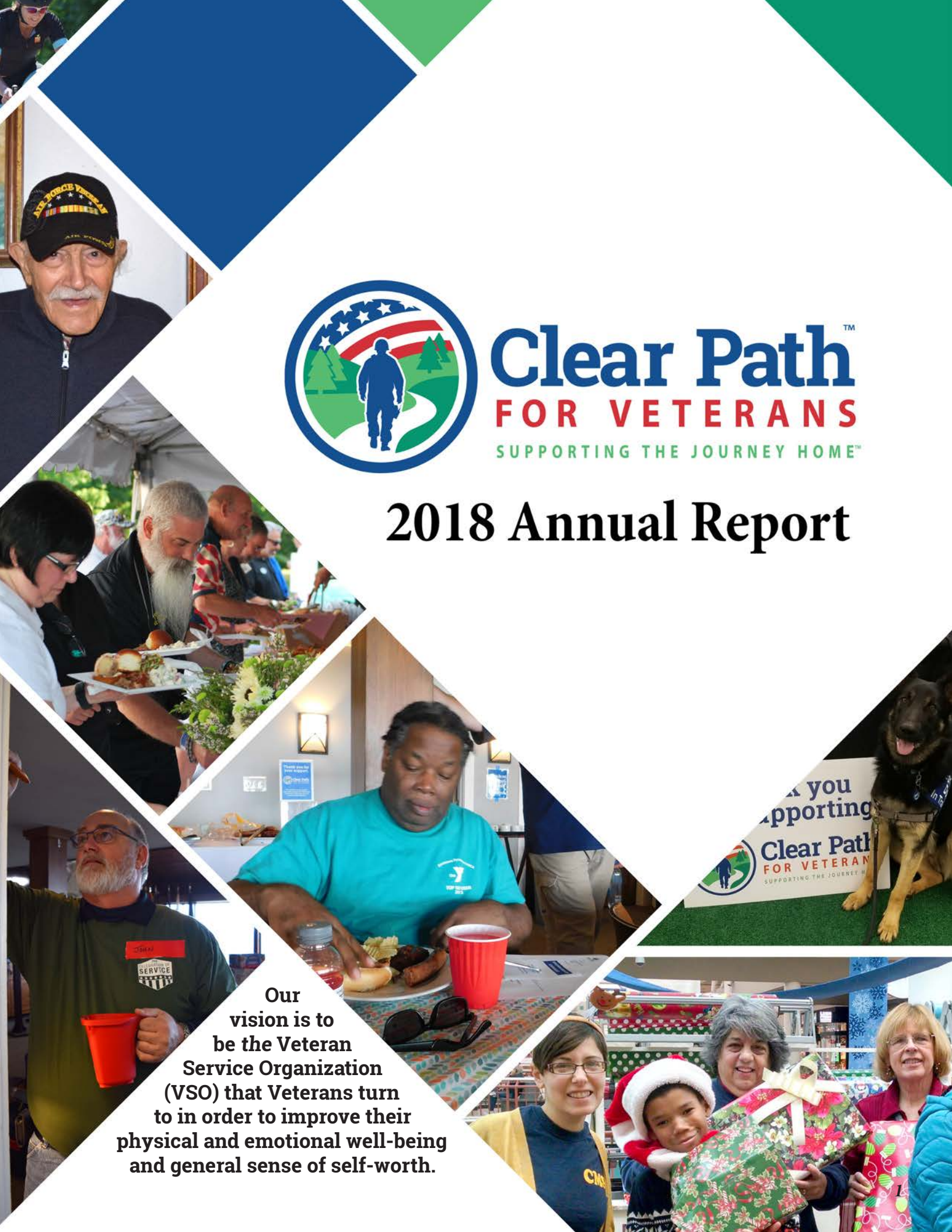




Clear PathTM
FOR VETERANS
SUPPORTING THE JOURNEY HOMETM

2018 Annual Report

Our vision is to be the Veteran Service Organization (VSO) that Veterans turn to in order to improve their physical and emotional well-being and general sense of self-worth.



Letter from Our CEO **4**

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Clear Path
is proud to
have additional
locations beyond
Chittenango to serve
Veterans in the region:
Binghamton (to serve the
entire Southern Tier); a
licensee in Devens, Mass.
(to serve the greater
Boston area); and
soon expansion
into the
Hudson
Valley.



Our mission: Recognizing the responsibility of communities to help those who serve, Clear Path for Veterans empowers service members, Veterans, and their families through supportive programs and services in a safe, respectful environment.

LOOKING AHEAD:

In 2018, Clear Path for Veterans continued to expand its ability to collaborate locally, regionally and nationally which “has inspired citizens to get involved and address the overflow of need,” said CEO and Co-Founder Melissa Spicer in her annual open letter from the CEO found on the next page. The Holistic Warrior Care graphic highlights the services offered at our beautiful site and those offered through partner organizations and agencies. For 2019, Clear Path will continue exploring collaborations that benefit Veterans of all eras.



From our CEO

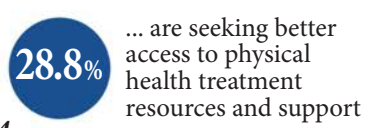
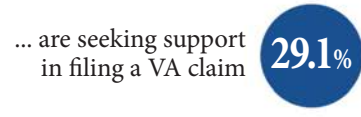
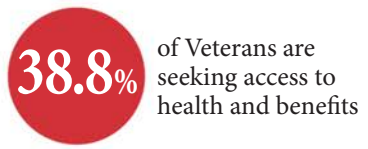
Since our inception, our vision has been *to be the Veteran Resource Center that Veterans turn to in order to improve their physical and emotional well-being and general sense of self-worth*. By building trust, filling gaps and serving as a hub of programs and information (see *Holistic Warrior Care* graphic on next page), our community and its Veterans are thriving together. Our ability to collaborate locally, regionally and nationally has inspired citizens to get involved and address the overflow of need.

Although other communities throughout the U.S. have struggled to improve coordinated services for Veterans and meet the increasing need, Clear Path for Veterans has worked in partnership with Veterans of all eras to ensure we are meeting their needs and providing a hand up, not a hand out. Our organization was born in New York state – a state whose place in American history is rich and deep. This is inspiring, and in 2017 a small community outside of Boston, Mass. adopted and was trained on our model, and Clear Path for Veterans New England was born.

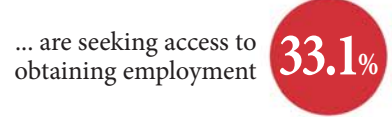
In 2018, we remained focused on building capacity within our current organizational structure and strengthened our core programs in three key regions:

What motivates us to do what we do Did you know that within these specific areas:

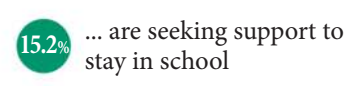
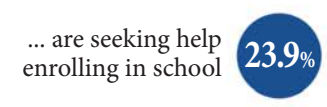
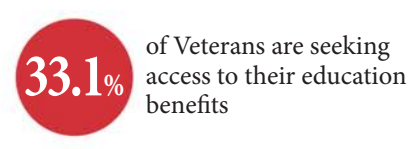
Healthcare & Benefits



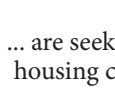
Employment



Education



Housing



1. Central New York (existing headquarters and surrounding counties)
2. Southern Tier New York (surrounding Broome County)
3. Northern Tier New York (surrounding Jefferson and Oswego counties)

Thanks to the generosity of our donors and the continued support from Onondaga, Madison and Broome counties, Clear Path for Veterans has served military members, Veterans and their families in three key areas:

1. Social Connectivity
2. Physical and Mental Wellness
3. Career Readiness

In 2011 – when Clear Path for Veterans was in its infancy – a quote often attributed to George Washington’s first year of his presidency was circulated



throughout Veterans Service Organizations, reminding us that: “The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional to how they perceive the Veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their nation.” Too often we underestimate the power of community hospitality – a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.

Americans we owe a great debt to those who have willingly paid the price. Healthy Veterans transform communities and investing in their well-being will always be our priority.

Sincerely,

Melissa R. Spicer
Co-Founder & Chief
Executive Officer

using

Financial Counseling

26.7% of Veterans are seeking financial counseling classes

rans are seeking
to new housing

ing better
conditions

22.4%

All statistics courtesy 2018
Community Integration
Annual Survey Report
by America’s Warrior
Partnership with responses
from Veterans who utilize
the programs and services at
Clear Path for Veterans.

There is no group more deserving of our community hospitality than the men and women who have voluntarily stepped up to defend our nation and all that it stands for. History proves that freedom comes at a great physical and emotional cost, and as

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Capt. Chris Flaherty
Chair, *U.S. Navy*

Ben Eberhardt
Vice Chair, *U.S. Army Veteran*

Stephen Breen
Treasurer of the Board

William “Bill” Pollard, Ph.D.
Secretary of the Board

Melissa Spicer
Chief Executive Officer, Co-Founder

Anthony “Tony” Basile
Col. (Ret.), U.S. Air Force

Cindy M. Boyd
U.S. Army Veteran

J. Carlos Cervantes
LTC (Ret.), U.S. Army

Carroll Clark

Casey Crabill, Ed.D.

Ronald Hayward, MSSE, PMP
Col. (Ret.), U.S. Marine Corps

Matthew G. Jubelt
U.S. Army

Samuel J. Lanzafame

Orrin B. “Mac” MacMurray
Col. (Ret.), U.S. Army

Michael Mattson

John Mays
Major (Ret.), U.S. Marine Corps

Gay Pomeroy

Richard H. Sykes
U.S. Army Veteran

Wade Wiers
U.S. Marine Corps Veteran

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Clear Path’s Board of Directors keeps focus on long-term viability

One more year on the journey home.

For some of our Veterans, that road is relatively straight and well defined. But for others, it can be winding and seemingly all uphill. Tragically, even a few find it might briefly lead to a dead end. Yet, we here at Clear Path meet each and every Veteran we serve wherever they happen to be on their journey, and we invest our time, talent and treasure to ensure they make it to their destination: Home.

Clear Path again finds itself on a journey all its own. It is one with some uncertainty, but also one of great opportunity. No doubt, our journey will be uphill at times and might even lead to a dead end or two, but the board of directors remains committed to the journey and destination of every Veteran who enters our facility, as well as every volunteer and staff member who welcomes them here. The board recognizes the imperative to put in place structures to ensure the long-term viability of the organization without losing sight of the individual. We continue to infuse corporate infrastructure without detracting from our communal identity. In 2019, we

look to diversify and secure our donor base while expanding the breadth and availability of our programs. We will deepen our roots here in Central New York while also broadening our reach in an effort to remain a model for communities to emulate across the state, and across the country. Veterans near and far deserve nothing less.

