

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

The Veterans Council of Indian River County is the leading agency and primary advocate and supporter of county veterans and their families.



Executive Team



Jim Romanek
Executive Director

Dear Friends of the Veterans Council,

Because of your generosity, the Veterans Council is able to support the needs of veterans in our community, raise awareness of the difficulties they face and honor their individual sacrifices and contributions as veterans of this great nation.

No one could have imagined that so many lives would be affected in 2020. As the COVID-19 pandemic hit, the council saw a significant increase in need within our veterans community. We like many other organizations adjusted to support that need. Some staff worked from home, we worked with clients by phone, email and as a “drive through” in our parking lot as needed. As veterans, we never back down. We stand taller and stronger. We developed two financial contingency plans to contend with the unknown COVID-19 future. In all cases, our doors will stay open and veterans will be served at the best level possible.

Your belief and support in our mission enables us to assist more veterans and their families. Thank you for your gracious support and outstanding generosity this year.

Jim Romanek, Executive Director

Current Board of Directors

Col. Martin Zickert
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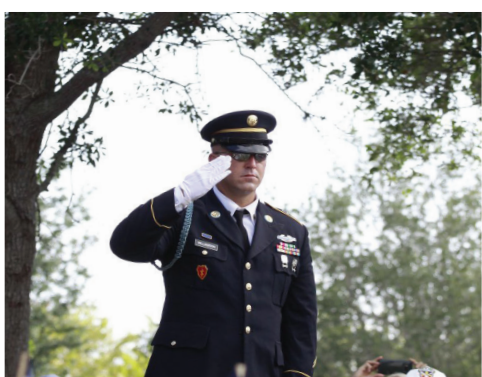
Directors

Samantha Brackett
Bruce Cady
Col. Sam Kouns
Fr. Dave Newhart

Carroll Oates
Patty Ryan
Tracey Zudans

About the Veterans Council of Indian River County

The Veterans Council of Indian River County is a 501c3 collaboration of veteran organizations, non-veteran entities that actively support veterans, and individuals who contribute to the welfare of veterans. The Veterans Council of Indian River County serves as an umbrella over Indian River County veteran resources.



VCIRC History

The Veterans Council of Indian River County was established in 1987 with an initial focus on providing transportation for veterans to the West Palm Beach VA Hospital; and hosting Memorial Day and Veterans Day Ceremonies honoring Veterans. Over the last few years, the Council has grown to more than 25 veterans organizations, and over 45 non-veteran civic, government and business entities.

VCIRC Mission

To support all Indian River County veterans and their families while raising awareness of veteran needs and their contributions to society.

VCIRC Vision

To be recognized as the leading Indian River County Agency for Veterans Support.

VCIRC Programs



Transportation Services

Transporting hundreds of veterans and their aides monthly to medical appointments locally and to the West Palm Beach VA Hospital.



Upward American Veterans

Providing emergency basic living financial support to qualified honorably discharged US veterans and their families.



Veterans Helping Veterans

Providing basic home improvements for veterans who cannot afford or are physically unable to complete the work.



Veterans: Outreach & In the Classroom

Hosting veteran and family events. Teaching students about respect for the nation, flag honors, military service and citizenship.



Honoring Veterans

Honor Guards performing ceremonies for over 50 patriotic events and funerals annually along with Memorial and Veteran's Day ceremonies.



Scholarship Program

In partnership with Indian River State College, the Veterans Council provides scholarships for dependents of veterans.

VCIRC Program Outcomes



Transportation Services

500 Veterans and their aides transported to the VA Hospital in West Palm Beach during the 2019/2020 fiscal year.



Upward American Veterans

UAV provided emergency financial assistance for basic living needs to **156** veterans and their families totaling **\$88,274**.



Veterans Helping Veterans

VHV provided **25** essential home improvement services to veterans and their families totaling **\$72,500**.



Veterans: Outreach & In the Classroom

Provided outreach to more than **400** Veterans at the Veterans and Family picnic. More than **3100** Indian River County students participated in this program in approximately 2.5 years.



Honoring Veterans

Provided more than **50** patriotic events and funerals along with Memorial and Veteran's Day ceremonies.

