



# Helping One Sentinel At A Time

ANNUAL REPORT

2018



#### DEAR SENTINELS OF FREEDOM SUPPORTERS,

I'm very proud to report that your generous support for Sentinels of Freedom in 2018 strengthened our programs for severely wounded veterans.

Thanks to you, this year we welcomed 83 new veterans into our program. We also congratulated 68 Sentinels who graduated and are now successfully pursuing their chosen careers.

Many times our veterans struggle during their transition home. They need healing from both emotional and physical wounds, and time to determine their next step in life's journey. When the light bulb comes on and they decide to continue their education, they start looking for helpful resources and find Sentinels of Freedom. It's their own self-motivation and drive that pushes them forward towards their goals. Sentinels of Freedom is right beside them providing guidance, mentorship and support, one Sentinel at a time.

We understand that as long as there are wounded veterans, the need for Sentinels of Freedom's services will continue. We work to accomplish this by putting 82% of every contribution into our programs.

Thank you again to all our partners and investors, large and small. You help make our Sentinels whole again as they successfully transition home, complete their higher education, enter their career paths, build their families, and continue to do so much good in their communities.

The return on your investment in each of these Sentinels is reflected in the stories they share with us. Throughout the year when we get a call or a thank you note, the news they share from their journey is inspiring:



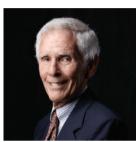
Invariably they end with: "Mike, I want to help another veteran like myself become a Sentinel." These messages inspire us with the strength and drive to carry on with this vital mission. We hope they inspire you as well.

Very Respectfully,

MIKE CONKLIN Chairman & CEO Our board members consist of men and women who display an incredible commitment to our cause. The board also includes two graduated Sentinels, a testament to paying it forward one Sentinel at a time.



MIKE CONKLIN Chairman & CEO Sentinels of Freedom



MARTY KAPLAN Board Secretary Executive Vice President AT&T (Retired)



KENT STRAZZA Board Treasurer Managing Director, Alternatives Group Franklin Templeton Investments (Retired)



MARY KING
Vice President,
Human Resources
& Chief Diversity
Officer
Pacific Gas & Electric
(PG&E)



HT TRAN
Graduated Sentinel
Founder, CEO, and
President
DNW Ventures, INC



PETE WALSH Founder, President, and CEO Owards LLC



JASON CHURCH
Graduated Sentinel
State Counsel
Office of US Senator
Ron Johnson, Wisconsin



CHRIS MARZILLI
Executive Vice
President,
Information
Technology and
Mission Systems
General Dynamics



MAJOR GENERAL RON LOWE US Army (Retired) Executive Director of General Contracting AT&T (Retired)



STACY HADEKA Senior Associate in Government Contracts Hogan Lovells US LLP

2018 FISCAL YEAR

# \$3 Million Raised in 2018

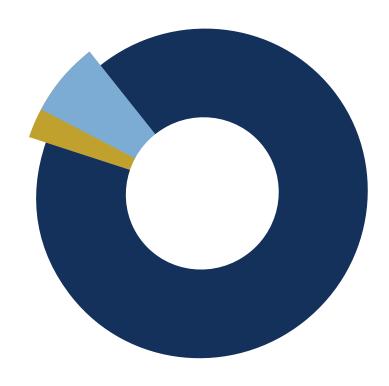
Program

Administrative Fundraising Expenses

12% **Expenses** 

We are proud to report that 82% of every dollar raised was applied directly to our Sentinels. Our team operates in a manner respectful to all our donors, partners, and Sentinels we support.

(Data compiled from FY 2018 IRS form 990)





89 CENTS OF EVERY DOLLAR RAISED WAS APPLIED DIRECTLY TO THE SENTINELS



A Sentinel is more than a number when they enter our program. Aiding one Sentinel at a time leads to personalized support that nets real results.



## What your investment achieves

97% of Sentinels state SOF increased their employment and earning potential

90% of Sentinels have employment lined up within 6 months of graduation.

18% more Sentinels accepted in 2018

**521**Sentinels served since SOF began

#### THE NEED FOR SUPPORT IS STILL INCREASING.



+46%

INCREASE IN APPLICANTS FOR SENTINEL'S BRIDGE FOR EDUCATION PROGRAM FROM 2017



74

ELIGIBLE, QUALIFIED APPLICANTS WHO COULD HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED IN 2018 WITH ADDITIONAL FUNDING



# PRIME HALL

STAFFF SERGEANT,
US MARINE CORPS SPECIAL OPERATIONS







Prime served our nation for more than twelve years in the Marine Corps Special Operations Command (MARSOC) which took him across Southeast Asia, the Philippines, Afghanistan, and Iraq.

During a combat deployment to Afghanistan, his unit suffered heavy fire from multiple rocket-propelled grenades (RPG's). The insurgent attack left Prime with a severe traumatic brain injury (TBI), migraine headaches, dizziness and vertigo, and loss of memory. The years of hard service also left him with debilitating back injuries. He was forced into medical retirement with no clear plans for his immediate future.

Once he decided to pursue his Executive MBA from the University of Southern California, Sentinels of Freedom provided him the support to achieve his ultimate goal of becoming an entrepreneur.

He credits the successful attainment of his degree in large part to the SOF team, especially his case managers for their positive communications. Sentinels of Freedom connected him with the proper mentorship and a meaningful network which allowed him to launch his business and nonprofit endeavors. With SOF's resources at his disposal, it allowed him to focus on his goals without the stresses of seeking additional employment to stay afloat.