Regardless if you happen to be civilian or military, Veteran or volunteer, we all have a journey. It heals us. It sustains us. It defines us. On behalf of the board of directors, I welcome you to Clear Path. May this forever be a place of special meaning and singular purpose on your, and our, journey home.

All the best,
Chris Flaherty
Chris Flaherty
President of the Board of Directors
U.S. Navy, Active

Empowering Veterans is the key to creating healthy communities

BY EARL FONTENOT &
ALEX BEHM

Clear Path for Veterans is one of the most unique Veteran-focused non-profits in the nation today. We aren't unique because of what we do, and we are not unique because of where we are; what makes us unique is what we do and where we do it in combination with the fact that we serve all Veterans, regardless of era. While the intent has been to honor all that have served, it has created a unique set of challenges as well: How do we meet Veterans' needs while also meeting the needs of the generation that those Veterans have come from? A simple answer – with a not so simple task – is empowerment.

Our programs have always been centered on empowering Veterans, military members, and their families to live the most positive and fulfilling life possible. We are updating our Canine Programming to ensure that our teams are meeting the strict requirements that we have always had, which will empower those Veterans to overcome the hardships that they have experienced from military service. Our Peer Support Program will continue to assist all Veterans with their various needs and coupled with our Warriors Working Program the focus will become more of a prevention model of support, the main purpose being to help Veterans find a new purpose in life that will not only support themselves and their family but will also support the Veteran mentally and emotionally. Our Integrative Medicine

Program has always been on the cutting edge of educating and offering integrative options to those who have served and their families.

Continuing to build on our strong relationships with the Syracuse VAMC, Crouse Hospital, Fort



Drum, the 174th Attack Wing, and all the other local military units, our offerings will continue to expand while reaching more Veterans and family members.

Those who serve their country are the citizens who strive to be a part of something greater than themselves. The greatest impact we can continue to make for Veterans and their families is to help them find that meaning again. That meaning is as different as the needs of all Veterans, whether the Veteran is an 80-year-old male who served in Korea, or a 22-year-old female just returning from Afghanistan; Clear Path's creativity and programming must remain as diverse as those needs in order to continue providing those we serve with the best possible care and assistance. Our Executive Director and Co-Founder Melissa Spicer always says that: "healthy Veterans make healthy communities." Our goal is to help make the communities we touch the healthiest in the nation.

Earl Fontenot
Chief Strategic Officer

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Earl Fontenot".

Alex Behm
Chief Operations Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alexander J. Behm".

Who We Are

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Melissa Spicer, President,
CEO and Co-Founder

Alex Behm, Chief
Operations Officer,
U.S. Marine Corps Veteran

Earl Fontenot, Chief
Strategic Officer,
U.S. Army Veteran

Rob Solano, Staff and
Organizational Development,
*Sgt. Maj. (Ret.), U.S. Marine
Corps*

ORGANIZATION STAFF

Erin Brisson, Canine
Programming Trainer/
Coordinator (K9 Mingle)

Adam Coleman, External
Programs Asst. Director
U.S. Marine Corps Veteran

Ron Dean, Dir. of Facilities
U.S. Army Veteran

Venecia DeRoose, Peer
Support Manager,
U.S. Navy Veteran

Lizzette Donigan, Human
Resources Manager

**Cory Farragher-
Gnadt**, Peer
Support Mgr.,
*U.S. Marine
Corps
Veteran*

Terry Finley, National
Outreach Manager,
MSG (Ret.), U.S. Army

Matthew Foster, Facilities
Manager,
U.S. Air Force Veteran

Lynn Fox, Outreach
Coordinator

Bethany Frank, Front Desk
/ Administrative Assistant

Susan Goodfellow,
Accounting Assistant

Christopher Griffin,
Culinary Director/
Executive Chef,
U.S. Marine Corps Veteran

Kate Hannon, Internal
Programs Director

Brian Knapp, Salesforce
Admin / IT Manager
U.S. Marine Corps Veteran

Char Marx, RN, Integrative
Medicine Manager
U.S. Army Veteran

Erin McDonald, Canine
Program Manager

Justin Muir, Peer Support
Program Assistant,
U.S. Marine Corps Veteran

Barb Murphy, Chief
Financial Officer

Karen Krull Robart,
Culinary Program Manager

Jeannine Rogers, Volunteer
Manager

Deb Roth, Canine
Programming Trainer

Capt. Bob Schug, Warriors
Working Program Manager,
U.S. Navy Reserve

Katina Sinclair,
Community Outreach
Coordinator

Nicole Soule, Canine
Programming Trainer/
Coordinator (Dogs2Vets)

Kayleen Spicer, Social
Engagement Manager

Lance Stenfeldt, External
Programs Director,
SFC (Ret.), U.S. Army

Heidi Sullivan, Warriors
Working Manager

Myron Thurston III,
CFRE, Chief Development
Officer

Christian Vischi, P.R. /
Marketing Manager

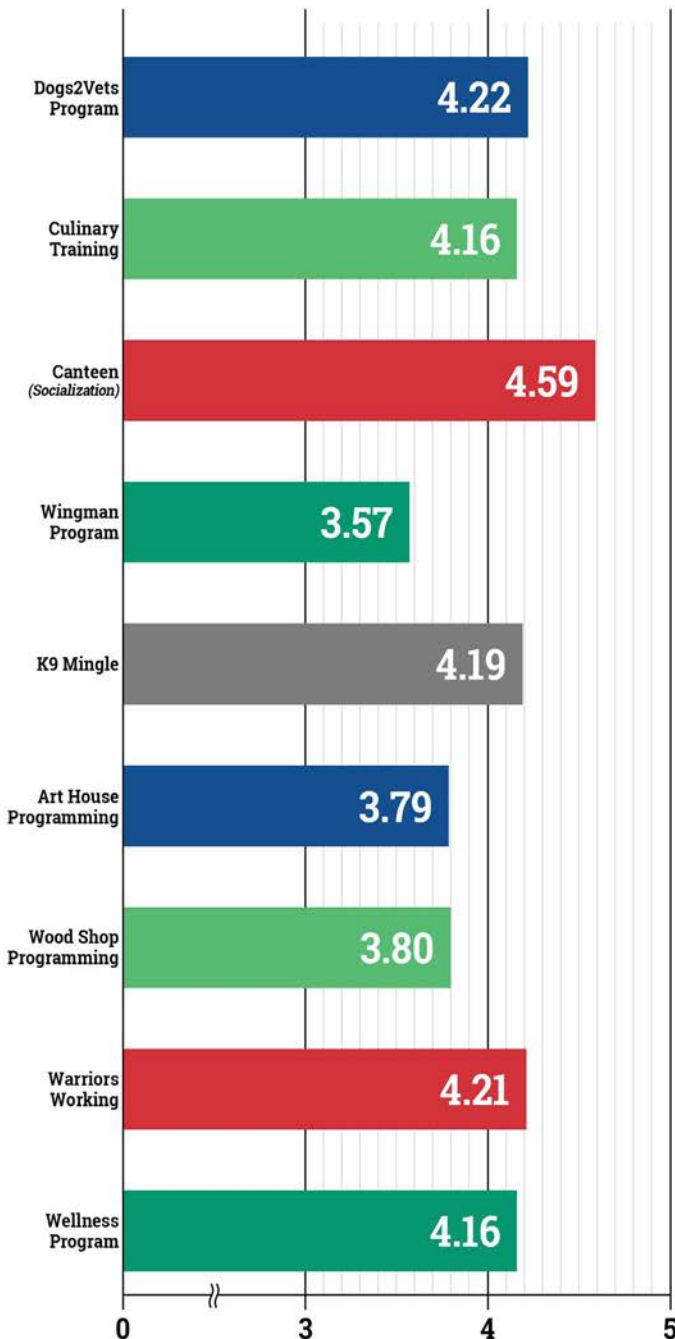
Jonathan Wanglund,
Peer Support Coordinator,
Southern Tier,
U.S. Air Force Veteran

Ryan Woodruff, Director
of Canine Programming,
U.S. Marine Corps Veteran

Our vision is to be *the* VSO that Veterans turn to in order to improve their physical and emotional well-being and general sense of self-worth.

Survey results from Veterans:

Program Utilization and Effectiveness



Veterans were asked on a scale of one to five (with one being "needs significant improvement" and five being "outstanding") how would you rate the programs that Clear Path offers?

Our programs and services experienced unique growth this past year. One example is our Canine Program. On the following pages you will read about how Dogs2Vets has grown to be able to sustain three subset programs: Harley's Heroes, K9 Mingle, and Puppy Development.

Equally exciting, our Peer Program has continued to expand as we further develop our capability to serve Veterans within 23 counties. Thanks to funding from Madison County, Clear Path now sports a 15-passenger van that we use, in part, to bring Veterans to our main facility in Chittenango for Wednesday Canteen. The van alternates routes between Madison and Onondaga counties each week, and gives Veterans the opportunity for Canteen along with our other Wednesday offerings: woodworking classes in its workshop, a variety of art classes, modalities by appointment (including Reiki, polarity, acupuncture, acupressure and massage), and a variety of employment services (such as career counseling, resume support and even mock interviews).

Toward the end of 2018, Broome County received a \$620,000 grant from the Regional Economic Development Council to build a resource center in the county that will house Clear Path Southern Tier along with other Veterans service agencies. The goal is to provide a one stop shop for Veterans and their family members.

One set of results (*pictured at left*) from a survey of the Veteran population by Ayni Brigade, a strategic consulting firm, shows that Veterans who use the programs at Clear Path view them quite favorably. The unweighted average of the nine programs surveyed is 4.08 out of 5.00.

Clear Path for Veterans will continue to work in 2019 and beyond through both our in-house programs and services and our community and national partnerships toward our vision to be *the* Veterans Service Organization that Upstate New York Veterans are proud to turn to for their needs.

Programs & Services

A Year In Review

Canine Programming

For Canine Programming at Clear Path for Veterans, 2018 will be a year to remember. Through the continued support of participants, community members and donors, Dogs2Vets has grown to be able to sustain three subset programs within the department: Harley's Heroes, K9 Mingle and Puppy Development. With the addition of Harley's Heroes and Puppy Development, Dogs2Vets has expanded beyond providing just one service and has renamed the department Canine Programming. With this new expansion, Canine Programming will be able to provide a source of sustainability and efficiency to this already successful department.

In 2018, one of the goals of Canine Programming was to achieve candidacy with Assistance Dogs International (ADI), and the team is proud to announce that the goal was accomplished. With candidacy, Canine Programming has had the opportunity to mentor and network with other programs across the nation, helping it to enhance and improve upon its own programs and services. Since the beginning of 2018, the director of Canine Programming – along with the manager and trainers – have been able to participate in four national training opportunities, including an ADI Conference and mentorship training with Warrior Canine Connection in Boyds, Md. It is opportunities such as these that will continue to elevate Canine Programming to provide the best service possible.

