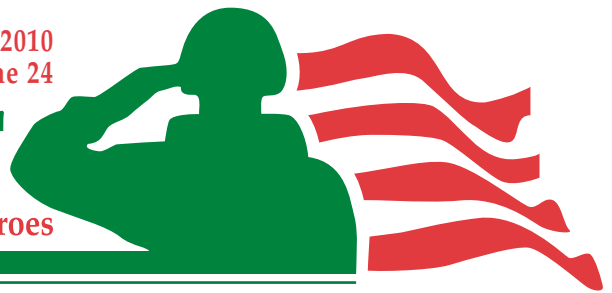


THE ROAD TO RECOVERY REPORT

January 2010
Volume 24



An Update for Supporters of the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes

Disabled GIs on waiting list desperately need help as winter weather arrives, Coalition donors told



Despite the recession of 2009, Coalition donors managed to rescue several hundred more severely wounded troops from being tossed out into the street, having their utilities disconnected, being unable to feed their children and other traumatic financial events.

And for the fifth Christmas Season in a row, donors made sure that on Christmas morning, Santa would bring toys for hundreds of good girls and boys whose disabled GI parents were unable to afford it.

"I'd like to thank everyone who responded with a donation to their recent letter from retired Major General John K. Singlaub," said Patrick Norberto, the Coalition's General Manager. "You enabled us to give \$500 Christmas gift cards to hundreds of our nation's seriously injured servicemen and women so they could afford Christmas presents for their families."

But as 2009 drew to a close, Norberto pointed to one piece of unfinished business: The Coalition has created a waiting list of severely wounded troops who desperately need emergency financial aid this winter.

"We're extremely pleased that up until now, the Coalition has fulfilled every request for emergency financial aid in full," Norberto said. "But the ongoing recession has made that perfect record impossible to continue, for two reasons."

ONE: Some of the Coalition's most reliable supporters had less money to contribute

this year.

TWO: Many spouses of disabled GIs have lost their jobs in the recession. And as the freezing winter weather arrives, they face losing their homes, their cars, even their ability to feed their families.

Coalition supporters who send an emergency winter gift in the next few days will be helping severely wounded troops on the waiting list, like these:

- A wounded soldier in Washington state whose wife is terminally ill and is struggling to support his three children.

- A severely wounded Army staff sergeant in Chattanooga, Tennessee with three children, who is facing an eviction.

- A disabled GI in Oklahoma City who has lost his home because of his injuries.

- A husband and wife in Montgomery, Texas, both disabled while serving their country, who are facing an eviction, utility cutoff and car repossession.

"I'd like to thank our supporters again for the kindness they've shown for our

severely wounded troops and their families, especially during the Christmas Season," Norberto said.

"If you can find it in your heart to send a special winter emergency gift, you'll be throwing a lifeline to a disabled GI facing a humiliating eviction, utility cutoff or other disaster during January or February. Remember, even a modest gift means a lot to someone who has nothing." ■



For the first time the Coalition has a waiting list of disabled GIs who need emergency financial aid. Your end-of-year gift could help someone like Matt Lammers, who lost his left arm and both legs when his vehicle was ambushed in Iraq.

Providing
Emergency Aid
to Severely
Wounded Troops
and Their Families
in Crisis

KEY PROGRAMS:

Emergency
Financial Aid

Homes for Heroes

Family Support
Network

Career Network

Road to Recovery
Conference & Tribute

INSIDE:

The Coalition
at Work.....2

Making a
Difference.....3

In Their Own Words:
Thank you letters from
the troops.....4

Providing Emergency Aid to Severely Wounded Troops and Their Families in Crisis

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THE COALITION AT WORK



By the numbers: Your generosity at work



Here's a brief sampling of severely wounded troops who have been helped by your generous donations to the Coalition to Salute American's Heroes.

These U.S. servicemen and women have fallen into desperate circumstances and need more assistance than we've been able to provide thus far, so please send a special winter donation to help them and their families if you can.

- SSG Bradley G. of Elkhart, Texas lost a hand in Iraq. He contacted the Coalition and needed \$1,416.48 to catch up on his mortgage payment.
▶ **Coalition Paid: \$1,416.48**
- Marine CPL Marshall M. of Lafayette, Louisiana returned from service in Iraq with a severe back injury. He was \$1,490.43 behind in bills for rent, utilities and his car.
▶ **Coalition Paid: \$1,490.43**
- PV2 Richard K. of Mission Viejo, California found himself behind on his mortgage payment. He needed \$973.76 to get caught up.
▶ **Coalition Paid: \$973.76**
- SSG Paul D. of Kingwood, Texas is recovering from a traumatic brain injury suffered while serving in Iraq. He needed \$1,828.00 to catch up on overdue rent payments.
▶ **Coalition Paid: \$1,828.00**
- LT Kyle S. of Manhattan, Kansas was disabled while serving overseas. He needed \$270.95 to prevent a utility cutoff.
▶ **Coalition Paid: \$270.95**
- SSG Leslie M. of Knoxville, Tennessee found his injuries from his service in Iraq made it difficult for him to work. He needed \$1,025.56 to keep his car and buy much-needed groceries.
▶ **Coalition Paid: \$1,025.56**
- SPC Keith H. of Colorado Springs, Colorado was having trouble meeting his rent, utility and food bills. He needed \$2,728.32 to get him all caught up.
▶ **Coalition Paid: \$2,728.32**
- Marine CPL Eric E. of Pasadena, California had to find a new place to live in a hurry. He needed \$2,790.00 for a security deposit and rent.
▶ **Coalition Paid: \$2,790.00**
- SPC Roger P. of Huntington, West Virginia is rehabilitating a severely injured shoulder from his service in Iraq. Overdue utility, rent and car payments found him \$3,258.25 behind.
▶ **Coalition Paid: \$3,258.25**
- SGT Richard M. of St. Augustine, Florida was stranded when his car broke down. He needed \$725.00 to get back on the road.
▶ **Coalition Paid: \$725.00**
- Marine CPL Blake J. of McComb, Mississippi was partially paralyzed during his tour of duty in Iraq. He needed \$850.00 to cover his next rent payment.
▶ **Coalition Paid: \$850.00**
- SGT Brian T. of Fredricksburg, Virginia struggles with paralysis as a result of wounds suffered in Iraq. He needed \$998.61 to fulfill utility and car payment obligations.
▶ **Coalition Paid: \$998.61**
- Marine CPL Frankie V. of New York City, New York came home from Iraq with crippling knee and back injuries. He needed \$2,700.00 for rent.
▶ **Coalition Paid: \$2,700.00**
- SGT Daniel C. of Dover, Tennessee was facing imminent foreclosure on his home. The Iraq war vet suffers from a traumatic brain injury and partial paralysis. He needed \$5,461.18 to keep his home.
▶ **Coalition Paid: \$5,461.18**
- SSG Michael M. of Denham Springs, Louisiana lost a leg while serving in Iraq. He needed \$300.97 for living expenses.
▶ **Coalition Paid: \$300.97**





