



Ranger Lead The Way Fund News

SEPTEMBER 2012

Lead The Way Fund, Inc., PO BOX 281, Manhasset, NY 11030 www.leadthewayfund.org

In Honor

of

Sgt. James J. Regan



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Welcome Letter from Jim Regan, Chairman & CEO

Dear Friends and Supporters of the Lead The Way Fund,

It's hard to believe that it has been nearly five years since the Lead The Way Fund was established in honor of our son, and dear friend to many, Sgt. James J. Regan "Jimmy," who was killed in Iraq while serving with honor with the Charlie Company, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment. While Jimmy's devastating loss was at the forefront for the creation of the Lead The Way Fund, we are proud to say that we have evolved into a place where we can honor not just Jimmy, but every U.S. Army Ranger who has put their life on the line to protect our freedom.

Lead The Way Fund continues to be primarily an all-volunteer organization, with only 2% of our donations allocated to salaries, overhead expenses and administrative costs. Thanks to this minimal cost structure, and the tireless support of all of the incredibly dedicated volunteers who have helped us along the way, we are able to apply the majority of our donations to our mission of serving the needs of fallen and injured Rangers

and their families.

We are also excited to announce that we are on the verge of becoming part of the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). The CFC is the largest workplace charity campaign in the United States and the only campaign authorized to solicit and collect contributions from federal employees in the workplace on behalf of charitable organizations.

Thanks to the generous donations we have received over the last five years, we have been able to provide essential support and financial assistance for our 75th Ranger Regiment active duty and wounded Rangers and their families.

Your generosity will also permit us to address the needs of the Ranger community we serve both today and in response to potential conflicts in future. At this time we would like to announce that we have created the Lead The Way Endowment Fund. The long-term investment profile of the permanent capital of the Endowment Fund will better position the Lead The Way Fund to provide financial support to answer the call for the

needs of today and to stand ready to support for engagements which are sure to be a part of the operations of the 75th Ranger Regiment for generations to come.

We continue to strive to honor Jimmy's spirit and his patriotism and we intend to make our organization live on in perpetuity – as long as these men are in the fight, we will be here to support them.

We hope you enjoy our first newsletter and we thank you again for your continued support of our mission!

Rangers Lead The Way!



Ranger Assistance Programs



Ranger Wounded Assistance Program (RWAP) – we provide financial support and other vital services to wounded and disabled Rangers and their families during the acute recovery phase.

The Ranger Recovery Program (RRP) – is part of our comprehensive approach to addressing and supporting the severely wounded Ranger.

Family Readiness Group (FRGs) - composed of Ranger wives, FRGs receive funds to pay for all-important family morale-boosting activities during

their husband's deployment.

Ranger Chaplain Special Programs - identify and provide support to single and married Rangers and/or their families with the sole purpose of preserving a very pressured force.

In Development:

The Children's Initiative - will focus on the needs of post 9/11 children of Rangers that have been killed or have suffered life altering wounds.



How We've Helped!



Our financial assistance goes to filling the gaps that the government does not focus on or support. This past fiscal year we provided \$260,000 in aid to our Rangers and their families. Our support is fluid and ongoing.

- ◆ We purchased a hospital bed for a Ranger with a severe head injury;
- ◆ Retrofitted a car for a

Ranger who lost an eye;

- ◆ Flown family members to the bedside of their wounded loved ones;
- ◆ Arranged for transportation and accommodations for a soldier's wife to be with their premature baby who was in critical condition in a distant special hospital..



Ranger Testimonials



FRG Christmas outing for the children of 1/75

"Charlie Company, from within the 1st Ranger Battalion, would like to fully extend our true thankfulness and appreciation for the generous donation that you have made to our Company's Family Readiness Group. I do not feel as though we will ever be able to express, through words, what your generous donation has been able to afford us; but we can honestly say that the opportunities that we have

been able to offer our Ranger families would not have been possible without the presence of your donation and the presence of your kindness and compassion."

"Thank you for all that you have done and for all that you do for the families of Rangers; your continuous gifts help to create bonds, experiences and memories that strengthen us both as

individuals and as a whole within the entire Ranger family."

"Your continued generosity allows us to fund and organize functions and events that directly benefit the Rangers and their families both while they are deployed and home. I can personally say your generosity has made an impact in the lives of my family."