Harley's Heroes – the newest addition to the department – encapsulates the core of the owner-trainer model at Clear Path and aims to enhance the human-animal bond between canine and Veteran. Harley's Heroes was developed for all Veterans who wish to enter Canine Programming with their own dog. Those who are enrolled in Harley's Heroes can expect to take six months of classes in a group setting. The curriculum for this program begins with the foundations of canine training and advances to learning more about communication and training unique behaviors.

Some of those enrolled in Harley's Heroes may be given the opportunity to progress into advanced training and enter the Service Dog Program. Many of those enrolled will graduate with trained companion animals, which is equally as important as a service dog for Veterans



participating in this program.

Also new in 2018 was Canine Programming's Puppy Development Program. This is a community-based fostering program that aims to raise and train selected puppies from the age of eight weeks up to 18 months. This program is reserved for Veterans who have been identified to be matched with their canine companion. Together, the team will participate in a follow-on six-month advanced training program and will eventually graduate as a Service Dog Team. The foster families of the Puppy Development Program are the core to successfully raising these canines. Their commitment, dedication and perseverance is a true testament to how communities can come together to responsibly give back to those who have served.

During 2018, Canine Programming's Dogs2Vets Program was able to successfully graduate seven teams, including five service dogs and two emotional support animals. Each of these teams graduated from an intense training program that required weekly training sessions that lasted a minimum of 18 months. From the Canine Programming staff at Clear Path for Veterans, it has been a privilege to watch them grow and successfully meet the requirements of the program.

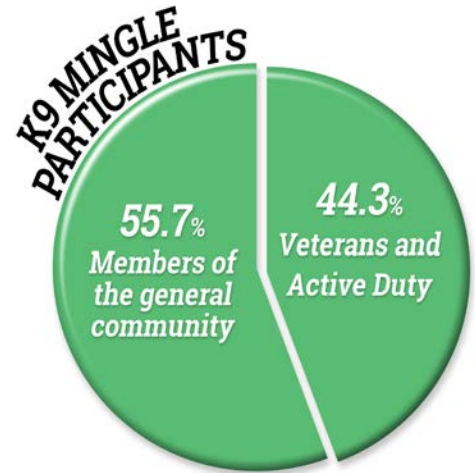
K9 Mingle

Our K9 Mingle Program remained quite busy throughout 2018. Our staff offered a variety of classes and modules to both Veterans and the general community.

Lure Coursing quickly became a popular offering this year. A lure course provides high-energy dogs an opportunity to chase after a plastic lure in a safe and controlled environment. No special skills or training are required for this activity except a mild walking warm-up immediately prior to the sport. This activity provides a great energy and exercise outlet for all breeds of dogs, while helping to improve their focus and agility.

We also added a new Tricks Class to the program as well as a Clicker Module. All of Clear Path for Veterans canine training is through positive reinforcement. Clicker training – first developed for marine animals – works because it tells the animal that whatever he or she was doing at the time of the click was correct and that they will earn a reward. Behavioral science tells us when a canine is rewarded for a good behavior they will often continue that behavior.

Although the K9 Mingle Program



is still in its infancy, it continues to grow solidly. The membership dues it generated in 2018 helped to support our Canine Programming. We had 1,008 dogs attend a K9 Mingle Program offering in 2018, a near-even split of 44.3 percent canines teamed with Veterans and 55.7 percent teamed with members of the community.

For 2019, we have several additions in the planning stage. New creative workshops will incorporate our kitchen, art studio and woodshop on topics such as baking dog biscuits, pottery painting of dog bowls or treat canisters, and creating ornate wooden hooks for dog leashes. Planned new novelty class offerings include American Kennel Club S.T.A.R. puppy class, etiquette classes, and scent work classes. We are developing a new computer program which will help with organization and flow of the K9 Mingle Program, and we will utilize some new marketing techniques to help promote Clear Path for Veterans and the dog training that we provide.



Marty and her dog Gracie are pictured after the pair graduated from the Canine Good Citizens Prep Class and gained their CGC title. Gracie was one of more than 1,000 dogs to attend a K9 Mingle Program offering in 2018.



STUDY RESULTS:

Dogs uniquely reduce post-traumatic and perceived stress in Veterans

Veterans benefit significantly from dog ownership in combination with a structured dog training program.”

That is the finding of a scientific study published late in 2018 in *The Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine (JACM): Paradigm, Practice, and Policy Advancing Integrative Health*.

According to the study’s lead researcher, Dr. Dessa Bergen-Cico at Syracuse University’s Department of Public Health, “this is one of the first such studies to be published, on the impact dogs have on Veterans posttraumatic stress symptoms, that includes the scientific rigor of a control group and longitudinal follow-up.” For the study, 48 Veterans were either enrolled in Clear Path for Veterans’ owner-trainer Dogs2Vets Program or were placed in the wait list control group. The study, which began in 2014, tracked Dogs2Vets’ 12-month structured program that engaged Veterans in the training and care of a dog that they ultimately adopted.

During the study, participating Veterans were measured for post-traumatic stress symptoms, perceived stress, self-compassion, isolation and self-judgment.

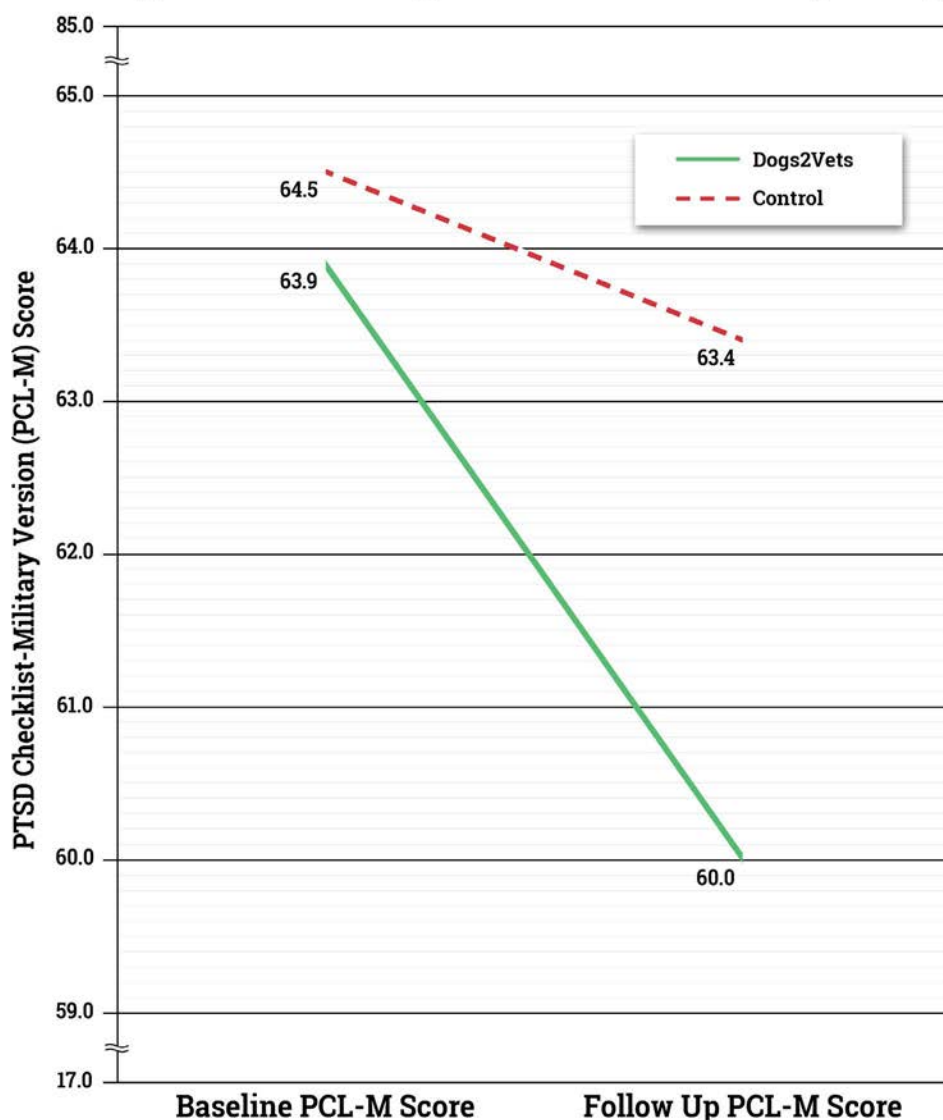
“The results of this study serve to bolster what we have observed since the founding of our Dogs2Vets Program nearly eight years ago.

That across the board, Veterans who participate in our Dogs2Vets Program experience significant reductions in symptoms of post-traumatic stress, perceived stress, isolation and self-judgment,” said Director of Canine Programming Ryan Woodruff. “In the control group – those placed on the wait list – we saw no significant

improvements in these same measures.”

According to an analysis of U.S. Veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, there are many individual and systematic barriers to engaging military Veterans in traditional clinical treatment for post-traumatic stress disorder,

Longitudinal Changes in PCL-M Score by Group



Post-traumatic stress symptoms were measured with the PTSD Checklist-Military Version (PCL-M). The PCL-M is a 17-item questionnaire in which respondents rate the degree to which they have been bothered by military-related post-traumatic stress symptoms in the past month using a 5-point Likert scale from 1 (not at all) to 5 (extremely).

and, as a result, fewer than half of Veterans in need of PTSD treatment will actually receive clinical services through the Veterans Administration. Because of this, effective complementary and alternative strategies outside of traditional clinical structures are needed for Veterans with PTSD, such as animal-assisted interventions.

Why would Clear Path's Dogs2Vets Program stand above other animal assisted interventions?

"Researchers note that the compassionate and non-judgmental demeanor of dogs uniquely support Veterans with PTSD. Veterans who often experience hypervigilance, isolation and reintegration challenges will find dogs as a better compliment to combating PTSD than other animal types," Woodruff said.

"I found it very reassuring that the Veterans' responses at the conclusion of the study, proves our canine programming has impact. This study mirrors what we have heard since we opened the program in January 2011. Responses such as: 'My dog has



made me more comfortable in public places and around people I don't know.' / 'My dog has helped decrease my isolation by fostering my socialization and reducing my PTSD symptoms.' / 'I'm a better spouse, parent and person overall.' We hear this anecdotal evidence on a weekly basis and although owner trainer canine models are more time consuming and intensive, the long-term benefits far outweigh an easier, shorter approach," said Clear Path's Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer Melissa Spicer.

