



# NAVY SEAL FOUNDATION

*Honoring our warriors. Supporting their families.*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### CHAIRMAN

Rear Adm. (RET) Garry J. Bonelli\*

### VICE CHAIRMAN

Michael C. Martin\*

### TREASURER

Tom Prescott

### SECRETARY

Ted Muhlner\*

Michael Baumer*	William Hodge*
Henry Cornell	Joel S. Marcus
Ron Culpepper*	William McMorrow
Jack Daly	Stephanie Osler
Anthony Duynstee*	Sean A. Pybus*
Joseph Femenia*	Muneer Satter
Jelani Hale*	William C. White*
DJ Haley*	Steve Wisotzki*
Christopher D. Heinz	

### Counsel

Timothy B. Phillips\*

## NAVY SEAL FOUNDATION STAFF

### SENIOR STAFF

Robin King, *Chief Executive Officer*

Scott Burke, *Chief Financial Officer*

Alison Messick, *Director of Programs*

Jennifer Bragaw, *Director of Development*

Marc Wolf, *Director of Development,  
New York Region*

Chris Irwin\*, *Director of Development,  
West Coast Region*

Sara Berry, *Director of Marketing  
& Communications*

Meaghan Martinak, *Director of Events*

Kelsey J. Carney, *Assistant Director  
of Programs, West Coast and Pacific Islands*

Mindy Franklin, *Assistant Director  
of Programs, East Coast and Europe*

Mike Turkenkopf, *Transition Advisor*

\*Former SEAL

[NAVYSEALFOUNDATION.org](http://NAVYSEALFOUNDATION.org)

1619 D Street  
Virginia Beach, VA 23459

EC P 757.744.5326 | WC P 619.762.5326

[info@navySEALfoundation.org](mailto:info@navySEALfoundation.org)

# THE SITUATION REPORT

## DECEMBER 2018

## PROGRAM SUPPORT UPDATES

### ACTIVE DUTY DEATH

The Navy SEAL Foundation was saddened to learn that on October 29, 2018, **SOCS Chad Michael Wilkinson** died by suicide. The Foundation provided immediate tragedy assistance funding, travel and lodging for his family members, flowers and memorial legacy items for the command memorial and reception, as well as a family dinner the evening before the command memorial. Our staff spent time with Chad's family members throughout these events and will continue to provide incredible **long-term support through our survivor support programs.**



### ACTIVE DUTY WOUNDED, ILL AND INJURED SUPPORT

NSF supported 33 wounded, ill and injured requests this month. In one example, an active duty SEAL stationed in Kodiak, Alaska, was **attacked and mauled by a grizzly bear** while hiking with a friend. He was rescued by the U.S. Coast Guard and eventually transported to Naval Medical Center San Diego due to the seriousness of his injuries. NSF responded by providing **travel assistance** tailored to support his injuries, as well as **wheelchair/medical equipment** assistance to aid his mobility to and from multiple medical appointments. **Our support of his recovery continues.**

### DEPENDENT ILLNESS AND DEATH

NSF was heartbroken to learn that the 23-year-old son of an active duty SEAL Captain was one of the victims of the November 7th mass shooting in Thousand Oaks, California. We provided the family with **tragedy assistance funds** to cover any immediate needs and NSF also assisted with travel for immediate family and fellow service members who are close to the family.



# PROGRAM SUPPORT UPDATES

## HONORING OUR WARRIORS, SUPPORTING THEIR FAMILIES

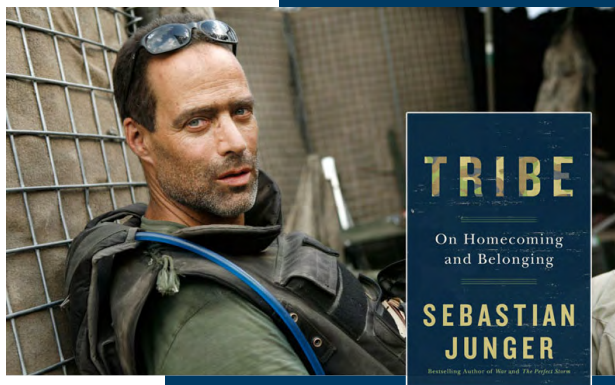
### VETERAN CRISIS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

