WWP News & Media: Veteran Group Outings, Charity Events, Helping Vets

Wounded Veterans Enjoy a Night of Bowling with the Stars in the Windy City with Wounded Warrior Project

Over 200 Veterans, Caregivers, Family Members, and Supporters Enjoy an Evening of Fun with the National Nonprofit

**CHICAGO** (November 18, 2015) – Veterans from the Chicago area were treated to a night of bowling, fun, and camaraderie as part of the annual Wounded Warrior Project® (WWP) "Stars and Strikes" event. Over 200 injured veterans, caregivers, and family members had the chance to spend time with various Chicago--area celebrities,

including mascots and players from the Chicago Cubs and Chicago Fire, who were there to show their appreciation for the sacrifices made by our nation's veterans.

"It was great to catch up with old friends that I've met with WWP and spend time with my fellow Veterans," said WWP Alumnus and United States Marine Corps Veteran, Robert Morales

The event was offered as part of the WWP Alumni Program, which creates support through shared experiences. WWP provides long--term support and camaraderie by bringing injured veterans together. Many service members face similar challenges adjusting to their injuries and civilian life, and by bonding at events and programs, these veterans can learn they are not alone. The Alumni program is one of 20 free programs and services offered to wounded service members.

Through its #VeteransDayIs social campaign, WWP encouraged Americans to support injured veterans by posting what #VeteransDayIs to them. Supporters engaged through various social platforms, including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Periscope, and Google+.

Recently, WWP released the 2015 annual Wounded Warrior Project Alumni Survey, which surveyed tens of thousands of injured veterans. Based on the responses of more than 23,000 wounded service members, it includes the largest sample size of veterans injured since 9/11 and is the most statistically relevant survey response of that population to date. The year--over--year data provided by this survey allows WWP to establish a baseline, identify trends, compare these outcomes with those of other military populations, and measure the impact of and inform changes to WWP programs and services.

As part of its ongoing commitment to provide for those who have honorably served this country, WWP will launch a first--of--its--kind medical care network in 2016, Warrior Care Network™, to connect wounded veterans and their families with world--class, individualized mental health care. Warrior Care Network will increase access to quality care for two of the most commonly experienced wounds of the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan: post--traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and traumatic brain injury (TBI). WWP and its Warrior Care Network partners will commit \$100 million over three years to ensure that thousands of wounded veterans do not fall through the cracks.

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## **About Wounded Warrior Project**

The mission of Wounded Warrior Project® (WWP) is to honor and empower Wounded Warriors. WWP's purpose is to raise awareness and to enlist the public's aid for the needs of injured service members, to help injured servicemen and women aid and assist each other, and to provide unique, direct programs and services to meet their needs. WWP is a national, nonpartisan organization headquartered in Jacksonville, Florida. To get involved and learn more, visit woundedwarriorproject.org

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