



Mission: Connecting Students with Veterans

to motivate and inspire students through an enhanced educational experience that uses real-life stories as a vehicle for teaching and learning.

2015 IMPACT REPORT

Veterans Heritage Project (VHP) is pleased to report a 38% year-over-year increase in government and corporate giving with contributions from new and long time supporters. We are grateful for their generosity and belief in our mission, helping VHP to continue to serve our students and veterans and community in such an inspiring way. This impact report describes the results of this financial support coupled with the devotion, passion, and hard work that our volunteers and staff have contributed this year in helping VHP transform our young students into our country's next generation of leaders while honoring our veterans.

In 2015, VHP met, and in many cases, exceeded its goals of mission and operational improvements with twenty new and returning chapters, increased student participation, community outreach, mentoring and support activities, technology upgrades, expanded program offerings and increased fiscal stability thanks to the support of our generous donors.

KEY PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ★ We surpassed our 1,000th veteran interview milestone.
- ★ 100% of our 45 seniors graduated high school and continued on to higher education or to service academies.
- ★ Three editions of Vol 11, *Since You Asked* were published and 204 veterans stories were archived in the Library of Congress.
- ★ \$16,000 in college scholarships were awarded to senior students by VHP and AVHOFS.
- ★ We welcomed two new chapters, including our first university level chapter in Arizona, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University.
- ★ Chino Valley High School became a publishing chapter.
- ★ We achieved a 25% increase in student enrollment.
- ★ We partnered in 65 events with 43 veterans and civic groups throughout Arizona.
- ★ We continue to be the largest single contributor to the Veterans History Project at the Library of Congress.



ARIZONA HUMANITIES' EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BRENDA THOMPSON AT APRIL'S VHP'S PHOENIX-1 EDITION BOOK DEBUT WITH VHP VETERAN, CLOVIS JONES (SYA, VOL. XI) AND VHP VOLUNTEER, CORI BRETT

AWARDS and ACCOLADES

VHP Mission Director **Barbara Hatch** received the Arizona Council for the Social Studies (ACSS) Wilbur Murra Award for lifetime achievement for her work in creating Veterans Heritage Project.



Board President **Laura Byers** was honored by the AFP Greater Arizona Chapter with the 2015 Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser award for her leadership in building the financial stability of VHP.

Long Time Supporters	New 2015 Supporters
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arizona Department of Veterans Services • Phoenix Suns Charities • Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame Society • Pendleton Memorial Fund • American Express Charitable Fund • Salt River Project • Avnet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arizona Humanities • The Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation • State Farm Insurance • Tee It Up For the Troops • ECF of Boeing Arizona • General Dynamics



VHP'S EXEC. COORDINATOR BRITTANY HENRITZE, BOARD PRESIDENT LAURA BYERS AND MISSION DIRECTOR AND FOUNDER BARBARA HATCH KICKOFF VHP'S 5TH ANNUAL ADVISOR ORIENTATION & TRAINING SESSION IN AUGUST

VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Thank you to our veterans, students, teachers, board members and community members who all came together in 2015 to contribute more than 40,000 hours in support of our mission. Your in-kind labor represents a \$922,800 contribution to VHP!

In 2015 we were able to institute a new Volunteer Advocate role to help support chapter operations by assisting teachers with timelines, student recruitment, connecting with veterans in their communities, tax-credit fundraising, chapter civic event participation and community book reception planning.



VIETNAM VETERAN SPEAKERS DAVID LUCIER, JOE BRETT AND CLOVIS JONES

VHP expanded our reach to an additional 1200+ students thanks to volunteer veteran speakers who continue to share their oral histories through in school lectures.

VHP students and veteran partners also share the lessons they learned from each other and the personal impact of the oral history process at community events.