As part of the NSF's Veterans Crisis Assistance program, NSF has **provided \$25,000 in support of post-hurricane relief** efforts in Panama City, Florida. Coordinating with a retired SEAL Master Chief who lives in the area, the Foundation was able to directly and positively impact those who were devastated by loss and uncertainty in the initial stages of recovery efforts after Hurricane Michael.



### WARRIOR AND FAMILY SUPPORT

The Navy SEAL Foundation recently hosted best-selling author **Sebastian Junger** as part of our ongoing speaker series in support of NSW Warriors and Families. Mr. Junger spoke to west coast commands and families.



*"I believe that he chose his topics well, seeming to emphasize "ego deflation," as well as an inevitable return to civilian status. Service to the community/group was a core theme. SEAL Team[s] needs to hear these messages early and often."*

**—Active Duty SEAL**

The author of the New York Times Bestselling Book *Tribe: On Homecoming and Belonging*, brought his unique experience as a war journalist to bear while sharing the value and necessity of connection following combat exposure.

He was well-received and **his message resonated deeply with the Special Operations community.**

Mr. Junger was also a featured speaker at NSF east coast events earlier in the year and participated in the **NSF Impact Forum in 2016 and 2017.**

Additionally, the NSF supported 22 individual requests for assistance from NSW warriors and families this month under our Warrior and Family Support program pillar.

*"I was happy to hear him speak along with my wife who has also read Tribe. His discussion of empathetic leadership served to validate and appreciate what she does every day. Additionally, I found myself literally debriefing coworkers on the matters he discussed. It was a very beneficial way to address topics that too often go unspoken about."*

**—Active Duty SEAL**



### WARRIOR TRANSITION

NSF received **18 new transition support requests this month** and incorporated these transitioning NSW members into our programs. We also supported 29 SET participants by providing travel and lodging to attend **Elite Meet San Francisco** and **The Honor Foundation Atlanta Trek.**

We are very excited to share that eight transitioning NSW members were accepted into **Dartmouth Tuck's Next Step** transition program. We are honored to support them in this next journey!

*"The level of support the Navy SEAL Foundation provided to me and my family during my cancer treatment was so unbelievable that my fight with cancer paled in comparison to my true fear... transitioning from active duty to civilian before I was ready. The Foundation's SET Pipeline was truly a lifesaver for me and my wife, and NSF's Transition Advisor have had my back the entire time!"*

**—Active Duty Member**

Cont.

## EVENTS OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Foundation has continued our support of the **Command Leaders' Spouse Seminar (CLSS)**, a 4-day course facilitated by the Center for SEAL and SWCC. The course serves as an informative indoctrination for spouses of prospective commanding officers (CO) and command master chiefs (CMC) in the NSW community. The intent is to **empower the NSW leadership spouses with community-specific resources and guidance** in an effort to strengthen the NSW support network. In addition to funding elements of the seminar, NSF staff members also provided a mission and program brief for those in attendance.

# NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



Photo Credit: NYSE

On Monday, November 26th, the **New York Stock Exchange (NYSE)** welcomed the Navy SEAL Foundation to the Trading Floor to ring The Closing Bell® in recognition of our important mission and the work we do in support of SEALs and their families.

**Master Chief Special Warfare Operator (SEAL) Britt K. Slabinski, USN, Ret.**, and our **CEO Robin King**, were joined by **Jose Cobos**, Head of Technology Capital Markets for NYSE, Foundation board members, staff and Gold Star family members to NYSE to ring The Closing Bell®.



