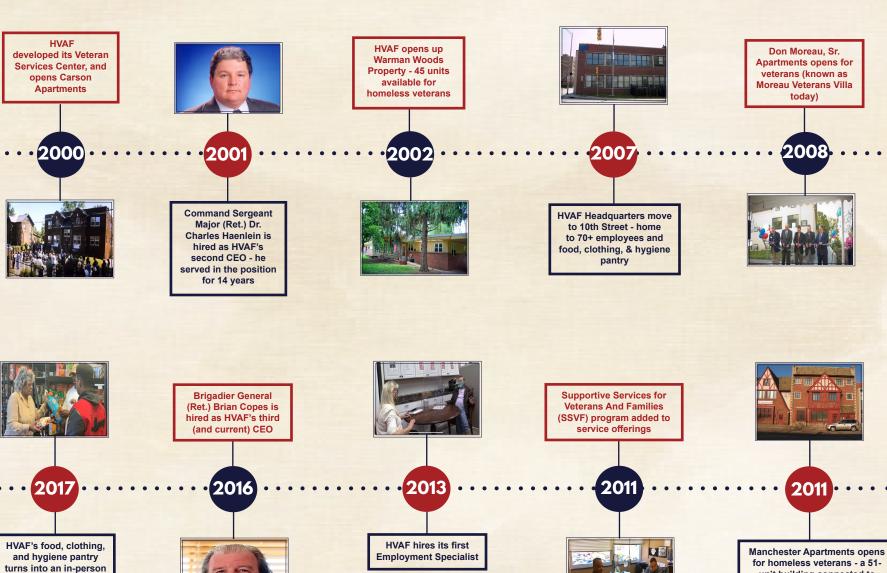


# 25+ YEARS serving

# **HVAF** opens its first Case management home and serves its is made available first veteran to veterans 1993 1997 Colonel (Ret.) Don incorporated as Moreau is hired as a Far From Home **HVAF's first CEO** Chapter

# HOOSIER HEROES



COVID-19 pandemic hits - but HVAF pushes through and provides 33,000+ services to 1,400+ veterans





Don Moreau, Sr. Apts gets remodeled and turns into **Permanent Supportive Housing** unit known as Veterans Villa

2020



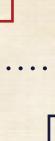
**HVAF** receives funding from

The Indianapolis Housing

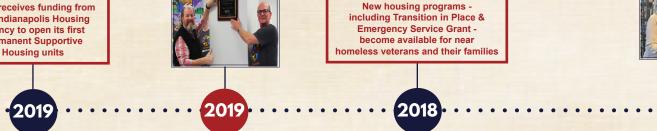
Agency to open its first

**Permanent Supportive** 

Housing units



Thanks to Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance - HVAF opens its first hospitality room for veterans to eat snacks, play games, and watch television





The Loyd House,

named after

co-founder Louise

Loyd, opened for all

female veterans

shopping experience for veterans





unit building connected to **HVAF's Headquarters** 

The photos throughout this report are the veterans we've served. We are thankful for their vulnerability and strength to share their story with us.

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1 in 10

LETTER FROM **OUR BOARD** 





**HOMELESS HOOSIERS** 











PERSPECTIVE 22

FINANCIAI **REPORT** 

2020 OUTCOMES



2020 **DONORS** 

> 26 2020 TRIBUTES

> > 28

2020 **IN-KIND DONORS** 

**VETERANS** 

# WE ARE WORKING TO CHANGE THAT.

Since 1993, HVAF has been helping homeless veterans return to self-sufficiency and engages at-risk veterans and their families to prevent them from becoming homeless by providing supportive housing assistance, case management, employment support, and basic needs including food, hygiene and clothing. In 2020, we served 1,453 veterans and provided over 33,000 life-changing services!

# A MESSAGE FROM THE **BOARD CHAIRMAN TONY VESPA**



It is a privilege, a blessing, and a truly humbling experience to serve on Team HVAF - witnessing the relentless pursuit of the HVAF Mission by the staff, volunteers, board, and donors. I offer my sincerest thanks to all who have donated their time and treasure to the Team, with a special thanks to the HVAF staff who have made it their life's work to Serve our brothers and sisters in need.

The preceding two years demonstrated the Team's ability to grow, expand its reach, and overcome great adversity. These accomplishments are not easily achieved and are a testament to the professionalism, dedication, talent, and generosity of the Team. Every contribution, of time. treasure, and talent, no matter the size nor the status or rank of the person contributing, plays an invaluable role in executing our Mission. I thank all those that have generously given, and I humbly challenge everyone that can, (to quote a former commanding officer).... To do more.

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# **BRIAN COPES** Brigadier General, Army (Retired)

# LETTER FROM PRESIDENT & CEO

Thank you to our professional workforce, our engaged Directors, our faithful volunteers, our generous donors, and our loyal partners. COVID-19 distracted us from getting out last year's annual report, so my highlights include both 2019 and 2020.

I offer my highest praise and deepest gratitude for the dedication, passion, agility, flexibility, grit, and perseverance of each member of our extended Team HVAF – our resilient and tenacious employees, Directors, volunteers, donors, vendors, and partners who unceasingly served our veterans during a sustained period of predictable unpredictability. Well done, good and faithful teammates.

Strategically, we remain unwaveringly aligned with our original 1993 mission to serve homeless veterans and those at risk of becoming homeless but... we continue to expand and enhance how we address the underlying causes which contribute to homelessness. Looking ahead, we are broadening our employment and workforce development efforts and beginning to envision a holistic approach to veteran well-being.

Organizationally, we implemented a "soft re-branding" of the agency by retaining the well-recognized H-V-A-F logo and re-phrasing our tagline to Helping Veterans And Families and... by working to eliminate the difficult-to-say/hear "AICH-VAF" pronunciation of our acronym (which 8 of 10 ears seemed to hear as HVAC and misidentified us as a Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning company).

Operationally, we increased client-facing staffing and expanded housing and assistance options; we upgraded facilities, fixtures, and furniture to mitigate the spread of COVID-19; upgraded broadband services to enhance client access to telehealth; we replaced appliances to improve client quality-of-life; broke ground on our first-ever affordable housing project; and this year, we are deploying a cutting-edge financial management system and modern payroll processing system. We just hired the first of two therapists who will focus on post-traumatic stress (PTSD), suicide prevention, cognitive impacts of traumatic brain injury (TBI), military sexual trauma, moral injury, and transition stress/anxiety.

