



Written by [Raven Clabough](#) on January 19, 2015

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The Goodness of America

Warrior Healing Campaign

On November 9, the Warrior Healing Campaign was launched in Charlottesville, Virginia, to assist veterans returning home from Iraq and Afghanistan. The campaign was started to make it easier for returning veterans to be connected to the variety of resources available in central Virginia.

[Newsplex.com](#) reported that the program was started by Iraq veteran Bingham Jamison, along with two other veterans.

“When I was going through my recovery process, I was having to jump from resource to resource to try and navigate the things that could help me,” Jamison explained. He stated that the purpose of his campaign is to prevent others from having the same experience.

Rather than reinvent the wheel, Jamison asserted that the best approach to assisting returning veterans is to help them connect to resources that are already in existence. “The intent by connecting local veterans to existing resources that are in town, the intent is that we help anyone else that’s going through a post war recovery process,” said Jamison. “Rather than compete with existing organizations around town and around Charlottesville, our intent is to augment what they are doing, it’s to build them up, to market and promote what they are doing and essentially to select one best in class charity to support,” said Jamison.

A charity that the campaign chose to aid is the Richmond Fisher House Foundation, for which the Warrior Healing Campaign hopes to raise half a million dollars. The Richmond Fisher House Foundation houses and feeds over 700 families per year.

According to the foundation’s website, the Fisher House Foundation is “best known for a network of comfort homes where military and veterans’ families can stay at no cost while a loved one is receiving treatment.”

The foundation also operates the Hero Miles program, which allows frequent flyer miles to be donated to bring family members to the bedside of wounded service members. The organization runs the Hotels for Heroes program, as well, which utilizes donated hotel points for family members to stay at hotels near veterans’ hospitals for free.

Santa Visit

Three-year-old Gracie Lynn revealed how big her heart is when she noticed Santa Claus eating breakfast alone at the counter at a Bob Evans restaurant in Evansville, Indiana. And the man dressed as Santa made the little girl’s day quite memorable by playing along.

Gracie could not bear to see Santa eating alone, and asked her mom if she could keep him company. According to Gracie’s mom, Gracie and Santa talked as if they’d known each other for years.

When Santa asked her what she wanted for Christmas, she simply responded that she wanted to meet her baby brother, who was to be born in a few weeks.

Gracie’s mother snapped a photo and posted it to Facebook, and it went viral. It has over 20,000 likes.



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Shopping for a Cause

The Chics for Charity event in South Charleston, West Virginia, turned holiday shopping into a charitable endeavor on November 20. The Chics for Charity event was held at the Holiday Inn & Suites and featured a variety of vendors, a silent auction, speakers, and delicious appetizers.

Chics for Charity is an endeavor by The Foundation for the Thomas Memorial and Saint Francis Hospitals, an organization that raises funds to improve the health, education, and well-being of local citizens.

The *Charleston Daily Mail* reported, "Nearly 400 businesswomen have joined Chics for Charity in the last two years with any funds raised going to help the needy, promote education and encourage good health."

The charity seeks to help patients discharged from Saint Francis to get help with the cost of medications or other medical needs to continue recovery at home. It also provides funds for the Junior/Senior Nursing Academy, which allows youth ages 12 to 14 interested in healthcare fields to gain experience in a hospital setting. Funds raised by Chics for Charity are also used for Prime of Life events held throughout the community that offer free and low-cost health screenings.

A number of vendors from Kanawha and Putnam Counties donated \$100 in goods and services, including spa packages, jewelry, and gift certificates, to be sold during the silent auction.

Those who attended were charged a \$25 lifetime membership fee for Chics for Charity, with \$50 requested for attendance at each event.

Cards From Strangers

Six-year-old Addie Fausett of Fountain Green, Utah, might have celebrated her last Christmas, and kind strangers wanted to be sure it was special for her.

Addie's mother, Tami, had noticed that when Addie was three years old, she stopped growing. "We had taken her to the doctor because we noticed her behavior started to change and she was kind of shaky with her hands," Fausett said. "She started to slow down a little bit. When she was closer to 4, she fell off the growth chart."

For years, Addie underwent extensive tests and numerous doctor visits in efforts to find what was wrong with her. Finally, in 2013, an MRI revealed that Addie had atrophy of her brain.

Weeks before Christmas 2014, Addie struggled, spending whole days at a time crying. Because Addie was unable to play with other children as a result of her illness, Addie's grandmother came up with the idea to ask people to send Christmas cards to Addie and her sisters.

People responded in droves. According to Yahoo, hundreds of Christmas cards came into the post office for the family daily. Addie's family said the cards have come in from all over the world, including Saudi Arabia and Germany.

"She loves it. She just smiles," Fausett said. "And some of them are her boyfriends. One little boy put that he was her boyfriend, and another little one she said, 'This one is my boyfriend.'"

The cards are a particular comfort to Addie and her sisters, who lost their father on November 29, 2014.



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“I don’t know how to thank everyone. It’s amazing to me that they’re so giving to somebody they don’t even know,” Fausett said.



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