Photo Credit: NYSE

BOOTH SCHOOL OF BUSINESS RECEIVES

# \$1 MILLION SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT TO HELP VETERAN SEALS

## **Booth School of Business Receives \$1.0 Million Scholarship Endowment to Help Veteran SEALs Advance Their Education from Foundation NLC Members Steven and Jennifer Czech.**

The Navy SEAL Foundation is honored to share that Stephen J. and Jennifer L. Czech have donated a \$1.0 million gift to The University of Chicago Booth School of Business ("Chicago Booth"). Steve and Jennifer are long-time friends and supporters of the Foundation and members of our National Leadership Council. The proceeds of their generous gift will be used to fund scholarships for former U.S. Navy SEALs enrolled at Chicago Booth. This gift is one of the two largest gifts dedicated to funding scholarships for U.S. veterans in Chicago Booth's history!

According to the Czechs, "The U.S. Navy SEALs and their families sacrifice everything, every minute of every day they serve. This gift is a small token of our appreciation for the service and sacrifice of these great warriors and their families as well as all members of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families. This gift will enable veterans who served with the greatest fighting force the world has ever seen to attend the greatest business school in the world."

"We are very grateful to Steve and Jennifer for their commitment to our military veterans by helping former Navy SEALs pursue a Chicago Booth MBA," said Madhav Rajan, dean of Chicago Booth. "Through their experience, veterans bring an increased diversity and maturity to the classroom. The Czechs' generous contribution will help ease the financial burden of former Navy SEALs."

"This incredibly generous gift from Steve and Jennifer Czech paves the way for our SEAL veterans to receive a best-in-

class post-graduate education from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business," said Robin King, CEO of The Navy SEAL Foundation. "When I think about the true value of this scholarship, I am just so grateful to Steve and Jennifer. Their investment in education



*"The U.S. Navy SEALs and their families sacrifice everything, every minute of every day they serve. This gift is a small token of our appreciation for the service and sacrifice of these great warriors and their families..."*

for SEALs who have devoted their lives to service will pay dividends for these worthy scholarship recipients, their families and their communities now and well into the future. The Czechs' support of our warriors is extraordinary, and we are so appreciative of all that they do to advance our mission of service at The Navy SEAL Foundation."

Thank you, Steve and Jennifer! We are so grateful for your support!



On the evening of November 7, hundreds of executives, supporters, patriots and heroes assembled at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel for the Navy SEAL Foundation's 2018 Los Angeles Evening of Tribute.

This Evening of Tribute was created to recognize the courage, commitment and sacrifices

of the Naval Special Warfare (NSW) community and give patriotic citizens an opportunity to show their gratitude and support. **The Los Angeles event, presented by Trident Sponsor Kennedy Wilson, raised \$5 million in support of the Navy SEAL Foundation's mission** to provide care, education and vital support for our Navy SEALs and their families.

After a lively cocktail reception, the doors to the Beverly Wilshire ballroom opened and the University of Southern California Trojan Marching Band performed as guests found their seats. There, they viewed the presentation of the Colors by the Naval Base San Diego Color Guard, which was followed by a stirring rendition of our national anthem by Musician Second Class Rachel Vennel. Actor Matt McCoy served as the master of ceremonies for the evening.



**William J. McMorrow**, Navy SEAL Foundation board member and Chairman and CEO of global real estate investment company Kennedy Wilson presented the "Navy SEAL Foundation Patriot Award" to renowned business innovator, respected civic leader, and dedicated philanthropist **Rick J. Caruso**. Caruso is Founder and CEO of one of the largest privately held real estate firms in the United States, Caruso®.

"Rick has shown an extraordinary commitment to helping others, improving people's lives and taking a hands-on approach to giving back. He applies the same intense drive that we've all witnessed in his business life to his civic and charitable endeavors as well, and it is truly inspirational," said McMorrow. "This award is meant to honor an individual who has contributed greatly to our country and upholds the values that epitomize the SEAL community, and I cannot think of a more well-suited recipient than my good friend Rick."