Culturally, we were a first-time selection as a Best Places to Work in Indiana by the Indiana Chamber of Commerce. We recently selected a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DE&I) consultant to partner with us in assessing our workplace climate; developing and deploying a cultural competency curriculum; and serving as an as-needed independent grievance and conflict resolution system. We added dental and vision coverage; launched our first-ever Employee Assistance Program (EAP); and are evaluating options for an employer-matched 401(k) retirement plan.

Financially, we strengthened our fiscal position and are debt-free as an agency. An anonymous donor paid off our \$1.2M mortgage; the VA forgave us a roughly \$900K capital grant repayment obligation on our second largest property; and we have more than \$5M in our endowment, established in 2019 thanks to the generosity of Lilly Endowment, Inc.

On April 01, 2021 we launched our Veterans Workforce Opportunities Renewing Knowledge and Skills (VetWorks) workforce development program. VetWorks is made possible by a 5-year, \$4.7M grant from Lilly Endowment, Inc. as part of their Enhancing Opportunity in Indianapolis initiative. Looking ahead, we are pursuing accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) which will improve us as an agency, enhance our brand, and improve our competitiveness for future federal grants. We are also pursuing a Better Business Bureau (BBB) accreditation to further enhance the perceived value of our brand and expand awareness of our agency.

Thanks again to the many, many friends of veterans I am privileged to partner with daily. I count it a blessing to work alongside such dedicated and passionate professionals joined in common cause to support and encourage those who have served and sacrificed to protect our freedoms, our values, and our American way of life.

"This past year has allowed us the opportunity to examine our services to identify new and unique ways of meeting the needs of our veterans, even amidst a pandemic. HVAF served more veterans than ever before, provided more individual services than ever before, and were able to help more veterans gain employment than ever before. Even when the landscape all around looked bleak, HVAF aimed to serve as a beacon of hope for all the veterans in our community."

> -Bryan Dyser **VP.** Operations



Team HVAF positively impacts the lives of #HoosierHeroes in need day in and day out, and the Advancement Team has the distinct privilege of sharing that impact throughout our community. Need has never been greater, but the support received by our generous donors has allowed those needs to be met. Despite a world-wide pandemic, we continued to create new partnerships and further develop existing relationships to better serve and support our veterans in new and inspiring ways. These efforts resulted in individual giving exceeding previous years and more diversified sources of funding for our life-changing services and programs."



-Ashlee Walls P, Advancement

"Although 2020 will be remembered as the year of COVID. the support team was able to take full advantage of a number of grants aimed at reducing the risk of COVID at our headquarter building and properties. A remodeled front lobby gave us a sterile environment for employees and more professional look. Carpet was replaced in our headquarters and our apartment building known as Veterans Villa with LVT flooring. Touchless fixtures for sinks, toilets and towel dispensers at our congregate living facilities and headquarters were installed. Grant money also helped us improve the IT infrastructure at most of our properties. The support team takes great pride in our properties and works tirelessly every day to give our veterans a place to call home, worthy of the dignity and respect our veterans deserve."



Bernie Kruse

"In 2020, our personnel team worked to create and sustain a safe and healthy work environment for our employees as we navigated the pandemic. We developed remote working policies, additional health and safety protocols, and continued to provide flexible working arrangements for our team. The pandemic didn't halt our growth as we experienced a hiring surge mid-year. Due to new and expanding programs, we added 10 new positions to the team. The personnel team will continue its focus on creating a positive employee experience!"

Sammy Mitchell

**RESPECT:** 

**VETERANS PROTECT OUR FREEDOMS** 

**DIGNITY:** 

**EVERYONE HAS VALUE** 

**COLLABORATION:** 

TEAMWORK AND PARTNERSHIP WITH, AND FOR, OUR

CLIENTS

**HONESTY:** 

TRUTH AND TRANSPARENCY

PROFESSIONALISM:

**RIGHT WORDS AND ACTIONS** 

**POSITIVE EXPERIENC** 



"In 2019. HVAF received an extraordinary, anonymous gift of \$1.1M to relieve the agency of its mortgage liabilities. Eliminating the mortgage expense allowed HVAF to allocate funds to other areas of operations to further support our honorable clients. In 2020, additional funding made available by the Department of Veteran Affairs, United Way, LEI, and other agencies, HVAF was able to expand its reach within the community and assist those



impacted by the ongoing pandemic."

"HVAF's Veteran Community Center team displayed enormous professionalism throughout 2020 in response to COVID-19. The team never missed an outreach day and continued to provide basic needs assistance to veterans during uncertain times. Masked up and outdoors for many months, the team bravely continued to do what HVAF does best—serve our veterans! Strategically, the agency

continues to expand services to veterans, breaking ground on our first Low Income Housing Tax Credit development project and successfully obtaining a grant for a multi-phase workforce development program to train and equip veterans to obtain good and promising jobs."

> Emmy Hildebrand **VP, Strategy**



# IN JANUARY 2019, PAMELA CAME TO HVAF AS A HOMELESS VETERAN. NINE MONTHS LATER, SHE RECEIVED THE KEYS TO HER OWN HOME.

In January, Army veteran Pamela reached out to HVAF for help.

She had lost her job and needed a home. HVAF case manager, Amanda, moved Pamela into one of its transitional houses, and helped her obtain her social security and disability benefits.

"When I started here, I didn't have too many goals or know where I was supposed to go," Pamela said. "HVAF has really helped me to accomplish my goals."

She also said she loved being at HVAF because of the special perks: free haircuts, spa days, a hospitality room where she can watch movies with other veterans, a computer lab where she can work on her resume, and the yummy cookouts.

After nine months, Pamela received disability benefits and moved into her own home!

"This is a day I will never forget," Pamela said, as she opened the door into her new apartment in downtown Indianapolis. "I want to thank everyone for helping me get to this place."

After settling into her new place, Pamela's time at HVAF isn't finished. When our Hospitality Room was open (it is currently closed due to COVID-19), Pamela's smiling face was always there - ready to spend time with any veteran who walked through the doors. Not only did she hang out with the veterans, but she also kept the room clean and the coffee & snack bar stocked. She loved the idea of being able to give back to those who gave to her.

Pamela highly recommends HVAF to any veteran: whether they are homeless, about to lose their home, or just need someone to talk to.

