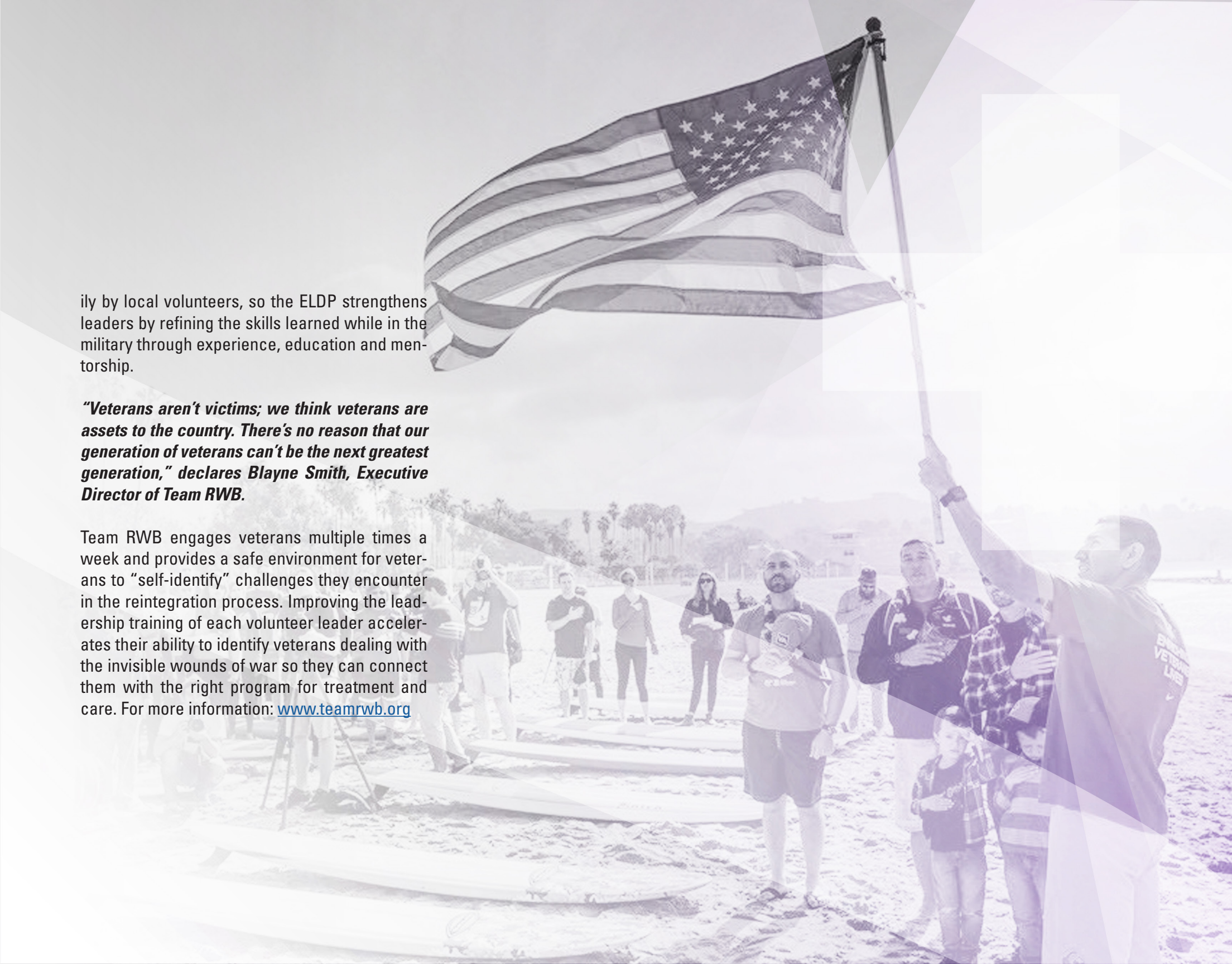
Once at home, he found it difficult to engage

with his family and his emotions. Admitting this and asking for help went against the culture of the American war fighter. ***"When I left the Rangers, I cut my membership card. I felt like I had to choose between two families, and in some ways I felt like I had betrayed my Ranger family. I was consumed with anger and frustration trying to make sense of my experiences in the war and my new reality at home."*** Young found the support that he needed and became a business leader, father, husband and asset to the community, but he admits that there have been challenges.