Mr. Caruso's admiration for the NSW community was palpable as he spoke. "Navy SEALs are the very embodiment of what causes a citizen



to put his or her hand over their heart. I am grateful and indebted to them for their gallantry and bravery, their sacrifice and devotion, and their love of our country. Most Americans are largely removed from the risks Navy SEALs take, the sacrifices they make and the hardships they endure for all of us," said Caruso. "To receive an award from the Navy SEAL Foundation – to be mentioned in the same sentence as a SEAL – is an incomparable and singular honor: An honor that I will forever cherish and hold dear."

Gold Star Wife **Courtney Vargo** shared a very personal story about the loss of her husband, Thomas Retzer, who was part of a dedicated Naval Special Warfare team fighting the Taliban and was killed in action in 2003. He distinguished himself as a SEAL operator during combat operations in Afghanistan between 2001 and 2003, earning two Bronze Stars with combat "V" for valor.

The evening's keynote speaker was **Admiral Michael G. Mullen, USN (Ret.) 17th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff**. "For those of us who've had the privilege to wear the uniform – and it really is a privilege – this has been our life: to protect America, to prevent war and conflict where we can, and to respond in war and combat when we must," said Admiral Mullen. "The Navy SEAL Foundation represents a focus on people who have done that for decades at the world-class level, for which our country is so grateful."

After dinner, **Rear Admiral (SEAL) Richard Rodriguez, Deputy Commander, Naval Special Warfare Command**, delivered a moving tribute to the members of NSW who are no longer with us. **Rachel Moore**, daughter of retired Rear Admiral (SEAL) Scott P. Moore and Gold Star granddaughter, played "Taps" on the piano as the photos and names of the Fallen were scrolled on screen. The evening closed out with a special performance by 16-time Grammy Award-winning musician **David Foster**, who brought singers including Annie Bosko and Pia Toscano on stage to sing some of his greatest hits. Other notable attendees included Jack Kesey, Ed Quinn, Bill Walton, among others.



This year's Los Angeles Evening of Tribute Co-chairs were William J. McMorrow and Kent Mouton from Kennedy Wilson, and Michael Eisner.

# Happy Holidays!



As always, but especially during the holidays, we'd like to thank you for your loyal support of the Navy SEAL Foundation and our mission.

On behalf of our board, staff, and the warriors and families we support, we sincerely wish you and yours a safe and special holiday.

Your Navy SEAL Foundation Family



To make an online donation please visit:  
[www.navySEALfoundation.org/support](http://www.navySEALfoundation.org/support)

# OUR COMMITMENT

THE NAVY SEAL FOUNDATION PROVIDES IMMEDIATE AND ONGOING SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE TO THE NAVAL SPECIAL WARFARE (NSW) COMMUNITY AND ITS FAMILIES UNDER FIVE MAIN AREAS: WARRIOR & FAMILY SUPPORT, EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, TRAGEDY ASSISTANCE & SURVIVOR SUPPORT, WARRIOR TRANSITION, AND LEGACY PRESERVATION.

