

SOUND OFF!



BULLETIN

THE NEWSLETTER OF VETERANS UNITED FOR TRUTH, INC.

#39

“VETERANS STANDING UP FOR EACH OTHER”

20 APRIL 2010

OOOPS!!

In ***SOUND OFF*** Volume 5, Issue #13 I promised in the editorial :

“At the end of this issue of “Sound Off”, in the “Add-On section, we list a number of veterans’ charities from **Charity Navigator** along with their ratings. Please consider some of the three- and four-star charities there for your giving. When you find one, encourage your friends and family to use the same charity and to avoid the scam artists.”

I then promptly forgot to include the list. Well here it is with some explanatory text.

The following lists are from Charity Navigator. Charity Navigator is an on-line charity evaluator that helps make sure your money is really making a difference. Charity Navigator is the only source in America that provides in-depth objective analysis of the financial health of over 5,000 of America's largest charities. <http://www.charitynavigator.org/>

This rating should not be the only criterion for your giving, but it is helpful to see how a dedicated rating agency looks at the way a particular charity spends its money, particularly, how much of what it collects actually gets to the intended recipients..

On this page is a table with 5 veterans charities and an explanation of the Charity Navigator ratings. Starting on page two is the list of those veterans' charities currently being evaluated by Charity Navigator. The name of the charity is a link to the Charity Navigator rating of that charity.

VUFT is not on the list as we have not been around long enough yet to be evaluated – it takes 5 years of reporting before Charity Navigator does its thing.

[YOU CAN ALWAYS DONATE TO US WITHOUT FEAR!](#)

Charity Name Location	Army Emergency Relief Alexandria, VA	Disabled Veterans Associations Parma Heights, OH	Operation Homefront San Antonio, TX	Fisher House Foundation Rockville, MD	Homes for Our Troops Taunton, MA	Notes
Overall Rating ⁴	★★★★ 67.44	0 Stars 12.5	★★★★ 64.11	★★★★ 69.56	★★★★ 68.96	
Program Expenses ¹	91.20%	4.60%	91.10%	95.60%	89.60%	Higher is better
Admin Expenses	7.10%	0.70%	5.30%	2.10%	5.20%	0 - 7.5% % is best
Fund Expenses ²	1.60%	94.60%	3.50%	2.10%	5.00%	Lower is better
Fund Efficiency	\$0.03	\$0.83	\$0.03	\$0.01	\$0.01	\$0.00 - \$0.10 is best
Efficiency Rating ³	★★★★ 39.12	0 Stars 0	★★★★ 39.11	★★★★ 39.56	★★★★ 38.96	
Revenue Growth	4.50%	75.60%	120.40%	55.50%	108.70%	
Program Growth	20.10%	-8.20%	116.20%	75.40%	95.10%	Should be +
Working Capital	9.09	0.2	0.34	1.13	2.63	
Capacity Rating	★★★★ 28.31	★★★★☆ 12.5	★★★★ 25	★★★★ 30	★★★★ 30	
Total Revenue	\$4,741,632	\$9,303,216	\$16,391,339	\$39,217,918	\$17,534,857	
Total Expenses	\$27,323,037	\$8,221,322	\$15,886,446	\$26,669,231	\$6,464,393	
Excess/Deficit	(\$22,581,405)	\$1,081,894	\$504,893	\$12,548,687	\$11,070,464	
Net Assets	\$250,368,976	\$1,734,443	\$5,413,752	\$43,235,051	\$17,171,863	
CEO Compensation	\$178,622	\$89,746	\$125,648	\$278,135	\$95,000	
% of Expenses	0.65%	1.09%	0.79%	1.04%	1.46%	
Donor Privacy Policy	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	

1 Program Expenses: Percent of total functional expenses spent on programs and services (higher is better)
Program Expenses less than 33.3%: Our data shows that 7 out of 10 charities we've evaluated spend at least 75% of their budget on the programs and services they exist to provide. And 9 out of 10 spend at least 65%. We believe that those spending less than a third of their budget on program expenses are simply not living up to their missions. Charities demonstrating such gross inefficiency receive zero points for their overall organizational efficiency score.