The study was co-authored by Dessa Bergen-Cico, Ph.D., and Brooks Gump, Ph.D., in the Department of Public Health at Syracuse University; Yvonne Smith, PhD, and Collin Gooley, MSW, in the School of Social Work at Syracuse University; and Karen Wolford, Ph.D., in the Department of Psychology at SUNY Oswego; along with Clear Path for Veterans' staff members Kathleen Hannon, Spicer and Woodruff.

This study was supported, in part, through funding from the National Science Foundation's Research Education for Undergraduates and is one of the few studies of its kind.

The *JACM* is the leading peer-reviewed journal providing scientific research for the evaluation and integration of complementary and alternative medicine into mainstream medical practice. The complete article is available online at TinyURL.com/CP18JACM.



Social Engagement / Wellness

Wellness

We offered weekly modalities during much of the year, including acupuncture, polarity, massage, reiki, and quantum touch among others. *(See the graphics below and on page 16 for a look at the modalities' impact.)* These were provided by our volunteer practitioners and were greatly appreciated by all who attended. This was an opportunity for participants to try out different integrative medicine techniques to enhance their well-being and find resources in the community to continue to utilize their expertise. This came full circle when the VA created the choice program which allows Veterans to seek paid integrative health options in their community. We are looking forward to evolving our programming in 2019 to continue to fill the gaps within wellness.



Some of the fruits of labor at a beading class led by Laura Schmidtka.

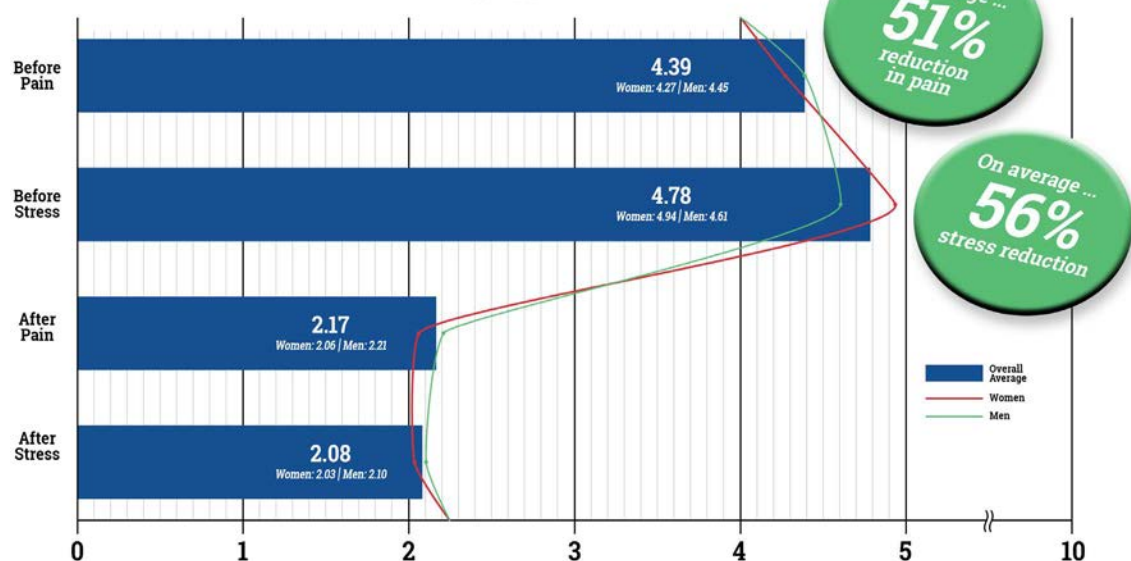
Art

In 2018, the Art Program introduced new classes as well as continued to offer participant favorites. The woodcarving class offered on Wednesdays doubled its size thanks to facilitator Norm Altman's charm and talent, and it continues to meet each Wednesday morning as a great morning activity before canteen. Linda Bigness, Mark Teece, Melissa Morgante, Laura Schmidtka, Sarah Tietje, Bob K. and Mollie Mills offered classes in paint, metal working, card/jewelry craft, drawing and pottery, all made possible

through funding from CNY Arts, Inc. We welcomed Tim Gerken, associate professor at SUNY Morrisville, who offered a photography workshop utilizing our grant from The John Ben Snow Foundation & Memorial Trust for equipment. Tisha Wood and Lillian Kennedy traveled from Colorado to provide "A Veteran's Pallet," a fine arts workshop that spanned two full days of hands-on learning. This was made available through individual sponsorships. Mills offered her pottery painting class

Integrative Medicine Modalities

Overall pain / stress levels pre- and post-modalities
(Individual weekday appointments)



Note: Recipients of an individual weekday appointment participated in a singular modality on that day.



Participants at a scarecrow-making activity this past fall as part of the Saturday Friends and Family Program.

“Pottery With a Purpose” to raise funds for future programming, which was a great success.

Saturday Friends and Family

Clear Path made the change to offer our Friends and Family programming available on select Saturdays throughout the year, usually once per month. This allowed us to provide more activities to all of our guests. These Saturdays include fun family-centered activities – holiday or season appropriate. Both inside and outside activities are planned – weather-permitting – and wellness options are offered by registration when available. Our Saturday attendance has grown exponentially and we’re looking forward to continuing that trend with a generous grant from the Jim and Juli Boeheim Foundation.

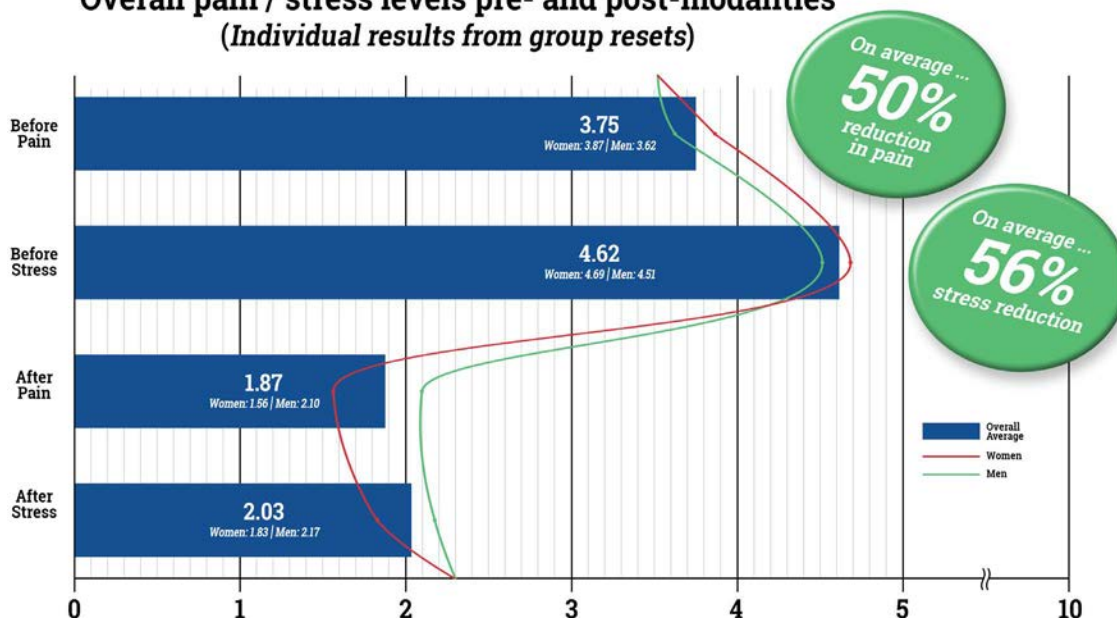
Women Proudly Served

Women’s Coffee Morning continued to meet once each month in various locations across the community. We were happy to visit the Cazenovia Art Park, Onondaga County Community College, and Caitlyn Bom Photography of Syracuse among others.

Our annual Women Veteran Appreciation Day was very successful and included a few new activities. Attendees enjoyed speakers, music, food, blacksmith workshops and more. We are so thankful for those that were able to attend and are looking forward to the event in 2019.

Have Substantial Impact

Overall pain / stress levels pre- and post-modalities
(Individual results from group resets)



Note: Participants of a group reset received a full day of integrative medicine.

Education Summit

We were happy to host the second annual New York State Education Summit April 12-13 and we welcomed representatives of many colleges from across

CONTINUED
ON NEXT
PAGE

Social Engagement / Wellness

the state to participate in this professional development opportunity. Themes and discussion centered on current trends with Veteran students; a human-centered approach to better understanding, reaching and supporting student-Veterans and their families; and sharing ideas on how to better serve them. Our speakers are experts in their areas of focus, and the summit again included a student panel which shared their personal experiences and recommendations.



