

Family Caregivers Of Veterans Eligible For Free Professional Help



Veterans and their families can get help at home to make daily living easier.

NAPSI)—The Elizabeth Dole Foundation and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs have launched an emergency respite care fund for the family caregivers of wounded, ill, and injured veterans. The program, Respite Relief for Military and Veteran Caregivers, will provide non-medical, no-cost, professional home care to veteran caregivers who are struggling during the COVID-19 pandemic. CareLinx, a nationwide professional home care network, helped launch the fund with a donation of \$1 million worth of services. Wounded Warrior Project then contributed an additional \$1 million to expand the program. The Foundation expects to provide 75,000 hours of care to more than 3,000 veteran caregivers.

"The lack of affordable, convenient, professional respite care has always taken a significant toll on the emotional and physical well-being of veteran caregivers," said Steve Schwab, CEO of the Elizabeth Dole Foundation. "Now, due to the increased health risks and limitations created by the pandemic, we are seeing a spike in the need for short-term relief."

Even as states re-open, some of the most critically wounded or ill veterans and their caregivers will have a long journey back to the pre-pandemic world. These veterans often have vulnerable immune systems that require their caregivers to take every precaution against exposure. By asking family and friends to keep their distance, they are losing a vital source of daily support.

"We are grateful to CareLinx and Wounded Warrior Project for helping us respond to this urgent need," Schwab continued. "We hope other organizations also step up, so we can ensure every veteran caregiver suffering during COVID-19 receives the help they need."

The program is rolling out in select regions and will expand nationwide over time. Eligible caregivers can request services that include companionship, grocery shopping, cooking, mobility assistance, transportation, bathing, and other activities of daily living. AARP and Bob Woodruff Foundation have also joined as key collaborators for this effort to help spread the word to military and veteran caregivers.

To learn more and apply, visit www.hiddenheroes.org/respite.

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HORACE DIXON found the National Chemistry Week Graphic on Page 7B (Coldwell Banker Coast Real Estate – Last Row - 2nd listing - 131 Hwy 101 Yachats - lower left corner of photo). He has won a Gift Certificate towards a Siuslaw News Subscription.

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- Tables and chairs should be at least 6 feet apart.
- Use heavy-duty tape to form a flow for customers to follow throughout the sale.
- Ask customers to stand in a line, while spread apart, during a high traffic times.
- Make sure all merchandise is washed and dried and/or wiped down with a disinfectant product before placing on a table or chair for sale.
- Clean tables and chairs several times throughout the day.
- Supply hand sanitizer on tables and elsewhere for customers.
- Wear masks and disposable gloves.
- Designate a person to take money from customers and washing hands after every transaction

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