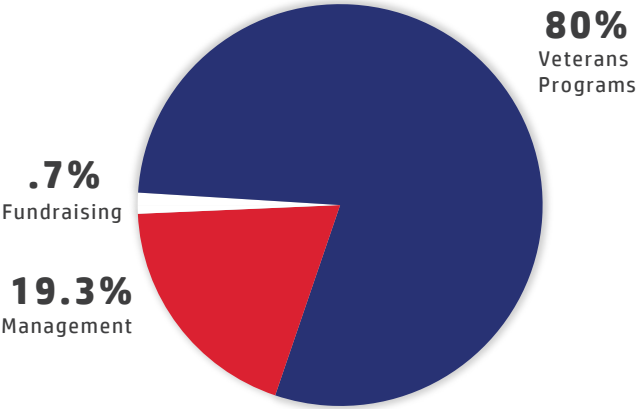
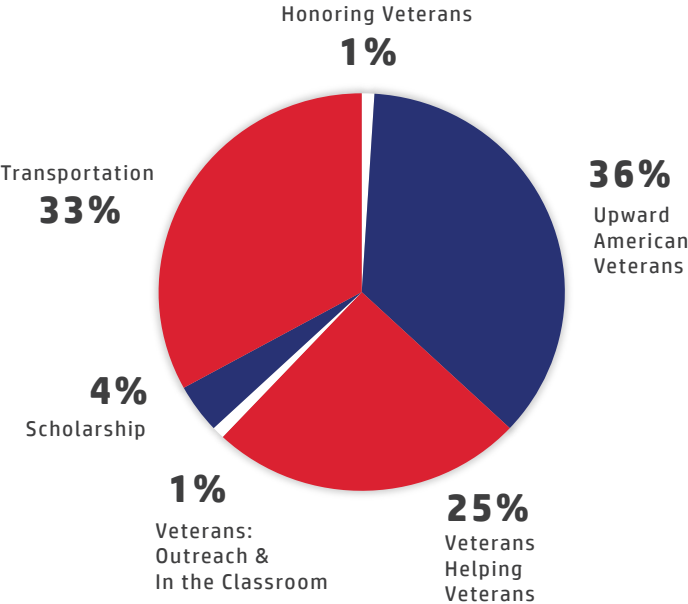


Scholarship Program

Provides **\$12,000** in college scholarships annually for up to eight students.

Financials

Programs 2020	Efficiency Ratio 2020*
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*Amounts subject to Audit Completion. Audited financials available upon request.

Your Support in Action

WWII Buffalo Soldier

WWII Veteran Harry Lamb and his wife Gladys receive emergency funding from the Upward American Veterans program. Listed Left to Right: Fred Schoenberg, Rev. Jesse Davis, Gladys & Harry Lamb, Col. Sam Kouns, Lt. Col. James Rannazzisi



Harry served during WWII in the 92nd Division, “Buffalo Soldiers” that fought in France, Northern Italy and Belgium. His feet had been frozen and he still struggles to walk.

At 93-years-old and disabled, the WWII Veteran and his wife, Gladys, who is also disabled, had been struggling to take care of each other while living in a home with seriously unsafe conditions. Someone had graciously placed a blue tarp on

their roof after hurricane Irma and there it remained many months later. They had a broken window, a broken hot water heater which flooded the house, and they had to store their food with their neighbors because of a broken refrigerator.

Harry applied to Upward American Veterans program (UAV) for assistance to address the poor and unacceptable living conditions of his home. Upon inspection of the

home, additional issues were uncovered.

Through the UAV program, with assistance from the Military Officers Association of America, essential repairs were made and appliances were replaced or fixed. The Lamb’s living conditions became much better, especially with the donation of a new roof! When contractors were leaving, from his chair on the porch, Harry said, “now my Gladys is happy.”

Our Members and Supporters

Delegate Members consist of veteran organizations who have ten or more members.

Affiliate Members consist of veteran organizations who are headquartered outside of Indian River County, but have a presence in Indian River County.

Auxiliary Members consist of over 45 organizations and individuals who support veterans.

Delegate Members

American Legion Post 39
American Legion Riders, Post 39
American Legion Post 181
American Legion Post 189
American Legion Riders, Post 189
American Security Council Foundation
Disabled American Veterans
Jewish War Veterans, USA Post 705
Korean War Veterans Association
Marine Corps League - IR Det. 58
Military Officers Association of
America Indian River Chapter
Navy League of the US TC Council 334
Next Generation Veterans, Inc.
Sebastian Area Veterans Honor Guard
Vero Beach Veterans, Inc.
VFW Post 10210
VFW Post 10210 Riders Group
Vietnam Veterans of America CH 1038

Affiliate Members

Air Force Association
First Marine Division
Marine Corps League of Barefoot Bay
Navy Seal Museum Association, Inc.
Seabees Veterans of America Island X-10
US Army Special Forces Association CH 21
US Army Special Forces Association CH 85
USSVI - Treasure Coast Base
Wreaths Across America

To find out more on how your organization can become a member of the Veterans Council please call the council at (772) 410-5820

Every effort has been made to accurately list all of our generous supporters. We apologize for errors or omissions. Please contact Cynthia Ryan at (772) 410-5820 for edits.