MAKING A DIFFERENCE



Coalition donors changed lives this Christmas Season



Thanks to Coalition donors, the children of hundreds of severely wounded troops received presents from Santa during the 2009 Christmas Season, and many other families used their \$500 to avoid financial disaster. These disabled heroes and their families have a chance to look forward to a better year in 2010 now.

However, many other severely wounded troops and their families still face financial crisis and the Coalition is trying to help as many as they can.



Christmas is a tough time for severely wounded soldiers and their families. Many times these families are scraping by and can't afford to celebrate the holidays. This is the fifth Christmas Season in a row Coalition donors have provided hundreds of families of severely wounded GIs with \$500 gift cards so they could provide Christmas presents for their families.

“My wife and I were struggling to put food on the table for our three sons, Jeremiah, Isaiah and Elijah. We were able to give our children a better Christmas with the \$500 gift card!”

– Jeremy W., Dacula, Georgia



Nearly every day, severely wounded soldiers like Richard Doyle contact the Coalition to ask for emergency aid to prevent a foreclosure or keep the heat and lights turned on. Over 600,000 patriotic Americans have answered the cries of these forgotten heroes and have provided more than \$22 million in emergency aid so far.



Coalition donors also provided meals for several hundred severely wounded troops and their families this Christmas holiday season. But during the coming winter months, hundreds more seriously wounded soldiers will need emergency aid.





IN THEIR OWN WORDS



Thank you letters from the troops



▶ The assistance I received has helped keep our spirits alive during these uncertain times. CSAH has been a ray of hope in the darkness and their GREAT job will never be forgotten. God Bless.

– *Matthew R. Pennington*
Springtown, Texas

▶ I wanted to say thanks for helping me make my house payment. It was a struggle for some time, but things are much better today. I am able to work full time now. GOD BLESS YOU!

– *Randall A. Hall*
Twin Falls, Idaho

▶ The Coalition to Salute America's Heroes is a blessing. The assistance I received has helped me with my debts and hardships. This shows me that there are people out there who appreciate my dedication to our country. Ya'll have been a great help and have uplifted my spirits so much. It has all meant a great deal to me and I feel very blessed. The Coalition is a great program. It shows how much ya'll care and appreciate the veterans.

– *Chad Williams*
Alexandria, Louisiana

▶ I had to receive a vertebra fusion. After my surgery, I was unable to work and couldn't afford my bills. The Coalition was extremely generous and paid my monthly expenses totaling around \$2,400. This help was overwhelming especially because I live alone. Words cannot explain how grateful I am to receive these donations. The Coalition is truly a program a wounded soldier can count on in a moment of need.

– *Charles I.*
Roseville, Michigan

▶ I couldn't keep a job due to my injuries, and money was very tight. The Coalition helped me catch up by paying all my bills one month, even helping me rent a car. And to top it all off, they threw in a \$500 gift card for Wal-Mart that lasted for grocery shopping about 2 months.

Money is still always tight, but the help CSAH gave to me got me together for a good while. Thanks so much; my family thanks you too. Keep helping future vets in need; they're always going to be coming back home needing help. My bills pile up because I have to pay out of pocket for health insurance for myself and I only live on VA and SS. My 3-year-old needs a root canal with the cost around

\$2,000, and I'm praying for a miracle!

– *Ryan S.*
Miamisburg, Ohio

▶ I received financial assistance from the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes to help my family and I moved into a new home. This meant so much to my family. Without the help from CSAH I do not know where my family and I would be. I give many thanks to CSAH donors for being there in a desperate time of need.

– *DaMon Clemons*
Oak Park, Illinois

▶ The Coalition to Salute America's Heroes are a blessing, and there aren't enough words to express what they did for my family and myself. I only wish I could give back as much as they did for us. I thank God for bringing them to us because if it wasn't for the Coalition I don't know where we would be right now. Thanks to the Coalition we had a roof, water, electric and food for us to survive. Thank you all at the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes for everything you did for us. You are truly a blessing, and my family and myself love all of you.

– *SGT. Steven M. Shauer,*
San Antonio, Texas



When Kenny Hill needed help saving his mortgage from falling into default, he turned to the Coalition. Coalition donors responded and rushed Kenny emergency aid. Now he wants to "salute you for all the efforts and time you put forth in helping soldiers."

