



# Special Forces Association



## Quick Reference Guide for SF Soldiers and their Families



This Guide is provided by the Special Forces Association as a service to the Special Forces community. The Special Forces Association is a non-profit organization comprised of active duty, retired, and veteran Special Forces Soldiers. This brochure contains contact information for a number of organizations, which are available to provide assistance to Soldiers and their families in times of need.

The **Special Forces Association** is a non-profit 501(c)(19) Veteran Service Organization with over 9,700 active members and 85 Chapters located throughout the United States and eight Countries around the world. One of the primary missions is to promote and support the general welfare of the Special Forces community, which is accomplished through three funds: The Tribute Fund, established in 2001, provides immediate financial assistance to the widows and families of Special Forces Soldiers Killed in Action (KIA); the Scholarship Fund, an annual education assistance program providing education scholarships based on merit to children and grandchildren of SFA members; and The Patriot Fund. established in 2007, provides support and assistance to the JFK Special Warfare Center and School, The Special Forces Command, and seven Special Forces Groups and their families primarily through the Family Readiness Groups and the US Special Operations Command Care Coalition. [www.specialforcesassociation.com](http://www.specialforcesassociation.com)

**Disabled American Veterans** is an organization of disabled veterans focused on building better lives for disabled veterans and their families. The organization accomplishes this goal by providing free assistance to veterans in obtaining all the benefits and services earned through their military service. [www.dav.org](http://www.dav.org)

**AMVETS National Service Foundation** provides support to veterans through a variety of service programs. It also counsels and represents veterans and their dependents before the Veteran's Administration. [www.amvetsnsf.org](http://www.amvetsnsf.org)

**Armed Forces Foundation** promotes the morale, welfare, and the quality of life of the United States Armed Forces community, including active duty personnel, national guardsmen, reservists, and retired personnel and their families by offering direct financial assistance and uplifting support to our men and women in uniform during their time of greatest need. [www.armedforcesfoundation.org](http://www.armedforcesfoundation.org)

**Wounded Warrior Project** seeks to assist those men and women severely injured during the conflicts in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other locations around the world. [www.woundedwarriorproject.org](http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org)

**Brain Injury Association** serves as a backstop to every other government program intended to help military members and veterans who suffer severe physical or mental wounds from war. The BIA can give you hope, friends, information, education, advocacy and support, and assist with finances, education, job assistance, counseling or childcare. [www.biaoregon.org](http://www.biaoregon.org)

**Coalition to Salute America's Heroes** was created to provide a way for individuals, corporations and others to help our severely wounded and disabled Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom veterans and their families rebuild their lives. [www.saluteheroes.org](http://www.saluteheroes.org)

**Enable America** is a non-profit organization dedicated to assisting people with disabilities reenter the work force and to educating the public. Enable America's Vetconnect program assists seriously wounded warriors in the recovery and rehabilitation process by providing mentoring and wellness programs as well as assisting with community reintegration and providing employment assistance. [www.EnableAmerica.org](http://www.EnableAmerica.org)

**Fisher House** provides a home away from home that enables family members to be close to a loved one at the most stressful time: during hospitalization for an illness, disease or injury. [www.fisherhouse.org](http://www.fisherhouse.org)

**Gold Star Mothers** is an organization of mothers whose sons or daughters served and died that this world might be a better place in which to live. [www.goldstarmoms.com](http://www.goldstarmoms.com)

**Helping Our Heroes Foundation** provides a means for donated funds and services to directly reach our injured military through educational opportunities, financial and career counseling, and assistance with emergency funding needs. [www.hohf.org](http://www.hohf.org)

**Heroes to Hometowns** helps severely injured service members and their families connect with their hometown or new community. [www.Militaryhomefront.dod.mil](http://www.Militaryhomefront.dod.mil) (follow links to Heroes to Hometowns)

**Long Term Family Case Management** Formerly the Families First Casualty Call Center provides long-term support to families of our fallen Soldiers by offering assistance and connecting survivors to services and programs, in addition to various outreach organizations 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. As a central point of contact in the months and years following a loss, LTFCM support coordinators continue to aid survivors with retroactive death benefits; entitlements such as education and counseling (financial and emotional); and posthumous awards and citations for fallen Soldiers. [www.hrc.army.mil/site/Active/TAGD/CMAOC/ALTFM/index.htm](http://www.hrc.army.mil/site/Active/TAGD/CMAOC/ALTFM/index.htm)

**Military Homefront** is the official Department of Defense web site for reliable Quality of Life information designed to help troops and their families, leaders and service providers. Whether you live the military lifestyle or support those who do, you'll find what you need. [www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil](http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil)

