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USA Cares provides post-9/11 military veterans, service members, and their families with financial assistance and post service skills training to create a foundation for long-term stability. Our services improve the quality of life for veterans and their families and reduce potential factors that can contribute to veteran suicide.

DONATE

MATT'S NOTE



Dear Friends,

As we close out 2024, the USA Cares family extends our heartfelt gratitude to our retiring President & CEO, Trace Chesser. Trace's unwavering commitment to service has been truly remarkable, and his leadership will be greatly missed. However, we are thrilled to announce that Trace will continue contributing to our mission as a member of the Executive Advisory Committee, where he will help us forge new opportunities to reach and support more families in need.

As Trace transitions into this new role, I am deeply honored to step into the position of Interim President & CEO as we embark on 2025. For those I haven't had the chance to meet, I've been proud to serve USA Cares for the past four years in various Vice President roles, most recently leading Government and Corporate Relations. My wife, Lyssa, and I have been married for 25 years, and together with our three daughters—Lindsay, Anna Grace, and Allie—we are committed to advancing USA Cares' mission to support veterans and their families.

Under Trace's leadership, USA Cares has achieved historic milestones, assisting more families than ever before. Our team is committed to sustaining this momentum and finding new ways to meet growing needs.

As we look ahead to 2025, we invite you to consider how you can make an impact. Whether as a monthly donor, a volunteer with one of our chapters, or through other avenues, your involvement matters. If you're ready to help, reach out to [Whitney Hobbs](#) to learn how you can get involved today.

One thing I've come to know during my time with USA Cares is this: Americans love and respect their veterans. They are generous and eager to lend a hand. This tradition of support is woven into the fabric of our nation's history, and it's one we are proud to carry forward. Together, we can eliminate the challenges that lead to veteran suicide, strengthen families, and build a brighter future.

Thank you for being part of our mission. Let's make 2025 a year of even greater impact.

With gratitude,
Matt Castor
Interim President & CEO

BY THE NUMBERS



LATEST NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS

A VISIT TO FORT KNOX

Our visit to Fort Knox was a truly meaningful experience. We delivered toys for children of all ages, generously donated by our supporters. This incredible support continues to bring joy to veterans and military families, making the holiday season brighter for those who serve.

We also celebrated a graduate of the Career Skills Program (CSP), marking a significant milestone in their journey. Witnessing the pride and joy of this achievement was truly inspiring. Moments like these remind us the importance of coming together as a community to support those who have served our country.



READ MORE ABOUT CSP

USA CARES AT LIGHT UP ST. MATTHEWS

Light Up St. Matthews was a magical evening filled with holiday cheer and community connection. Our team enjoyed meeting so many wonderful people and sharing information about our programs. The festive lights and joyful atmosphere made it a night to remember. Events like this remind us of the strength and warmth of our community, and we are grateful to be a part of such special moments.



USA CARES SHINES ON THE TONY & DWIGHT SHOW

We had the incredible opportunity to be featured on the Tony & Dwight Show live from Hardee's! It was a morning full of excitement, heartfelt stories, and a few surprises. We were joined by some special guests who shared how USA Cares has impacted their lives. Their stories reminded us why we do what we do—providing vital assistance to veterans and their families in need.

The highlight of the day? A generous \$10,000 donation from a listener inspired by the stories they heard on the show. This gift will go a long way in supporting our programs ensuring veterans and their families receive the help they deserve.

Thank you to Tony, Dwight, and our special guests for helping us share our mission, and a huge thank you to the listener whose generosity made such a meaningful impact!



CHEERS TO TRACE AND NEW BEGINNINGS

This New Year's Eve, USA Cares celebrated Trace Chesser and his remarkable leadership over the past six years. From earning Nonprofit of the Year honors to securing federal grants and expanding our mission, Trace's dedication has left an enduring impact. Community leaders shared heartfelt stories, raising their glasses in gratitude for his many accomplishments.

Though Trace is stepping down as President and CEO, we're thrilled he will remain part of USA Cares as a volunteer and member of the Executive Advisory Council.

As we look to the future, we're excited to welcome Matt Castor as Interim President and CEO. With his expertise in Government and Corporate Relations,

Matt is ready to lead USA Cares into a promising new chapter.

Thank you, Trace, for everything you've done—and here's to an exciting year ahead! 🥂



BE THE HOPE.

GIVE TODAY



CHAPTERS CORNER

RISE AND SHINE:

JOIN US FOR OUR GROUNDHOG'S BREAKFAST

Start your morning with us at the **Groundhog's Breakfast** on Monday, February 3rd. This beloved annual event brings together community members for a meal and a chance to connect with one another. Whether you're a long-time attendee or joining us for the first time, you'll enjoy great food, engaging conversations, and the welcoming spirit of our community.

CONTACT FOR MORE DETAILS

LAUGHS THAT GIVE BACK:

BROKEN HEARTS COMEDY NIGHT

Join USA Cares at the **Broken Hearts Comedy Night** for an unforgettable evening on Friday, February 14th. This event promises to deliver big laughs while supporting a great cause. Proceeds from the event will directly benefit our programs that provide critical resources for veterans and their families. Bring your friends and enjoy a night of humor, connection, and giving back.

Your participation changes lives—join us and make a lasting impact!

RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY

SUPPORT IS ALWAYS AVAILABLE



**24/7, confidential crisis support
for all Veterans and their
loved ones**



STAY CONNECTED



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