"I want to thank everyone for the opportunities that they have given us. It makes us (me) feel better: as a woman, a veteran, a mother, a sister, a daughter," Pamela said. "Sometimes it's overwhelming, and when you know that you have a place where you don't have to worry about being kicked out, and you have a food pantry, clothes pantry, anything you need... HVAF has really given us the opportunity to be a person, as well as a vet."

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directly impact HVAF's programs, services, and outreach efforts. This list reflects all monetary donations from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019.

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Each year, the Indiana Podiatry Group provides THOUSANDS of socks for our veterans. In 2019, they collected more than 5,300 pairs!

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David Wilson Andrea Worlock John Wright

## **ORGANIZATIONS**

10 O'Clock Line Chapter - Daughters of the American Revolution 4-H Fishing Team 5.11 Tactical 500 Festival Abundant Life Church Allegion Allied Universal Security Amazing Grace Christian Church

American Association of University

American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 205 American Legion Auxiliary Unit 500

Andrea Sloan Edward Sluder Sidney Smith American Legion Post 3 American Legion Post 34 American Legion Post 464

American Legion Post 497 American Legion Post 500 Tom & Susan Such American Legion Riders Post 103

Juan & Rose Talamantes Cindy Taylor James Taylor Diane Terwilliger Isaac Thompson

Karen Thompson Kathy Thompson Kitty Thompson Le-Angela Thompson Laura Todd

Katie Toman Richard Van Dyke Anthony Vespa Tom & Michele Vlasio

Jennifer Wagner Dawn Walker

Angel Nance

Mattie Nieves

Andrew Noga

Jim & Joanne Norton

Becky O'Connor

Scott Paciorek

Rae Pearson

Greg Papagiannis

Lawrence Paynter

Chimezie Okolocha

Kiara Walker Sandy Walker Ashlee Walls Eileen Walters Monica Washburn Wayne Wellington Sandy Welter Teresa White

East 91st St. Christian Church Jack & Julia Wickes Patti Wierzbicki Ricki Wilkinson Fishers

Maxine Woodmore Sharon Wycoff

Amazon INDI Warriors

American Freedom Distillery/Horse Solider Bourbon

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 145 American Legion Auxiliary Unit 155 American Legion Auxiliary Unit 182

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 355 American Legion Auxiliary Unit 495 American Legion Auxiliary Unit 497

Janice Sitzhugh American Legion Post 155 American Legion Post 230 American Legion Post 276

Terry Snyder Chuck Spencer Dorothy St. Martin

Alvin Stewart American Legion Post 495 Lisa Stillite Jeff & Donna Stroude

Michael Sullivan American Legion Riders Post 497 American Legion Wayne Post 64

Angels in the Outfield Anonymous AUSA Indiana Chapter Bethel United Methodist Church Blue Star Hoosier Mothers Chapter 3

Bones Body Shop Brooklyn Christian Church

Buffalo Wild Wings #339 **BWQOHT** Calvary Temple, The Caring Place Church Caroline Scott Harrison Chapter NSDAR

Central Indiana CPCU Society Charles Schwah Circle City Corvette Club

Circle City Sound Premier Men's Chorus Cornerstone Lutheran Church CREALIC

Crossroads of Grace Ministries Cub Scouts Pack #132 DAR Joseph Hart

Disabled American Veterans Dream Cuts

Epsilon Sigma Alpha Gamma Pi Chapter Epsilon Sigma Alpha: Eta Pi Sorority of

Epson America, Inc. Family of God Church

Federal Bureau of Investigation Indianapolis

Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis

Fort Nightly Literary Book Club Franklin Elks FT Quilters General Federation of Women's Clubs

Girl Scout Troop 2638 Girl Scout Troop 4750 Girl Scouts - St. Jude Girls Scouts of Central Indiana Troop

Greenfield Elks Lodge 1720 H.T. Hackney Co. Hamilton County Veterans

1154

Heidelberg Haus Helmer Scientific Hendricks County Division of Family Resources

Hoagies and Hops LLC Hollingsworth Roberts Means Hotel Tango Distillery

Indiana Dames of The Court of Honor Indiana Farm Bureau Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance Indiana Guard Reserve

Indiana Podiatry Group Indiana Society Dames of the Court of

Honor Indiana University Health Methodist Hospital

Indianapolis Council of Women Indy Chamber Jenkins Massage Therapy

Jeptha Creed John Conner DAR Chapter Johnson's BBQ Shack

Keller Williams-Inspired Indy Realty

Kindred Hospital Avon Knights of Columbus Laser Project

Lavelle Gossett VFW Post 908 Linking 2 Teens Louie V. Hider AMVETS Post 99

LulaRoe Lauren Neilan Marion County Community Corrections Marion County Jail II Memorial Post Chapel

Kindred Hospice

Metro Baptist Center Mimi Blue Morales Group Inc. National Society Daughters of The

American Revolution. Horseshoe Prairie Chapter National Society of the Colonial Dames of

America/Indiana Navy Club USA, USS Indianapolis

Ship 35 New Hope Presbyterian Church Nexstar TV Notable Clearwater OPTIONS at Hamilton County Juvenile

Services Center Our Savior's Lutheran Church Pepiso Foundation Post Military Chapel Provisions4Patriots

Regions Bank

Republic National Distributing Company LLC

Rolling Thunder Chapter Rolls-Royce Corporation RPM Technologies Rural Inn Salesforce

Sammy L. Davis VVA Chapter 295 Samuel Bryan Chapter, NSDAR Sand Creek Elementary School Science Applications International

Corporation Second Helpings Severns & Howard, P.C. Sons of American Legion Post 145 St. Francis and Clare Catholic Church St. John Vianney Catholic Church St. Joseph Neighborhood Stixx Cigar Bar Sun King Brewery

Sunnycrest Baptist Church Telecom Pioneers of Indiana The Consultant Consortium The Expediting Company The Kroger Company

The National Bank of Indianapolis The Reserve at Franklin Glenn Apartments

The Wine Group True Temp HVAC Turner Construction Company U.S. Postal Service LIAW Local 933 Upland Brewing Company

US Bankruptcy Court USO of Indiana Veritas Realty Veterans Industries & Arts, Inc. Veterans Memorial Chapel, Inc VFW Auxiliary Post 98

VFW Auxiliary Post 111 VFW Auxiliary Post 261 VFW Auxiliary Post 1127 VFW Auxiliary Post 2999 VFW Post 1157 VFW Post 2999

VFW Post 98 White River Christian Church Whitestown Cub Scout Pack 431

Woodard, Emhardt, Henry, Reeves, & Wagner LLP

\*Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this listing. We apologize for any inadvertent errors or ommissions.