**92**

SURVIVING SPOUSES,  
FIANCÉES AND  
SIGNIFICANT OTHERS

**109**

SURVIVING  
CHILDREN

**202**

SURVIVING  
PARENTS

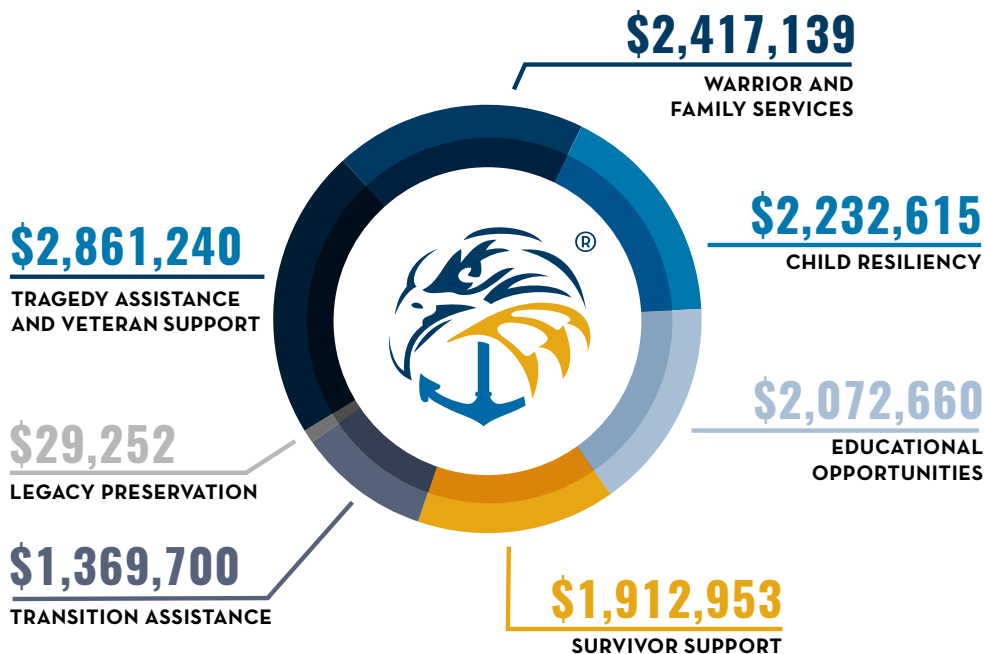
**103**

SURVIVING  
SIBLINGS

**8**

PRIMARY CAREGIVERS  
OF SURVIVING  
CHILDREN

**2018 YEAR-TO-DATE PROGRAM EXPENSES: \$12,895,560**



**TOP 0.7%**  
OF ALL NONPROFITS  
FOR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

**94 CENTS\***  
OF EVERY DOLLAR DONATED GOES  
DIRECTLY TO PROGRAMS OR IS  
RESERVED FOR FUTURE MISSION USE



**4-STAR**  
CHARITY NAVIGATOR  
RATING SINCE 2011

\*Fundraising ratios and efficiencies are calculated using the Charity Navigator three-year average for these areas.

**71**

NSW KILLED IN ACTION  
SINCE SEPTEMBER 2001

**22**

NSW KILLED IN TRAINING  
SINCE SEPTEMBER 2001

**42**

NSW LINE OF DUTY SINCE  
SEPTEMBER 2001

**5**

NSW VETERAN-  
DIPLOMATIC MISSION

**12**

OTHER NSW LOSSES SINCE  
SEPTEMBER 2001

# UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT NAME	CITY
12/14/18	<b>Thompson Law Group Holiday Extravaganza</b>	Virginia Beach, VA
1/4-1/6/19	<b>Freedom Ruck 2019</b>	Virginia
1/13/19	<b>10th Annual Tampa Bay Frogman Swim</b>	Tampa, FL
1/26/19	<b>USS Michael Monsoor Commissioning</b>	Coronado, CA
2/7/19	<b>Houston Evening of Tribute</b>	Houston, TX
3/7/19	<b>Navy SEAL Foundation NYC Benefit</b>	NYC, NY
4/1/19	<b>Palm Beach Evening of Tribute</b>	Palm Beach, FL
5/14-5/15/19	<b>ADS Warrior EXPO West</b>	San Diego, CA
6/9/19	<b>Boston Frogman Swim</b>	Boston, MA
7/13/19	<b>20th Annual Allen Stone Run Swim Run</b>	Virginia Beach, VA
7/14/19	<b>San Francisco Frogman Swim</b>	San Francisco, CA
8/8/19	<b>Denver Evening of Tribute</b>	Denver, CO
9/27-9/29/19	<b>SEAL Tribute Celebration</b>	Half Moon Bay, CA

**FOR A FULL LISTING OF EVENTS VISIT [NAVYSEALFOUNDATION.ORG/EVENTS](http://NAVYSEALFOUNDATION.ORG/EVENTS)**

**FIND US ON**



facebook



youtube



instagram



twitter



shop



donate