

NORTHEAST OHIO RISFAC NEWSLETTER

REGIONAL INTER-SERVICE FAMILY ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE



October-November 2016

Region 1 RISFAC on October 20th was held for the first time at the Independence Public Library. Unfortunately, community partners had to deal with heavy traffic going to and from downtown Cleveland. Even though our attendance was less than usual, we had a great opportunity to spend more time to learning about each organization and took time for Q&A. In the everyday rush of work and family life, having this extra time at such a meeting was downright enjoyable. We appreciate everyone who attended and look forward to seeing you all next year. Happy Veterans Day, Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year!

Below is the link to the video that Daniel Abraham, Community Employment Coordinator for the Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center spoke about at the meeting.

Understanding Military Culture in the Workplace

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xhNYpZMJXNc>

Northeast Ohio RISFAC Meeting Schedule

Jan 19, 2017@ 630pm

Summit County Veterans Service Commission

1060 E Waterloo Road

Akron, OH 44306

Apr 20, 2017@ 630pm

Cleveland

Look for all these flyers and more on the RISFAC website

<http://homefront.ohio.gov/RISFAC/Region1.aspx>

RISFAC Coordinators

Troop & Family Assistance Center

Joyce Stingel (Contractor)
Northern Ohio Lead TFAC

(614)336-6337

JOYCE.E.STINGEL.CTR@MAIL.MIL

Rita Stahl (Contractor)
TFAC

(614)336-4310

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TFAC Ashland County

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ATTENTION VETERANS!!!!

DON'T GET CAUGHT IN THE COLD THIS WINTER

THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION

WINTER CLOTHING PROGRAM IS HERE!!

Eligibility of up to \$150 (per Veteran and eligible dependent) for:



- **Coats**
- **Boots**
- **Hats**
- **Gloves**

| Income Guidelines * | | |
|---------------------|----------|---------|
| Household Size | Annual | Monthly |
| 1 | \$17,820 | \$1,485 |
| 2 | \$24,030 | \$2,003 |
| 3 | \$30,240 | \$2,520 |
| 4 | \$36,450 | \$3,038 |
| 5 | \$42,660 | \$3,555 |
| 6 | \$48,870 | \$4,073 |

For families/households with more than 6 persons, add \$6,240 annually for each additional person.

Veterans must be (verification required):

- **Cuyahoga County Residency for 90 days (Lease or Utility bill)**
- **Honorably discharged (DD214)**
- **Display financial need (Provide pay stubs and bank statements)**

Must provide Social Security Card and Photo ID

Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission – 216-698-2600

- **Downtown Cleveland - 1849 Prospect Ave. Suite 150**
- **Wade Park VA Hospital; Parma CBOC; Call for other locations**

*Income guidelines and Verification apply to Winter Clothing Program ONLY, Financial Assistance Guidelines for other assistance remains unchanged



Announcing an Anonymous 12-Step Meeting for Veterans

Recovery from Alcohol and other addictive substances and behaviors. The Veterans-In-Recovery Group is a fellowship of veterans who share their experience, and hope with other veterans, and Active Duty Military men & women. NO PAPER WORK!

The Veterans-In-Recovery Group meets every Wednesday, 6:30pm-7:30pm The Canton Friendship Center
2200 Cleveland Avenue N.W.
Canton, Oh 44709

FREE refreshments and snacks provided. Come as early as 5:30pm and enjoy an hour of camaraderie!



TRICARE Network Pharmacy Changes

Effective 1 December 2016, CVS Health Pharmacies (including those within Target Stores) will become non-network pharmacies.

Walgreens Pharmacies to include Wegmans, Rite Aid, Walmart, Shop Rite, Stop and Shop, Publix, Weis, Meijer, Safeway and Kroger will be added to the TRICARE Retail Network Pharmacies on the same day (1 December 2016). This change is occurring during the heightened period of the flu immunization season. Make sure you inform your full-time personnel (AGR/ADOS) and TRICARE beneficiaries (MDAY) using TRICARE Reserve Select.



WINTER WONDERLAND 2016

Presented by Ohio Military Kids & the Ohio National Guard

Saturday, December 3, 2016

1:00pm — 4:30pm

FREE & Open to all Ohio Military, Veterans, and Gold Star Families

*****Even though this is a free event, please register by November 30, 2016 at the following address:**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2016WinterWonderland>

Military Service Member does not need to be present to attend
More information will be e-mailed to you prior to the event

Location of Winter Wonderland:

Nationwide & Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center

2201 Fred Taylor Dr.

Columbus, OH 43221

Questions or concerns, please contact Mark Scherer at
mark.a.scherer7.ctr@mail.mil or 614-336-4214

Activities to include

- Pictures with Santa
- Zoo Animals
- Cookie Decorating
- 4-H PetPALS
- Hot Chocolate
- Popcorn
- Face Painting
- Live Entertainment
- Crafts
- Family Resources
- Plus More!