# A HUGE THANKS TO OUR

# STRATEGIC FUNDING PARTNERS



























of Central Indiana



2020 will go down as one of the

# **TOUGHEST YEARS**

in our lifetime, due to the

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

2020 was one of the toughest years in our lifetime due to the COVID-19 pandemic. So many experienced job loss, food insecurity, homelessness, sickness, and mental health challenges.

For Central Indiana homeless and near-homeless veterans, HVAF was there. As an essential human service agency during a world-wide pandemic, our mission was more important than ever! Our dedicated case managers and outreach staff met the call to action and worked tirelessly to meet the increased demand for emergency housing and basic needs for veterans and their families in our community.

With so much uncertainty in the world, we THANK YOU for stepping up and choosing to support Hoosier Heroes in need. Because of supporters like you, many veterans who found themselves in need of food, shelter, and assistance finding a job (some for the first time in their lives!) were able to turn to HVAF for help.

Just last year, we served 1,453 veterans – that's a unique number and NOT duplicated. Those 1,453 veterans and their families received at least one of the 33,621 services provided in 2020. The food pantry quickly changed from shopping once a month to picking up weekly pre-packaged bags of food and hygiene. Moving into one of our 166 units happened in record time, and emergency hotel stays became a norm.

"Our front-line case managers have served our homeless and at-risk veterans with distinction throughout the pandemic and demonstrated tenacity, grit, and extraordinary resiliency and adaptability in accommodating the many changes forced on them by COVID-19," said HVAF President and CEO, Brian Copes. "I am so grateful for their professionalism and courage."

In addition to serving over 1,400 veterans last year, HVAF also completed several important projects to help the veterans we serve. Key projects included:

# **MAKEOVER**



At a time when the need for food and hygiene items doubled and access GVING OUR PANTRY was an obstacle for all of us, HVAF had to make the tough decision to discontinue veterans to shop inside the pantry. Without missing a beat, A COVID-19 FRIENDLY discontinue veterans to shop inside the pantry. Without Illissing a Deat, our Community Center staff quickly adjusted from an in-person shopping experience to a grab-and-go model distributing pre-packaged bags of food and hygiene items from outside on our porch.

> "It was pretty much a shock," Community Center Specialist Katie Zackery said. "A lot of our veterans depended on us on a day-to-day basis. And for them to not be able to come in and shop for themselves and have to revert back to our pre-packed bags was kind of a shock for us and the veterans "

> Not long after that, plans were being made to renovate the Community Center to allow for a safe shopping experience. In December, the renovations were completed, and veterans AND volunteers are now allowed back inside. Once again having the opportunity to shop for what each veteran wants and needs with the assistance of a volunteer

> "I welcome them back with open arms. I'm excited to see everyone come back, volunteers included," Katie said. "Just being able to provide this dignity back to them is very important to us as well as the veterans.

The holidays were not the same for most of us in 2020, but HVAF staff worked hard to ensure our veterans had as much of a normal holiday season as possible.

HVAF partnered with local American Legion and VFW posts, as well as corporate groups, providing 86 Thanksgiving meal baskets and 60 Christmas meal baskets veterans over the holidays. Each basket had enough food to feed a family of four and was filled with either a turkey or a ham, several side items, rolls, and a dessert.

In addition to the food baskets, 188 families were "adopted" by generous donors and provided wrapped Christmas gifts for the veteran's entire family!

# **PROVIDING HOLIDAY MEALS TO OUR VETERANS**



And we know we wouldn't have survived 2020 without significant financial assistance from others who care about our mission:

After COVID-19 shut most businesses down in March 2020, HVAF experienced an increase in donations from individuals like you, and grants from United Way of Central Indiana, IU Health, and 3M Foundation to help guarantee HVAF staff could continue to meet the growing demand for services and assistance in such an uncertain time. Funds received were distributed directly to those veterans with the greatest need in the form of gas and grocery gift cards. Funds also helped keep the pantry stocked, cleaning supplies on hand, and PPE stocked and available.

The funds also created an opportunity to serve veterans in an entirely NEW WAY. Our case managers utilized funds to pay for hotel stays for veterans with nowhere to shelter-in-place and/or to quarantine before moving into housing.

This was a game-changer as local shelters were bursting at the seams and so many homeless individuals needed somewhere to shelter-in-place. Since then, we've been able to continue providing emergency hotel stays through the CARES Act funding. HVAF provided immediate housing placement for more than 100 homeless veterans in hotels around the city.

The state may have been on lockdown but Team HVAF stayed vigilant and never missed a beat. Case managers and outreach staff provided desperately needed security for Hoosier Heroes like:



# **AIR FORCE VETERAN JESSICA**

Jessica is one of the first tenants of HVAF's Veterans Villa Permanent Supportive Housing units. "HVAF has helped me get a hold of the people I need to get a hold of and do everything I need to do while still staying safe and staying virtual." Jessica said.



# **NAVY VETERAN THERESA**

Near homeless Navy veteran and former nurse, Theresa, came to HVAF amidst the pandemic in June, after the Veteran Affairs Voc Rehab program had to close due to COVID precautions. After being referred to HVAF, our employment team found her a nursing position at IU Health, and our case managers found a home for her and her daughter to move into.





times and had to quarantine in his apartment. With no one around to help James said he "would text (my case managers) and they would get me what I needed." His case manager along with our 'heart of gold' Vet Villa Property Manager, made sure James had plenty of food, cleaning supplies, hygiene items, and even made sure he got his mail every day.

# **NAVY VETERAN CARIE**

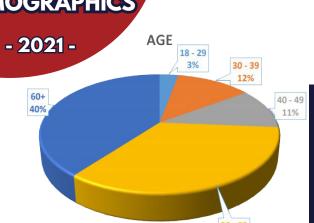


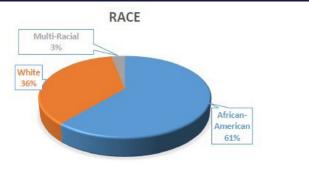
Soon after moving into Vet Villa, Carie was hospitalized at the VA with COVID-19 TWO different times! After guarantining in a hotel each time. HVAF made sure her apartment was clean and safe before her return. Her apartment was sterilized, and our Community Center staff worked together to collect food, toiletries, and other ousehold supplies for her return - going the extra mile to ensure Carie could come home and focus solely on recovery.

