



SUMMER 2025 NEWSLETTER

From family-centered events and camps to emergency health and transition support, Navy SEAL Foundation (NSF) programs this summer continued to address critical needs while honoring the strength and service of SEALs, SWCCs, veterans, and their families. Every initiative resulted in practical, immediate impact on the Naval Special Warfare (NSW) community.



PROGRAMMATIC UPDATES

STRENGTH

BUILDING CAPABILITIES & REDUCING STRESSORS

This summer, we provided more than **2,700 hours of respite childcare** each month to NSW families. That's time for parents to breathe, regroup, and manage the demands of life in the Teams, knowing their kids are in safe, trusted hands. These hours matter. They help keep families steady while service members stay mission-ready.

We also helped commands with **14 gatherings across the force**, including post-deployment barbecues, team-building events, and a special celebration marking the 50th anniversary of Naval Special Warfare Group ONE. These events play a vital role, giving teammates and families time to reconnect, recharge, and remember they are part of something larger than themselves.

In addition, **839 NSW children** attended NSF-supported camps on the East Coast, West Coast, and in Hawaii. Each one is designed specifically for this community, teaching leadership, resilience, and confidence in the same spirit as their father's service. From ropes courses to team challenges, these experiences prepare kids to face adversity with strength and character.



"I had such a great time this year! The counselors were so nice, and this was my best year yet. I loved being with friends and all the programs were amazing. Thank you for making it so special. I can't wait for next summer. THANK YOU!"

— NSW Camper —



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RESILIENCE

ADDRESSING TRAGEDY & AIDING RECOVERY

Over Memorial Day weekend, we welcomed more than **260 participants** to the NSF's annual Gold Star and Surviving Family Remembrance Weekend in Virginia Beach. Families representing **62 households** came together for three days of connection, healing, and remembrance. These gatherings offer space to grieve, share stories, and be with others who understand what service and sacrifice truly mean. The weekend included two formal command ceremonies, wellness sessions led by Dr. Mia Bartoletti, and a beachside tribute featuring the Boston Police Gaelic Column of Pipes and Drums. We also welcomed our first bereaved family from the United Kingdom, expanding the reach of this program and building stronger ties with international partners. The families who attend carry a heavy burden, and we are honored to walk beside them, not just during this weekend, but over the long journey that follows.

HEALTH

ENHANCING PHYSICAL & MENTAL WELLNESS

When a SWCC operator went into cardiac arrest during training, we responded immediately to support his wife and four children. The NSF covered travel, lodging, and childcare, and our team showed up in person with comfort items and daily help. In a moment of crisis, his family didn't have to wonder who to call. We were already there.

We also stood by warriors and families facing long, difficult recoveries from cancer, spinal injuries, and major surgeries. In one case, we helped a spouse who experienced serious childbirth complications by covering the medical travel and childcare her insurance would not cover. These are the kinds of gaps the NSF fills quickly, quietly, and completely.

At the same time, our Warrior Fitness Program remained active on both coasts, giving SEALs and veterans access to strength training, recovery tools, and mindset work. The feedback continues to speak for itself. Participants leave stronger, more focused, and better equipped to take care of themselves and their families.



EDUCATION

PROVIDING SCHOLARSHIPS & DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

In June, we opened the second 2025 scholarship cycle, focused on active duty and veteran SEALs and SWCCs. Nearly **50 applicants** submitted materials in the first week alone. We also awarded **18 remote location scholarships** and **eight grants for certificates or licenses**, helping recipients pursue degrees, professional training, and career advancement.

We continued our partnership with Gratitude Initiative, a college and career prep program that provides long-term academic coaching for children of military families. These resources help bridge the gap for NSW families navigating the complex path to higher education. Whether it's preparing for the SAT, building a college list, or financially planning, we are investing in futures that reflect the strength and resilience of the community we serve.



"The Navy SEAL Foundation's partnership with Gratitude Initiative has been a game-changer for our family. Our son raised his SAT score by 60 points and was accepted to every college he applied to. It made a huge difference."

— Retired SEAL



COMMUNITY

EMPOWERING CONNECTIONS & PRESERVING LEGACY

This summer, more than **3,900 people** took part in NSF-hosted events designed to bring the NSW community together. In Virginia Beach, **300 spouses** attended a Casino Royale-themed dinner. In Norfolk, **1,400 family members** explored the zoo and received a donated book from Admiral Bill McRaven, USN (Ret.). In Hawaii, couples boarded the Star of Honolulu for a sunset dinner cruise. In San Diego, **200 spouses** gathered at Coasterra for a meal and prize raffles. During SOF Week in Tampa, **250 SEALs, SWCCs, and spouses** joined us for a reconnect reception. These events gave families and teammates a chance to step away from the daily grind, spend time with each other, and feel the strength of the community that surrounds them.

"These events bring our family together. They give us a chance to pause, connect, and make memories that last."

