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

Veterans Tour Hollywood-Famous Hawaii Ranch with Wounded Warrior Project

HONOLULU, Jan. 4, 2017 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Wounded Warrior Project[®] (WWP) veterans and family members recently spent a day exploring a movie-famous stretch of land at Kualoa Ranch in Honolulu. The event was one of WWP's gatherings that educates warriors, their families, and caregivers about additional programs and services to help in the recovery process, creates support through shared experiences, and builds camaraderie by connecting injured veterans to one another and warrior families.

Often, the road to recovery begins by getting out of the house. WWP program events and activities are held in settings that accommodate physical injuries and social anxieties and introduce warriors to the benefits of connecting with other injured veterans and getting involved with their communities.

During the two-hour all-terrain vehicle (ATV) tour of Kualoa Ranch, participants learned the location is well-known in Hollywood, having earned its fame as the awe-inspiring backdrop to movies such as "Jurassic Park," "Jurassic World," "50 First Dates," "Godzilla," and the most recent movie, "Jumanji 2." Warriors and their family members created new connections with one another as they zipped through the mud on their ATVs.

In a <u>WWP survey</u> of the injured warriors it serves, more than half of survey respondents (51.7 percent) talked with fellow Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or Operation New Dawn veterans to address their mental health issues.

"Establishing the warrior-to-warrior support structure in the civilian world is vital as veterans rely upon one another's learned experiences when managing day-to-day challenges," said WWP CEO Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Mike Linnington. "Thanks to the generous support of donors, WWP is able to support more than 100,000 warriors and their family members."

WWP offers a variety of programs and services that assist injured veterans with mental health, physical health and wellness, career and benefits counseling, and connecting with other warriors and their communities. These resources empower warriors to achieve educational and employment goals, maintain independence, and stay connected with their families, communities, and one another. Generous donors make it possible for wounded warriors to take part in connection activities and benefit from program resources at no cost to them.

To learn more about how WWP's programs and services are making an impact on the lives of wounded warriors, visit https://newsroom.woundedwarriorproject.org/.

About Wounded Warrior Project

We Connect, Serve, and Empower

The mission of Wounded Warrior Project[®] (WWP) is to honor and empower Wounded Warriors. WWP connects wounded warriors and their families to valuable resources and one another, serves them through a variety of free programs and services, and empowers them to live life on their own terms. WWP is a national, nonpartisan organization headquartered in Jacksonville, Florida. To get involved and learn more, visit woundedwarriorproject.org.

For further information: Vesta M. Anderson - Public Relations Specialist, Email: vanderson@woundedwarriorproject.org, Phone: 904.570.0771

Additional assets available online: <u>Video (1)</u>

 $\underline{https://newsroom.woundedwarriorproject.org/2017-01-04-Veterans-Tour-Hollywood-Famous-Hawaii-Ranch-with-Wounded-Warrior-Project}$