



I'm not robot



[Continue](#)

Homeschool pop youtube veterans day

fysnowfly/ShutterstockThere are many things America's veterans wish you knew. Chief among them: You don't have to wear a cape or mask to be a hero. On Veteran's Day, we are reminded that heroes live in cities, communities and neighborhoods around the country — and they don't necessarily wear military uniforms. Given the uncertain times in which we live, the world needs more heroes, and you can be one of them. You don't have to change the whole world! Just make it a better place, one positive step at a time. In his forthcoming and fascinating book *Heroes Wanted*, Rodney Bullard, a U.S. Air Force Veteran and Chick-fil-A executive, explains how: Praise other people's giftsStart with recognizing gifts of those in your community, and affirming them. Maybe a teacher generously spends extra time mentoring children, or a child doing really well in team sports. Tell them! You will make others feel good about themselves and you will feel great about bringing sunshine into their lives. When you create an optimistic climate in your neighborhood, you will establish trust and be able to solve even more difficult problems. Emory Professor Gregory Ellison created an organization Fearless Dialogues, which creates space for community members to discuss and engage with each other on any issue. He built the group on the 3 Feet Challenge, which asks people to look for gifts of those around them. The challenge, according to Bullard, is designed to move individuals and communities beyond the belief that social problems are too big to be changed by a committed few. About 10,000 people around the world have taken on the challenge. Perform an act of serviceDht something nice for someone in need. When you open the door to an elderly citizen or volunteer at the local school or soup kitchen, you give your time and energy to your community. You will become a hero to them because you put others ahead of yourself. For example, Wake Forest basketball coach Tom Walter had a mantra for the 2011 season: What are you willing to sacrifice? When a first man joined the squad, the young player found out he needed a kidney transplant to live. Coach Walter eventually donated his kidney to his player. When we recruit our guys, we talk about family, and we talk about making sacrifices for each other, he said. Coach Walter practiced what he preached and became a hero not only to the freshman player, but to the entire team and the community. Being a heroic leader requires commitment, Bullard writes. It requires giving up time, investing energies that could be devoted to another endeavor... We don't become anyone's hero by living for ourselves. Even if you can't donate a kidney, there are so many creative ways to volunteer your time and talents. Reaching out and engaging the simple act of reaching out shows people that you care about them and their well-being. The person you're connecting to can be completely different from you. What matters is that register your interest in their lives. And they will no doubt think the world of you. You're going to be a hero to them. Bullard shares a story of growing up across the street from an elderly couple known as Whidbys. Mr. Whidby was a military veteran who shared stories about World War II with Bullard. When Mr. Whidby died, young Bullard more often went over to the house to spend time with the widow, Mrs. Whidby. Every time I knocked on her door, she smiled when she welcomed me. She always gave me a bottle of coke... On the surface, our lives were polar opposites, but we were neighbors and we had a common bond. Ask people in your community what they need. What they might need most is you and simply your presence. These untold stories of Native American heroes will inspire you. Kabir Sehgal is an American Navy Veteran, Multi-Grammy Award Winner, and co-author of national bestseller *Home: Where Everyone Is Welcome*. Veterans Day is an American holiday observed on November 11 each year in honor of all individuals who have served in every branch of the U.S. Armed Forces. hour of 11 December 2005 That day became known as Armistice Day. In 1921, an unknown American soldier was buried in Arlington National Cemetery. Similarly, unknown soldiers had been buried in England at Westminster Abbey and in France at the Arc de Triomphe. All these memorials took place on November 11th to celebrate the end of the war to end all wars. In 1926, Congress officially decided to call November 11th armistice day. Then in 1938, the day was named a national holiday. Soon after, war broke out in Europe and World War II began. Shortly after the end of World War II, a veteran of that war named Raymond Weeks organized National Veterans Day with a parade and festivities in honor of all veterans. He chose to keep this on armistice day. Thus began annual observance of a day in honor of all veterans, not just the end of World War I. In 1954, Congress officially passed, and President Dwight Eisenhower signed a bill proclaiming the 11th Amendment to the United States. Because of his role in creating this national holiday, Raymond Weeks received the Presidential Medal of Citizenship from President Ronald Reagan in November 1982. In 1968, Congress changed the national commemoration of Veterans Day to the fourth Monday in October. But the significance of November 11 was such that the changed date never really got established. In 1978, Congress returned compliance to Veterans Day to its traditional date. National ceremonies commemorating Veterans Day occur every year at the memorial amphitheater built around the Tomb of the Unknowns. At 11AM on November 11, a color guard representing all military services performs present arms on the tomb. Then the president's wreath is laid on the grave. Finally, bugler plays taps. Every Veterans Day should be a time when Americans stop and remember the brave men and women who risked their lives for the United