Young joined Team Red, White & Blue (Team RWB) in 2014, where he serves as the Director of Development. Team RWB provides veterans with renewed camaraderie, a sense of purpose, and shared accomplishment through more than 200 chapters across the country. RWB uses physical and social activities as ways to bring people together and build meaningful relationships. Team RWB is unique in its approach as 30 percent of its members have not served in the military. Team RWB builds connections between civilians and veterans, successfully supporting the transition into communities across our nation.

Building upon past support of Team RWB's innovative programs, Infinite Hero provided an additional grant to launch the Eagle Leadership Development Program (ELDP) in 2015. ELDP builds stronger leaders, a stronger organization and stronger communities through a tiered leadership development approach. The 117,000-member organization is led primar-





ily by local volunteers, so the ELDP strengthens leaders by refining the skills learned while in the military through experience, education and mentorship.

***“Veterans aren’t victims; we think veterans are assets to the country. There’s no reason that our generation of veterans can’t be the next greatest generation,” declares Blayne Smith, Executive Director of Team RWB.***

Team RWB engages veterans multiple times a week and provides a safe environment for veterans to “self-identify” challenges they encounter in the reintegration process. Improving the leadership training of each volunteer leader accelerates their ability to identify veterans dealing with the invisible wounds of war so they can connect them with the right program for treatment and care. For more information: [www.teamrwb.org](http://www.teamrwb.org)



# PARTNERS MAKE IT POSSIBLE

## RAISING FUNDS AT RAVENNA

In 2014, The Club at Ravenna in Littleton, Colorado, hosted their first golf tournament to benefit the Infinite Hero Foundation. Ravenna members Neil Duncan, an Afghanistan veteran and long-time supporter of the Foundation, and Kevin Collins, managing partner at The Club at Ravenna are founders of the event.

Now entering its 4th year, the Ravenna Invitational has grown into Infinite Hero Foundation's premier fundraising event, raising nearly half a million dollars to help wounded military heroes and their families.

"The golf participants and the Ravenna community have enthusiastically supported the Invitational, with increasing funds raised each year. We cannot support our veterans enough for their service and sacrifice to our country," Collins said. "Due to the importance of the cause and its success, we are upholding our commitment to make this The Club at Ravenna's flagship charity event."