**Military One Source** Whether it's help with child care, personal finances, emotional support during deployments, relocation information, or resources needed for special circumstances, Military OneSource is there (by phone, online, or face-to-face) for military personnel and their families... 24/7/365! [www.militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com)

**Military Spouse Resource Center** A U.S. Department of Labor sponsored resource library for military spouse employment, education and relocation information, designed to assist the spouses military personnel. [www.milspouse.org](http://www.milspouse.org)

**MyArmyLifeToo.com** A system for providing services to Army families in their journey through Army life - helping connect them to the Army, to grow through education and training, to develop as community leaders and to contribute back to their Army communities. [www.myarmylifetoo.com](http://www.myarmylifetoo.com)

**National Guard Family Programs** A robust network of trained volunteers allied with Active and Reserve Components; government agencies; employers; Veteran & Volunteer Service Organizations, and private businesses in support of all military Service members and their families to improve the quality of life for National Guard members, their families, and the communities in which they live. [www.guardfamily.org](http://www.guardfamily.org)

**National Military Family Association** educates military families concerning their rights, benefits and services available to them and informs them regarding the issues that affect their lives. Promotes and protects the interests of military families by influencing the development and implementation of legislation and policies affecting them. [www.nmfa.org](http://www.nmfa.org)

**Operation First Response** supports our nation's wounded heroes and their families with personal and financial needs through donations to pay for airline tickets and other transportation for family members flying to military hospitals to visit a wounded Soldier, through backpacks filled with a t-shirt, boxer shorts, sweatpants or shorts, socks, and a complete array of hygiene items, and by making known the needs of Soldiers to organization who can assist. [www.operationfirstresponse.org](http://www.operationfirstresponse.org)

**Operation Hero Miles** allows troops stationed in Iraq or Afghanistan to fly home on leave for free. It also gives family members of wounded Soldiers free plane tickets to visit their loved ones recovering at military hospitals across the country. Operation Hero Miles gives ordinary citizens an opportunity to help our troops in a very direct way that makes a real difference in their lives. [www.heromiles.org](http://www.heromiles.org)

**Operation Homefront** provides emergency assistance to our troops, to the families they leave behind, and to wounded warriors when they return home. Operation Homefront provides aid to families struggling with not only emergencies, but also the problems of everyday life. Existing programs include emergency aid, programs for computers, financial assistance program, and furniture, moving, social outreach, and Military Mondays. [www.operationhomefront.net](http://www.operationhomefront.net)

**OASIS (Operational Advocates Supporting Injured Soldiers)** is a new organization which will be dedicated to providing active duty and former SOF personnel with technical advice and assistance on claims filed with the Department of Veterans Affairs, and to providing the spouses and children of active duty and former SOF soldiers and POWs with the capability of determining their potential benefits and provide technical assistance in obtaining those benefits. [www.oasisgrp.org](http://www.oasisgrp.org)

**Operation One Voice** is a program designed by a police officer and firefighter in partnership with community leaders to raise funds to help support the children of fallen Special Operations Forces that have given their lives preparing for or undertaking special operations missions in support of the war on terrorism. Operation One Voice is dedicated to raising funds and awareness for the financial needs of the children of fallen Special Operations Forces. [www.operationonevoice.org](http://www.operationonevoice.org)

**Paralyzed Veterans of America** works to maximize the quality of life for its members and all people with spinal cord injury/disability as a leading advocate for health care, research and education, veterans' benefits and rights, accessibility and the removal of architectural barriers, sports programs, and disability rights. [www.pva.org](http://www.pva.org)

**Sentinels of Freedom** started as a grassroots promise to accept responsibility for the well-being of severely injured men and women of the US Armed Forces who are returning to civilian life and show promise for bright and productive futures. They provide life-changing opportunities for men and women who have recently suffered injuries and now need the support of grateful communities to realize their dreams. This program allows our wounded warriors to adapt to their new physical challenges and surroundings, and ease back into a life of complete self-sufficiency. [www.sentinelsoffreedom.org](http://www.sentinelsoffreedom.org)

**Soldiers' Angels** is an all volunteer run organization that provides aid and comfort to members of the armed forces and their families through immediate responses to hard situations. They provide letters, care packages, and comfort items to deployed Soldiers, and help their families here at home as requested through special projects, dedicated teams and individuals supporting our troops. [www.soldiersangels.org](http://www.soldiersangels.org)