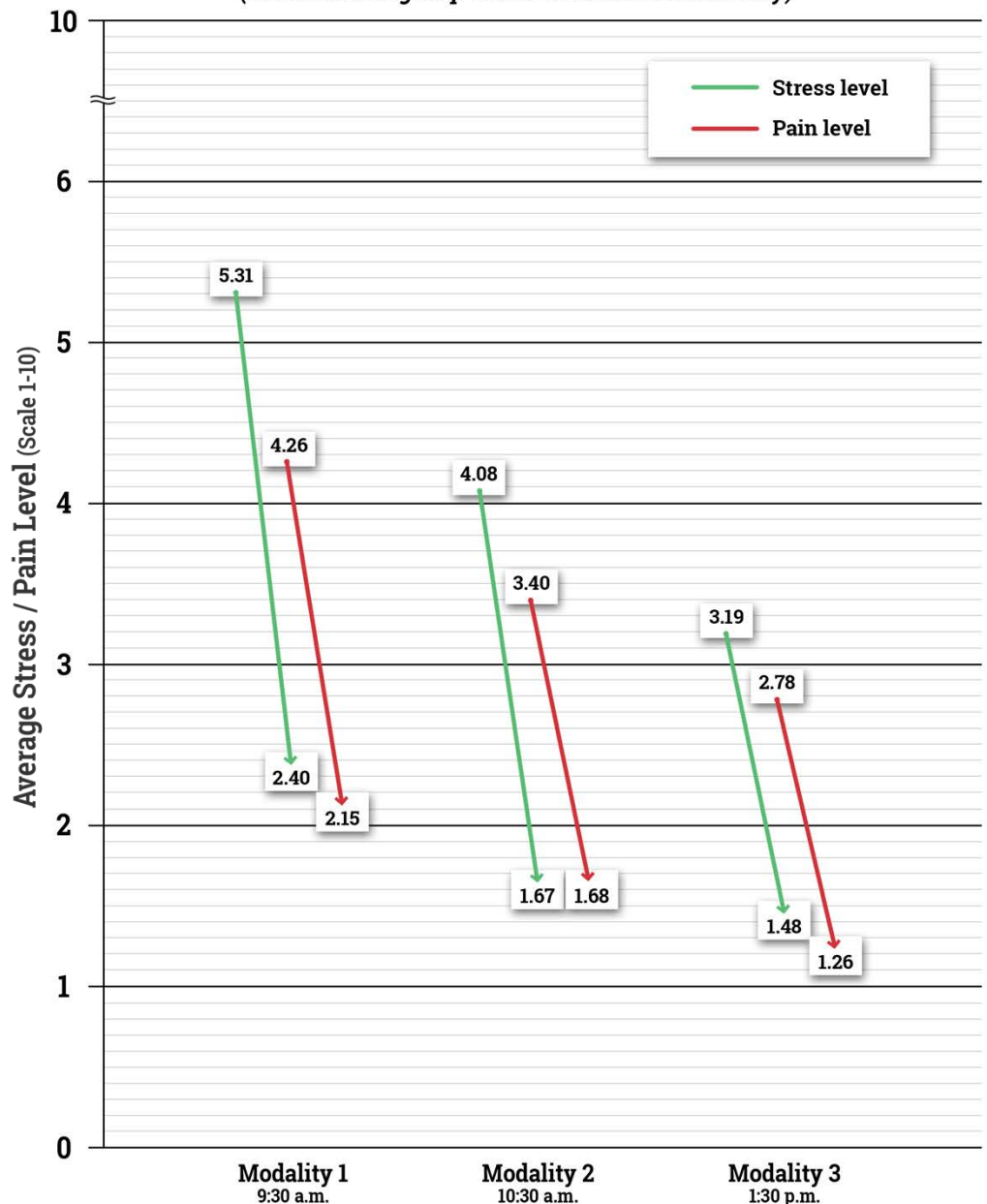
Program Founder Spotlight



Char Marx

We extended well wishes for a happy retirement to Char Marx, who created and ran our Wellness and Women Proudly Served programs and helped our social engagement get off to a solid start. Marx came to Clear Path as a volunteer and – similar to other staff members – stayed to create innovative programming for our Veterans. She will be dearly missed, and we hope she enjoys retirement!

Sequential stress/pain levels pre- and post-modalities (Results from group resets held on the same day)



Note: Modality 1 is usually offered early in the morning; modality 2 is mid- to late morning; modality 3 is offered early afternoon. Some resets have four or five modalities, and the limited data sets for them show the same decreasing pain and stress levels.

Peer Mentoring and Wingmen

Through aggressive mobile outreach, our Peer Mentoring Program reaches Veterans and active duty military members exactly where they reside and helps prioritize and connect them to the resources they need. This program provides close, individualized support for those who have worn the uniform, and our peers understand the full scope of military transition. Our peer staff of Veterans are as diverse as the Veterans we serve, and they understand the importance of service after service. Thanks to our six-year partnership with Soldier On, our peers also support Veterans who have become or are at risk of being homeless. Our collaboration with Solider On enables us to find and support Veterans within a 23-county catchment area.

Thanks to the support of our past Senator John A. DeFrancisco, the New York State Joseph P. Dwyer grant has enabled us to broaden our peer support in Onondaga County. Moreover, in 2017, Broome County contracted with Clear Path to provide peer support in the Southern Tier. In partnership with local, regional and national organizations, our peer support program creates an all-encompassing network of camaraderie, resources and strong communities. Our peer mentors work to empower Veterans in establishing independent and purpose-driven lives, and collectively have served 100 years in the military with 24 deployments.

In 2018, the Peer Mentoring Program assisted more than 550 Veterans with food pantry and transportation support, referrals to affiliate Veteran agencies, and connected them to other resources within the counties served. Thanks to the overwhelming support of our community, we assisted Veterans and their families during Thanksgiving and Christmas. Through generous support from Madison County and Driver's Village in



Cicero, we obtained a 12-passenger van which ensures accessibility to Veterans who may be isolated or unable to get themselves to our main facility in Chittenango. Every Wednesday, this van transports Veterans to our facility from the surrounding counties.

Thanks to the collaboration of Broome County, Clear Path for Veterans maintains an office in Binghamton to expand our presence within the Southern Tier and better assist our Veterans in need. *(Read the Southern Tier report on page 18 for more details.)*



Clear Path Southern Tier

In 2018, Clear Path for Veterans Southern Tier continued to foster relationships with community partners. We have found it very beneficial to collaborate on events with these agencies to spread the word across the community about Clear Path for Veterans and to better connect with Veterans. The Veteran Coalition has been created because of these partnerships. The goal of the coalition is to include all Veteran organizations under one umbrella to allow more uniformity and to further outreach. We continue to enjoy successful and rewarding relationships with New York State Sen. Fred Akshar's office, Broome County Executive Jason Garner, Broome County Veteran Service Officer Brian Vojtisek, Southern Tier Veterans Support Group (STVSG), Binghamton Vet Center, Binghamton VA Outpatient Clinic, Binghamton University, New York State Veteran Service Officers, American Legions and Opportunities for Broome.

Our most successful event continues to be our Mobile Canteens. With the canteens funded by the Broome County Veterans Service Agency, we were able to host 10 canteens in 2018: three were held at American Legion Post 974 in Whitney Post and seven were held at American Legion Post 1645 in Binghamton. We served meals to more than 500 Veterans and their family members. The Binghamton Veteran Center and other community organizations have volunteered to be vendors and provided information to the Veterans and

family members in attendance. Mobile Canteens have been a great way to deliver Clear Path's story. It has also allowed us to connect with other resources within the community. We have received several Veteran referrals from community partners, and because of these referrals we were able to assist more than 1,000 Veterans and their immediate family members in 2018. We facilitated a Veteran Peer Support Group which gave Veterans time to just unwind and receive support from other Veterans; we had a total of 150 Veterans participate.

The Veteran Coalition coordinated a few events during the summer and fall. The group came together and hosted the Veteran Picnic in August, with 101 Veterans and family members showing up, despite inclement weather. The coalition also purchased hockey and baseball tickets for local Veterans. The partnerships that have emerged between local and government organizations have shown the importance of building solid community relationships. Clear Path Southern Tier has hosted several social outings, including day trips to Robert H. Treman State Park in Ithaca, the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, Roberson Museum and Science Center in Binghamton, and Kali's Klubhouse (Horse Farm) in Apalachin. The trip to the Baseball Hall of Fame was a hit with Korean War Veterans, as we had 10 attend.

This year, we were able to hire another peer manager to assist with the needs in Broome County and to help expand our services in Tioga and Chenango counties.

We have also provided services to nearly 50 Veterans in Steuben County. Our mission is to not turn away any Veteran or their immediate family when they are in of need assistance; we will always work to provide that Veteran with a resource or point the Veteran in the right direction. Because our peers are mobile, we are often able to provide services to Veterans who could not receive them otherwise because of their remote location. These rural communities need us to be able to physically reach the Veterans.



Southern Tier Veterans enjoyed a trip to the Northeast Classic Car Museum in Norwich.

One of our largest collaborations was with the Tioga County Veterans Service Agency. It hosted a Vietnam Veterans Ceremony at the local VFW Post with Clear Path providing the meal. A total of 163 Veterans and family members attended the event. It was a joy to see the appreciation given to those who served during the Vietnam War. We received great feedback from everyone in attendance. Another highlight was our Thanksgiving Meal which was hosted by American Legion Post 1645 and catered by Cracker Barrel. The

numbers were staggering for a Southern Tier event: we had 93 Veterans and family members, six vendors providing information, and a DJ – who was a Korean War Veteran – who volunteered his services.

The year ended with a bang. Broome County received a \$620,000 grant from the Regional Economic Development Council to build a resource center in the county for Veterans. The goal of the center is to provide a one stop shop for Veterans and their family members; the collocated services will allow Veterans to get some of their needs met in one location. This currently does not exist in the Southern Tier. Clear Path for Veterans Southern Tier will be a part of the resource center and it is very exciting to see what the year 2019 holds.



Peer Support Coordinator Jonathan Wanglund plates pie during a Thanksgiving Meal at American Legion Post 1645 in Binghamton. The entrée and sides were provided by Cracker Barrel Old Country Store and the pies were courtesy Wegmans.

In 2019, our strategy is to expand on our outreach. There are Veterans we have not been able to reach, and we need to reach them. We plan to approach the Veteran agencies, the nursing homes and the jails in the nearby counties to create more partnerships. We anticipate receiving a 12-passenger van in the coming year. We are very eager to receive this van because we will then be able to transport Veterans to our Chittenango location for social outings, and would give us more flexibility to coordinate events faster and further in advance. This coming year we will have a dual focus: outreach and social activities. Through these two mediums we will be able to connect to more Veterans who may not know about Clear Path for Veterans Southern Tier. We want to assist as many Veterans and their families as possible.

Onsite Events

Clear Path for Veterans organized and/or hosted six major events in 2018. The overwhelming response to each was positive and we owe that success to the hard work of our staff, volunteers and the many supporters of these events. While many of these events will be repeated in 2019, we are also planning at least one new offering plus our popular Sunday brunches.

MEGA MURPH

This year marked the third year of our CrossFit hero WOD (Workout Of the Day) Murph. The Mega Murph is an outdoor competition where athletes participate in the hero WOD Murph: a one-mile run, 100 pull-ups, 200 push-ups, 300 squats and a second one-mile run. It's a day for athletes and the community to come together to honor the memory of U.S. Navy SEAL Lt. Michael Murphy and to recognize all Veterans who serve our country. The Mega Murph was held on May 26, 2018, and more than 200 athletes participated. The gross revenue for the event was \$17,000 which was generated from the participating athletes, the more than 200

spectators and the many vendors who supported the event, including: American Reserve Clothing Co. of Salt City, Anything But Beer of Syracuse, Dirt Therapy (handcrafted herbal products), FOJO Coffee of Norwich, Jaxon Jovie Apparel, Klean Athlete Nutritional Supplements, Lululemon Athletic Apparel, Mettā Therapeutic Massage & Wellness of Syracuse, Move Along, Inc. (adapted recreational opportunities), O Yoga Studios of Syracuse and Dewitt, Ultimate Health & Performance of Fayetteville, The Onondaga School of Therapeutic Massage, Potatoes and Molasses Farm to Food Truck, Tenacity Jeans of Syracuse, Via Napoli Express Wood Fired Food Truck, War Cry Apparel, Village Community Acupuncture & Massage Therapy, and RICHES Apiary of Kirkville.

We are very appreciative of the Fayetteville Fire Department which provided volunteer EMT services.

RED, WHITE & BLUE BARBECUE

We welcomed back to the Red, White & Blue Barbecue Syracuse University's former head football coach and current Jacksonville Jaguars' Head Coach Doug Marrone and wife Helen. More than 500 attendees also had the chance to

EVENT PLANNING FOR 2019

Our eighth annual Red, White & Blue Barbecue on June 15 will be the preeminent event of the summer! Also, plan to join us for the Tour de Clear Path (returning on July 7), the Warrior Classic (hosted on Aug. 19 at Turning Stone Resort & Casino), and the Ride for Clear Path on Sept. 29.

