Air Warrior Courage Foundation
Wounded Warrior Emergency Support Fund

www.airwarriorcourage.org  CFC#11450  Presented by David Brog, Executive Director
AWCF

• Background
• Programs
• Activities
• Rating
• Summary
AWCF Background

Pardo’s Push

A battle-damaged F-4 and its crew were in danger of bailing out over North Vietnam
AWCF Background

- Years after the war, Earl contracted Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), Lou Gehrig's disease.
- Bob Pardo and Hugh Morrison, both River Rats, set up a foundation to help Earl.
  - to obtain certain medical help and equipment such as a special van and a specially designed computer
  - to obtain items that the US government, by law and regulation, could not supply.
Colonel Judith “Legs” Hanson - Goddess of Aerovac
- Flight nurse on second Hanoi Taxi
- Retired 26 June 1998, died 9 February 1999
- Contracted leukemia, needed special equipment which could not be provided through other sources.
AWCF Background

- In 1998, the Air Warrior Courage Foundation (AWCF) was formed by the membership of the Red River Valley Fighter Pilots Association (RRVA).
- In recognition of problems being increasingly faced by active, retired and former members of U.S. military, their families and our nation at large.
- Set up to do what the RRVA could not do.
  - Under IRS rules RRVA is a “membership” organization, and consequently, is limited in its charitable fund raising and program potential.
  - AWCF was created to “care for our own” in areas that the USG could not, as Bob Pardo's and Hugh Morrison’s foundation did for Earl and Judith.
  - This has evolved to providing the same kind of care to the current generation of Warriors and their families.
AWCF Programs
Therapeutic Riding

• A major program throughout the country

• Over 800 dependent children of active duty members have received the benefits
  – Children with cerebral palsy, autism, cystic fibrosis or other certain emotional or physical problems.
  – Each case screened by a volunteer RR MD

• This activity is not covered by normal military dependent medical care.

• The therapy has helped these children to adapt to their surroundings and grow emotionally.
AWCF Programs
Section 529 Qualified Tuition Plans

- Provide seed money for Scholarship Plans that can grow with further contributions from others, under Section 529 of Internal Revenue Code.
- For the children of aviators killed in air incidents.
- Since then, we have initiated over 164 plans for children of lost airmen.
- These are separate and different from the River Rat scholarship program.
AWCF Programs
Special Financial Support

• Provide financial support in areas that the US government cannot.

• Personal items such as computers, clothing, groceries and transportation

• Wounded Warriors’ families at major military hospitals not covered by dependent care - Non-dependent medical assistance, travel and housing where, when necessary to visit wounded family members.
AWCF Programs
Special Financial Support

• EMERGENCY SUPPORT FOR THE PARENTS OF THE WOUNDED
  – Medical (not covered by insurance) 62 Mothers
  – Emergency Dental Procedures for 17 Mothers

• EMERGENCY BILLETING
  – Parents/Siblings Not Covered 466 Cases

• EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE GRANTS
  – Money for Necessities for more than 3000 Wounded
AWCF Special Support

- Moore, Oklahoma Tornado Support
  - Worked through Tinker AFB staff
  - Helped 80 military families with $45K
AWCF Source of Funds

- RRVA Members
- Various RRVA Fund Raising efforts including golf tournaments and concerts
- Combined Federal Campaign, #11450
- Private and Corporate Donations
The AWCF has also hosted BBQs and buffets at various installations providing as many as 300 Warriors and family members at each event with a respite from the hospital rehabilitation scene.

Super Bowl Party
AWCF Activities
Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

- Financial support to troops and families
- Activities at Tranquility Hall, Bldg. 62 - 700 Family and Members Have Participated

Monthly Crafts

Eagle Cane Presentation
AWCF Activities
Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

• Hand Carved Wooden Canes given to more than 300 Wounded
AWCF Activities
San Antonio Military Medical Center

• Ralph Parr RRVA pack has provided over $1.2M over past 9 years
  – Financial support to troops and family
  – Morale trips for Wounded Warriors
• Work with other RRVA Packs
• Visit to Johnson Space Center
• Scuba Diving in Panama City
• Ralph Parr RRVA Christmas Hope Program - $300,000 to 495 families and 1047 children
AWCF Activities
San Antonio Military Medical Center

- RECREATIONAL THERAPY
  - Fishing Tournaments  96 Wounded
  - Sled Hockey        105 Wounded
  - Scuba Training     281 Wounded
  - Ski Trips / Other Trips 276 Wounded
  - Wives (1 Week Getaway) 14 Wives
AWCF Activities
San Antonio Military Medical Center

- Recreational Trips for 300+ Wounded
  - Rafting
  - Skiing
  - Visit to Galveston
AWCF Activities
San Antonio Military Medical Center

• Adaptive sports programs
• Archery program produced a National Champion in a disability category
• Scuba diving program has qualified 281 for open water
• Lawn care program for severely disabled 947 lawns
## AWCF Rating

CharityNavigator.com rates AWCF the #1 charity under $2M

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Performance Metric</th>
<th>Score</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Expenses <em>(Percent of the charity’s budget spent on the programs and services it delivers)</em></td>
<td>97.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative Expenses</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising Expenses</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising Efficiency</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Primary Revenue Growth</td>
<td>44.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Expenses Growth</td>
<td>23.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Working Capital Ratio (years)</td>
<td>1.68</td>
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## AWCF Rating Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Charity Name</th>
<th>Overall Score Out of 70</th>
<th>Overall Rating</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Air Warrior Courage Foundation - MD</td>
<td>99.78</td>
<td>4 Stars</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wounded Warrior Project - FL</td>
<td>84.39</td>
<td>3 Stars</td>
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<tr>
<td>DAV (Disabled American Veterans) Charitable Service Trust - KY</td>
<td>91.25</td>
<td>4 Stars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fisher House Foundation - MD</td>
<td>99.62</td>
<td>4 Stars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USO - VA</td>
<td>83.79</td>
<td>3 Stars</td>
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AWCF
Wounded Warrior Emergency Support Fund
Summary

• The CFC has us rated at 97%
• #11450
• We do what the USG cannot do
  - Support wounded warriors and their families in many areas
  - Provide educational funds through Section 529 plans
  - Provide therapeutic riding
• Expanding activities to meet needs
• Growing cooperation with Gary Sinise Foundation