



2025

Program Overview

SERVING THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED



Dream Foundation is listed as one of Charity Navigator's Highly Rated Nonprofits Dedicated to Veterans and Military Service Members.

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DREAMS FOR VETERANS PROGRAM OVERVIEW



1,671

VETERANS
DREAMS SERVED



500,000*

NUMBER OF VETERANS
DYING EACH YEAR

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP SINCE

2016



By the numbers...

43
VETERAN DREAM
REQUESTS

36
COMPLETED DREAMS

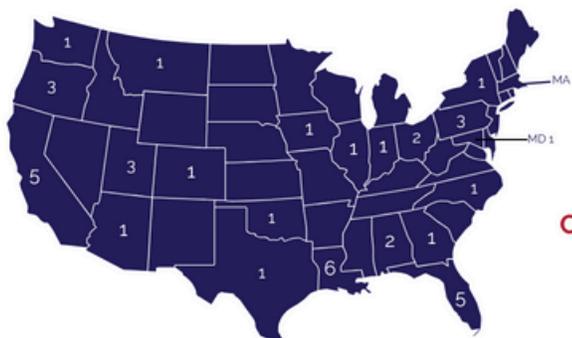
7
DREAMS IN PROGRESS

1
DID NOT QUALIFY DUE TO
LIFE EXPENCY

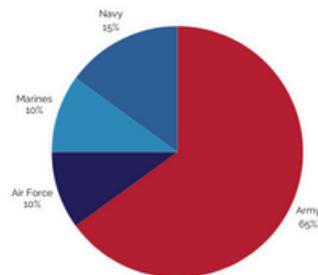
1
DREAM COMPLETED
WITHOUT DREAM
FOUNDATION

2
RECIPIENT PASSED BEFORE
DREAM COMPLETED

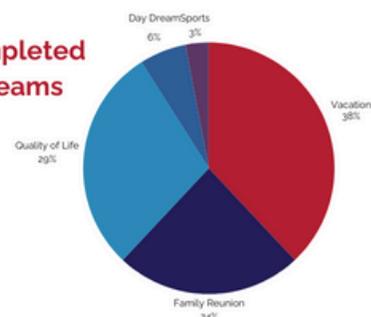
Applicants by
State



Applicants by
Military Branch



Completed
Dreams



* U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Fact Sheet: Palliative and Hospice Care

DREAMS AT A GLANCE

At sunset on Maui's shores, Dalton (USAF) and Joan renewed their vows in a heartfelt ceremony made possible by Dream Foundation. Their journey created cherished memories that Joan will treasure forever.



Gerald, 73, an Army veteran, always wanted to take a ride in a helicopter but had never been able to, even when he was serving in the Army. "Getting out above everything seems like heaven to me," he told us. Dreams for Veterans helped Gerald spend an early September morning fulfilling his Dream of getting out above it all!

Roberto served in the Air Force for 4 years as an Aircraft Mechanic. He dreamed of going to Puerto Rico, with his wife, Janet. As member of the American Legion, Robert had the opportunity to meet the members of the Puerto Rican Post and experience the culture and visit the beaches he dreamed about for years.



RECENT ENGAGEMENT WITH DREAM PARTNERS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

JENNIFER KOGET

National Director of Social Work at U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

PRINCE TAYLOR, ED.D

Deputy Director for VA Center for Development & Civic Engagement

SABRINA CLARK PHD

Director, VA Center for Development & Civic Engagement at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

In 2016, Dreams for Veterans announced a strategic partnership with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to improve the lives of veterans with terminal illnesses.

Over the last 8 years we have worked closely together to facilitate positive events, collaborate on strategic outreach and marketing efforts with the goal to reach and serve more veterans in need, and fulfill final Dreams for veterans and their families. This partnership has been instrumental in establishing relationships with VA hospice care providers and palliative care social workers to offer resources available in addressing some of the unique needs of veterans adjusting to end-of life-care.

Dreams for Veterans has attended and presented at the following events and meetings initiating and enhancing engagement. Thousands of VA social workers have received Dreams for Veterans materials and continue to work closely to offer program support and ongoing education.

VA VOLUNTARY SERVICE NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFERENCE

VA SOCIAL WORKER NATIONAL CALL

VA HOSPICE & PALLIATIVE CARE NATIONAL CALL

VA PACT SOCIAL WORK COMMUNITY CALL

NATIONAL SOCIAL WORK SERVICE MANAGERS' CALL

VISN PALLIATIVE CARE LEADERS CALL

The VA communications teams is diligent in supporting and sharing our Dream stories to build local and national awareness for the program. Collaborations include earned media stories subsequently enhanced through existing VA channels, guest features on VAntage Point, the official VA blog,

Dream and program highlights included on VA News website and newsletter, with subsequent PR efforts in the works.

U.S. Department of Veterans volunteers, social workers, and directors have all been personally involved in Dream fulfillment and delivery, dedicating their time and resources to Dreams for Veterans' mission.

Every effort is utilized to support terminally-ill veterans and inform them the palliative support that only Dreams for Veterans can offer.