Easter Sunday & Mother's Day Brunches – Our spring brunches are

an exciting exploration of culinary creativity. Our executive chef, culinary staff and volunteers will prepare a family-style buffet meal for more than 300 anticipated participants. Proceeds benefit the culinary program.

Climb for a Purpose Trek (New!) – This inaugural trek in 2019 will bring together Veterans and community members to climb Tanzania's Mount Kilimanjaro (19,345 ft.), the highest mountain in Africa. This epic six-day trek will have Veterans and community members bond together in team-building events and camaraderie as they train and share their experiences.

meet with special guests: Author and TV Personality Adam Richman; Myers Jackson, star of DIY Network's *Texas Flip N Move*; and Mark Vigil, father of the late Mark "Miles" Vigil, for whom our annual Miles & Maddy Award is named. The Veteran recipient of the Miles & Maddy Award was U.S. Marine Corps Veteran Nels Youngstrom. He has been a volunteer dating back to 2013 as one of Clear Path's original wingmen who spends countless hours volunteering for Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing. David Spicer was the recipient of the civilian side of the Miles & Maddy Award. David, husband of Clear Path Co-Founder and CEO Melissa, has quietly volunteered thousands of hours to ensure that Clear Path's grounds stay beautiful and kept to the highest standard.

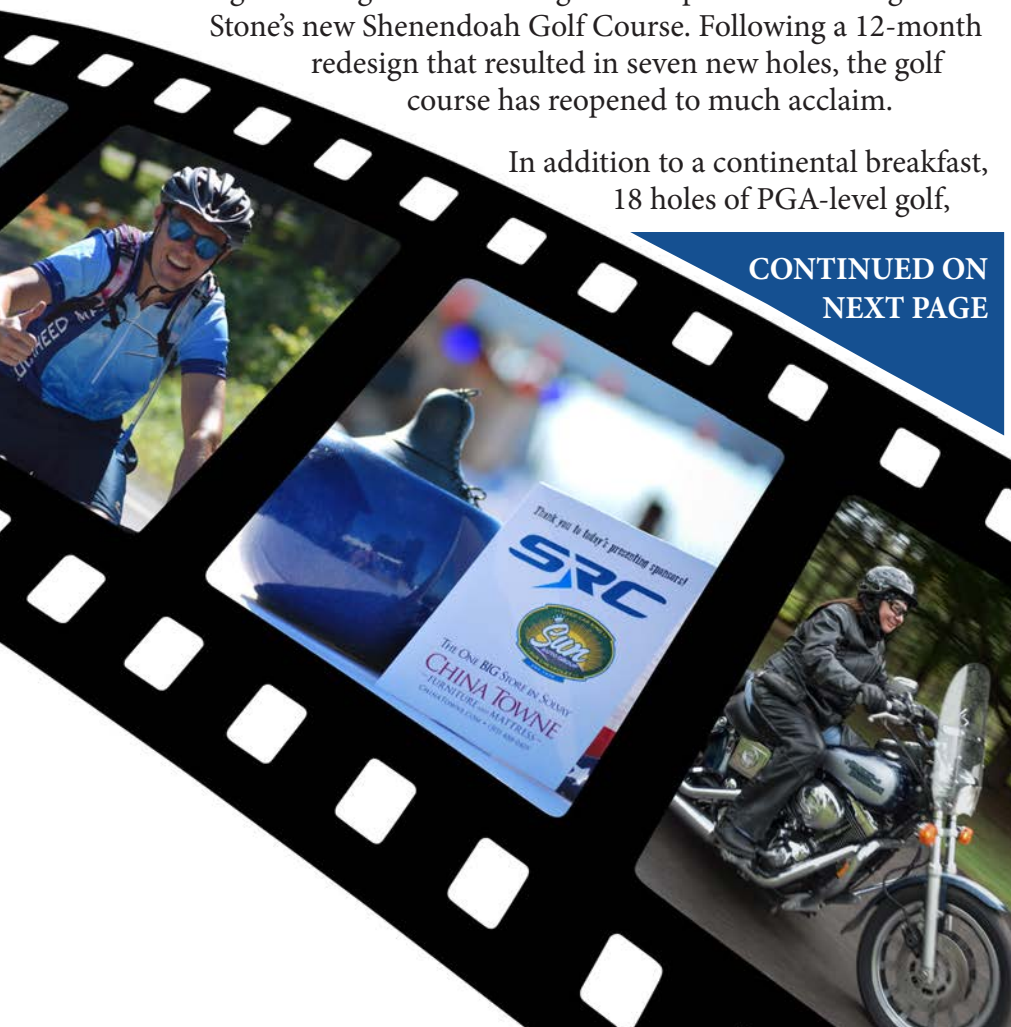
This year's event – our seventh – was our highest grossing to date, bringing in more than \$75,000 thanks, in part, to generous sponsorship from China Towne Furniture and Mattress, SRC, Inc., Sun Auto, an anonymous in-kind gift, Hospitality Concepts Group, CenterBridge Planning Group, Hancock Estabrook, LLP, Brewery Ommegang, Erie Canal Brewing Co., 10th Mountain Whiskey & Spirit Co., Cross Creek Nursery, Sno Top Ice Cream of Manlius, Blitman & King, LLP, Creekside Meadows Farm, Johnson Estate Winery, Four Roses Bourbon, and Have a Shot of Freedom Whiskey.

WARRIOR CLASSIC AT SHENENDOAH GOLF COURSE

Our inaugural Warrior Classic golf tournament was held on Aug. 20 at the Shenendoah Golf Course at Turning Stone Resort and Casino. This was a unique golfing opportunity as our 140+ tournament participants were among the first golfers in the region to experience Turning Stone's new Shenendoah Golf Course. Following a 12-month redesign that resulted in seven new holes, the golf course has reopened to much acclaim.

In addition to a continental breakfast,
18 holes of PGA-level golf,

CONTINUED ON
NEXT PAGE



2018: By the numbers

40,000

PUSH-UPS PERFORMED

18,750

MILES RIDDEN/DRIVEN

5,000*

VEGETABLES CHOPPED,
PREPARED (*APPROXIMATE)

\$182,070

TOTAL GROSS PROCEEDS

1,620

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS

Onsite Events

a delicious lunch, an exclusive swag bag, auction and awards ceremony, the event also featured special guest retired U.S. Army Staff Sergeant Travis Mills of the 82nd Airborne. Mills is a recalibrated warrior, motivational speaker and international advocate for Veterans and amputees.

We were able to gross in excess of \$44,000 at this tournament thanks, in part, to generous support from NBT Bank, N.A., Abscope Environmental, DGC International, SAAB Defense and Security, Premium Mortgage Corp., NUAIR Alliance, Proforma Strategic Marketing, Woodbine Hospitality Group, Drivers Village Chevrolet, and Voss Signs. More than a dozen volunteers contributed to helping this tournament become a tremendous success in just its first year.

TOUR de CLEAR PATH

The inaugural Tour de Clear Path gave local cyclists three route options across Madison County: a short Fun Ride along Salt Springs Road, a 25-mile ride to Canastota, and a 50-mile route including parts of Oneida. Nearly 65 cyclists departed Clear Path on July 8, and within four hours all had completed either the 25- or 50-mile route; both options included a climb back up Salt Springs Road, which features 450 feet of elevation gain in just two miles.

The tour grossed \$2,500 thanks to generous sponsorship by BareBurger of New York, along with goods and services donations from BonkWerx, Syracuse Bicycle, GU Energy, Gifford's Ice Cream, Madison Bistro, Lockheed Martin and Cricket Wireless.

RIDE FOR CLEAR PATH

The sixth annual Ride for Clear Path was held on Sept. 30, 2018 and featured more than 400 motorcyclists (plus an additional 50 volunteers, staff and non-riders).

The gross revenue of \$43,570 makes this event the most successful ride in the event's six year history. That figure was accomplished thanks to the significant effort of members of the Southern Hills Posse Motorcycle Club. The club held its annual golf tournament at Vesper Hills Golf Club in Tully the weekend prior to the Ride for Clear Path. The club also hosted a

raffle with the winner choosing between a 2018 Harley Davidson Street Bob or a 2018 Honda Pioneer Side by Side ATV. (The raffle was partially underwritten by FX Caprara Harley-Davidson of Adams Center.)

Success for the event is also attributed to support from Anything But Beer and Erie Canal Brewing Co. (beverage donations), the Salvation Army (donation of donuts), Harley Davidson of Syracuse and FX Caprara (contributions toward raffle basket), Deployed Resources (tent rental), the Vet Center, and Charles Preuss (airbrush donation). The Red Knights Motorcycle Club provided road support along with Madison County Sheriff's Department.

NEW THIS YEAR: MUSIC THAT MATTERS

This was the second year of Music that Matters, but the first time it was hosted at Clear Path for Veterans. The day (Nov. 3) began with the inaugural Miles that Matter, a 5k cross-country style trail run across Clear Path's property. The trail run was sponsored by The Sneaker Store of New Hartford.

There were nearly 70 ticket reservations for Music That Matters, which featured live outdoor music in a heated tent from three regionally-acclaimed bands: The Old Main, House of Hamill and Adam Ezra Group. Food was provided by Ray Brothers Barbeque of Bouckville and Via Napoli Express Wood Fired Food Truck, and beverages were provided by Good Nature Farm Brewery.

A portion of the expenses for Music That Matters was covered by a grant from Chartwells Higher Ed at Colgate in Hamilton.



The Ride for Clear Path draws hundreds of motorcyclists from the surrounding counties for a beautiful fall ride.

Financial Coaching for Veterans

According to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), most people agree that savings and income are part of financial well-being, but they also point to four other key elements that better establish financial well-being.

*People who have high levels of financial well-being **feel in control** of their day-to-day and month-to-month finances. They cover their expenses and pay their bills on time, and generally they do not worry about having enough money to get by.*

*Whether they get in a car accident or are temporarily laid off from a job, these consumers have the **capacity to absorb a financial shock**, through savings, insurance or family to help stop the event from turning into a longer-lasting setback.*

*Consumers with a higher sense of financial well-being are often **on track to meet their financial goals**. Whether or not they have a formal financial plan, they are setting goals that are important to them, and working toward those goals.*

*Consumers with **flexible financial freedom** can make choices that allow them to enjoy life, whatever that means to them. Whether that is taking a family vacation, going out to eat, or working less to spend more time with family, these consumers have the financial flexibility to do what they value and what makes them happy.*

Since 2016, CFPB Financial Coach Steven C. Schanely, ChFC, CLU, AFC, ChFEBC, CLTC, has been contracted to offer a monthly Financial Coaching for Veterans workshop here at Clear Path.

