

# Monthly NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2023



VETERANS  
Path to Hope™

## THANK YOU TO ALL WHO DONATED DURING OUR ANNUAL APPEAL!

The unwavering support of our community helps to fuel our programs and continue our mission of supporting local veterans. We are so grateful to the individuals and businesses that donated to Veterans Path to Hope during our annual appeal. We are an organization built on the kindness and generosity of our community and we hope to continue to grow our services and support as many veterans in need as we can.



# FEATURED PROGRAM



VETERANS  
Path to Hope™

Veterans Path to Hope Outdoors was created to support the mission of transforming and enriching lives through hosting recreational outdoor activities for military veterans, active-duty service members, and their families.



Our program embraces each veteran's unique barriers and challenges, utilizing evidenced-based interventions to meet their needs and goals. The Outdoors program strives to help each service member through their healing journey by enhancing physical, cognitive, social, emotional, and leisure skills. Our goal is to offer necessary support in creative ways to boost quality of life for our service members and their families!

**Our favorite activities: fishing, boating, and camping. We also enjoy sporting events and other special outings!**

## Who is Eligible?

All military veterans with discharge status of General, under honorable conditions, or higher (Honorable), active-duty service members, and eligible family members are WELCOME to apply for our excursions!

Additionally, we bring approved civilian/veteran escorts and support staff on each adventure.



[CLICK HERE TO FOLLOW THE OUTDOORS PROGRAM ON FACEBOOK!](#)

Questions about the Outdoors Program? Email Ryan  
Jacobsen at [rjacobsen@vphope.org](mailto:rjacobsen@vphope.org)

[WWW.VETERANSPATHTOHOPE.ORG](http://WWW.VETERANSPATHTOHOPE.ORG)





# STAFF HIGHLIGHT



VETERANS  
Path to Hope™



Help us welcome Phil, our new  
Program Coordinator as of December  
2022.

Phil is an Army veteran that served  
from 2008-2015 as a Stryker Systems  
Maintainer/Recovery Operator,  
earned the rank of Sergeant, and  
deployed in support of Operation Iraqi  
Freedom.

When asked about his favorite aspect of serving in the military, he replied;  
"A member of my family has been in nearly every conflict since the Civil War. I was  
taught growing up the importance of ensuring the freedoms we have here in the  
United States of America remain intact. I just wanted to give to my country what has  
been so freely given to me."

And when asked about the hardest thing about serving, Phil said;  
"There are many difficult things that come with being in the military. Losing friends  
not just in combat but from mental health struggles, spending time away from  
family and many others. But I knew all this was a possibility when I signed the  
contract. The true struggle that I was not prepared for was the transition to civilian  
life."

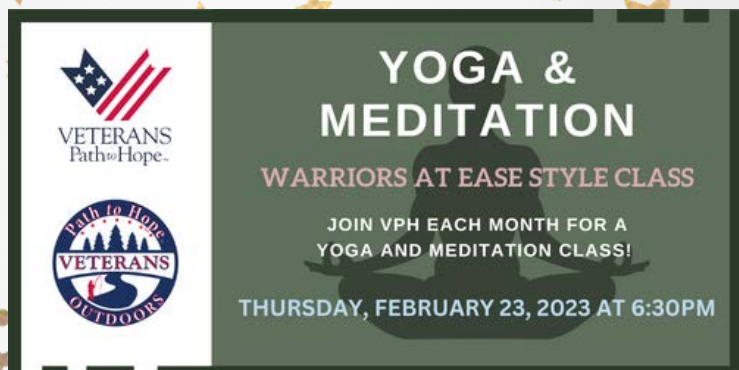
Like a lot of fellow veterans that work here, Phil feels that VPH has given him the  
opportunity to serve those that need assistance in the community and gave him a  
sense of purpose which can be hard to find for many after the military.  
Outside of work he enjoys spending time with his 5-year-old son, weekends with  
his family, and going to the gym. Welcome to the family, Phil!



# UPCOMING EVENTS



VETERANS  
Path to Hope™



**Thursday, February 23rd, 2023**

## Yoga & Meditation "Warriors At Ease" Style Class

[CLICK HERE to register!](#)



**Saturday, March 4th, 2023**

## 3rd Annual Spirit Pull at Spirit Water Distillery in Cary, IL

[CLICK HERE to register!](#)

[CLICK HERE to follow our Facebook event!](#)



**Saturday, April 22nd, 2023**

## VPH Outdoors Wild Game Dinner & Veterans of Comedy Show

[CLICK HERE to register!](#)



**Saturday, April 22nd, 2023**

## VPH Jeep Run with Jeeps 4 Vets

**DETAILS COMING SOON!**







**THE GIFT YOU  
CAN RE-GIFT  
OVER AND OVER!**

**DONATE**

How can you deepen your connections to a cause dear to your heart? By being a beacon of hope to those who served our country and now find themselves in need.

On average we serve over 2800 veterans and their families per year, with housing assistance, employment assistance, food and respite care, just to name a few of our life saving programs. We humbly invite you to keep critical services going by making a sustaining monthly gift of \$25.

For questions on donations, recurring donations, planned giving or other areas of support, contact Jennifer Kipp, Director of Resource Development at [jkipp@vphope.org](mailto:jkipp@vphope.org)



# EXCITING NEWS FOR VPH!



VETERANS  
Path to Hope™

We have 2 NEW vans to add to our VPH fleet! They came to us from the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs through the Veterans Scratch off Lottery Grant. We chose to do business with Brilliance Honda of Crystal Lake for all they do for us!

Thank you!



**Brilliance Honda**  
OF CRYSTAL LAKE