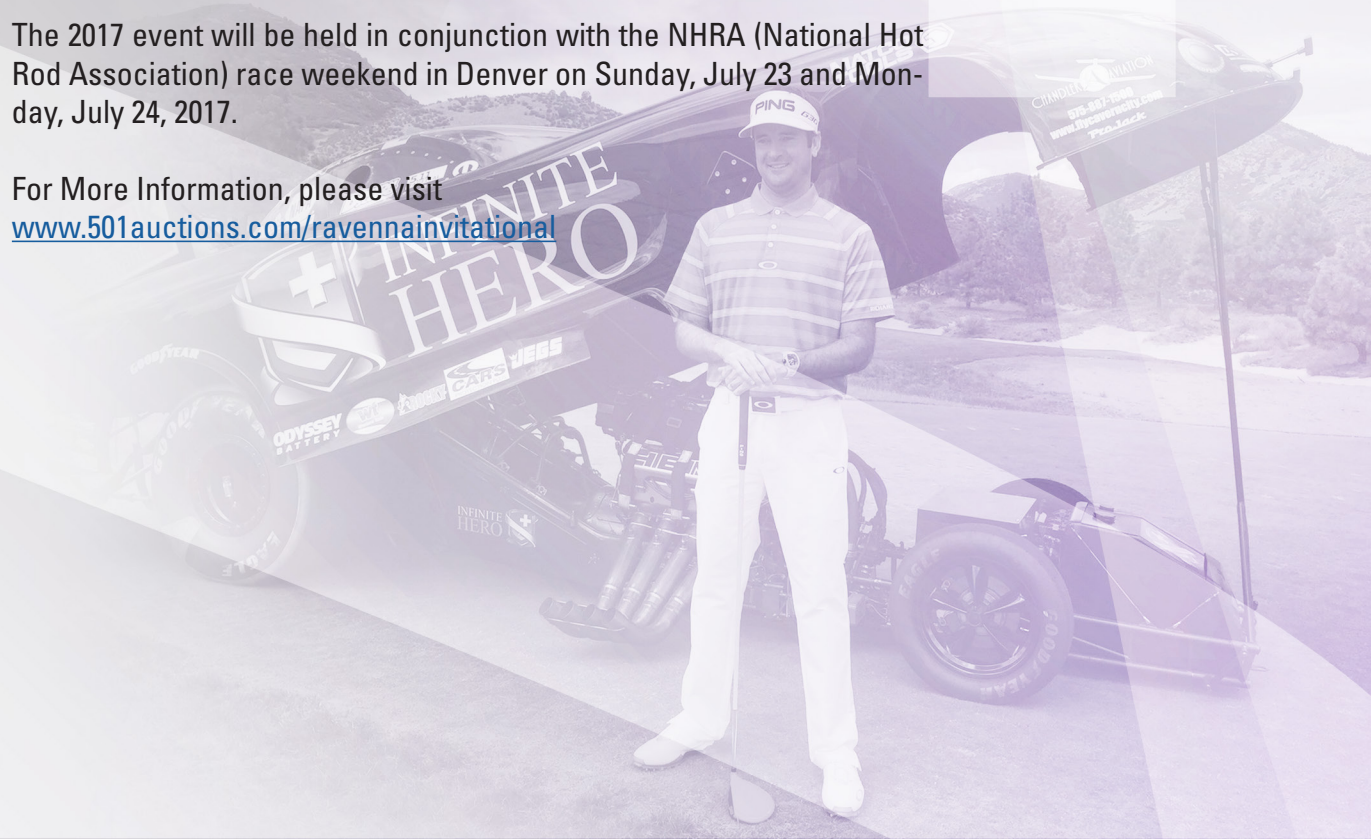
Held at the Club's award-winning 18-hole Jay

Morrish Championship course, the event has featured a free clinic for participants with PGA Pro Bubba Watson in 2015 and a fun and interactive exhibition from World Long Drive Champion Dan Boever in 2016.

Distinguished veteran guests have included Lieutenant General William "Jerry" G. Boykin, USA, Ret.; Medal of Honor Recipient SSgt. Salvatore A. Giunta, USA, Ret.; SPC. J.R. Martinez, USA, Ret.; PO1. Marcus Luttrell, USN SEAL, Ret.; Lt. Morgan Luttrell, USN, Ret.; Lt. Jason "Jay" Redman, USN SEAL, Ret.; and CW05 Gary Linfoot, USA, Ret.

The 2017 event will be held in conjunction with the NHRA (National Hot Rod Association) race weekend in Denver on Sunday, July 23 and Monday, July 24, 2017.

For More Information, please visit  
[www.501auctions.com/ravennainvitational](http://www.501auctions.com/ravennainvitational)





# PARTNERS MAKE IT POSSIBLE

## PUSHING THE NEEDLE ON RECOVERY

Four seconds of bone-rattling, full-body surrender, nitro that strips your eyes of tears and decibels so loud that they can't be measured. NHRA is an experience like none other. For those that are brave enough to feel the burn and rattle, it is all-access — drivers are approachable and fans are salt of the earth. Racing runs in their blood and nitro in their lungs.

Fans are patriotic to the core. When asked why he thought NHRA fans were so supportive of Infinite Hero, CW05 Gary Linfoot, U.S. Army Ret., answered, "many fans are veterans and even if they're not, they have a family member who has served." Infinite Hero Funny Car Driver "Fast Jack" Beckman is himself a former Air Force Sergeant. Supporting veterans through Infinite Hero was a natural fit.