VIETNAM VETERAN RON SMITH & CAMPO VERDE VHP STUDENT

THE VHP IMPACT

TRANSFORMING LIVES

“My wife and I lost it when we read letters from students who responded to my classroom presentation. Those letters and being involved in the book-signing event were transformational moments in my life. They led to me being able to deal with a moral wound of survival guilt that has dogged me since July of 1970 without me fully realizing it.” – Veteran

BUILDING CHARACTER

“My veteran taught me about respect, being open-minded, and striving for success.” – 11th grade student

“My veteran changed me by helping me understand no matter how hard life gets, when you look back on the difficult parts, they will have made you a better person. I learned that if you consider giving up, an important opportunity may go to waste.” – 7th grade student

BUILDING 21ST CENTURY SKILLS

“I got to learn how to write an essay, how to interview, how to set up cameras, how to edit videos, and how to use my time wisely! I am excited to take these skills to high school and beyond!” – 8th grade student

“VHP teaches you how to step out of your comfort zone, how to talk to people, and how to write.” – Alumni student

2015-2016 VHP CHAPTER SCHOOLS

- ★ Cactus Shadows High School, Cave Creek
- ★ Central High School, Phoenix
- ★ Kyrene Akimel A-al Middle School, Phoenix
- ★ Campo Verde High School, Gilbert
- ★ Queen Creek High School, Queen Creek
- ★ Sonoran Trails Middle School, Phoenix
- ★ Westwood High School, Mesa
- ★ Marquette Catholic High School, Illinois
- ★ Ironwood Ridge High School, Oro Valley
- ★ Sequoia Pathway Academy, Maricopa
- ★ University High School, Tucson
- ★ Shadow Mountain High School, Phoenix
- ★ Shea Middle School, Phoenix
- ★ Chaparral High School, Scottsdale
- ★ Millennium High School, Goodyear
- ★ Chino Valley High School, Chino Valley
- ★ Show Low High School, Show Low
- ★ Flagstaff High School, Flagstaff
- ★ Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Prescott



The success of Veterans Heritage Project relies on the continued generosity, dedication and commitment of our partners. **THANK YOU** for enriching the lives of students and veterans across Arizona.



BARBARA AND WWII VETERANS AT CAVE CREEK VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION

CAPTAIN - \$1,000 - \$2,499

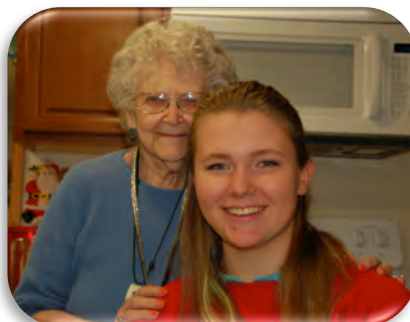
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Byers
 Mr. and Mrs. David Ward
 Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Strickland
 Mr. and Mrs. William Campbell
 Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Carroll
 Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lambert
 Rose-Marie and Jack R. Anderson Foundation
 We Will Never Forget Foundation, Inc.

2ND LIEUTENANT \$100 - \$499

Ms. Judi Choury
 Mr. and Mrs. Armand Rovero
 Mr. and Mrs. Raymond DiMuro
 Mrs. Geraldine M. Grose
 Mr. and Mrs. David Adolfsen
 Mr. Gerald A. Sands
 Mr. Donald Marquart
 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Brett
 Dr. Deborah C. Burdick
 Mr. Donald Miller
 Mr. and Mrs. William Schaefer
 Mr. and Mrs. Philip C. Yin
 Mrs. Caroleen Culbertson
 Mr. and Mrs. Jim Reynolds IV
 Mr. Robert Wassman
 AZ State Department Ex POW Inc.

2 STAR MAJOR GENERAL \$15,000 - \$24,999

Arizona Department of Veterans Services
 Arizona Humanities Council
 Phoenix Suns Charities
 The Max & Victoria Dreyfus Foundation



MRS. THOMAS SHARES STORIES OF HER HUSBAND FLOYD WITH VHP STUDENT

1 STAR BRIGADIER GENERAL \$10,000 - \$14,999

Mr. and Mrs. Gates Hawn
 State Farm Insurance

COLONEL - \$5,000 - \$9,999

Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Kee
 William L. and Ruth T. Pendleton Memorial Fund
 Tee It Up for the Troops, Inc.