Because of you, HVAF was able to meet the unplanned, increased demand during 2020. YOU made this possible! THANK YOU for supporting our veterans and their families during this unprecedented time. We know we could not have kept up with the increased demand and unplanned need in 2020 without your love and support.

As we slowly recover from the pandemic, we know that the need continues to be great, and we hope you will stay with us in 2021 as we rise to the challenge.

# HVAF **VETERAN DEMOGRAPHICS**



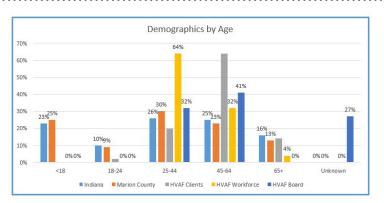


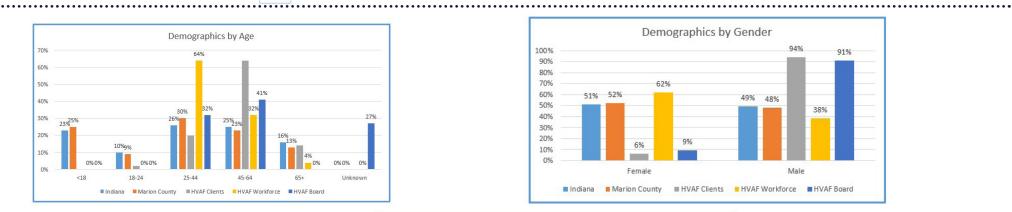


The term "veteran" is not derived from any demographic attribute but rather by a shared commitment to selfless service and the defense of our freedoms. values, and ideals. Accordingly, I have sought to cultivate an organizational culture where every client, team member, Director, volunteer, donor, and partner feels welcomed, affirmed, respected, valued, and comfortable as a member of Team HVAF. Our diverse workforce and client population have resulted in equally diverse interpretations of, and reactions to, what we have seen and experienced since the tragic and unnecessary death of George Floyd. I have asked our team to be sensitive to and respectful of those different interpretations. I have encouraged our team members to remain focused on our mission of serving veterans while we simultaneously support and encourage each other

For 2021, the internal HVAF Diversity and Inclusion Working Group selected a local diversity, equity, and inclusion consultant to partner with us in assessing our workplace climate, reviewing our policies and processes for unrecognized bias, and developing and deploying cultural competency training for all staff and Directors.

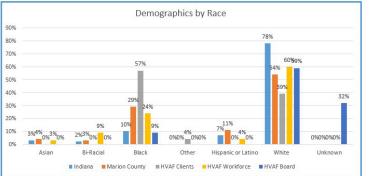
-HVAF President & CEO Brian Copes

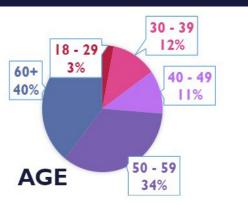


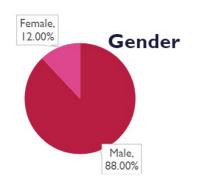


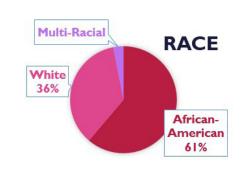
# **COMPARATIVE DEMOGRAPHICS**











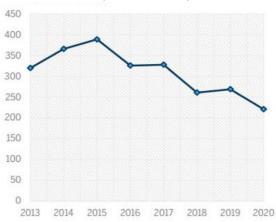
# INDY'S **HOMELESS VETERANS**

- 2020 -

## **DISABLING CONDITIONS BY** VETERAN AND NON-VETERAN **STATUS (2020)**

	VETERANS	NON-VETERANS
Alcohol abuse	30.8%	15.5%
Drug abuse	30.8%	15.6%
Physical disability	33.3%	17.8%
Mental illness	37.6%	25.8%

# **NUMBER OF HOMELESS VETERANS OVER TIME** (2013-2020)



## **OTHER KEY FINDINGS:**

**VETERANS COMPRISE 5.4% OF THE POPULATION** IN MARION COUNTY (INDIANAPOLIS), BUT **REPRESENT 16% OF THOSE EXPERIENCING** HOMELESSNESS

**VETERANS ARE MORE LIKELY THAN TO** NON-VETERANS TO EXPERIENCE HOMELESSNESS, **ESPECIALLY WOMEN** 

# WHAT IS HVAF DOING ABOUT THIS?

# **STREET**

# **OUTREACH**



Day in and day out, Rodney Jackson goes out to Indy's homeless camps and develops relationships with veterans. He gives homeless veterans food, clothing, and hygiene items - and encourages them to come to HVAF for help.

Rodney served in the U.S. Navy for 17 years, before being honorably discharged. After his time in the military, Rodney experienced homelessness himself for a bit. Now, he spends his days giving back to his fellow

"I don't come here to judge, I just try to come out here to try to help them out," Rodney says. "But it takes a community to help these people. They need help with housing, mental health, hygiene, food, and

Rodney is always accepting donations such as canned foods, warm winter clothes, water, and more that he can provide to Indy's homeless veterans. Learn more at hvaf.org.

# OPERATION ALPHA

Hotel Tango Artisan Distillery's Founder and CEO, disabled U.S. Marine Corps veteran Travis Barnes, started Operation Alpha in 2014, as a way to raise funds for HVAF's operations, programs, and services.

2019



Thanks to our amazing sponsors, attendees, and supporters – we were able to raise \$10,000 more than the year before! We are so thankful for everyone who supports our veterans and continues to make Operation Alpha a success. For the first time in five years, Operation Alpha took place at The Biltwell Event Center. The event space was perfect as it included a lobby for registration, drinks, and games; a room for the program; and a back patio for a cigar veranda. This year's event included the traditional military-inspired Grog Bowl Ceremony that everyone looks forward to watching... and grabbing a canteen cup so they can drink from the bowl! Attendees also had a blast playing our wine toss, entering for a chance to win a nice bottle of whisk(e)y, hanging out with each other outside on the cigar veranda, and enjoying unlimited drinks courtesy of Hotel Tango spirits, Upland and Sun King beer, and The Wine Group wine.