States. As Dwight Eisenhower said: ... It is good for us to pause, to acknowledge our debt to those who paid so much of the price of freedom. As we stand here in grateful remembrance of the contributions of veterans, we renew our conviction of individual responsibility to live in ways that support the eternal truths upon which our nation is founded and from which all its strength and all its greatness flows. Veterans Day is often mistaken for Memorial Day. Observed annually on the last Monday in May, Memorial Day is the holiday devoted to paying tribute to people who died while serving in the U.S. military. Veterans Day pays tribute to all people - living or deceased - who have served in the military. In this context, Memorial Day events are often more sombre in nature than those held on Veterans Day. On Memorial Day, 1958, two unidentified soldiers were buried in Arlington National Cemetery after dying during World War II and the Korean War. In 1984, an unknown soldier who died in the Vietnam War was placed next to the others. But this last soldier was later dug up, and he was identified as Lieutenant Michael Joseph Blassie. That's why his body was removed. These unknown soldiers are a symbol of all Americans who gave their lives in all wars. To honor them, an army honor guard keeps day and night guard. Witnessing the replacement of guards at Arlington National Cemetery is a truly moving event. Updated by Robert Longley Do you want to do anything for veterans today? Make sure you do it for them and not just for a bunch of people who work for a charity with veterans in the name. There are many ways to thank a veteran for his or her service, but helping the people who help them adjust to civilian life, deal with battlefield trauma and treat their wounds is almost the best way to do it. According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, there are about 22 million veterans in the general U.S. population. The number of veterans of recent wars in Iraq and Afghanistan is expected to rise to 3.8 million in 2018, but there are still 7.2 million veterans of the Vietnam War alone. But about 30% of newest veterans have a service-related disability, while about 8% live in poverty. That's compared to only 16% of other veterans who are just as injured, and 7% of this broader group living in poverty. Meanwhile, the June 2012 Monthly Medical Surveillance Report published by the Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center suggests annual event diagnoses of mental disorders among active duty members have increased by about 65% in the last 12 years. It doesn't just disappear when service members are discharged, either. The Department of Veterans Affairs estimates that about 13% of the total U.S. homeless population is veterans, with 50% experiencing severe mental illness and 75% struggling with substance abuse. Younger vets from the wars make up about of this veteran homeless population and 31% of all veteran suicides. As we noted three years ago, while telling the story of 21-year-old Army specialist Adam Kuligowski - who took his rifle into a bathroom stall at Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan and shot himself on June 6 - he was a 19-year-old man. Meanwhile, 288 suicides among active military members last year far outpaced the 58 combat deaths in Iraq and Afghanistan during the same period. What's more, according to the VA's 2012 report on suicides, about 6,500 former military personnel kill themselves each year, which equates to one suicide every 80 minutes. Within the past decade, the budget for Veterans Affairs has increased from \$73.1 billion to \$163.9 billion. It includes \$58.7 billion for medical care, \$1.6 billion to help homeless vets and their families, \$7.2 billion for mental health services, \$4.2 billion for Iraq and Afghanistan veterans alone and \$1 billion over five years for a new Veterans Job Corps. But it's still not enough to meet the needs of veterans and their families. A network of charities also pitches in and offers resources beyond what the VA already offers. How can donors know who gets the most out of their money? CharityWatch notes that there are more than 40,000 nonprofit organizations dedicated to serving the military and veterans and an estimated 400,000 service organizations that somehow touch veterans or service members. The 2013/2014 Directory of Veterans and Military Service Organizations released by the VA lists more than 140 national nonprofits. In addition, the number of new veterans charities has grown by 41% since 2008 compared with 19% for charities in general, according to The Urban Institute. With the help of CharityNavigator, Charity Watch and even the Internal Revenue Service, we have come up with seven charities, that's worth your time and money if you really want to help veterans: Adaptive Sports FoundationWindham, N.Y.CharityNavigator score: 92.34 out of 100Percent of total spending spent on programs and services: 77.1%It's not strictly a veterans group, but The Adaptive Sports Foundation (ASF) helps adults and children with physical and cognitive disabilities and chronic illnesses through outdoor physical activity, education and support. ASF students as young as five deal with mild learning disabilities, paralysis, autism, amputation, cerebral palsy and traumatic brain injury. But it has a veteran-specific Warriors In Motion program associated with the Wounded Warrior Project that includes spa retreats, sports weekends, ski weekends, golf, biking, paddling and Tough Mudder obstacle races. There is even a 12-week residential competition program for Paralympic-eligible athletes. Yes, it basically gives wounded some time at Windham Mountain in the Catskills, but it also gives them a way to regain a part of their life from before their injury and a way to enjoy life from this point. Given what they have given, it's hard to say they didn't deserve it. AMVETS National Service