WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES

FISCAL YEAR 2019 IMPACT REPORT

WOUNDED WARRIOR

YOLANDA POULLARD AND HER FAMILY
Yolanda Poullard was forever changed by the constant danger and battlefield horrors in Iraq. When she returned home to the States, survivor’s guilt and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) didn’t just haunt her, they consumed her life. “I couldn’t function. All I would do was sleep or sit in a chair.”

Then Yolanda learned about the Wounded Warrior Project® (WWP) Warrior Care Network® program and finally reached out for help. Warrior Care Network provides warriors like Yolanda with a year’s worth of care and a path to long-term wellness during a two- to three-week intensive outpatient program. While other types of counseling had made Yolanda feel better during sessions, she felt lost and unable to cope when she was at home. She feels Warrior Care Network was the difference she needed to finally make real, life-changing progress. “They give you a bag of tools and skills that you can take and apply at home and in your new life,” she says.

Yolanda credits that one phone call with helping her get her life back. Today, she gives back by helping underprivileged kids and adults suffering with PTSD and substance abuse problems. “We’re all in this together,” Yolanda says. “Let’s help one another through it. We can make it out of this dark tunnel together.”

“Wounded Warrior Project gave me my life back so I could be a mother, a wife, a daughter, and a sister.”
Mission:

to honor and empower wounded warriors.
Wounded Warrior Project® (WWP) began in 2003 as a small, grassroots effort providing simple care and comfort items to the hospital bedsides of the first wounded service members returning home from the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. As their post-service needs evolved, so have our programs and services, which include mental health, career counseling, and long-term rehabilitative care — improving the lives of millions of warriors and their families.

This effort requires the passion and commitment of friends, supporters, and like-minded organizations who enable us to fulfill our mission and guarantee, as much as possible, that when those who serve come home, they’re afforded every opportunity to be as successful as a civilian as they were in the military.

Connection

No one knows what a warrior is going through better than someone who has been there. WWP helps warriors by providing a network of support and connecting them with other veterans through community events and peer support groups.

THE NEED

43% OF WARRIORS FEEL ISOLATED FROM OTHERS*

“I’m not as timid around people anymore. I automatically feel comfortable around other warriors, because we know we have that bond.”

— Wounded Warrior Lisa Crutch

OUR IMPACT

EVENTS, HELD DAILY ACROSS THE COUNTRY, PROVIDED VITAL OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT WARRIORS TO THEIR PEERS AND COMMUNITIES†

WARRIOR-ONLY PEER-TO-PEER SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS HELD†
This generation’s signature wounds of war often can't be seen. WWP offers wounded warriors and their families lifesaving programs that help them manage PTSD, TBI, combat stress, and other conditions and help them thrive in their next missions.

**Mental Health & Wellness**

**THE NEED**

- **91%**
  - Of warriors live with mental health conditions that are considered severe — with most experiencing more than one*

- "Being part of the Warrior Care Network was a turning point in my life. Now I am much more independent. I can go to the store and be in crowds on my own."
  — Wounded Warrior Jason Major

**OUR IMPACT**

- **72,000+**
  - Hours of PTSD treatment delivered through the Warrior Care Network® program†

- **14,500+**
  - Emotional support calls conducted, improving the psychological well-being of 70% of warriors and family members†

**Physical Health & Wellness**

**THE NEED**

- **88%**
  - Of warriors are overweight or obese*

- "WWP Physical Health and Wellness programs have gotten me off the couch and out of my head. They have allowed me to create bonds and friendships with a community I didn’t know was out there when I retired."
  — Wounded Warrior Chris Wolff

**OUR IMPACT**

- **9 LBS.**
  - On average lost by participants in 90-day physical health coaching program†

- **55%**
  - Experienced a reduction in pain, reducing the interference of physical injuries on daily life†
Wounded Warrior Shane Parsons

WWP knows that the time after service can feel like a whirlwind, from navigating VA benefits to successfully forging a new career. We provide the resources and assistance to help warriors live financially resilient lives and achieve their highest ambitions.

The Need

11.5% UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR WOUNDED, ILL, OR INJURED WARRIORS*

(DOWN FROM 20% IN 2014, BUT STILL 3X THE NATIONAL AVERAGE)

“WWP helped me find my dream job and empowered me to help other warriors.”
— Wounded Warrior Michael Carrasquillo

Our Impact

$131M IN ECONOMIC IMPACT AS A RESULT OF OVER 21,000 VA BENEFITS ISSUES AWARDED†

$87.8M ECONOMIC IMPACT FROM ALMOST 2,000 JOB PLACEMENTS FOR WARRIORS AND FAMILY MEMBERS THROUGH THE WARRIORS TO WORK® PROGRAM†

Independence

Through the WWP Independence Program, the most severely injured warriors are provided resources and support to help them live a more independent life, on their own terms and at home instead of in a long-term care facility.

The Need

32% OF WARRIORS NEED THE AID AND ATTENDANCE OF ANOTHER PERSON BECAUSE OF THEIR INJURIES AND HEALTH PROBLEMS*

“I’m grateful that we have an organization like WWP. I want to regain what I used to have that I sacrificed for my country. I want that independence, and WWP gives that back to me.”
— Wounded Warrior Shane Parsons

Our Impact

220,000 HOURS OF CASE MANAGEMENT, LIFE SKILLS COACHING, AND ALTERNATIVE THERAPIES PROVIDED TO THE MOST SEVERELY INJURED VETERANS ENROLLED AND PARTICIPATING IN THE INDEPENDENCE PROGRAM†
As a voice for our nation's wounded warriors in Washington, DC, we fight to address the issues that matter most to them. Using warriors' feedback and insights, the WWP Government Affairs team advocates for veteran policies and initiatives that make a real difference, improving the lives of millions of warriors and their families.

Wounded Warrior Project FY19 Impact Report

Wounded Warrior Project® (WWP) believes that no one organization can meet all the needs of wounded, injured, or ill veterans alone. By collaborating with other military and veteran support organizations, we amplify the effects of our efforts. Our investments and unfunded partnerships in the military and veteran community fill gaps in our programs and reinforce our existing efforts.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- **Led the effort** to introduce the Ryan Kules and Paul Benne Specially Adaptive Housing Improvement Act of 2019, which will increase the amount of money available to severely injured veterans to renovate their homes to accommodate their needs.

- **Convened** the Toxic Exposures in the American Military (TEAM) coalition to collect data, promote research, and draft legislation to assist veterans made ill by toxic exposures due to their military service.

- **Drafted legislation** to expand commissary, military exchange, and morale, welfare, and recreation (MWR) privileges to 4.1 million people — the largest expansion of commissary benefits in 60 years.

- **Partnered** with 26 organizations, ensuring warriors have access to resources that meet their evolving needs.

- **Strategically expanded** investments to focus on curbing homelessness and increasing opportunities for women veterans.
Warriors never pay a penny for our programs — they paid their dues on the battlefield. When they’re ready to start their next missions, we stand ready to serve.

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*SOURCE: WOUNDED WARRIOR PROJECT ANNUAL WARRIOR SURVEY
†SOURCE: WOUNDED WARRIOR PROJECT FISCAL YEAR 2019 — OCTOBER 1, 2018 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2019 — PROGRAMMATIC IMPACT DATA