There's a precision in the sport that might be overlooked from the outside. The extremes of heat and speed don't allow a margin of error. "We have to be efficient and we have to be perfect. If everybody's not doing their job 100 percent right, things don't go well out there [on the track],"

Beckman explained. "Military operations are much the same way — the job doesn't get done right and somebody can lose their life. There's no room for ego, because if you allow it to creep in it can get you killed."

The Infinite Hero Funny Car is now in its fourth season, thanks to the generosity and support of philanthropist and racing enthusiast Terry Chandler and Don Schumacher Racing. Chandler uses the race car as a platform to promote awareness and make a lasting impact on people's lives, fully sponsoring two teams to benefit Make-A-Wish and Infinite Hero. At Infinite Hero's Veterans Day gala in 2015 on the eve of the Auto Club NHRA finals in Pomona, CA, Ms. Chandler and team owner Don Schumacher were honored with Infinite Hero's "Reimagine Recovery" award at a benefit dinner that raised more than \$200,000.







The support did not stop with providing exposure for Infinite Hero — through a collaborative effort with “Fast Jack”, the team came up with a unique program for fundraising. Each run, 20 or more challenge coins make the four-second, 300 plus mile-per-hour journey down the track with “Fast Jack”. Afterwards, he autographs them and exchanges them with fans for a \$100 donation to Infinite Hero.

In all, Chandler’s program has raised nearly \$500,000 for Infinite Hero and has brought tremendous awareness to some of the most difficult issues facing our returning military heroes and families. Terry Chandler wanted to do something for veterans and she employed the resources and connections at her disposal to create an innovative program that has pushed the needle on the recovery of veterans today. Every citizen, company, and industry has this same opportunity.

*It is with great sadness that we announced the passing of our wonderful friend Terry Chandler.*

*Her commitment to helping others has left an indelible mark on the National Hot Rod Association and Don Schumacher Racing, and her memorable presence at racetracks and with her Make-A-Wish families and the Infinite Hero Foundation will continue to live on in the hearts of thousands.*

*Sadly, Terry lost her valiant fight with brain cancer July 4, 2017. She was 65 when she died in Florida with family and loved ones at her side.*

*“Terry is a great human being who devoted the past few years to helping the Make-A-Wish and Infinite Hero foundations with her love and kindness by funding two of our Funny Car teams,” said Don Schumacher, DSR owner and close friend.*

*“Terry is such a beautiful person. She was so much more than a friend and partner. She is family. We will always see that wonderful smile of hers at the starting line.”*

*Chandler was presented with the NHRA Blaine Johnson Award in 2015 for her dedication to helping others. Earlier that year, she was described as being “the most influential woman in drag racing” by the Inland Valley (Calif.) Newspapers.*

*“I never dreamed that I would be blessed in a way that would allow me to help others,” she told the Southern California newspaper. “Helping people is one of the most important things in the world to me – my daddy, John R. Gray, was an extremely giving man, and I learned from him how important it was to bless the lives of others. That is why this means so much to me. I feel very fortunate to be in this position.”*

*Thank You for Everything Terry. We Love You.*

*Terry Chandler  
September 27, 1951 – July 4, 2017*





# PARTNERS MAKE IT POSSIBLE

## CHARITY CHALLENGE SERIES

Leah Pritchett, NHRA Top Fuel driver for Don Schumacher Racing is elevating awareness for the 2017 season with an innovative fundraising competition. She's challenged her sponsor and pizza franchise CEO, Papa John, to race her in his '71 gold Camaro. Their first of five races took place at the NHRA Gatornationals in Florida, with Don Schumacher Racing and Papa John's each donating \$10,000 to the Foundation. Adding the support of Papa John's through the Charity Challenge Series will raise an additional \$100,000 for Infinite Hero's mission.





# PARTNERS MAKE IT POSSIBLE

## RIDING TO REIMAGINE RECOVERY

The 2nd Annual Ride to Reimagine Recovery to benefit the Infinite Hero Foundation was held at Oakley's Headquarters on Veterans Day 2016. The event was hosted by philanthropist John Paul DeJoria, his Peace\*Love\*Happiness Charity co-founder Gary Spellman, and freestyle motocross champion Carey Hart, along with dozens of Veteran riders. It featured a two-hour motorcycle tribute ride, concert and tailgate.