Despite all of the challenges with 2020 – and thanks to our amazing supporters – HVAF's Operation Alpha was a HIT! Originally scheduled in November, HVAF made the decision to cancel the in-person event due to the rise in COVID-19 cases. Fortunately, HVAF's Operation Alpha could still take place... virtually! On December 12, HVAF hosted its first ever virtual Operation Alpha over Zoom. Despite not being able to hang out and raise funds in person, 60+ supporters joined online with their cigars, whisk(e)y, and donations. The virtual event still incorporated Operation Alpha's traditions, including a pre-recorded version of the military-inspired Grog Bowl Ceremony and the newly popular cigar & whisk(e)y pulls. With sponsorships, event packages, cigar & whisk(e)y pull purchases, and donations – HVAF's Operation Alpha raised \$80,000! And this is about \$33,000 more than the year before!

Virtual OA is on YouTube! Watch it now: Search "HVAF" on YouTube.com! Save the Datel

Operation Alpha 2021
November 5 | Biltwell Event Center

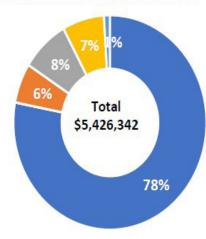
For more information on tickets and sponsorship information:

2019-2020

# FINANCIAL

# REPORT

# 2019 Cash Revenues



- Department of Veteran Affairs
- United Way & Passthrough Grants
- Other Grant Revenue
- Contributions & Charitable Events
- Program & Other Revenue

# 2019 Cash Expenditures

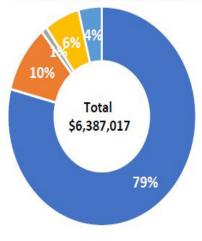
Direct Client Services

Administrative & Support

2019 was another amazing year for HVAF. expanding the reach of our mission to even more clients made possible with a revenue increase of nearly 13% over 2018. In addition to cash revenues, HVAF also received an extraordinary, anonymous gift of \$1.1M to relieve the agency of its mortgage liabilities. Eliminating the mortgage expense allowed HVAF to allocate funds to other areas of operations to further support our clients. Despite the challenges 2020 presented, HVAF was able to serve more clients than ever before. Approximately \$1M in additional revenue made the impossible possible for so many at risk and homeless Veterans during uncertain times. Thanks to additional funding made available by the Department of Veteran Affairs, United Way, LEI, and other agencies, the 15% increase in revenue enabled HVAF to expand its reach within the community and assist those impacted by the ongoing pandemic. As evidence of HVAF's continued commitment to serving the Veterans who served for us all, 77% of total cash revenues were spent on programs, services, and assistance to support and improve the lives of our

honorable clients in 2020.

# 2020 Cash Revenues



- Department of Veteran Affairs
- United Way, LEI, & Passthrough Grants
- Other Grant Revenue
- Contributions & Charitable Events
- Program & Other Revenue

# 2020 Cash Expenditures













We've started a new Christmas tradition at HVAF: The 12 Vets of Christmas!

For 12 days in 2019 and 2020, we featured and celebrated a different veteran who's now enjoying a better quality of life because of the essential services and programs HVAF provided in 2020. Check them out!

# **2019 VETERANS**

# **FEBRUARY JANUARY**



Navy veteran Jimmy found himself homeless in May 2018, as he lost his job and apartment. Thankfully, a friend told him about HVAF and we moved him into one of our transitional homes. He also received employment help, which led him to a job at the VA.

# **ANTONIO**



After years of dealing with family issues, Navy veteran Antonio became a homeless veteran. One day, he called HVAF and spoke to one of our case managers. That very same day - he filled out the necessary paperwork and moved into one of our transitional housing



When he got out of the Marines. his life, and to develop a relationship with the Lord.

# MARCH



Troy said he had zero guidance. This led him to getting mixed up with the wrong crowd. After coming to HVAF, Troy had time to get off of the streets, to think, to consider principles he could incorporate into

# **APRIL**

hvaf.org

# **PAMELA**



At the beginning of 2019, Army veteran Pamela moved into one of our transitional housing units. Her case manager, Amanda, helped her access her disability benefits and even move into her own apartment in downtown Indy! "HVAF has really helped me to accomplish my goals," Pamela said.

# MAY

Twelve Vets 2019 of Christmas



Through innovative funding, tenancy support services and relaxed tenant requirements, HVAF and Glick have partnered to house veterans and recently expanded the pilot project beyond the original 15 units. Marine veteran Michael is thankful to move into one of these units!

# JUNE

#TwelveVetsofChristma:

# **AUTUMN**



In February 2019, retired Army medic Autumn started volunteering at HVAF. She comes in every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday to help HVAF staff, as well as her fellow veterans. "It's a rewarding experience to help veterans at HVAF." Autumn said.

## **AUGUST** JULY



Army veteran Whitney has been After decades of building her clean from his addictions for 5+ career, Army veteran Rhonda found years now - thanks to HVAF's herself in a position she never (former) recovery program. Whitney imagined: jobless and homeless. HVAF's employment team came continues to thrive, as he became a first time homeowner through through and helped Rhonda Habitat for Humanity! become employed again - and she lives in her own apartment again!

# **RHONDA**

Marine veteran Leslie faced eviction ranch-style home!

# **SEPTEMBER**



and had nowhere for her and her children to live. "I didn't know what I was going to do." Leslie said. But, in one month, HVAF's case managers moved her family into a 3-bedroom,

# **OCTOBER**

# ROBERT N.

When Marine Corps veteran Robert wanted to find drug recovery, HVAF was there to help. "It was great. I had the security of being here. And I had a clean place to sleep, good environment," he said. After 10 years, Robert remains clean TODAY!

# **NOVEMBER**

# **VALERIE**



After repurposing eight of HVAF's housing properties, the first veteran moved into one of HVAF's -permanent housing units : Valerie along with her daughter, Adreanna, and two grandkids: Jeremiah and

# **DECEMBER**





Barbara and her family were looking for a home in Indianapolis - but had trouble, as they couldn't find one that fit their needs. After receiving a housing voucher, they were able to move into one of HVAF's Permanent Supportive Housing units!

# 2020 VETERANS

# **THERESA**



Navy Veteran Theresa came to HVAF in June, after the Veteran Affairs Voc Rehab program closed due to COVID. HVAF helped her find an apartment, paid to renew her nursing license, and helped her get a new car from Geico!