FREE Financial Service

Eligibility:

All veterans of all branches of service, National Guard, Reservists, Spouses and Families of the Fallen. Every type of discharge, including dishonorable.

Do you want to:

- * Set up a savings account?
- * Reach other financial goals?
- * Buy a house?
- * Overcome overwhelming situations?

Contact:

Financial Coach Gwen Riase @ 216-664-2817 Cleveland

Financial Coach Lori Mann @ 330-491-2640 Canton





OHIO STATE
HOCKEY

2016 MILITARY APPRECIATION NIGHTS

FRI., NOV 11 | 7 PM
SAT., NOV 12 | 4 PM

Come and support your Ohio State Buckeyes as they take on UCONN!

Use the online ordering directions below to purchase single game tickets.

- Click on the button below
- Click on Field Tickets
- Enter Promotional Code: USA
- Either use your existing account or create account
- Place your order

BUY TICKETS
Don't miss this opportunity!

Discounted tickets
ONLY \$6.75 PER PERSON!

Questions?
Please contact Zach Heilman at (614) 292-3862 or heilman.108@osu.edu

In-game recognition for military and veterans in attendance and military themed jerseys!

Dear Mission BBQ Veterans, Customers, Community and Country,

We would like to invite you to our 11/11 - FREEDOM ISN'T FREE event as we honor our local Veterans and Active Duty Military Personnel. As a gesture of our appreciation, we would like to treat these Heroes to their favorite sandwich. At noon, we will have a live rendition of the National Anthem and we will be honoring a special guest or two.

Our Veterans Community extends far and wide and we hope with your help, we can spread the word about our daylong event and have also attached a flyer for your convenience.

We appreciate all you do and hope you are able to join us!

Mission BBQ
4490 Everhard Rd NW
Canton, OH 44718

VETERANS WEEK ACTIVITIES NOV. 7-12

Nov. 7 Community and Veterans Job Fair

10-11 a.m. Veterans Only
11 a.m.-2 p.m. Open To The Public
Quaker Station, 130 E. Mill Street, Akron

- More than 70 area employers looking to hire.
- On the spot interviews.
- Free parking and free admission.
- Professional interview attire, please.

Nov. 9 Veterans Town Hall

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Student Union 310 Open To All Student Veterans

- Your opportunity to meet with the Veterans Steering Committee and voice opinions, concerns and ideas for the future. Refreshments provided.

Nov. 11 Veterans Appreciation Breakfast

8 a.m. Student Union Ballroom Open To All Veterans

- Keynote address at 9 a.m.

Veteran Wreath Laying Ceremony

10 a.m. Coleman Commons

- UA President Matthew Wilson will be the guest speaker.
- There will be a wreath laid for each branch of the service, and a 21 gun salute in honor of them.

Honoring Those Who Serve Celebration

11:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Musson Veterans Lounge, InfoCision Stadium 3rd floor

- We'll honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.
- Refreshments and door prizes will be provided.

Veterans Resource Fair

11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. InfoCision Stadium 3rd Floor

- Open to veterans, alumni, students and military family members.
- Campus and community resources will be available to provide specific information and assistance for military service members and their families.

Nov. 12 Military Charity Ball

5:30-11:30 p.m. Quaker Station Ballroom

- Come have dinner with us and help raise money for "Wags & Warriors," a local veteran charity that provides service dogs to veterans.
- Tickets will be available to everyone until Nov. 7 at 5 p.m. (Monday) for \$35.00, please contact Deryll Mander at djm202@rips.akron.edu or contact the Military Service Center at veterans@akron.edu. Donations and payments can be made at <https://www.venuecashnet.com/organize/>.
- Proceeds will also benefit the Student Veterans of America and American Legion Post 808.



The University of Akron Military Charity Ball

Date: November 12, 2016

Time: 5:30pm - 11:30PM

Location: Quaker Station 135 S Broadway St.
Akron, OH 44308

Attire: Semi-Formal

• Dinner • Photo booth/DJ • Silent Auction

Tickets are available online at <https://commerce.cashnet.com/orgmilvet/> or through Deryll Mander at djm202@rips.akron.edu for \$35.00 each.

If you would like to donate please visit <https://commerce.cashnet.com/orgmilvet/> or through Quentin Brown at qb20@rips.akron.edu.

Proceeds from the event will go to Wags & Warriors, The University of Akron Student Veterans Association and American Legion Post 808.



BROWN ANNOUNCES PELL GRANT RELIEF FOR OHIO STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED SHUTTERED FOR-PROFIT COLLEGES Urges Students Who May Qualify to Contact His Office, Department of Education with Questions

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) announced today new rules from the Department of Education (ED) that will restore Pell Grants for students at ITT Tech and students of other for-profit colleges that have closed. Brown encourages students who may qualify for loan restoration or discharge to contact his office or ED for guidance.

"The closure of for-profit colleges creates unfair burdens on students who were simply seeking to obtain a quality education," said Brown. "Students should not have to pay the price for the fraudulent and deceitful practices perpetrated by these schools. I am glad the Administration has taken steps to remedy this wrong, and I encourage students of closed for-profit colleges to reach out to my office or the Department of Education with any questions they may have."