Carey Hart showed his appreciation for Infinite Hero's mission with a \$5,000 donation from his Good Ride, and another \$5,000 personal match. He also named Infinite Hero his official charity for his three 2017 Good Rides in Laughlin, NV, Sturgis, SD, and Las Vegas. Please visit [GoodRide.Rally.com](http://GoodRide.Rally.com) for dates and to register. The Peace\*Love\*Happiness Charity added \$5,000 in support, and unique memorabilia was auctioned bringing the total raised from the event to more than \$50,000.

For more information, please visit [GoodRideRally.com](http://GoodRideRally.com)





# PARTNERS MAKE IT POSSIBLE

## MAXIMIZING OUTCOMES THROUGH PARTNERSHIP

Guild Mortgage, one of the largest independent mortgage lenders in the U.S., donated \$116,000 to the Infinite Hero Foundation to fund a wearable robotic exoskeleton from ReWalk Robotics. ReWalk's technology enables individuals with spinal cord injury to stand upright, walk, turn, and climb and descend stairs.

The exoskeleton was donated to the VA San Diego Healthcare System Spinal Cord Injury Center, which provides care to veterans and active duty personnel with spinal cord injuries and disorders in San Diego and Imperial Counties, Arizona and Southern Nevada.

"Rather than directing this exoskeleton to one single individual, this unit will serve hundreds of patients who would otherwise be wheelchair-bound," said Jeff Tarbell, Regional Vice President at Guild.

Infinite Hero Foundation and Guild Mortgage co-presented this technology at the VA's 2nd annual Brain Trust: Pathways to InnoVation event in Boston on May 18, 2017.

Brain Trust convened the most influential voices in the field of brain health - private industry, national/professional sports organizations, the Federal government, innovators, scientists, athletes, clinicians, caregivers, and veterans - with the goal of fostering national partnership-based solutions.

The event focused research, innovations, and advancements in the area of head trauma and TBI that not only change the lives of veterans and their families, but also improve the lives of all Americans suffering with brain injuries.