**Southeastern Guide Dogs** Through their **Paws for Patriots** program, this organization provides guide dogs to Soldiers who have been blinded or injured during their service in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. By doing so, they help veterans find independence and mobility through the use of a professionally and humanely trained guide dog. [www.guidedogs.org](http://www.guidedogs.org)

**Special Operations Association** annually awards a scholarship grant in honor the late Colonel George C. Morton, an original commander and innovator of special operations in Southeast Asia, to applicants for the furtherance of their formal education in an accredited institution of higher learning. [www.specialoperations.org](http://www.specialoperations.org)

**Special Operations Warrior Foundation** Founded in 1980 to serve the Special Operations community, the SOWF is dedicated to providing free college scholarships and educational counseling to the children of surviving Special Operations personnel who are killed in a training accident or operational mission. [www.specialops.org](http://www.specialops.org)

**The Wounded Warrior Project** was founded on the principle that veterans are our nation's greatest citizens and seeks to assist those men and women of our armed forces who have been severely injured during the conflicts in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other locations around the world. The WWP provides programs and services designed to ease the burdens of the wounded and their families, aid in the recovery process, and smooth their transition back to civilian life. [www.woundedwarriorproject.org](http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org)

**Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors** is an organization for survivors who've realized that the loss of a loved one in the line of military duty was far different from other types of losses. They share pride in their spouses' service to America, and tremendous sadness at the ultimate sacrifice their loved ones made. TAPS has experienced caseworkers who act as liaisons, assisting family members in finding solutions to a myriad of problems. Working hand in hand with the appropriate federal, state and private agencies, they assist in helping find solutions to challenges that arise long after the official file has been closed. [www.taps.org](http://www.taps.org)

**United States Special Operations Command Care Coalition Division** was established in August 2005 by GEN Doug Brown as a model advocacy program designed to track, support, and advocate for Special Operations Forces injured in support of the Global War on Terrorism. Their mission is to provide Special Operations Warriors and their families with a model advocacy program in order to enhance their quality of life and strengthen Special Operations readiness. [www.socom.mil/care\\_coalition](http://www.socom.mil/care_coalition)

**United Warrior Survivor Foundation** is committed to providing Survivor Transition Assistance to surviving spouses of Special Operations personnel killed in the line of duty since 9/11/2001. [www.frogfriends.com](http://www.frogfriends.com)

**US Army Wounded Warrior Program** works to ensure the Army's wounded warriors and their families are self sufficient, contributing members of our communities; living and espousing the Warrior Ethos knowing our Army and Nation remembers. [www.aw2.army.mil](http://www.aw2.army.mil)

**US Wounded Soldier Foundation** provides clothing, hygiene items, and other personal effects to US soldiers wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan. Items include large duffel bags and backpacks, small electronic games, portable CD players, CDs, battery-powered electric shavers, slipper socks, fleece blankets, and winter jackets. [www.uswoundedsoldiers.com](http://www.uswoundedsoldiers.com)

**USA Cares** exists to provide military families with financial support and other critical resources in their time of need, and to better the life and the well-being of America's Soldiers who ask so little, yet give so very much. [www.usacares.us](http://www.usacares.us)

**Vet Centers** serve veterans and their families by providing a continuum of quality care that adds value for veterans, families and communities. Care includes professional readjustment counseling, community education and outreach to a special population, and brokering of services with community agencies. Vet Centers can also serve as a key access link between veterans and others within the US Department of Veterans Affairs. [www.va.gov/rcs](http://www.va.gov/rcs)

**Veterans Administration** provides information on all benefits to which service members are entitled such as education, insurance, home loans, disability claims and many more services. [www.vba.va.gov](http://www.vba.va.gov)

**Yellow Ribbon Fund** was created in 2005 to assist our injured Soldiers and their families at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda. They welcome our injured Soldiers home by providing contributions in the form of free rental cars and taxi rides, free rooms in hotels, the free use of apartments, free tickets to sporting games, concerts and plays, and free tickets for lunches, dinners, golf games, duck and goose hunts, and fishing trips. [www.yellowribbonfund.org](http://www.yellowribbonfund.org)

**Veterans of Foreign Wars** has a rich tradition in enhancing the lives of millions through its community service programs and special projects. This organization's mission is to support programs to increase awareness of the sacrifices of America's veterans; promote citizenship education, volunteerism and positive youth programs; and facilitate medical, rehabilitative,

educational and employment services and needs for veterans and their families. [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org)

**Military Order of the Purple Heart** fosters an environment of goodwill and camaraderie among combat wounded veterans, promotes patriotism, supports necessary legislative initiatives, and most importantly provides services to veterans and their families [www.purpleheart.org](http://www.purpleheart.org)



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