Lead The Way Fund News

Letter From Lisa Vos

2nd Battalion Family Readiness Assistant

I dove headfirst into Department of Defense and Army Regulations as well as Joint Ethics laws when I began working as a Family Readiness Support Assistant. I was surprised and disheartened to discover how severely restricted fiscal activities, particularly fund raising, had become for Family Readiness Groups. FRGs were not only severely restricted but also have no way to ask for help.

Family Readiness Groups are only allowed to raise funds from within their military community. They must compete against each other for prime fund raising opportunities and there is always paperwork involved. Frequently the process is so frustrating that many FRGs make the decision not to fundraise in the military community.

This leaves FRGs with one community in which to fund raise: their unit. How demoralizing to have to raise funds from the people you are serving in order to provide decent morale-boosting activities. A vicious circle; selling blankets, baked goods, jewelry, cups, candy grams...anything to interest the men and women to spend money. So much work for so very little reward.

Then something amazing happened. Something that has brought hope, vitality, and a much-needed moral boost to the men and women here. The unit was approached by a benevolent organization (Lead The Way Fund, Inc.) that wanted to assist the men and their families. After many legal reviews and meetings, support for the FRGs began to arrive.

Many FRG's were hesitant to use the resources at first. With guidance, encouragement and assurance, FRGs began to make plans. The FRGs were and are able to plan events such as trips to the zoo, outings for spouses during deployments, trips to soccer and baseball games, many holiday events, welcome home celebrations, volunteer appreciation, and so much more.



I cannot fully convey the importance of these activities in a letter or article. I will tell you that, without the opportunities that are now available, life for families would be much harder. Morale would drop drastically. I wish that you could see the comfort and relief that Lead The Way Fund, Inc. support provides to FRGs and leadership, as I do.

Lead The Way Fund, Inc. support is invaluable to the health of the unit and its families. Their efforts and their desire to serve our nation's heroes reflect greatly upon them. I thank them from the deepest parts of my being for their unwavering support to the men and women of 2d Ranger Battalion.

Rangers Lead The Way!



*FRG Family Day at the University of Georgia
Aquarium*

Letter From Craig Remsburg— Father of Injured Army Ranger SSG Cory Remsburg

Army Ranger families helping other Army Ranger families.

Here's what I have learned during the past 2 plus years about Rangers and their families.

It was on Oct 1, 2009, and Army Ranger SSG Cory Remsburg was doing what he and his family knew was a very dangerous profession. After all, he had been an Army Ranger since graduating high school in St. Louis, MO in June 2001. And it was during his 10th deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, that the Oct 1st date would forever change Cory and his family.

It didn't matter so much that it was a successful mission that he was on that day, what mattered most was he was being kept alive by fellow Army Ranger medics. An IED blast struck Cory on his right side, penetrating his right skull and right eye, and burns/shrapnel wounds on his face, arm and back. It was this initial triage by Ranger medics that no doubt saved his life.

From the battlefield to Kandahar Airfield medical center there were multi-country medical professionals waiting to continue the efforts of Ranger medics. Several surgeries on his eye and head, and within hours, he was on his way to the second stop, Bagram Airfield, where higher level hospital capabilities were put to the test to continue keeping Cory alive.

It was at this time that I got my first notification about Cory's injury and condition. The Company Commander called my cell phone, and explained in un-nerving detail about his injuries. Words like, near drowning, right head penetrating wound, right eye penetrating wound, burns, shrapnel wounds, unconscious, lungs collapsed, needed to be resuscitated ... mind numbing indeed. I immediately started to notify the family, with the purpose to 'join together' and collectively determine our next uncertain actions.

That was the first time that the organization called, Lead The Way Fund (LTWF) was introduced in the conversation. The Ranger liaison stated that LTWF would pay the flight for my wife to be relocated from Phoenix, AZ to Raleigh, NC to meet and confer together with other family members.

There were more surgeries while at Bagram Airfield medical center, Afghanistan, on Cory's eye and his head where the concern about brain swelling was paramount to the medical team. Within hours from surgery, the decision to move Cory to the Landstuhl Medical Center in Germany was made. What came with that was a dedicated team of an Emergency Room doctor and nurse, and medical technician, called CCATT.