# INVESTING IN OUR VETERANS

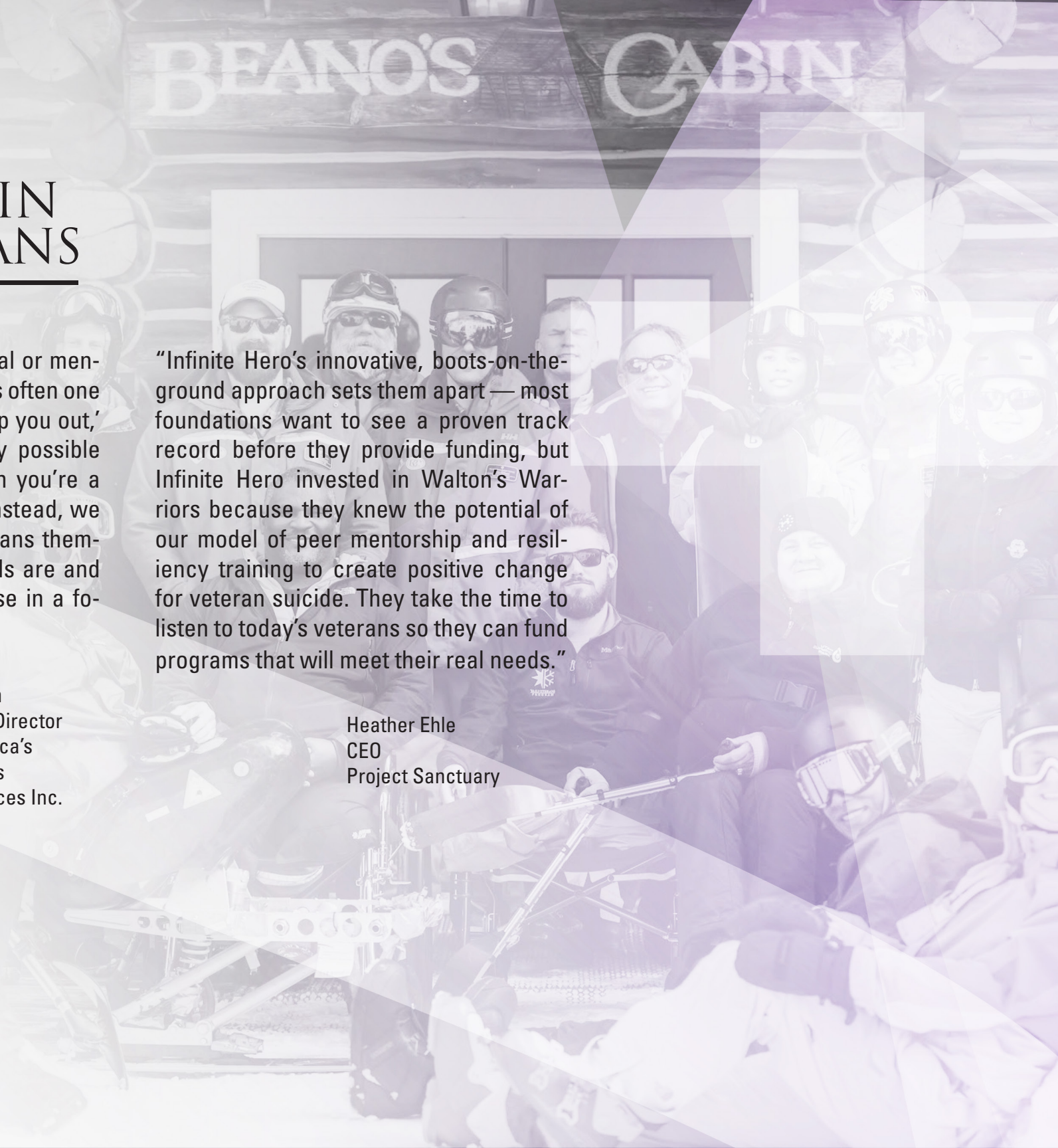
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"When dealing with the physical or mental wounds of war, the attitude is often one of 'you poor veteran, let me help you out,' so we put them through every possible program and treatment. When you're a hammer, everything is a nail. Instead, we need to find out from the veterans themselves what their specific needs are and determine how to address those in a focused and personalized way."

Lewis Runnion  
Public Policy Director  
Bank of America's  
Military Affairs  
Consult Alliances Inc.