2 Fundraising Expenses ; Percent of total functional expenses spent on fundraising (lower is better)

Converted Score:	10	7.5	5	2.5	0
General:	0% - 10%	10% - 15%	15% - 20%	20% - 25%	> 25%

3 Fundraising Efficiency: Amount a charity spends to raise \$1 (lower is generally better)

Converted Score:	10	7.5	5	2.5	0
General:	\$0.00 - \$0.10	\$0.10 - \$0.20	\$0.20 - \$0.35	\$0.35 - \$1.00	> \$1.00

4 Summation Scores

Rating:	★★★★	★★★★☆	★★★☆☆	★☆☆☆☆	0 Stars
Organizational Efficiency Score	≥ 37.5	32.5 - 37.5	27.5 - 32.5	22.5 - 27.5	< 22.5
Organizational Capacity Score	≥ 22.5	17.5 - 22.5	12.5 - 17.5	2.5 - 12.5	< 2.5
Overall Score:	≥ 60	50 - 60	40 - 50	25 - 40	< 25

4-STAR

Army Emergency Relief



Alexandria, VA

Helping the Army take care of its own

Disabled American Veterans Charitable Service Trust



Cold Spring, KY

Building better lives for America's disabled veterans

Fisher House Foundation



Rockville, MD

Helping military families

Homes for Our Troops



Taunton, MA

Building specially adapted homes for our severely injured veterans

Mercy Medical Airlift – Air Compassion for Veterans



Virginia Beach, VA

Dedicated to helping those in need of air medical transportation

National Military Family Association



Alexandria, VA

The voice for military families

Operation Homefront



San Antonio, TX

Supporting our troops and helping the families they leave behind

Special Operations Warrior Foundation



Tampa, FL

Providing support and assistance to the U.S. military's special operations community

3-STAR

Admiral Nimitz Foundation



Fredericksburg, TX

Supporting the mission of the National Museum of the Pacific War

Air Force Aid Society



Arlington, VA

The official charity of the United States Air Force

Air Force Enlisted Village



Shalimar, FL

Providing a home

Canine Companions for Independence



Santa Rosa, CA

Exceptional dogs for exceptional people

Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation



Alexandria, VA

Honoring Marines by educating their children

Phoenix Rescue Mission



Phoenix, AZ

To rescue lives, to save lives, to change lives, to serve lives

The Shade Tree



North Las Vegas, NV

Sheltering women, children, and their pets

Soldiers' Angels



Pasadena, CA

May no soldier go unloved

USO



Arlington, VA

Proudly serving the men and women who serve our country

Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors



Washington, DC

Remember the love, celebrate the life, share the journey

Veterans of Foreign Wars National Home for Children



Eaton Rapids, MI

Caring for the children and families of our nation's veterans

2-STAR

AMVETS National Service Foundation



Lanham, MD

Providing support to veterans

Disabled Veterans' LIFE Memorial Foundation



Delray Beach, FL

Raising funds to construct the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial

Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund



New York, NY

Paying tribute & supporting those that have sacrificed for our nation

Military Ex-Prisoners of War Foundation



Fayetteville, NC

Freedom is not free

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society



Arlington, VA

Providing assistance to members of the Naval Services

Veterans for America



Washington, DC

Addressing the causes, conduct, and consequences of

Veterans of Foreign Wars Foundation



Kansas City, MO

Return the favor

1-STAR

AdoptaPlatoon



Lozano, TX

Supporting deployed soldiers since 1998

American Studies Center



Arlington, VA

Improving the public's understanding of public policy issues

Arizona Paralyzed Veterans of America



Phoenix, AZ

Supporting veterans and improving their quality of life

Blinded Veterans Association



Washington, DC

Promoting the welfare of blinded veterans

New England Center for Homeless Veterans



Boston, MA

Providing homeless veterans with the tools needed for independent living

Paralyzed Veterans of America



Washington, DC

Maximizing the quality of life for veterans and all people with spinal cord injury or disease

The Retired Enlisted Association Memorial Foundation



Aurora, CO

Supporting and assisting fellow veterans and their families

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund



Washington, DC

Preserving the legacy of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

NO STARS

American Veterans Coalition

0 Stars

Gig Harbor, WA

Help a hero. Be a hero.

Disabled Veterans Associations

0 Stars

Parma Heights, OH

Supporting the unsung heroes who fought for our freedom

Help Hospitalized Veterans

0 Stars

Winchester, CA

Serving veterans since 1971

National Veterans Services Fund, Inc.

0 Stars

Darien, CT

Serving veterans and their families

Shiloh International Ministries

0 Stars

La Verne, CA

Improving the quality of life of America's disabled and needy

United Spinal Association

0 Stars

Jackson Heights, NY

Expanding opportunities

The Veterans Fund

0 Stars

Chesapeake, VA

Every veteran . . . every day

Wisconsin Paralyzed Veterans of America

0 Stars

West Allis, WI

Still serving