## WE HONOR VETERANS

# 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

We Honor Veterans 1731 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

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#### INTRODUCTION

We Honor Veterans (WHV) is a national program in collaboration with the Department of Veterans Affairs with a simple goal - to care for and honor those who have served when they reach the end of life. By recognizing the unique needs of America's Veterans and their families, community providers in partnership with VA staff learn how to accompany and guide them through their life stories toward a more peaceful ending. Now entering its 10th year, NHPCO proudly looks back on the pinning ceremonies, community education events, Vet-to-Vet Volunteers, and stories shared by our 5,460 hospice and community-based health-care partners from across the nation.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

#### Resources created for free on-demand viewing include:

- Moral Injury in Vietnam Veterans Webinar with WHV Team and Department of Veteran Affairs
- Hospice Veteran Partnership (HVP) 101 Webinar with WHV Team, VA Staff and Community Hospice Partner
- Level 5 Overview Video, Webinar and Toolkit with WHV Team
- No Veteran Dies Alone "Introduction to Hospice and Palliative Care" with PsychArmor
- No Veteran Dies Alone "Concepts of Death, Dying and Grief", with PsychArmor

Perhaps the greatest highlight over the past year was the beginning of a new era in care for Vietnam-era Veterans - thank you to the hospice partners, Vietnam Veterans, their families and caregivers who participated in the Vietnam Veterans focus groups and brought a voice to the specific needs that are unintentionally yet often overlooked. These conversations will shape protocols to guide end-of-life care for Vietnam Veterans and provide a better understanding of their mindset as they enter hospice care. By identifying meaningful experiences and other needs, WHV will enter the next phase of implementation of protocols and dissemination of training expertise on PTSD, Moral Injury, and Suicide Prevention on a national scale.

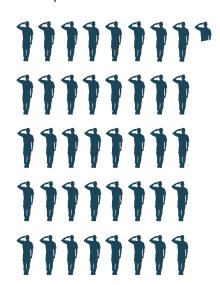






Clockwise from top left: General Dave Woellner - WWII, Vietnam, and Korean Veteran; Hospice Alliance, Inc Vietnam Veterans Pinning Ceremony; Summit Hospice Making General Woellner's Dream to Fly Come True; Kindred Hospice Honoring Tuskegee Airman Dr. Granville G. Coggs Staff and Volunteers of Heartland Hospice Presenting Vietnam Veteran Pin to Widow

4,120
Hospice Partners



118 State-wide and Community-based Hospice-Veteran Partnerships

1,340
Community-based
Health Care Partners



14.2%
Increase in Level
3 & 4 Partners
Over the Last Year



### SELF-REPORTED HOSPICE PARTNER DATA

38,090

Staff Training Participants

(often duplicate staff)



42,004
Community Outreach
Training Participants

(venues include churches, homeless shelters, assisted living facilities, etc.)

## LEVEL 4 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

146 Hospice Partners Earned Their Level 4 Star in 2019



717
Vet-to-Vet
Volunteers



20,023
Veterans Served
During Military History
Checklist Evaluation



28% of Veteran Patients Enrolled in VA



19% of Veteran Patients Receive VA Benefits

## Breakdown of Veterans Served

28% wwii

25% Korea

3% Cold War

21% Vietnam

1% Gulf War

12% Peace Time

 $> \! 1\%$  Afghanistan/Iraq (OEF/OIF)

10% Other/Unknown