While at Landstuhl, Cory underwent many additional surgeries to keep him alive. The medical team advised to family to join Cory in Germany, as he was unstable to transport to the US. Again, the LTWF stepped up and assisted with the expense of the family flights to Germany without any hesitation. The family stayed with Cory for almost 2 weeks, and then the decision was made to move Cory back to the states. Again, LTWF funded the return trip's expenses for family members that were not being picked up by the federal government.

Next stop was Bethesda Naval Medical Center, where Cory lay in a coma-state for over a month. Family decided that the Tampa VA center, in Florida was the best medical facility for Cory to continue his recovery. It was at that time that LTWF founders Jim and Mary Regan visited with Cory and the family. Jim and Mary were very sincere and compassionate about helping Cory and the family, offering the needs that the military could not authorize.

LTWF eagerly agreed to assist Cory with the special bed Cory needed when, as an outpatient, he was moved to a nearby apartment. And there was some special equipment that was provided Cory to continue his recovery. LTWF engaged with Cory and his family only hours after his injury. The organization continues today to follow-up and monitor Cory's situation, and offers both comfort to the family and invaluable assistance to Cory and us.





Army Ten-Miler

Washington D.C. Committee

Lead The Way Fund would like to announce that we have expanded our operations to the Washington, D.C. metro area to assist with our fundraising and increase linkage with the USSOCOM Care Coalition Wounded Warriors and families.

The Washington Team is up and running and has already hosted a couple of great events. The team hosted a hockey night out in January with members of the Wounded Warrior team from Walter Reed / Bethesda and several active duty Rangers from 1/75 Ranger Regiment from Savannah, GA.

The first Friends of Lead The Way Fund Social was held at PJ Clarkes in D.C. on May 10, 2012 and was a large success with nearly 50 people in attendance. A wide variety of personnel were in attendance including Army Rangers, USSOCOM Care Coalition Wounded Warriors and Liaison personnel.

The major event for "Team Ranger" this year will be the Army Ten-Miler weekend on October 21, 2012. in D.C. We have 8 teams running (64 people) and supporting with fundraising. There will be a dinner before the run and a HOOAH tent set up

at the event.

The D.C. team will also open 2013 with a spring golf tournament planned for May.

We are excited about our growth in this area and look forward to new events in our Nation's Capital.



D.C. Committee

Lead The Way Fund Events

We are pleased to report that attendance at all of our events continues to grow at an exceptional rate. A huge testament to the support we continue to receive from all of you.

Last November, over 1,100 people joined us for our 5th Annual Run/Walk Down Hero Highway - our largest event to-date. The post-race celebration was held at the beautiful Lighthouse at Chelsea Piers. It was a wonderful day filled with food, festivities and patriotism. Our 6th Annual event is right around the corner on November 18th so Save the Date! We look forward to the return of The American Fallen Soldiers

Project presenting heart-warming portraits to the families of The Fallen. We are also looking for corporate sponsorships to help us fund this incredible event so please contact us with interest.

In April, we held our "Lacrosse Day for Heroes," featuring two of the country's best high school lacrosse teams, Chaminade and Manhasset. The event was a huge success with over 2,000 people in attendance. 100% of the profits were donated to Lead The Way Fund.

September 20th brings our 6th Annual Golf Outing at the Plandome Country Club. Last year was a

tremendous success with over 400 participants and great silent and live auctions. We look forward to another great event this year!

"Team Ranger" (our racing team brand) continues to have a growing presence at events across the country. We had a strong presence at The Tobay Triathlon in August and the ING NYC Marathon and Army Ten-Miler are on target to be our best yet! We were also granted slots at the Civilian Military Combine's NYC Urban Assault and have a team racing in the Tri-State Tough Mudder.

Keep checking our website and Ranger Lead The Way Fund Facebook page for updates on how you can get involved!



5th Annual Run Down Hero Highway



2012 Lacrosse Day For Heroes

2011 ING NYC Marathon



The 2012 Tobay Triathlon



Independent Events – Any Race! Any Place! Any Time!

In the last year, we have been extremely fortunate to have many people across the country express interest in fundraising individually on our behalf.