After moving to HVAF's Veter-

ans Villa this year, Navy veteran

Carie has since test positive

for COVID-19 twice. While she

guarantined in a hotel, HVAF's

case managers worked to sterilize

her apartment. She said she is so

thankful for all of the support she

has received!

CRAIG

Following his time in the military.

Craig struggled for a few years

without gainful employment, making

it difficult to move forward. Craig

and his wife lived in one of the Temporary Housing Units until find-

ing their own place with the help of

HVAF's Rapid Re-Housing Team.

Army Veteran Chris spent more than 10 years off of the grid abusing drugs after his military career. A family friend reached out to HVAF on his behalf and now Chris and his three kids live at one of our permanent properties!

**FRED** 

This last October, Army veteran

and HVAF employee Fred moved

into his first own home. Thanks to

Habitat For Humanity, Fred is now a

proud homeowner in Indianapolis! "I

remember (telling myself) 'Fred, this

is what happens when you turn your

life around." Fred said.

**RASHAUN** 

Rashaun has been coming

to HVAF's food, clothing, and

hygiene pantry during the

pandemic. During pantry days,

on Tuesdays and Thursdays

each week, he also helps with

whatever needs to be done.



Marine Corps Veteran James suffered a stroke in early 2020. He couldn't work anymore and found himself homeless. James now has a safe place to call home at HVAF's newest Permanent Supportive Housing apartment complex -Veterans Villa!



**BRUCE** 

Vietnam Army Veteran Bruce spent the first few months of the year homeless and was living in his car in a CVS parking lot before finding HVAF. Bruce now lives at Veterans Villa where he has his own apartment and forever home!

Christmas



Sergeant Shane struggled and faced legal trouble. In order to move forward and improve his life, he needed work. With the help of HVAF's Employment Team, Shane has been able to prove himself at his job, already receiving a promotion and a raise in just a



Following his service, retired Army illnesses after her time in the Air Force, Jessica spent years away from her children as she couch surfed. After finding HVAF earlier this year, she now lives in her own apartment and has reconnected couple of months!





receive inpatient treatment for PTSD, his dog, Stitch, staved at SOAR Initiative and received training. And after 45+ days apart. DJ and Stitch were finally reunited and live together at HVAF's Veterans Villa!



with her family!

experienced divorce in 2019. She and her kids lost a lot in the midst of the divorce including clothing items. After coming to HVAF, the pantry for hygiene, clothing and other items was instrumental in helping her recover and make sure her kids had what they needed!



**CHECK OUT THESE STORIES AND** MORE ON OUR BLOG: HVAF.ORG/BLOG

















# HVAF'S STRATEGIC PERSPECTIVE

FROM PRESIDENT & CEO BRIAN COPES

Our mission, vision, and values define our identity. Our strategic goals provide a direction (but not a destination). The following infographics serve to visually and narratively describe where we are, where we're going, and how'll we get there.

# 1. HVAF MISSION, VISION, & GOALS

**MISSION:** HVAF HOUSES, SUPPORTS, AND ADVOCATES FOR ALL VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES TO ACHIEVE THE BEST POSSIBLE QUALITY OF LIFE.

VISION: HOPE, HOUSING, AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY FOR ALL VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

# STRATEGIC GOAL #1: Tailor services to meet current and future veteran needs. STRATEGIC GOAL #2: Create a culture of performance excellence which attracts and retains motivated, talented, and engaged Directors, Staff, Volunteers, and other Partners. SERVICES HELPING VETERANS and FAMILIES STRATEGIC GOAL #3: Increase brand and community awareness of HVAF.

This diagram illustrates the mutually supporting relationships between our strategic goals and our tagline – Helping Veterans and Families.

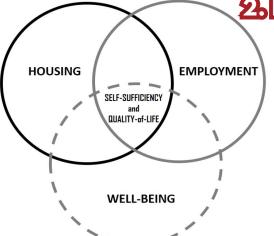
and individual values and includes desired attitudes, expressions, and behaviors – thoughts, words, and actions. Culture influences everything the agency does and how it's done.

BRAND represents our identity and our reputation. It is a measure of quantitative results and qualitative perception. Our perceived "brand value" directly influences REVENUE when we compete for grants and especially when we seek private and institutional donations.

SERVICES are a function of available revenue and constitute the direct and beneficial impact on veterans and their families.

# **HOUSING:**

This is the <u>stabilizing</u> function which allows veterans a safe place from which to address and resolve barriers to employment and well-being.



# 2. HVAF APPROACH TO SERVING VETERANS

# **EMPLOYMENT:**

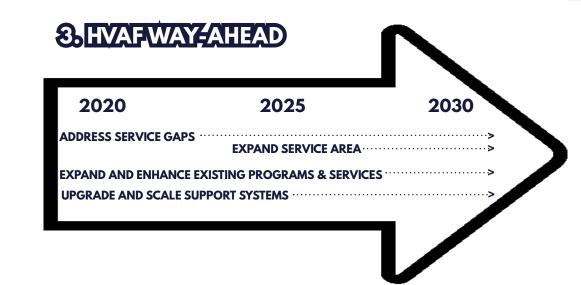
This is the enabling function which provides self-sufficiency.

Employment = Income. Income = Housing.

## **WELL-BEING:**

This is the <u>supporting</u> function which provides **quality-of-life** by meeting basic needs (food, clothing, shelter, belonging) and addressing the physical, social, emotional, vocational, financial, and spiritual aspects of well-being.

This diagram illustrates our envisioned approach to meeting needs in the veteran community. Although we are and have always been a "housing-centric" agency, just providing a warm safe place to live cannot be the final end-state for at-risk veterans. Our intent is to address the "root causes" of veteran homelessness. Unemployment is routinely the immediate cause, but this is frequently a result of a medical and/or mental health issue and/or a substance abuse issue. Accordingly, our approach is to address these contributing circumstances in a variety of ways. The solid dark circle around HOUSING represents an established array of housing systems, programs, and services which have been in-place since 1993. HVAF housing services have been diversified and expanded in the last five years to better meet the needs of veterans and to expand options to house veteran family members. The solid gray circle around EMPLOYMENT represents a recently approved (April 01, 2021) but not yet deployed workforce development program to expand and enhance our existing and proven employment services. This new program, titled VetWorks (Veterans Workforce Opportunities Renewing Knowledge and Skills), is made possible by the vision and generosity of Lilly Endowment, Inc. as a part of their Enhancing Opportunity in Indianapolis initiative launched in early 2020 but not realized until 2021. The dashed gray circle around WELL-BEING represents contemplated future programs and services to address all aspects of well-being. The well-being line of effort may be developed around our Veterans Community Center operation which has long provided basic needs (food, clothing, hygiene items) to veterans and served as the front-line "face and heart" of HVAF for nearly two decades.