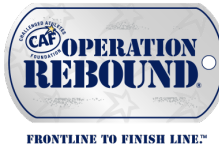
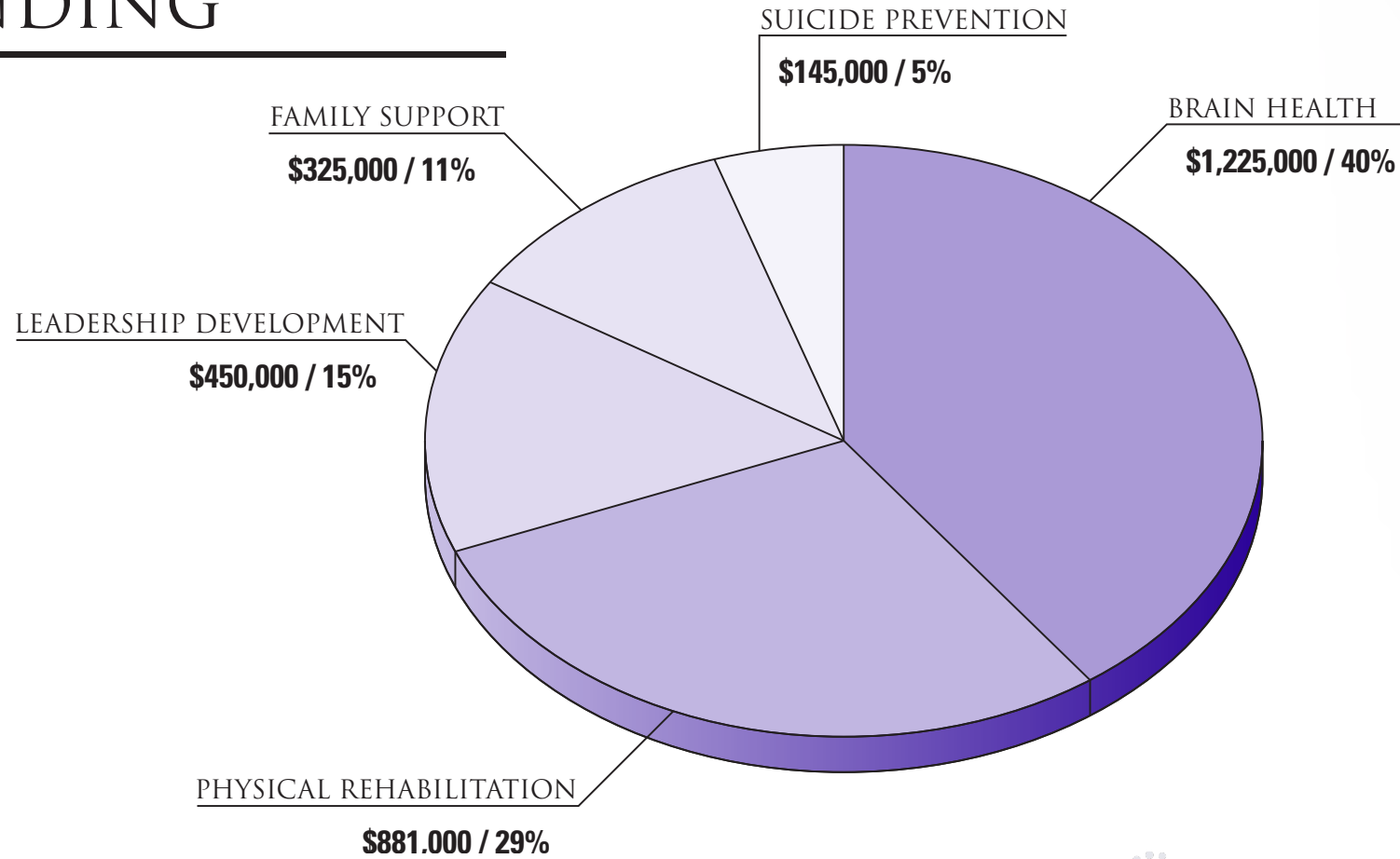
"Infinite Hero's innovative, boots-on-the-ground approach sets them apart — most foundations want to see a proven track record before they provide funding, but Infinite Hero invested in Walton's Warriors because they knew the potential of our model of peer mentorship and resiliency training to create positive change for veteran suicide. They take the time to listen to today's veterans so they can fund programs that will meet their real needs."

Heather Ehle  
CEO  
Project Sanctuary





# FUNDING



## VETERANS INNOVATION SOCIETY FOR INVESTING & TECHNOLOGY (VISIT)

A unique approach to bring like-minded and mission aligned companies together to accelerate measurable, promising and innovative solutions to help our veterans and their families. The goal is to pool collective corporate efforts to make a significant long-term and sustainable impact for our veterans.

### WHAT IS VISIT?

A group of eight to ten donor investors making a year-long commitment to IHF's mission embodying the spirit of collaboration and innovation.

### THE BENEFIT OF VISIT

- A high-yield turnkey approach to accelerate innovative solutions for veterans
- Opportunity to align with other synergistic brands
- Recognition through IHF channels: grant announcements, impact reports and local events, as appropriate
- Underwriting successful programs already in progress through previous grant funding

### ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Each company can activate their partnership with IHF through a menu of activities that best align with their business, philanthropic priorities, brand assets and resources. Opportunities include:

- Premier sponsorship of a VISIT summit
- Participation and exposure in future VISIT dinners
- Participation on IHF grant committee
- Development of cause marketing promotions
- Development of IHF branded products to raise funds for IHF
- Participation and exposure at range of IHF branded events



INFINITE  
HERO<sup>SM</sup>

VISIT

VETERANS INNOVATION SOCIETY  
INVESTING & TECHNOLOGY











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InfiniteHeroFoundation



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