WE HONOR VETERANS, A PROGRAM OF THE NATIONAL HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE ORGANIZATION

KATHERINE KEMP

Senior Director, Veterans Services

VICTORIA RING, MSW

Veterans Services Coordinator

Dreams for Veterans has recently reestablished its relationship with the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, We Honor Veterans, program which is comprised of 3700 hospice-member organizations. In addition to the highlight in their Spring 2024 We Honor Veterans Newsletter, Dreams for Veterans hosted a blog, and will present on their next Partner Networking Call in April. Collaboration is just beginning and will surely benefit more terminally-ill veterans and their families over the course of the next year and beyond.

VETERANS-SERVING EMPLOYEE RESOURCE GROUPS

GVET

Gilead Veterans Engagement Team

GVETS

Genentech Veterans Diversity Group

GUARDANT VETERANS

Guardant Health Veterans Diversity Group

Employee resource groups, each made up of hundreds of veterans, actively engage with and support their internal and external veteran communities including Dreams for Veterans. GVET, gVETS, and Guardant Veterans members have been directly involved with Veteran Dream fulfillment and deliveries, innovative fundraising activities and collaborative efforts in marketing and publicity. We are in the process of onboarding several others this year.

ADDITIONAL DREAM PARTNERS

Long-standing and new organizations who collaborate with Dreams for Veterans by referring terminal patients for our services, help facilitate elements of Dream requests, including travel, or facilitate fundraising.



WE HONOR VETERANS



**WOUNDED WARRIOR
PROJECT®**

loop & tie

MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

VA News – November 2024 DREAMS FOR VETERANS

Navy Veteran Eddie first saw the rusted hull of the U.S.S. Arizona in 1955. For years he had wanted to visit the Arizona Memorial to salute and pay homage to the sailor lost in Pearl Harbor. When he was ...

[Blog](#)

We Honor Veterans – Fall 2024 A POWERFUL FAMILY REUNION FOR A VETERAN HOSPICE PATIENT

U.S. Navy Veteran Kyu Cho was born in South Korea before moving to the United States. Kyu and his sister, Anna, had a very difficult upbringing. As a result, the pair forged a close bond. Their ...

[Blog](#)

[Newsletter](#)

Board Announcement: Rupa Dainer – October 2024 RUPA DAINER, MD, U.S. NAVY VETERAN AND ASTRAZENECA'S MEDICAL DIRECTOR, JOINS DREAM FOUNDATION BOARD

Santa Barbara, Calif. – Oct 2, 2024 – *PRLog* – Rupa Dainer, MD, U.S. Navy veteran and medical director, senior patient safety physician of AstaZeneca, has joined the Board of Directors of Dream ...

[PRLog.org](#)

[Montecito Journal - Online](#)

[Montecito Journal – Print](#)

[Voice News](#)

[Noozhawk](#)

[Santa Barbara Independent](#)

Dream: Keith Holiday – October 2024 MEBANE'S KEITH HOLIDAY GIVEN DREAM TRIP TO SEE PITTSBURGH STEELERS

Keith Holiday of Mebane, a 61-year-old Marine veteran and terminal cancer patient, had never had the chance to watch his favorite football team, the Pittsburgh Steelers, play live. Now, with just two ...

[The Alamance News](#)

PITTSBURGH STEELERS AND DREAM FOUNDATION GRANT FINAL DREAM FOR TERMINALLY-ILL MARINE VETERAN

Santa Barbara, Calif. – October 23, 2024 – *PRLog* -- 61-year-old Marine veteran Keith Holiday from Mebane, Nc., has never had the chance to watch his favorite team, the Pittsburgh Steelers, play live ...

[PRLog.org](#)

Dream: Michele Lefever – July 2024 DREAM FOUNDATION SENDS TERMINALLY- ILL ROCHELLE MOTHER, WIFE, ARMY VETERAN TO HAWAII

U.S. Army veteran Michele Lefever, 39, of Rochelle, has been granted a dream trip to Hawaii through Dreams for Veterans. Dreams for Veterans is a program of Dream Foundation, which fulfills final ...

[Brady Standard-Herald](#)

DREAM FOUNDATION SENDS TERMINALLY- ILL MOTHER, WIFE, AND U.S. ARMY VETERAN TO HAWAII

Santa Barbara, Calif. – July 9, 2024 – *PRLog* – 39-year-old U.S. Army veteran Michele Lefever has been granted a Dream trip to Hawaii through Dreams for Veterans. Dreams for Veterans is a ...

[PRLog.org](#)

NY1 – April 2024 DREAM FOUNDATION CELEBRATING ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY

This year marks 30 years of the Dream Foundation, an organization that grants dreams to terminally ill adults. Since 1994, the Dream Foundation has granted more than 35,000 dreams, according to ...

[Television Interview](#)

MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

We Honor Veterans – Spring 2024 WITH HELP FROM DREAM FOUNDATION, THE FINAL DREAMS OF TERMINALLY-ILL VETERANS COME TRUE

Why are final Dreams important for those facing the end of life? John, a member of the U.S. Air Force served in Vietnam, found himself haunted by memories of those who lost their lives during the ...