Brown worked with the ED to create financial relief for students if they took out loans to attend a school that committed fraud, misrepresented its services, or violated state law related to the educational services they paid for. Brown continues to push ED to further simplify the process to make it easier for students defrauded by for-profit colleges to repay their loans.

Brown is also the cosponsor of the Department of Veterans Affairs Education Relief and Restoration Act of 2015, which would restore the G.I. benefits of veterans who lost credit or training time because their educational institution permanently closed.



Where do you go from here?

"When I came back I think people expected me to pick up where I left off, except I wasn't that same person."

AMVETS Warrior Transition Workshop

November 18-20, 2016 | Register at www.freedomandhonor.org

The College Club of Cleveland

2348 Overlook Road | Cleveland Heights, OH 44106 | (216) 331-1683 |

In collaboration with Cleveland VA and AMVETS | Scholarship Value: \$1700

The journey home can be an unfamiliar road. The AMVETS Warrior Transition Workshop was designed by those who have made the journey. The program is a leadership model developed to provide you new skills for that journey. Entering this workshop, you will enter a gateway to new ways to understand and incorporate your experience - giving you a new direction and mission for your future. This is not a talk therapy model - it's hands-on.

As a participant, you are awarded a scholarship valued at \$1700; the funds are raised by AMVETS for you by veterans and supporters. 20 Scholarships Available. Your commitment is to attend all segments of the workshop. Meals are included. Transportation and support for homeless to attend.

Friday: Evening Registration from 5-7pm (dinner served); program begins at 7pm (ends at 10pm)
Saturday: Breakfast 7am - program starts at 8:30am and ends at 8:30pm
Sunday: Breakfast 8am - program closes at 3pm

Note we almost always end early.

Contacts: Nancy McGrory Richardson, nancy@freedomandhonor.org, (610) 952-2595

"It helped me release a lot of issues that weighed on my heart and shoulders; all the processes were unique and fit every situation."

"It helped me embrace the parts of me I can't share with the general population."

National Guard Education Fair

All Service Branches are welcome!

Saturday, November 19, 2016
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

North Canton Ohio National Guard
Armory
5999 W. Airport Drive
North Canton, Ohio 44720

For additional information please contact:
SGT Melissa Levy at 614-336-4135 or
Mrs. Jovanda Curry at 614-336-4905

FREE Clinic Sponsored by the University
of Akron Law School

Saturday, November 12, 2016 (9:00am
- 12:00pm) Arlington Church of God
539 South Arlington Street
Akron, Ohio 44306

Do you need help with your criminal
record or restoring your driver's
license?

For complete details go to: [https://
www.uakron.edu/law/curriculum/
reentry.dot](https://www.uakron.edu/law/curriculum/reentry.dot)

October RISFAC Meeting Participants

Daniel Abraham, Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center

William Anderson, Congressman Marcia Fudge's office

Pam Anson, BBB

Mary Lynn Church, VFW - Auxiliary

Gary Corbett, Quest Recovery & Prevention Services

Dennis Japuncha, ODRC // Air Force Reserve

Leon Johnson, VFW Ohio

Leah Jones, US Senator Sherrod Brown's office

Kellie King Feciuch, Quest Recovery Services // G Co 237th

David Marquette, DR&C/TCI

Holly Maxwell, Navy Reserve Ombudsman NOSC Akron

Ram Mayekar, Apprisen

Rudy Moyer, Pegasus Farm

Sharon Nicastro, American Red Cross

Dennis Palmer, NEOPAT

Kari Pfeifer, VFW Student Veteran Liaison

Lisa Priolisi, ESGR Military Outreach Coordinator

Gwen Riase, Armed Forces Services Corp Financial Coach for Veterans

Ivan (SGT) Roberts, DR&C // VVA Chp # 559

Jennifer Ross Motorcars Mobility

SFC Gary Sellars, Recruiting & Retention Army Guard

Robert Shields, Cleveland State University

Randy Stevenson, Baldwin Wallace University

Pat Straley, VFW - Auxiliary President

**THANK
YOU
FOR
ATTENDING!**



Upcoming Local Community Partner Meetings

NEW PHILADELPHIA AREA

November 17th @ 2:00

Muskingum Lakes Chapter of the
American Red Cross
1451 4th Street NW
New Philadelphia, Ohio



YOUNGSTOWN AREA

November 15th @ 2:00

Trumbull County Veterans Service
Commission
253 E Market Street
Warren, Ohio

Who are the RISFAC coordinators?? Your local TFAC!

The Troop & Family Assistance Center is a conduit to resources and information for Service Members, Veterans and Military Families regardless of branch of service or veterans status. Whether those resources are financial, emotional or emergency assistance, we can connect you with those organizations and community groups that can assist you based on where you live. Our ultimate goal is to enable self sufficient military families.