As interest began to grow, we invoked “Any Race! Any Place! Any Time!” Individuals across the country now have the ability to participate in any event of their choice (non-athletic events as well) and fundraise for us by setting up individual pages on the FirstGiving

fundraising website (www.firstgiving.com/rangerleadthewayfund/i-support-lead-the-way).

When you have a moment check out the Independent Events section on our website at www.leadthewayfund.org to see what people across the country are up to! Perhaps there is something in your area that you might want to get involved in!



Ben Fenton in the 2012 NYC Ironman



*Dan Lamonaca
Bear Mt. Trail Half-
Marathon*



*Jay Posner - Iowa
Dam to Dam Race*



*Pat Brennan and teammates in the
2012 Lake Placid
Lacrosse Tournament*

Week 4



*Bobby Condon - Bear
Mt. Trail Half-Marathon*

Week 1



Luke Kaplan in SouthCap's February' Fundraiser



*Wheatley Hills Golf Club
Ryder Cup Fundraiser*

Ranger Heroes' Family Fundraisers

Families of some of our beloved Ranger heroes who have made the ultimate sacrifice have organized their own fundraising efforts in support of the 75th Ranger Regiment and the Lead The Way Fund mission.

The families listed here are the vanguard of a new movement -- they are entrusting the proceeds from their own fundraising activities, including golf outings and other events, to the Lead The Way Fund.

We would like to thank you all for the continued support of our programs and our mission.

The Family & Friends of Sgt. Alessandro L. Plutino (1/75) and “The Honoring Sandrino’s Sacrifice Fund”

The Family & Friends of Spc. Bradley D. Rappuhn (3/75) and “The Bradley Rappuhn Memorial Fund”

The Family & Friends of Cpl. Michael D. Jankiewicz (3/75)

The Lead The Way Fund, now in its sixth year, makes it a point to allocate less than two percent of funds to administrative costs. The rest goes to our programs in support of our Rangers and their families.



Upcoming Lead The Way Fund Events

October 21, 2012

Army Ten-Miler
Washington, DC

November 6, 2012

The ING New York City Marathon

November 18, 2012

6th Annual “A Run Down Hero Highway”
New York, NY

Contact Lead The Way for Participation

Please visit www.LeadTheWayFund.org for specific times of the events or for more information and sponsorship opportunities.



About Lead The Way Fund

Lead The Way Fund, Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit organization established to raise funds in support of disabled U.S. Army Rangers and the families of Rangers who have died, have been injured or are currently serving in harm's way around the world. Lead The Way Fund, Inc. will provide spouses and children of deceased, disabled or active duty Rangers with assistance for health and wellness programs and other services determined to be vital to the family's well-being. The assistance offered by Lead The Way is inspired by the courage and character of Sgt. James J. Regan who was killed in Iraq while serving with honor with Charlie company, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment.



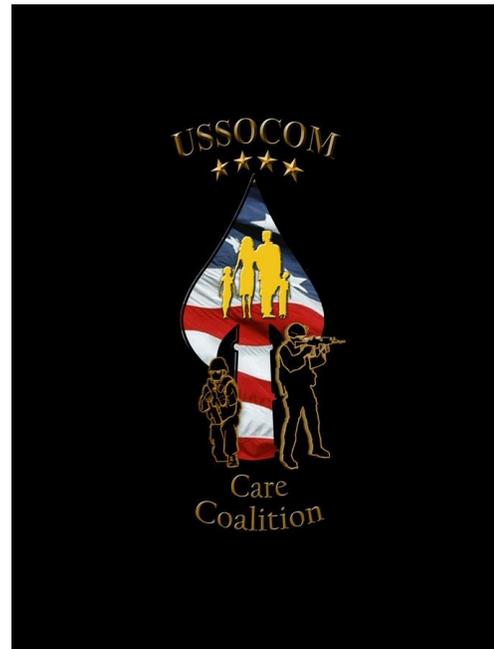
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United States Special Operations Command Care Coalition

The mission of the US Special Operations Command Care Coalition is to provide Special Operations Forces warriors and their families a model advocacy program in order to enhance their quality of life and strengthen the overall readiness of Special Operations. Since their inception in 2005, the United States Special Operations Command's Care Coalition has continued to track, support, and advocate for all Special Operations Forces wounded, ill, and injured service members and their families to provide these individuals with exceptional service and valuable information in order to enhance their quality of life.



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