This diagram illustrates a conceptual way-ahead with grossly over-simplified lines of thought and action. It depicts our ongoing efforts to dentify and address SERVICE GAPS in the veteran community while being ever mindful of opportunities to expand the geographic SERVICE AREA of our programs and services. As we operate our current programs, we accumulate data and evidence to inform our efforts to expand, enhance, and modify our EXISTING PROGRAMS and SERVICES to adapt to a changing "market" with an increasingly younger veteran population requiring a greater emphasis on career development (not just employment), marriage and parenting, financial and retirement planning, home ownership, and overall health and well-being. In the last three years, we have invested significantly in upgrading and scaling our SUPPORT SYSTEMS such as automation and telephony; financial management human resource and payroll, as well as substantial investments in facilities upgrades to improve the service life of our 18 properties and to improve the quality-of-life for the veterans we house. All these systems require life-cycle sustainment efforts which must be forecast, budgeted, and scheduled. As our programs and services evolve, and as our service area increases, these supporting systems must be sustained, upgraded, and scaled accordingly.

STRATEGIC GOAL #4:

Expand and diversify revenues for HVAF.

22 | 11//



1,453 veterans served



337 veterans permanently housed

190

veterans



2,428

pantry visits



33,321

services beblyong to veterans



53,611

lbs of food, clothing, and nygiene items distributed to veterans

**2020 OUTCOMES** 

While 2020 was an incredibly tough year, HVAF was still able to continue our mission in serving veterans and families. With additional funding and assistance, we were also able to provide 100+ veterans with a hotel room for immediate shelter - a service we have never been able to provide before. These numbers represent the specific ways we were able to support our Hoosier Heroes in 2020.

While Vietnam vet Bruce was spending the end of 2020 as a Veterans Villa tenant, the beginning of 2020 looked much different.

MEET

MOREAU

**VETERANS** 

VILLA'S

**TENANT:** 

VIETNAM

**VETERAN** 

BRUCE!

The Army veteran spent his first few months of the year homeless, as his landlord evicted him after missing rent. He was able to find a few different places to sleep. He stayed at his sister's and a few other shelters. As of March 2020, Bruce found himself living in his car in a CVS parking lot.

Thankfully, after first going to Volunteers Of America, he found HVAF. HVAF's Property Manager, Will Najera, helped him with the paperwork for living in one of the organization's Permanent Supportive Housing apartments. Formerly known as the Don Moreau, Sr. Apartments, the building received renovations and is now known as Moreau Veterans Villa. Bruce became the first tenant to live in the building after the renovations.

Bruce said he is better at budgeting now, and loves living at Veterans Villa. He is especially thankful for Will and Case Manager - April Vail. If he is going to be late for rent, he said they give him grace.

"They radiate compassion," Bruce said. "If I'm going to be late on my rent, they understand."

Although HVAF offers food at its pantry twice per week – Bruce said he has never had to worry about going. Thanks to some amazing organizations, such as Second Helpings and St. Vincent de Paul, his cupboards are always full.

After serving in the Vietnam War from 1965-1967, Bruce went on to become a Catholic priest. He even lived in Jamaica for many years working for Kingston's diocese. Although he is no longer officially involved with the diocese anymore, he holds mass in his living room every morning. He auctioned off almost all of his possessions and now enjoys living in his 1-bedroom apartment.

"My apartment is my chapel," Bruce said. "I'm very happy here at Veterans Villa."

**READ STORIES & WATCH VIDEOS ABOUT OUR VETERANS: HVAF.ORG/BLOG** 

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# **DONOR HIGHLIGHT**

# ARROW MCLAREN SP & VUSE VAPOR



Arrow McLaren SP, alongside team sponsor Vuse Vapor, presented a wheelchair-accessible van to HVAF in July 2020. The van was presented at the IndyCar Experience at the Dallara INDYcar Factory near the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. Arrow McLaren SP Managing Director Taylor Keil presented the keys to HVAF President & CEO Brian Copes in front of a small, socially distanced group of veterans and team officials.

"As the largest non-profit provider to veterans in Indiana, this van will be a value-add to our service offerings. This generous donation is especially timely as we lean into Independence Day with our primary goal being to help our veterans find self-sufficiency and independence," Copes said of the gently-used van finding a new life and purpose in Indiana. "I'd like to thank Team AMSP and Vuse for the generous donation and support of those we serve."

The van will provide HVAF a smaller, more reliable alternative to their current 17-person transporter (with nearly 1/2) million miles!), as they fulfill their mission of supporting homeless and near homeless veterans throughout central Indiana. HVAF has 13 transitional properties housing 120 homeless veterans on any given night. Most, if not all, of these veterans are without their own vehicle. As part of HVAF's supportive wrap-around services, daily transportation is provided appointments at the VA Hospital and other medical offices, to HVAF's food and clothing pantry as well as other pantries in the food community, and to job interviews. This van will become a newer more reliable vehicle for HVAF staff and the veterans who are transported. It will provide an entirely new option for those veterans HVAF serves with mobility challenges.

"Our relationship with AMSP has impacted our company more than any other partnership in recent memory," said Natasha Webster, herself a veteran and spokesperson for Vuse Vapor and AMSP team sponsor. "Everyone in our organization, from our CEO down, has gotten behind this. This will be the second vehicle we've donated this year- HVAF is the right organization, AMSP is the right team, and Indianapolis is the right city.

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"HVAF is such a great organization, that does wonderful things for homeless veterans in Indiana! Glad I could help my fellow veterans!"

IN KIND DONORS

-Jason M., Donor

\*Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this listing. We apologize for any inadvertent errors or ommissions.



# THANK YOU TO OUR

2082

**TOTAL VOLUNTEERS** 

11,603

**TOTAL VOLUNTEERS HOURS** 

\$295,000

**MONEY WE SAVED WITH VOLUNTEERS** 

2019-2020 VOLUNTEERS

**221 TOTAL VOLUNTEERS** 

2,104

**TOTAL VOLUNTEERS HOURS** 

\$56,000

**MONEY WE SAVED WITH VOLUNTEERS** 

