

Honor a Hero and Help Florida Veterans

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For further information contact;

Richard Ridley

Florida Veterans Foundation

(850)519-3378

richardr@floridaveteransfoundation.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Florida Veterans Walk of Honor is a project sponsored by the Florida Veterans Foundation that offers everyone an opportunity to Honor a Hero and Help Florida Veterans. You honor a hero, (veterans or service members), with the purchase of an honor brick engraved with information about the individuals service to our great country. The brick is then becomes a permanent part of the Florida Capitol Grounds as part of the Florida Veterans Walk of Honor. Please note that this is not a memorial. There are a multitude of memorials that honor the fallen from various conflicts but this project honors ones service as an individual, living or deceased.

There are three options available in this project;

1. The Center Node: The Center Node is the most prestigious and smallest area of the project. There are only 1500 bricks in this spot. The area is approximately 22 feet by 22 feet and is bordered with large granite pavers that are engraved with the information on the Florida Medal of Honor recipients. The Center Node is located between the stairs of the historic capitol building and the entrance to the new capitol building. These bricks are red and available for \$200.
2. The Walk of Honor: The Walk of Honor is 12 feet wide and over 500 feet long. It begins on the south side of the historic capitol building, extends through the area between the old and new capitol buildings, and comes out on the north side of the historic capitol building. These bricks are red and available for \$150.
3. The Court of Honor: The Court of Honor consists of all the remaining areas between the historic capitol building and the new capitol building. These bricks are brown and are available for \$125.

As there are currently over 1.6 million veterans living in Florida it's easy to see that now everyone will be represented here. As a matter of fact only 1 of every 9 living veterans can be represented here. If you take in consideration all the veterans that paid the ultimate price defending our freedom and those who have passed on after leaving the service it begins to look more like only 1 of every 15 can be represented.

The Florida Veterans Foundation is a 501(c) (3) non-profit corporation established in 2008 to serve, support and advocate for Florida Veterans. The Foundations primary role is to provide one time emergency financial assistance to veterans who, through no fault of their own, are experiencing financial difficulties that cannot be resolves by the veteran. It's a Hand Up not a Hand Out. A typical scenario is a veterans come home, wounded, honorable discharge, VA papers filed. During the time

between their discharge and the time the VA benefits begin he has no income. All too often the veterans will find themselves being threatened with eviction or the utilities being shut off. That's where the Foundation steps in. These situations could turn into catastrophic events such as homelessness if not handled promptly.

Other important Foundations include operating and participating in Homeless Veteran Stand Downs, Guidance and information services regarding Florida Veteran Benefits and Federal Veteran Benefits. The Foundation increases the veteran's access to quality healthcare and benefits as well as employment opportunities and a multitude of other service.

The Florida Veterans Foundation is composed of an all-volunteer workforce, with the exception of the Executive Assistant to the volunteer Chairman. The majority of the Foundation Directors are retired, military disabled veterans who donate of 40 hours per week of their time to assist and help guide Florida's veterans through a myriad of issues facing our veterans today. Whether its access to healthcare, education, jobs, VCA benefits or the like, our Directors are here to help.

For more information about the Florida Veterans Foundation and the Florida Veterans Walk of Honor visit our website at www.floridaveteransfoundation.org. or contact Richard Ridley at richardr@floridaveterans foundation.org.