MAJOR - \$2,500 - \$4,999

American Express Charitable Fund
 ECF of Boeing Arizona
 Salt River Project
 Avnet Contributions Council
 General Dynamics

1ST LIEUTENANT - \$500 - \$999

Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Ganahl
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Burns
 Mr. John Conrad & Ms. Paula Vessels
 Mr. John Elof
 Mr. and Mrs. Gary Burr
 Brigadier General J. Derek Hill
 Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hopkins
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael Scallon
 Broadview Investments
 CSHS Track Team, Caitlyn Campbell
 United Health Foundation

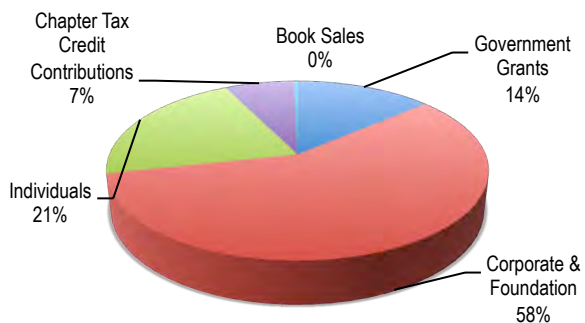


VIETNAM POW VETERAN TOM COLLINS CITY OF PHOENIX VETERANS DAY PARADE

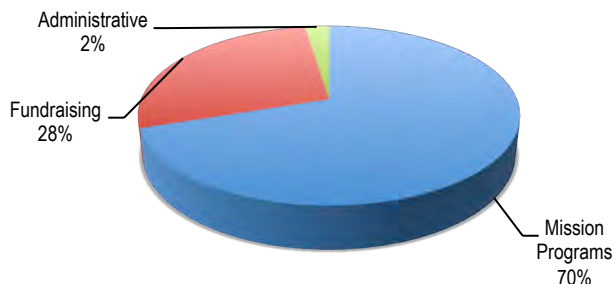
2015 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Veterans Heritage Project's 2015 income was \$146,134 with expense of \$137,114. The demand for our program and our ability to effectively manage our growth required an investment in operating expenses, with 70% of expenses directly supporting Mission Program Delivery and 30% of expenses supporting Administrative and Fundraising functions. Copies of Financial Statements are available by contacting Veterans Heritage Project.

2015 Income



2015 Expense



Connecting Students with Veterans

An Immersive Educational Experience

Veterans Heritage Project

P.O. Box 1297

Carefree, AZ 85377

1-877-VHP-PROJ (847-7765)



A LOOK INTO 2016



VHP is building capacity with the addition of dedicated staff!

Michelle DiMuro, CFRE (pictured left) joins VHP January 2016 as our first Executive Director. Michelle has 17

years of non-profit management and fundraising experience, and has successfully operated her private consulting firm, Westfield Consulting, for the past seven years. Michelle brings to VHP an extensive background of philanthropic, entrepreneurial and resourceful expertise, having worked with large non-profits and grassroots agencies, including Desert Voices Oral Learning Center, Goodwill of Central Arizona, McDowell Sonoran Conservancy, Friends of Public Radio Arizona, Cancer Support Community Arizona, and Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona.

Michelle has a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Arizona and holds the title of certified fund raising executive (CFRE) through the Association of Fundraising Professionals. Michelle has been a member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals Greater Arizona Chapter since 1999, having served as the chapter president in 2006, a mentor to young professionals through the chapter's nationally recognized Professional Mentoring Program from 2008 to 2011, and as the professional mentoring program chair for the past three years.

Prior to entering the non-profit arena in 1999, Michelle spent several years as a public relations and event planning specialist for manufacturing and software technology firms. Michelle is an Army brat, is married to Raymond DiMuro and together they have two teenage daughters.

2016 BOOK RECEPTIONS - SAVE THE DATE

Phoenix Edition I – April 10th, ASU West, 3 pm

Tucson Edition – April 16th, Sun City Activity Center, 2 pm

Northern AZ Edition – April 23rd, Embry Riddle, 2 pm

Phoenix Edition II – May 14th, Shadow Mountain H.S., 1 pm

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Laura Byers, Pres. & Chairman

David Lucier, Director

Barbara Hatch, Mission Director

Jerry Strickland, Director

Joe Brett, Vice President

Phil Yin, Ph.D., Director

Virgel Cain, Secretary

Susan Kee, Director

Donna Ward, Director

Michelle DiMuro, Exec. Dir.