— NSW Spouse





This summer, thousands came together across the country to honor service, remember the fallen, and raise critical funds for the NSW community. These events remind people why this mission matters and rally Americans around the warriors who continue to carry the load.

SANCTUARY GOLF CLASSIC

On June 27 in Sedalia, Colorado, the Sanctuary Golf Classic brought thirty foursomes together for a full day on the course, followed by dinner, a silent auction, and evening remarks. Frank Larkin, a Gold Star father and former SEAL, spoke about his son, Navy SEAL Ryan Larkin, who died by suicide after battling traumatic brain injury. Rear Admiral Kerry Metz, USN (Ret.), SEAL, closed the evening with a toast to the fallen. The event raised \$248K to support the NSF's mission to care for warriors and families navigating invisible wounds.



Photographer Credit: Dallas Doiron



BOSTON FROGMAN SWIM

On June 8, 64 swimmers, 50 support kayakers, and more than 30 Gold Star and Surviving Family members gathered for the seventh annual Boston Frogman Swim. They braved the waters in honor of fallen teammates and in support of those still serving. This grassroots event raised over \$140K and continues to grow as a powerful tribute to sacrifice and resilience.



NYC SEAL SWIM

On August 16, 324 swimmers took to the Hudson River for the NYC SEAL Swim, including SEALs, veterans, first responders, law enforcement officers, and civilian supporters. The group launched from New Jersey and surged toward Manhattan in a powerful display of grit, unity, and remembrance. When water conditions forced organizers to call off the final stretch, the swimmers didn't hesitate. They regrouped, moved to land, and ran the last leg through the streets of New York.

The event concluded at America's Response Monument with a closing ceremony, followed by a moment of reflection at the Ground Zero Memorial. It was a reminder of what this community represents: courage under pressure, strength in numbers, and an unshakable commitment to the mission. The swim raised more than \$850K, making it the largest and most successful NYC SEAL Swim in NSF history.

Last chance to get NYC SEAL Swim gear. The collection will no longer be available after 9/11/25!

SHOP NOW

STARS & STRIPES CLASSIC

On Labor Day, 30 veteran SEALs and former collegiate lacrosse players suited up to face off against former Green Berets in the second annual Stars & Stripes Classic, hosted by the Premier Lacrosse League. Team NSF, coached by Joe Amplo, Rob Camposa, and Ken Broschart of the U.S. Naval Academy, defeated the Green Beret Foundation team 10-5. Former SEAL and Syracuse All-American Rorke Denver served as honorary captain and joined NSF CFO Scott Burke in the ESPN broadcast booth to highlight the cause. During the trophy presentation, the PLL presented \$25K checks to both nonprofits. The game honored service on the field and off, proving that even in competition, the commitment to country and brotherhood comes first.



CLICK HERE FOR A FULL LIST OF UPCOMING EVENTS →



FREEDOM GIVEAWAY

The July 4th Freedom Giveaway, presented by Kill Cliff, drew thousands of entries and featured gear from NSF Official Partners and Teammates. Participants had the chance to win Luminox watches, Gatorz eyewear, SpecOps tools, Born Primitive apparel, and Momentous performance products. The giveaway also included signed memorabilia and Team USA gear from NFL veteran James Develin and track athlete Sydney Milani.



J. Mattingly

J. MATTINGLY 1845

J. Mattingly 1845 donated an additional \$20K from sales of its limited-edition Trident Collection, bringing total contributions from the SEA, AIR, and LAND bourbon series to over \$55K. The company is currently planning a new release for late 2025 or early 2026.



LUMINOX

Luminox introduced the NSF 25th Anniversary 3220 Series Gold Color Edition, a commemorative timepiece that features design elements inspired by the SEAL Trident. Luminox remains a long-time supporter of the NSW community through both product collaborations and fundraising efforts.



SUNBELT RENTALS

Sunbelt Rentals continued its active role in supporting the NYC SEAL Swim by providing all required equipment and logistical support. In addition to financial contributions, Sunbelt's in-kind services played a critical role in executing the event safely and efficiently.





Official Teammates are volunteer ambassadors who help amplify the NSF's mission through events, media appearances, and personal outreach. These individuals are not paid endorsers but choose to represent us because they believe in the values of service and sacrifice that the NSW community embodies.



SYDNEY MILANI

Sydney Milani, a Team USA bobsled athlete, attended the Boston Frogman Swim, speaking about her background training NSW operators at Virginia High Performance and her continued commitment to supporting the SEAL community through the NSF.



JAMES DEVELIN

James Develin, a former New England Patriots fullback, took part in the NYC SEAL Swim. He has become a consistent advocate for the NSF, using interviews, podcast appearances, and media coverage to raise awareness. Each year, he trains specifically to complete the swim and help spotlight the mission behind it.



IAN SCHINELLI

Ian Schinelli, a former Navy SEAL, also participated in the NYC SEAL Swim and will represent the NSF again in the 2025 NYC Marathon.