



VETERANS OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL THERAPY PROJECT

Hello America!

Thanks to the generosity of Sponsors like **MMI (Machinery Marketing Inc)** we are proud to inform you that our first of many outings has been a success! 6 Veterans and Veterans Spouses were successfully guided down the San Juan River by Pagosa Rafting Outfitters on 2 June 2018. All the Veterans and Spouses report having had great fun and meaningful experiences together. We can't tell you how good it feels to know that companies like **MMI** are behind us 100%. We would like to encourage your business to join **MMI** in support of our nations Veterans.

Please keep in mind our service men and women who gave the ultimate gift to Liberty and who helped to make our rights and freedoms possible. U.S. military personnel that spend time in stressful and dangerous situations for extended periods and intensity are tested emotionally, physically, and mentally. These men and women have passed the test and have fulfilled an oath taken for the defence of all we hold dear and if they could most Veterans say they would do it again. They are truly Honorable. Unfortunately, after service, a high percentage of our returning vets have a difficult time adjusting to a civilian life where this warrior mentality seems out of place.

The United States service member has suffered the loss of limbs, gun shot wounds, head injuries, burns, broken bones, PTSD, carcinogens, toxins, disease, homelessness, incarceration, and every other calamity including death by suicide since we have become a free nation Not to mention the untold thousands that have died wearing the Uniform of the United States. Too many of our veterans come home and have a difficult time relating their experiences to loved ones. The returning veteran can often feel disconnected and disassociated from the world around them. As many as **22 Veterans commit suicide every day!** This is unacceptable and must always be unacceptable.

We may not be able to change the realities of military service. But "We the People" are able to plant some seeds of love, kindness, and understanding that will eventually bear good fruit in the lives of those men and women we call Veterans. That being said, I am happy to announce that with the ongoing support of **Veterans for Veterans** of Archuleta county Colorado a **501C3 non-profit** organization, **Wilderness Journeys** of Pagosa Springs Colorado, our **local** outdoor recreational activities provider and with the help of **Exe Blue** our website design and technical support company. The **Veterans Outdoor Recreational Therapy Project (V.O.R.T.P)** is ready to serve veterans and their families.

This project is about **welcoming veterans home, reaching out, and helping with the readjustment process.** Presenting information on **healthy lifestyle choices** that will help promote **physical and mental health to relieve stress naturally.**

VORTP is about **Veterans Resources.** We are building relationships and hope to collaborate with organizations like the VA Hospital Recreational Therapy Department, The Veterans Administration, DOD, Adaptive Sports Association of Durango, Operation Healing waters, Wounded Warriors, Outward Bound, The Sierra Club Military Outdoors, Adaptive Adventures of Denver, Military expeditions, and Veterans Service Organizations like Vets for Vets, VFW, American Legion, DAV, American Volunteers and the Four Corners Veterans Coalition. This is just the beginning.

We are working toward having an extensive and comprehensive list of **Activity Providers** that offer their services to Veterans for **FREE.** It doesn't cost the activity provider to be on the list and usually only takes a couple of business days until it's posted on the www.vortp.com

Veterans that want to participate in outdoor recreational activities can go directly to the **Activities Providers page** check out all guides and the activities that they offer, and take it from there by clicking the link. By having a list of **activities providers in all 50 states** we can be sure that the Veteran will be served no matter if they are here in Pagosa, Houston, or Maine for example. **A great online resource!**

With financial support from donations, grants, and corporate sponsorships we can and will provide outdoor activities for FREE to Veterans and their families here in the Four Corners Region of the United States on an ongoing basis. We hope to bring Veterans and their families here and get them outdoors for an experience of a lifetime, with our team of professional guides, food, lodging, local transportation.

Activities such as but not limited to rafting, guided horseback trail rides, fly-fishing, 4x4 jeep trail rides, scenic train rides, kayaking, biking, hiking, downhill skiing, cross country skiing, snow shoeing, and guided tours to hisorical national monuments such as Chimney Rock, Mesa Verde, and Chaco Canyon.

You can find valuable information on our website www.vortp.com with links to veteran's resources and information on a range of veterans related and topics. At present VORTP is raising money for future trips and could use your help. Any and all donations great and small are appreciated. You can go to our websites www.vortp.com, www.vets4vetsPSCO.org, or www.gowjp.com to find more information.

The pursuit of happiness is ever before our eyes inspiring quests of adventure with the hope of great reward. The reward we find in living life to the fullest.

E-Pluribus Unum

JL Walth
Combat Vet/Volunteer