These workshops have been presented on a variety of topics, including:

- Protecting Consumer Rights
- Investing
- Insurance
- Assessing Your Situation
- Goal Setting
- Savings
- Managing Income and Benefits
- Paying Bills and Other Expenses
- Managing Cash Flow
- Dealing with Debt

- Credit Reports and Credit Scores
- Evaluating Financial Service Providers, Products and Services

In 2016, as the Financial Coaching for Veterans program was ramping up, there were 88 new clients served. In 2017, that number increased to 138 new clients (a 56.8 percent increase), and 2018 ended with 171 new clients served (a nearly 24 percent increase). These numbers strictly reflect new clients; additionally, many of the original new clients in 2016 and 2017 continue to be served by Schanely.

Each client spends, on average, 3.5 appointments with Schanely, giving them the ability to better evaluate their financial condition and make necessary changes for the better.

In terms of overall engagements (new and returning clients), there were 239 client engagements in 2016, 433 in 2017, and 537 in 2018. Combined, these clients have established more than 1,400 individual goals. For the goals established between Oct. 1, 2016 and Aug. 31, 2018, nearly 60 percent have been accomplished, and the majority of the remaining goals are still in progress.

To start 2019, Schanely is offering a series of three “Money Management 101” workshops in January, February and March. This workshop is designed to cover a wide array of subjects from a 30,000-foot view. Topics will include: budgeting, balancing a checkbook, an overview of financial planning, savings, goal setting, insurance, and investing.

“This program has yielded (very) positive results both in the number of Veterans seen and the qualitative improvements in the lives of those receiving the services,” Schanely said. “(But,) this work will never be done. ... This program is proving that it can improve virtually everyone in terms of moving them from where they are today – regardless of their situation – toward where they would prefer to be. I think, sometimes, we tend to only think about Vets that are in crisis. Crisis *prevention* is more beneficial. Financial wellness permeates many aspects of life to include, but not limited to, mental health, physical health and relationships. Everyone can stand to benefit from improving their situation.”



Volunteer Program

Our volunteer program engages our Veterans through shared mission, and educates our community on warrior culture. Through service, both Veterans and civilians can work side by side to give back to those who have served our country, and strengthen our community.

Our Veterans find hope by either serving in, or being served by, our Volunteer Program. Those who have served in the military often say the biggest loss after leaving is no longer working together towards a mission greater than themselves. Contributing to local communities, alongside Veterans of all eras, is a powerful way to reclaim that sense of camaraderie.

For the civilian community, there is no greater honor than to serve those who have put their lives on the line to protect our families and our country. Through volunteerism, civilians can powerfully express their gratitude to the lives of thousands of Veterans who connect with Clear Path every year.

In 2018, we hosted 10 interns and engaged 51 groups from across the region. Our total volunteer hours for the year were 43,601 (*see chart at right*) performed by 875 unique volunteers. Although that figure dwarfs 2017 by an 81.3 percent increase, the majority of that increase comes from volunteer hours attributed to our Puppy Development Program. The nearly 900 volunteers performed 4,410 jobs for us last year. As of the close of 2018, among our thousands of volunteers who consider their volunteer status to be “active” are 138 who identify as Veterans, Reserves or active duty.

Those 875 volunteers served at Clear Path in a variety of ways: **PROGRAMS AND SERVICES** – culinary/agricultural, onsite and offsite events, Wellness practitioners, fundraising events, Peer Support, Puppy Development, and employment; **OPERATIONS** – workshop leaders, administrative, facilities (cleaning and maintenance); and **SPECIALIZED SKILLS** – such as carpentry, plumbing, electrical, moving, and musicians. You can find our online volunteer application at www.ClearPath4vets.com/Volunteer.

MILES & MADDY AWARD RECIPIENTS

The Miles & Maddy Award was established in 2013 to honor service above self in its

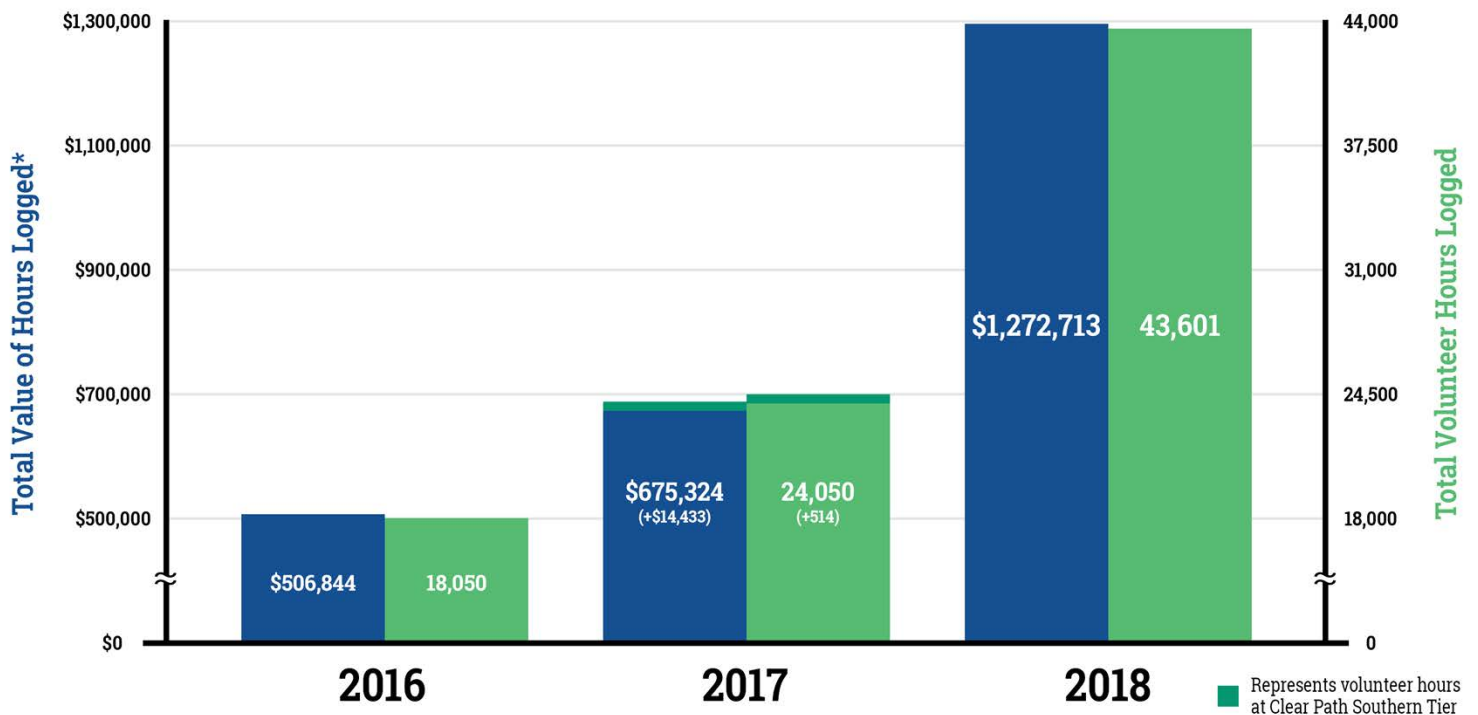
truest form. This award honors the selfless service of Mark “Miles” Vigil (Veteran) and Maddy Spicer (civilian). David Spicer was the recipient of the civilian side of the 2018 Miles & Maddy Award. David, husband to Melissa, has quietly volunteered thousands of hours to ensure that Clear Path’s grounds stay beautiful and kept to the highest standard. (Presenting the award to him below left is Clear Path’s Earl Fontenot.) U.S. Marine Corps Veteran Nels Youngstrom, who served during the Vietnam War, has been a volunteer dating back to 2013 as one of Clear Path’s original wingmen. He also played a role in mentoring our CEO about “warrior culture.” Youngstrom also spends countless hours volunteering for Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing – which is a high-quality, full-spectrum fly fishing program offered to disabled active military service personnel that meets twice a month at Clear Path – and the Marine Corps League Emerald City Detachment. Accepting the Miles & Maddy Veteran Award on his behalf – as he was in Sweden on a Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing expedition – was his wife, Kari (pictured below right receiving the award from Mark Vigil, father of the late Miles Vigil).



The Red, White & Blue Barbecue requires more than 100 volunteers to facilitate our largest fundraiser of the year.



Volunteer Hours / Value



Volunteer Milestones

At our annual Volunteer Appreciation Brunch in October 2018, we thanked volunteers who reached a significant milestone in terms of contributed lifetime hours in the previous year. To these volunteers, we extend our sincere appreciation for your dedicated time and service. Your contribution is incredibly meaningful to our mission. Heartfelt "thank yous" are extended to:

1,000+ hours or more

Melissa Spicer

John Mays

Glen Brooks

Mike Raith

David Spicer

Steve Strumlok

BJ Brang

Jo Ann Mostar

Sherry Kaderli

Kevin Kaderli

Karen Krull Robart

Kent Gillis

500-999 hours

Laura Schmidtko

Yvonne LiBlanc

Lynn Strumlok

Diana Egnoto

Robert DeLuke

Kaelyn Klass

John Isler

Gary Burgmeier

Susan Goodfellow

Susan Koory-Spink

Matt Foster

Cindy Hawks

Char Marx

Bethany Frank

Diane Haller

Ron Dean

Kate Hannon

Earl Priest



Warriors Working volunteers (from left) Bill Woods, Adrienne Osmun and Kerstin McKay along with Program Manager Bob Schug (second from right) review Veterans' application materials.

Warriors Working

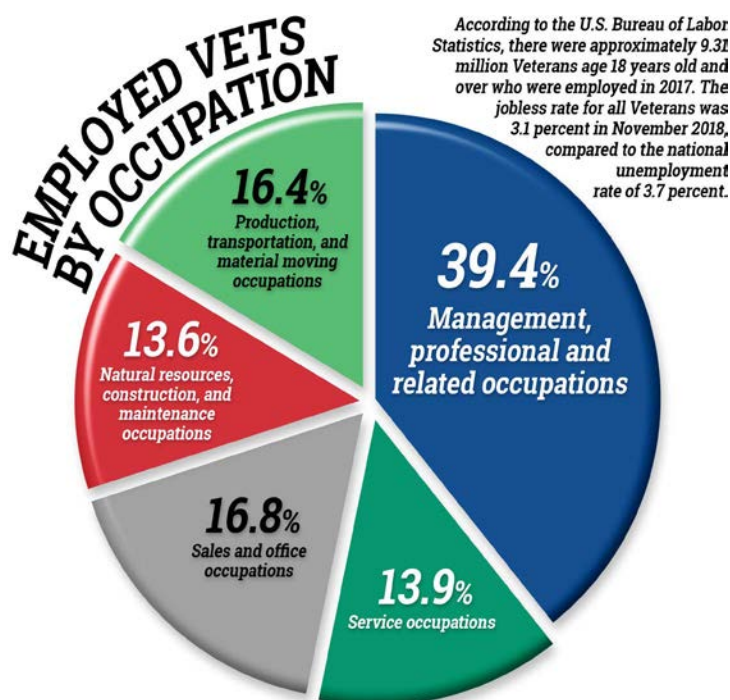
Clear Path for Veterans' Warriors Working program empowers Veterans to enter the workforce by equipping them with the necessary skills and training to ensure success in achieving their goals. The program provides career services support that is customized to meet everyone's unique needs. We take the time to counsel both the Veteran and the client regarding potential barriers to successful employment. Veterans who require additional support will work closely with a peer mentor in navigating and overcoming circumstances that inhibit forward progress. Clear Path's in-house training includes resume writing, interview tips and techniques, and job search strategies. We partner with clients in whom we see a genuine desire to support our Veterans and who are willing to go the extra mile for their success.