After graduation, he completed a 9-month business incubator and accelerator course called San Diego Sports Innovators. From this, he grew his two businesses: Deep End Fitness and Underwater Torpedo League. After expanding them in the Southern California area, Prime is poised to take them nationwide.

Ultimately, Sentinels of Freedom allowed Prime to focus strategically on his priorities and in his words was a "major stepping stone" to effectively transitioning back to civilian life.





#### 2018

# SENTINELS GALA

Thank you to all of our supporters from across the nation who attended our annual Sentinels Gala in April 2018. Vice Admiral Joseph P. Mulloy (Ret.) represented Northrop Grumman, our title sponsor, while addressing the crowd as our keynote speaker.

Sentinel Chris Judge shared an inspirational account of his journey transitioning from a Navy SEAL to a successful post military career with the US Department of Homeland Security. He and his fellow Sentinels shared their stories throughout the evening and were celebrated by the over 350 people in attendance.

You continue to make our mission possible with your unwavering support. Thank you.

Please mark your calendar for our next Annual Sentinels Gala to be held on April 4, 2020.



The Sentinels Gala is a special occasion to witness the impact of your generosity and meet the Sentinels you help throughout the year.































## DONORS HELPED FUND SENTINEL'S NEEDS LARGE AND SMALL IN 2018

In Addition To Housing Support, There Are Many Other Ways You Helped Support Our Sentinels.



### BOARD OF NURSING EXAM FEES

Brian Chavez, US Army

Arizona Mesa College Bachelor of Science in Nursing



#### CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT (CPA) EXAM FEES

Jhonnathan Chinchilla US Marine Corps

University of San Diego Bachelor of Science in Accounting



#### GRADUATE RECORD EXAMINATIONS (GRE) PREP MATERIAL

Adam Pawlowski US Marine Corps

Columbia University Bachelor of Arts in Political Science



#### POWER OF ADVANCED STATISTICAL ANALYSIS (PASW) SOFTWARE

Jorge Arredondo, US Army University of Colorado Masters in Public Administration



#### MACBOOK PRO LAPTOP

Andrew Mack, US Army

Empry Riddle Aeronautical School Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology



#### STUDY ABROAD ASSISTANCE

Kevin Wallace, US Air Force

George Mason University Master of Fine Arts



## MOVING TRUCK EXPENSES

Franchon Powel, US Army

Florida State College at Jacksonville Bachelor of Arts in Human Services



#### **BUSINESS CARDS**

Simon Sandoval US Marine Corps

University of San Diego Bachelor of Arts in History

# GENERAL Dynamics Mission Systems Partnership

Our partnership with General Dynamics Mission Systems (GDMS) spans many years. In 2018 GDMS sponsored a \$50,000 matching campaign to double the impact of every dollar donated to SOF. It was a rousing success raising over \$108,000 in just under 3 months. In addition, GDMS hosted a Small Business Tech Conference in September and invited SOF CEO and Chairman Mike Conklin and graduated Sentinel John Wayne Walding to speak to their attendees and employees.

They continually create awareness of our mission to their employees, suppliers and friends. Their partnership has helped support so many of our wounded veterans. Thank you GDMS!

To partner or be a sponsor, visit sentinelsoffreedom.org/get-involved/other-ways-to-give or call us at 925-380-6342



66General Dynamics Mission Systems is proud to support Sentinels of Freedom. Their programs are tailored specifically to provide unique support to severely wounded post- 9/11 veterans who have given so much in service to our country. Each year we work with our employees, suppliers, partners and the community to raise awareness and needed funding for this very worthy cause."

CHRIS BRADY
GDMS President

# GATHERING THE COMMUNITY TO HELP ONE SENTINEL AT A TIME.



Law Rocks Concert funds raised:

\$13,000

GOLF TOURNAMENTS ★ WEDDINGS ★

CLASSIC CAR SHOWS ★ BALLS ★

CYCLING EVENTS ★ CRAB FEEDS ★

ROCK CONCERTS ★ COLLEGE FUN RUNS ★

Communities across the country have once again rallied behind Sentinels of Freedom and our mission.







#### LAW ROCKS CONCERT

Law Rocks is an annual rock band competition held in Washington, DC to raise funds for charities. All the members of the bands competing are legal professionals. In 2018, the band IC/DC (In-House Counsel Rock DC) competed on behalf of Sentinels of Freedom. IC/DC featured in-house counsel from General Dynamics Mission Systems; ASRC Federal; Fannie Mae; Merchant Link and Amazon Web Services.









BEEB'S 2018 GOLF TOURNAMENT

Beeb's Sports Bar & Grill hosted their annual golf tournament to raise funds on behalf of Sentinels of Freedom. A fun day on the fairway translated into life-changing opportunities for our Sentinels.

Beeb's 2018 Golf Tournament raised: \$9,500







#### SENTINEL JAY WILKERSON & LENNAR HOMES

Brian Olin, the Vice President of Operations of Lennar Homes, came to SOF wanting to help a veteran. Lennar partnered with SOF and the community to deliver Sentinel Jay Wilkerson a modern home in Concord, CA. The renovated home came with new furnishings, lighting, appliances, electronics, bedding, and more.

# Help fund one Sentinel at a time by donating today.

#### SENTINELSOFFREEDOM.ORG/DONATE