[Blog](#)
[Newsletter](#)

Dreams for Veterans – Advisory Council: Mike Edmondson

February 25, 2025

[Montecito Journal – online](#) (mentions DFV)

February 21, 2025 Issue, page 7

[The Voice](#) (mentions DFV)

February 20, 2025 Issue, page 35

[Montecito Journal - print](#) (mentions DFV)

February 14, 2025

[Ground News](#) (mentions DFV)

February 14, 2025

[Noozhawk](#) (mentions DFV)

February 12, 2025

[PRLog.com](#) (mentions DFV)

Dreams for Veterans – Advisory Council: Michael Flowers

February 4, 2025

[Montecito Journal - online](#) (mentions DFV)

January 30, 2025

[Montecito Journal – print, page 35](#) (mentions DFV)

January 23, 2025

[The Voice – page 6](#) (mentions DFV)

January 21, 2025

[PRLog.com](#) (mentions DFV)

LETTER OF SUPPORT FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

I wanted to echo Jaime's sentiments and express how deeply Kim's story moved me personally and professionally. The video captures her essence and enduring impact beautifully. Your team's thoughtfulness and care in fulfilling her final wishes epitomizes the compassionate service integral to healthcare and beyond.

While VA's mission centers on supporting veteran well-being, we recognize that the definition of service and sacrifice knows no bounds. Kim gave so much of herself for fellow citizens. Her tireless advocacy and commitment warrant every measure of recognition, gratitude and honor we can provide.

Please know that in elevating stories like Kim's - which showcase humanity at its most generous and resilient - you help ensure a legacy far outlasting any one individual. I have no doubt her memory and message will resound for all privileged to learn about this extraordinary woman.

I would gladly share this video throughout our sphere of influence to uplift Kim's example as inspiration transcending circumstance. It underscores the power of perseverance, empathy and goodwill we all aspire to embody through public service. I look forward to your future works spotlighting veteran voices and virtues too.

Thank you for allowing us to celebrate a life exceptionally lived and imparting lessons that will linger long after. Please know I remain an eager advocate of the transformative storytelling you facilitate.

Prince Taylor

Prince Taylor, Ed.D.

Senior Strategic Advisor (detail), Office of the Secretary | Center for Minority Veterans



VETERANS HONORING VETERANS

Rupa Dainer served as a U.S. Navy physician for over 17 years. Today, she serves on the Veterans Advisory Council for the Dreams for Veterans program.

Dainer notes that many Dream requests reflect veterans' concern for their loved ones. "Even when they are in a situation in which their death is imminent, whether in the field of combat or their regular lives, veterans still think of others—their brothers and sisters in arms or their families and friends—above themselves."

A glance through the application letters that Dream Foundation receives each week demonstrates this. Recently, a terminally-ill U.S. Army veteran wrote in asking for help to take his son to an NFL game. "I can't see him graduate or be a dad, but if I can, I'd like to spend this time with him on a weekend, so he has good times to remember me by," the veteran wrote.

PROGRAM LEADERSHIP

VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL

CHRIS FREEMAN, CHAIR
INDIANA
CCO, Guardant Health
U.S. Army

CHAD BLOMGREN
In Memoriam

HOWARD CRAWFORD
PENNSYLVANIA
President, Patriotic Solutions
U.S. Air Force (Ret.)

RUPA DAINER, MD
WASHINGTON, D.C.
AbbVie
U.S. Navy

MIKE EDMONDSON
MARYLAND
Commercial VP, Amgen
U.S. Marine Corps

MICHAEL FLOWERS
CALIFORNIA
Celltrion USA
U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.)

DAN MCCORMICK
NORTH CAROLINA
Chief Commercial Officer,
Promaxo
U.S. Marine Corps

SCOTT O'NEAL
VIRGINIA
Deloitte
U.S. Army (Ret.)

COREY PADOVANO
CALIFORNIA
Revanco
U.S. Army

SCOTT ST. GERMAIN
CALIFORNIA
VP, Managed Care, Genentech
U.S. Army

**CHASE WILLIAMS, PHARM.D.,
MBA**
ILLINOIS
Gilead Sciences
U.S. Army

DREAMS FOR VETERANS HONORARY COMMITTEE



GEN SCOTT WALLACE
U.S. Army



SECRETARY WILL GRIMSLEY
MG U.S. Army



CSM DAVE DAVENPORT
U.S. Army



COL NICOLE MALACHOWSKI
U.S. Air Force



SCOTT O'NEAL
U.S. Army (R)



JOHN PAUL DEJORIA
U.S. Navy



CHRIS FREEMAN
U.S. Army



GREGG BIGGER
U.S. Marine Corps



SANDI AND BILL NICHOLSON
U.S. Air Force



PRISCILLA PRESLEY



KATHY IRELAND



FRED GORDON



GREG KUSHNER



JILLIAN MULLER