

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

Veterans Give Back to Beachgoers with Wounded Warrior Project **Cleanup Collaboration Makes Beach More Beautiful**

SAN DIEGO, July 13, 2016 /[PRNewswire-USNewswire](#)/ -- When taking a trip to the beach, picking up trash may not be the first thing that comes to mind, but 30 veterans and their family members gathered to do just that during a recent program with Wounded Warrior Project® (WWP) and partner organizations Team Rubicon and The Mission Continues.

"I've always been a person who has wanted to give a helping hand to any cause that will benefit another person," said Jesus Perez, Army veteran. "WWP programs help me heal my injuries by connecting my mind and spirit."

During the beach cleanup, warriors had a chance to learn about other WWP opportunities that help with mental and physical healing, as well as socialization with other veterans who share experiences.

"When I sign up for WWP programs, I look to be part of a team and have that bond I had with my military buddies. It helps me get through the hardships of returning home from war," Jesus said.

After cleaning the beach, the warriors gathered to enjoy lunch together. With slightly overcast weather, everyone was able to relax and have a good time in a comfortable environment.

"Being part of a collective movement was inspiring," said James Starks, Marine veteran.

Sharing this outing with warriors from WWP and other groups ultimately created a stronger connection for the participants.

"Many warriors in attendance were from different organizations, however, there was one mission – cleaning our community beach," James said.

For years, WWP has worked alongside other veterans service organizations (VSO) to help meet the needs of wounded veterans in local communities, understanding that together, the nonprofits have a much stronger chance of supporting wounded veterans and transforming communities by combining resources and outreach efforts.

With this beach cleanup happening four times a year, veterans can get together on a regular basis, which helps them maintain that sense of purpose they get from giving back to others.

"Being able to reconnect with my military family through WWP is what sustains me and lets me know I'm not alone," Jesus said. "The inseparable bond we will always have for one another is why we do what we do."

About Wounded Warrior Project

The mission of Wounded Warrior Project® (WWP) is to honor and empower Wounded Warriors. The WWP 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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SOURCE Wounded Warrior Project

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