Foundations/Grants

Stephen M. Bailey and Lucia H. Bailey Family Foundation
Bernard A Egan Foundation Inc.
Brackett Family Foundation
Grand Harbor Community Outreach Program Inc.
Impact 100
Indian River Community Foundation
Indian River Foundation for the Elderly
IRC Board of County Commissioners
Jacobs Family Foundation
Johns Island Foundation
Doris R. Jorgensen Fund
L&G Fund
Lincoln Financial Foundation
McCord Family Foundation
Andrew & Britt-Marie Paul
Kathi G. Schumann
Smith Family Foundation
United Way of Indian River County
UW COVID-19 Response Fund
W.Y. Campbell Family Foundation

The support from all of our generous donors is vital to serving the needs of Indian River County veterans who have worked tirelessly and selflessly to ensure our freedom and the safety of our nation. Gifts include one-time donations or many gifts a donor has made from October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020. Supporters listed alphabetically by last name.

Individuals	Stephen J Boyle	Vickie Cooley	Ruth Durkee-Killinger	Miriam Grabow
William Adamany	John P Brady	Nicholas Coppola	Alan Durkin	Margaret Grall
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James Mann	Rey Neville	Peter Rossi	Molly Teter	Zickert
Frank Marden	Fr. Dave Newhart	Patricia E. Ryan	Diana Thompson	Val & Tracey Zudans

Businesses/Organizations

A Kitchen of Her Own
Agricultural Services Intl
Alex MacWilliam Real Estate
B & W Quality Growers, LLC
Barker Electric, Air Conditioning,
and Heating, Inc.
Bass Pro Shops
Blue Agave
Blue Star Brasserie
Boston Barricade
Brady Living Trust
Captain Hiram's - Sebastian
Inlet Marina
CenterState Bank
Chick-fil-A
Chill & Grill
Collison's Automotive
Comfort Zone AC and Heating
Communications International
Costa d' Este
Crab Stop
Dale Sorensen Real Estate
Dinner Revolution
Dogs for Life
DYER
Earl's Hideaway Lounge Inc.
Elegance by the Sea
Elite Airways
Ferres Dentistry
Flight Safety

Frontstream
Fully Promoted
George E. Warren LLC
Glendale Trade Center
Gould Cooksey Fennell, PLLC
I'll Never Tell
International Union of Police
Italian American Club of
Sebastian
Jetson
Jim Rott Home Improvements
and Air Conditioning Inc.
John Michael Matthews
Fine Jewelry
Knights of Columbus -
Council 13153
KSM Engineering & Testing
Law Offices of
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LED Capstone, Inc
Maison Martinique
Mash Monkeys Brewing Co.
Melissa Medlock CPA PA
Military Moms Prayer Group
Military Officers Association
of America
Mulligan's Beach House Bar
and Grill
NextEra Energy Inc
North County Auto Brokers
Olivia's

Optimal Health
ORC Services Inc.
Paddles by the Sea
PEO Sisterhood Chapter GM
Piper Aircraft Inc.
Planet Pet Animal Hospital
PNC Financial Services
Post & Vine
Postal Connections
Premier Estate Properties
Republican Women of
Indian River
Riverside Family Dental PA
Riverside Theatre
Route 60 Hyundai
Ruchman and Associates
Savor
Schlitt Services, Inc.
School District of Indian
River County
Smoke Inn Cigars
Sol Mar
Squid Lips
St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church
St. John of the Cross Church
St. Paul's Church
Star Suites by Riverside Theatre
State Farm Insurance
The Lafferty Group R.E.
The Patio Seafood Tavern
The Rotary Club of Vero Beach

Treasure Coast Chapter NSDAR
Three Bulls, LLC
Treasure Coast Jeep Club
United Way of Indian River
County
Vero Beach Airshow Inc.
Vero Beach Elks Lodge
#1774
Vero Beach Hotel and Spa
Vero Tackle & Marina
Vic's Pizza
Victory Center
Visiting Nurse Association
W.E.L.C.A. of our Savior
Lutheran Church
Walking Tree Brewery LLC
Warren Capital Management
Wild Thyme Catering
Winn Dixie

Every effort has been made to accurately list all of our generous supporters. We apologize for errors or omissions. Please contact Cynthia at (772) 410-5820 to update your listing.

Thank you to all supporters of the Veterans Council of Indian River County. If you would like to support the Veterans Council by becoming a volunteer, a member or by making a donation of support, please call (772) 410-5820 or visit us online at www.helpircvets.org



Veterans Council of Indian River County
PO Box 1354
Vero Beach, FL 32961
www.HelpIRCVets.org
(772) 410-5820

