

SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY APPROVING THE HIDDEN HEROES DESIGNATION FROM THE ELIZABETH DOLE FOUNDATION AND PLEDGING TO SUPPORT MILITARY AND VETERAN CAREGIVERS IN THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH.

AGENDA OF: May 2, 2023

Assembly Action:

Approved under the consent Agenda
5-2-23 (Bor)

AGENDA ACTION REQUESTED: Present to the Assembly for consideration.

Route To Department/Director	Name	Signature
Originator	Mayor Edna DeVries	<i>Edna DeVries</i>
Department Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> _____	
Finance Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> _____	
Borough Attorney	Nicholas Spiropoulos	<i>NS</i>
Borough Manager	Mike Brown	<i>MB</i>
Borough Clerk	Lonnie McKechnie <i>gmm</i>	<i>4/24/23</i> <i>(Bor)</i>

ATTACHMENT (S): Fiscal Note: YES _____ NO X
Resolution Serial No. 23-047 (2pp)
Flyer (2pp)

SUMMARY STATEMENT: This Resolution is a pledge to support military and veteran caregivers by utilizing the resources available to the Borough as a designated "Hidden Heroes" borough, through the Elizabeth Dole Foundation. The Hidden Heroes program was designed to encourage cities to recognize and increase resources for military and veteran caregivers, many of whom are loved ones caring for family without a lot of support. There are many resources available to caregivers through the hiddenheroes.org website, but many caregivers are not aware of the Hidden Heroes program. This is an opportunity to provide education and support resources for those caring for our military veterans.

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION: Respectfully request approval.

Elizabeth Dole Foundation

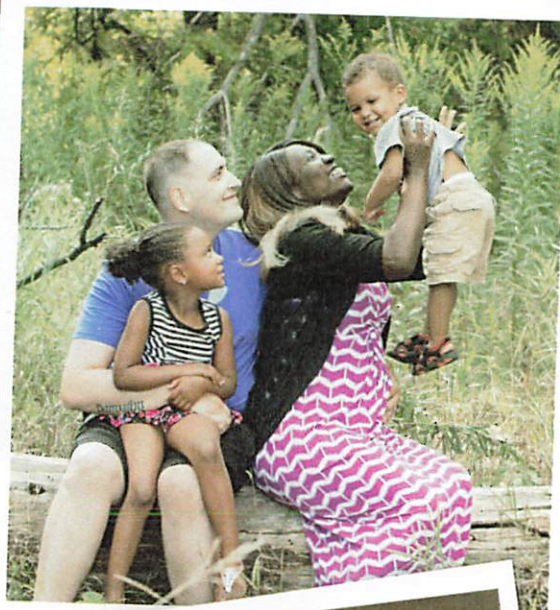
Caring for America's Hidden Heroes

The Elizabeth Dole Foundation is the preeminent organization dedicated to serving, empowering, and honoring the millions of spouses, parents, family members, and loved ones who care for America's wounded service members and veterans at home.


The Foundation's story began in 2011, in the hallways of Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, where Senator Bob Dole was hospitalized for 11 months due to service-related injuries. During this time, his wife Senator Elizabeth Dole met countless individuals caring for loved ones wounded in war. She was deeply moved by their challenges and the lack of assistance available to them. In 2012, she established the Elizabeth Dole Foundation to honor the service of caregivers she met and the millions of caregivers across our nation through caregiver-informed programs and resources that have become central to living out our mission.

Our programming is aligned along three efforts:

- Advancing a common agenda, informed by quality research, and grounded in coalition building with government, nonprofits, and corporations.
- Investment in caregivers through our systematic programming.
- Mobilizing individuals, communities, and stakeholders recognizes the power of advocates and allies.



STAY CONNECTED

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 Elizabeth Dole Foundation

HIDDENHEROES.ORG



1M 23-090
RS 23-047

OUR PROGRAMS

Are you a military or veteran caregiver?

Answering that can feel layered and complicated. After all, helping the wounded veteran in your life is just something you do as a spouse, friend, sibling, or parent. Acknowledging your role as a military or veteran caregiver is a critical first step in joining a supportive community of others, just like you. The range of tasks and responsibilities differ for every caregiver, see the list below of common tasks caregivers provide for their service member or veteran.

- Manage medication and medical appointments
- Provide emotional and physical support
- Assist in the care of a disabling wound, injury, or illness
- Assist with activities of daily living like grooming, dressing, toileting, eating
- Advocate for proper treatment and care
- Manage household activities like banking, grocery shopping, cleaning

If you answered yes to one or more of the above tasks, you are a military or veteran caregiver.

It's important to remember that **caregiving journeys look different for everyone who embarks on them**. Your path may not be the same as another caregivers, but that's why the Elizabeth Dole Foundation is here to help.



HOPE FUND

The Hope Fund provides emergency financial assistance to help caregivers experiencing acute financial hardship. Every caregiver who applies will be offered additional support, referrals, and access to other benefits available through the Elizabeth Dole Foundation's holistic financial wellness program.

hiddenheroes.org/hopefund



RESPITE RELIEF

What could you do with the gift of time?

As someone who cares for a military or veteran spouse, child, parent, or friend, we know your days are packed with responsibilities. Would having an extra pair of hands help free you up to invest a little more time in yourself?

hiddenheroes.org/respite.



HIDDEN HEROES CAREGIVER COMMUNITY

The Hidden Heroes Caregiver Community (HHCC) is an online peer support group that offers a safe space for military and veteran caregivers of all eras to connect with one another.

hiddenheroes.org/join-our-community



CAMPAIGN FOR INCLUSIVE CARE

The Campaign aims to integrate military and veteran caregivers into their veteran's healthcare team and make inclusive care the standard of care across the Veterans Health Administration.

campaignforinclusivecare.elizabethdolefoundation.org



HIDDEN HELPERS

Are you a loved one to a military caregiver kid and want to learn how to better support them?

The service of 2.3 million children of wounded, ill, or injured service members and veterans often goes unseen and unrecognized. Through the Hidden Helpers Coalition, we're shining a light on the critical role these young carers play for their families.

hiddenheroes.org/hiddenhelpers

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