



**December 2011**

Welcome to the December 2011 Edition of our E-Newsletter designed to bring you the biggest and brightest news from Veterans Inc., New England's largest provider of services for veterans and their families. Also, be sure to check out our website [www.veteransinc.org](http://www.veteransinc.org).

**What's New at Veterans Inc.**

*Message from the President & CEO Vincent J. Perrone & Executive Director Denis Leary*



President & CEO  
Vincent Perrone

**Welcoming Home Our Troops**

As the war in Iraq draws to a close and we see a reduction of troops stationed in Afghanistan, thousands of the men and women serving in our Armed Forces will finally be returning home. In many cases this will bring great joy to families and friends and cause for wonderful celebrations this holiday season.

But sadly many of our young service members will be in dire need of assistance. These men and women experience three times the national average for unemployment and exhibit some of the highest incidences of post-traumatic stress disorder, domestic violence and suicide among any group of veterans.

Veterans Inc. is at the forefront of combating these issues and providing assistance for honorably discharged service members who come home to New England looking for support during their transition from the military back to civilian life.

Our services and programs for veterans and their families will be instrumental in providing the support and care needed during this critical time of adjustment now more than ever. Our brave troops are returning home to a struggling economy and a bleak job market. The risk of homelessness is projected to increase among these veterans as more troops come home physically and

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Take a look at our **WISH LIST** to see what our **VETERANS** need!

**How can you help?**  
Visit these links:

- [\*\*DONATE\*\*](#)
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emotionally damaged. Our staff understands that transitioning back into civilian life is often an uphill struggle for service men and women. We have programs in place to help these veterans overcome obstacles such as job placement, temporary financial assistance and housing programs. Our continued success is dependent upon support from state and local leaders along with members of the community. Veterans Inc. has made a commitment to helping veterans in need because we believe there isn't a population more deserving than the men and women who have served and sacrificed for our freedom.



Executive Director  
Denis Leary

### **Courage on the Battlefield and the Homefront**

The holiday season can be the most wonderful time of year but it can also be the most difficult, especially for the men and women of the armed forces. The sense of isolation puts a great strain on service members who are deployed in faraway places, on the battlefield, often in harm's way. But there is another group

for whom the strain is just as difficult carrying the burden back here on the homefront....the families they have left behind. The families must cope not only with the many emotional lows but also with the hard reality of making ends meet and coping with the challenges of day-to-day life.

Veterans Inc. has long recognized that behind every veteran is a family who has lived with worry and fear during each moment of their loved ones deployment. Even after their return from active duty, it is important for us to remember that the challenges that veterans face continue to have a serious impact on that same family unit.

At Veterans Inc. we try our best to make the season a little merrier for the veterans and families we serve. We ask that you keep veterans and their families in mind this year when making charitable donations, so that we can continue to provide the entire family with quality services they need. For those who have supported our efforts during past holiday seasons we thank you for your generosity. From everyone at Veterans Inc. we wish you all a safe and healthy holiday season!

**[Click to make a DONATION this Holiday Season](#)**

***Donate to Veterans Inc. during the Holiday Season!***



Check out our Videos on YouTube!



#### **FUNDRAISERS:**

15th Annual Best Ball  
Charity Golf Classic  
Date:  
Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Gala Military Ball  
Date:  
Saturday, Oct 20, 2012

Visit these links to know more about each of our programs:

- [CASE MANAGEMENT](#)

- [HOUSING SITES](#)

- [EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING](#)

- [HEALTH & WELLNESS](#)

- [OUTREACH](#)

- [LITTLE PATRIOTS EARLY LEARNING CENTER](#)

- Veterans Inc. is There as Our Veterans Return Home

- With troops coming home from Iraq and Afghanistan, Veterans Inc. is poised to provide services for soldiers who return to New England with PTSD and other combat-



### **Veterans Inc. Holiday Donation**



The 2011 White House Christmas Ornament is our way of saying thank you to our generous donors. Those who donate \$100.00 or more to Veterans Inc. this holiday season will be given the official White House Ornament by February 15, 2012. All proceeds will go toward helping us continue to provide services and programs for veterans in need.

**[Click here to donate online!](#)**

*All contributions go to Veterans Inc, and are tax deductible.*

### ***The Worcester Sharks salute Veterans Inc. on Veterans Day***



**Worcester Sharks Veterans Day Game  
November 11, 2011**

The Worcester Sharks welcomed to the ice E-4 Specialist Corporal Judy Morales for the Veterans Day Game ceremonial puck drop. Corporal Morales was an army medic during the Vietnam War and served from 1969 to 1972. She is currently enrolled in the Veterans Inc.'s Women's Program. Veterans Inc. was the first in the nation to provide in-house services to homeless female veterans and is the first provider in Massachusetts to open a residential program for women veterans and their dependent

related problems, few resources, and fragile social networks that leave them nowhere else to turn.

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children. The Worcester Sharks offered veterans free tickets to their game against the Bridgeport Sound Tigers. Veterans and fans who attended the game joined the team in celebrating a win!

### *7th Annual Road Race a Success!*



On November 6, 2011 more than 300 runners laced up their sneakers outside of Veterans Inc.'s Independence Hall in Shrewsbury to make strides in helping veterans in need. The Seventh Annual Veterans Memorial 5K Road Race and Walk was the most successful race to date. The event kicked off with a salute to those who have served in the armed forces followed by a short children's race. Thank you to all of this year's runners!

[View Race Results](#)

[Click to view pictures from the 7th annual road race](#)

### *A Day to honor and salve all Veterans*



**Veterans Inc. Color Guard**

Veterans Inc. opened its doors to over 400 visitors for its annual Veterans Day Pancake Breakfast. Besides enjoying pancakes and eggs, community members, state and local leaders took time to honor our country's veterans. The breakfast was followed by the annual Worcester Veterans Day Parade. The parade honored veterans, and current service members with musical tributes and salutes. As the parade made its way down Grove Street, marchers were met by enthusiastic crowds lined up along the route.



**Thank You Veterans! Click To View All Veterans Day Pictures**

*Community support at an all time high for the  
Annual Holiday Harvest*



**Chancellor Michael Collins from UMASS and  
his wife Mary Ellen volunteering at the  
Annual Holiday Harvest Food Bank**

Thank you to everyone who donated to this year's Holiday Harvest. Veterans Inc. was able to provide over 400 veteran families in need turkeys and all the fixings to make a Thanksgiving dinner. The event was sponsored in part by donations from the Worcester County Food Bank, Juniper Hills Golf Course, Senator Michael Moore, Senator Harriette Chandler, Nam Knights and the Clinton American Legion.



Holiday Harvest 2011

*They were there when we needed them..*





*We must be there now that they need us.*

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