

In this issue...

- Church donates 25+ bikes
- IU Frats "Face Off"
- Find out HVAF's pantry needs

Army vet Kevin: "I'm glad that HVAF is around"

Last September, Army veteran Kevin E. was homeless, as he was living in his vehicle. That same month, his life was changed.

He found out his 12-year-old grandson did not have a place to live anymore, and he would need to gain custody of him. He knew he needed to find a home for both of them, and he needed to find it fast.



Kevin, a U.S. Army veteran, turned to HVAF when he needed help.

Thankfully, Kevin already knew about HVAF, as he had been an employee of the organization in the early 2000's. He enrolled in Supportive Services for Veterans and their Families (SSVF) and was assigned to case manager Kiley.

Since he was on disability and worked part time, Kiley said that helped him to have enough income to get housed easily. She also referred him to HVAF's housing specialist, William Najera, to expedite the housing search. Eight days after he enrolled in SSVF, he was successfully placed into permanent housing.

Kiley said SSVF provided beds for him and his grandson, as well as paid for the security deposit, first month's rent, and all of his prior utility arrears to get service in his name. SSVF also referred him to the Mustard Seed for furniture and home goods, and paid for the delivery.

"Not only was Kevin a pleasure to work with, but it was so rewarding to help reunify this veteran with his grandson in a safe, clean environment," Kiley said. "He was motivated to get into housing and our HVAF team worked quickly to accommodate all of their needs."

Kiley said she generally serves around 25 to 30 veterans at a time, with roughly 60 percent of those clients unhoused at the initial enrollment in the

program. Since she is a veteran herself, she wanted to work at HVAF to give back to her fellow past service members.

"As a prior Naval Aircrewman, I wanted to work with the veteran community," Kiley said. "I served active duty for 7 years and have a heart for my fellow Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom veterans, and the homeless men and women left on the street."

Kevin said HVAF is the best thing to ever happen to a veteran who is in need of assistance.

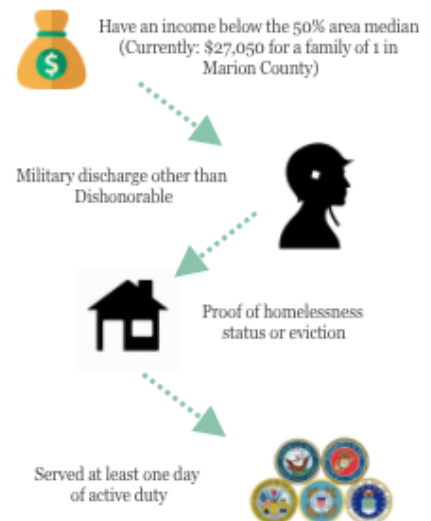
"I'm glad that HVAF is around to get help," Kevin said. "I recommend any veteran that needs help to come here because HVAF will do whatever they can to get veterans back on their feet."



Case manager Kiley helped to make sure Kevin and his grandson had a safe place to live.

Are you eligible for SSVF?

Here are the requirements to be enrolled in HVAF's SSVF program:



Do you qualify? Call 317-951-0688 to enroll today!

Local church donates bikes

Cornerstone Lutheran's military ministry serving our vets!



While trying to obtain employment and housing, one huge hindrance for a veteran can be means of transportation.

Thankfully, Cornerstone Lutheran Church is wanting to change that. In April, the church donated 25 bikes to HVAF, with plans to bring 25 more bikes soon.

"The idea is to promote the good of what HVAF is doing for our homeless veterans and our Cornerstone Lutheran Church Military Ministry wanted to help them out by providing bicycles for the veterans who do not have other means of transportation," Sandy Hughey, church member and event organizer, said.

According to Brian Copes, President and CEO of HVAF, these bikes will help their veterans have a necessary means of transportation.

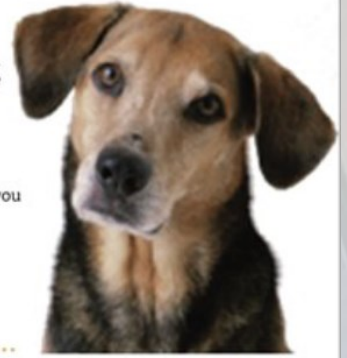
"For many of our veterans, a bicycle means independence and employability. Transportation is a critical necessity most people take for granted," Copes said. "For veterans just regaining self-sufficiency, a vehicle is often unaffordable so providing a high-quality bicycle broadens the range of job options and improves their quality-of-life by expanding access to grocery stores, retail outlets, recreational areas and activities, medical appointments, and – perhaps most importantly – friends and family. **It's not 'just a bike' – it's life.**"

Veteran's Best Friend, Indiana, Inc.

Professional dog trainers pair a veteran with a shelter dog as a pet, at no cost to the veteran, helping ease anxiety, loneliness, depression, even PTSD symptoms. Pet ownership encourages love and acceptance, companionship, responsibility, interaction, and exercise.

FREE SERVICE. Any veteran may apply. Thank you veterans for your service. Now let us serve you.

Visit veteransbestfriendin.com to apply.



IU frats "Face Off" for our vets

Fraternities raise thousands for HVAF!

Beta Theta Pi, Sigma Chi and eight other Indiana University fraternities faced off this weekend to benefit HVAF.



Face Off For the Forces, which started in 2014, is a lacrosse tournament to benefit military organizations. Beta Theta Pi and Sigma Chi lead the tournament and work with other fraternities and sororities on campus to help fundraise and promote the event.

"I was raised in a military family, so I know what a sacrifice it is to wear that American Flag on the right shoulder every day when a soldier puts on the uniform," Robert Wettstein, Vice President of External Affairs for Face-Off For the Forces, said. "Having the opportunity to give back to a charity that provides the most beneficial place for veterans within the state of Indiana is the least the people can do that are involved with Face-Off for veterans who have made the ultimate sacrifice."

Although it is now finals week, the fraternities are still working to raise more money for HVAF. Last year, they raised \$35,000 and hope to see that number go up this year.

HVAF Highlights



Big Woods Franklin, on behalf of Big Woods Restaurants, Quaff On Brewing, and Hard Truth Distilling Co., presented a check to us!



Community members in Whitestown donated items for their annual HVAF drive!



American Legion 145 donated bikes, food, and a CAR!



Gene B. Glick Company spent their Saturday helping out at HVAF Headquarters!

Connect with us!

Like us on Facebook

Follow us on twitter



@HVAFofIndiana

HVAF Needs:

- ~Canned fruit
- ~Spam
- ~Ravioli
- ~Hamburger Helper
- ~PB&J
- ~Vienna sausage
- ~Beefaroni
- ~Tuna Helper

Drop off your donations to HVAF Headquarters today!

Do you have a group that would like to help in our food, clothing, and hygiene pantries? Call 317-951-0688 for more info!