Our Warriors Working Program provided career-related support to dozens of Veterans and their immediate families in 2018. The program officially enrolled 53 Veterans; of those, 12 were placed into careers, four are enrolled in school or training, and we are currently actively supporting 15 Veterans. This is impressive as the program underwent a staffing change during the year. However, there was no drop in service to our partner businesses or to the Veterans to whom we serve thanks to the exceptional quality of support provided to the Warriors Working program by our volunteers.

The Warriors Working Program has been under

new leadership since late fall 2018. We have already had success in procuring new client relationships and will continue to show tremendous growth in this area in 2019. More importantly, the Warriors Working Program cares about Veterans and their success, and we are here for all Veterans regardless of circumstances.

For 2019, the Warriors Working Program is striving to procure additional relationships with higher paying and more diversified positions available to our Veterans. However, the main goal of the program continues to be to ensure Veterans are placed into appropriate careers and receive holistic warrior care.



*U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics for 2017. Statistics for 2018 are not released until March 2019.

The Summit Group

The Summit Group is a network of community professionals and service providers dedicated to addressing the specific needs of Veterans, military members and their families through creative programs and services that enhance Veteran well-being, social and economic integration, and sustainment.

The group convened eight times in 2018 with an average participation of 31 attendees representing more than 40 organizations. Highlights of these meetings were learning and networking with diverse groups and organizations, including Warrior Salute, Honor Flight, Celebrate Recovery, The Vet Center, Tri-Care Martins Point, Prevention Network, Medical Marijuana Consultants, Helio Health, Onondaga County Correctional Veteran Program, and Syracuse VA My Healthy Vet, along with a variety of Clear Path programs.

Seven new organizations and agencies joined the

Summit Group in 2018, and all new agencies will be asked to present to the group in 2019.

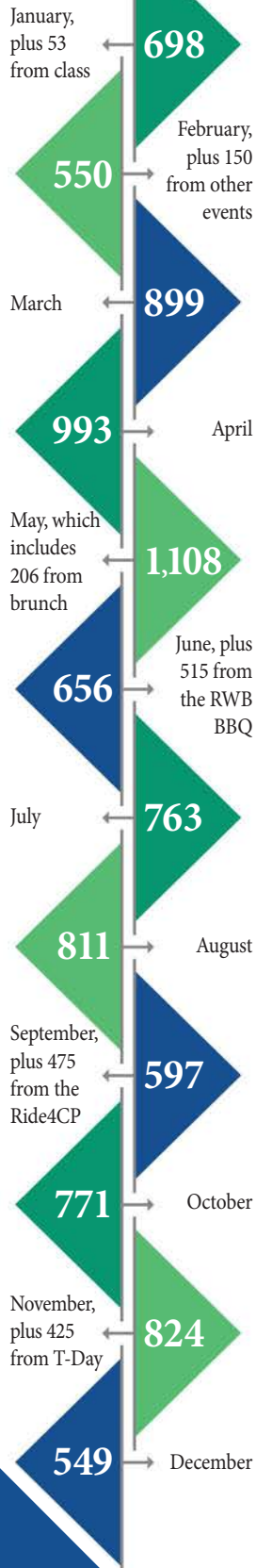
The Summit Group 2017-2018 included a panel discussion with the Central New York Community Veterans Engagement Board at Clear Path (or CNY CVEB at CP). The purpose of this newly formed group is to provide coordinated leadership and support toward the region's efforts to serve its Veterans and family members.

The Summit Group concluded the 2018 year with a December brainstorming session focusing on Summit attendance, topic and speaker suggestions, and improvements to the 2019 Summit Meetings. The response energized the group for 2019, planning quarterly panel discussions focusing on Veteran housing, health, education and employment. The group will also plan, convene and tour at participating member organizations and locations.

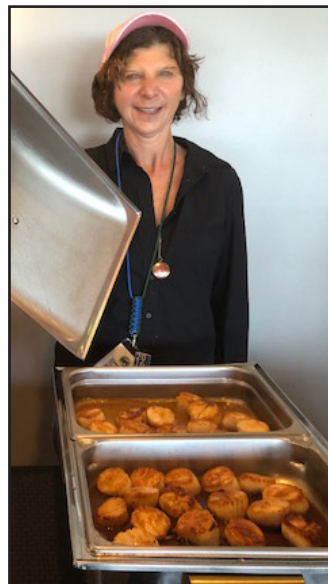
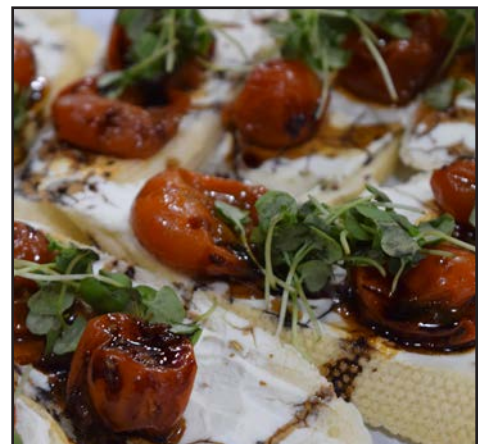


Summit members participated in a brainstorming session in December 2018.

Culinary Services



The Culinary Program is a cornerstone in Clear Path's infrastructure. In addition to serving Veterans and their families every Wednesday at Canteen, the Culinary Program works with other Clear Path programs to provide meals and refreshments for their events. The program experienced a transition of leadership when Executive Chef Christopher Griffin departed at the end of September for a new position with Chartwells at Colgate University in Hamilton, and Karen Krull Robart stepped into a newly created position as culinary program manager. (**Update: Griffin returned to the role of executive chef in March 2019**). A native of Nebraska, Krull Robart cooks with a nod to her Midwestern roots, serving the home-style meals that she grew up with. The return to "comfort food" brought an increase in attendance to the weekly Canteens for the last three months of the year (see the numbers served for the year at left), and was reflected in the serving of a traditional Thanksgiving meal to more than 425 Veterans and their families on Thanksgiving Day. The Culinary Program has the pleasure of working with a number of local farms, including Greyrock Farm in Sullivan, Lucky Moon Farm in Cazenovia and Creekside Meadows in New Woodstock. We proudly serve coffee from FOJO Beans, a Veteran-owned company located in Hamilton. The program acquired a new upright two-door freezer to supplement our aging walk-in cooler/freezer in 2018, and purchases we hope to make in 2019 include a two-door refrigerator and a deep-fat fryer.





Your sustaining gift

Your planned gift to Clear Path for Veterans has a tremendous reach well beyond what you can tangibly see at our main facility. It may provide a week's worth of sustenance from our food pantry to a dozen Veterans and their families. It may fund a year's worth of mock interviews that ultimately help hundreds of Veterans secure a career in a better work environment. It may underwrite a month of Canteen meals that provide vital socialization for some Veterans who only depart the confines of their home once per week.

As you contemplate your philanthropic goals, we hope you will consider Clear Path for Veterans. If you would like to make a bequest in your will, make a gift from a trust or a charitable gift annuity, or designate Clear Path as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy, retirement plan or IRA, please email us at Earl@ClearPathForVets.com.

We welcome the opportunity to explore with you how you can make a lasting impact at Clear Path. Thank you for all you do for our Warriors. Your generosity is extraordinary and deeply appreciated.



A SALUTE TO OUR DONORS

Clear Path for Veterans is proud to partner with more than 1,200 individuals, corporations, businesses and non-profit organizations in our region and beyond. The following listing represents those who have given in excess of \$10,000 to our organization since our inception in 2011. We salute these donors for their genuine spirit of philanthropy, which over the years has helped us to positively impact the lives of thousands of Veterans and their families. *(Individuals are listed first followed by businesses and organizations.)*

Jeff & Dorothy Booher

**American Legion Post 88,
Cazenovia**

Carroll Clark

Ayni Brigade –

Doug & Margey Colbeth

Mark & Sherry Russell

Herb & Tisha Coleman

ARE Events Productions

Robert Darrenbacker

The Chapman Foundation

Terry & Teresa Finley

Chive Charities

Kent & Joy Gillis

CNY Arts, Inc.

Trisha Johnson

CNY Community Foundation

Sam and Janet Lanzafame

CNY Veterans Foundation

Doug and Helen Marrone

Deployed Resources

David and Melissa Spicer

Dorothy G. Griffin

Philip & Barbara Taurisano

Charitable Foundation

Bernadine Townsend

The Estate of Virginia Gall

Family of Tippy Daughton

Gifford Foundation

Jim & Juli Boeheim Foundation

**Jim Lee – Harold Lee
Golf Tournament**

John Ben Snow Foundation

**Lockheed Martin
Employees Federal Fund**

NBT Bank

NY State Chive

Oneida Savings Bank

Otis Technology

PetCo Foundation

**Presbyterian Women
of Marcellus**

Radisson Greens, LLC

Richard Mathers Fund

**Rochester Area
Community Foundation**

Rock Acres Veterinary Hospital

Rome Elks Club

Simpson Parker Tournament

Southern Hills Posse

SRC, Inc.

Sun Chevy/Used Car King

**SUNY Oswego –
Manage Household**

Syracuse Onon-dog-a Hash

House Harriers & Harrierettes

Vernon Shooting, Inc.

We also received several gifts from donors who wish to remain anonymous. We respect their wishes, but we also recognize them for their continued support of Clear Path for Veterans.



DONATE

The transition from military service to civilian citizenship can be daunting. Supporting Veterans through transition and beyond is the mission of Clear Path. Because of your support, Clear Path is able to offer programs and services to support all levels of need.

VOLUNTEER

You can volunteer in our culinary program, provide front desk support, help us maintain our trails, serve during one of our major events, and volunteer in a number of other capacities. We have the perfect place for you and you'll get back so much more than you give.

CONNECT

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