FoundationLanham, Md.CharityNavigator score: 90.01 out of 100Percent of total spending spent on programs and services: 72.9%We warn that CharityWatch gave AMVETS correctly - people with membership halls - an F grade for its charitable work. But AMVETS is also not a tax-exempt 501 (c) (3) charity under the IRS and doesn't get a look from CharityNavigator at all. Instead, the AMVETS National Service Foundation has been around since 1948 solely to help veterans re-acclimatize to civilian life and to get the benefits they derive. The NFS helps sift through paperwork and bureaucracy to get veterans and their families VA benefits, runs thrift stores to serve veterans and to pay for their services, offers scholarships to veterans seeking an education and works in VA hospitals and health facilities. They do all this at no cost to veterans who come in a lot of handies that just give vets a function hall and a bar to get home to. Fisher House FoundationRockville, Md.CharityNavigator score: 96.87 out of 100Percent of total spending spent on programs and services: 91%When it comes to helping veterans families or bereaved families after their veteran has gone on, no charity does better than Fisher House. For 25 years, Fisher House has provided housing for families near every major military medical center in the country to ensure they have a comfortable home while their veteran receives treatment. There are 65 Fisher Houses at 24 military installations and 24 VA facilities nationwide. They serve 10,000 families a year and provide some stability at one of the most strenuous times in a military family's life. Given that many folks can make donations simply by es deree from a coffers on their credit card rewards site, Fisher House is one of the easiest ways to make a difference in the lives of veterans and their families. Rent HeroesAlpharetta, Ga. Charity Navigator Score: 93.59 out of 100 Percent of total spending spent on programs and services: 82.5%If your goal is to ensure veterans have jobs and you are not able to hire anyone themselves, Hire Heroes USA allows active military, veterans and their spouses to receive training in building a RESUME, interviewing and otherwise self-marketing. The group assigns a former military employee to each veteran and stays with them through the process. They have also put veterans in touch with veteran-friendly companies and keep a running jobs board to veterans updated on new openings. There are workshops and one-on-one sessions, but Goal - the only goal - is to make sure a veteran gets a job. When that's your only focus, this group is your best bet. Operation HomefrontSan Antonio, TexasCharityNavigator score: 96.36 out of 100Percent of total spending spent on programs and services: 92.6%Remember that veterans' poverty statistics we showed you earlier? Operation Homefront is all too familiar with it. Recognizing that some veterans and their families don't have much to begin with, and may only be worse off if a veteran comes home wounded or doesn't come home at all, Operation Homefront provides food aid, auto and home repair, vision care, transportation, moving assistance, home goods and financial assistance to military families in need. It also sets up support groups for family members caring for wounded veterans or veterans with PTSD and offering wounded veterans transitional housing while waiting for their VA benefits to kick in. In fact, CharityWatch considers them veterans' best options for relief, temporary housing and transportation. There are some very real consequences to serving many military families, and Operation Homefront has never shied away from helping veterans and their families cope with them. Tragedy Assistance Program For Survivors (TAPS)Arlington, Va.CharityNavigator scores: 96.94 out of 100Percent of total spending spent on programs and services: 81.8% No, it's not specifically a veterans program, but it's hard to find a charity with more experience dealing with the more terrible aftermath of war than TAPS. Founded by Bonnie Carroll in 1994 after her husband and seven others were killed in a plane crash in Alaska, TAPS provides 24-hour support seven days a week by giving families and loved ones access to peer based emotional support, case work assistance, crisis intervention and grief and trauma resources. It doesn't matter if you were married to the deceased, or if you were in the same group, taps have helped more than 40,000 surviving family members, accident notification officers and VA relatives. They host National Military Survivor Seminars and a number of good grief camps across the country to help friends and families cope with their loss. These are some of the most sinister work you'll see shoulder of any of the charities listed, but it's also among the most vital. Wounded Warriors Family SupportOmaha, Neb.CharityNavigator score: 94.48 out of 100Percent of total spending spent on programs and services: 83%Not to be confused with the Wounded Warrior Project - which also does fine work but allocates only 60% of its donations to programs, while spending a staggering 34% on fundraising initiatives - Wounded Family Warriors Support provides its assistance to the loved ones of wounded veterans. The published version of their jobs includes family retreats where their loved ones can blow off steam, but some of their lesser-known initiatives include a welding program for med United Auto Workers union union Ford and a caregiver respite program that provides supplemental services for those who care for wounded veterans. It not only caters to the wounded veterans themselves, but the impact their injury has on their families and loved ones. It's simple recognition that when a person goes to war, their family is not immune to the effects of war - and needs as much help to get back to normal as veterans do. This article is a comment from an independent contributor. At the time of publication, the author held TK positions in the mentioned stocks. Mentioned.