

## **STRONGTIMES**

A quarterly newsletter with life-changing impact.
VOLUME VI. NO. 3 2023



#### A MESSAGE FROM CHRIS MEEK

Dear Patriots .

As friends of our organization, you know SoldierStrong strives to do our part to uphold our commitment and fulfill the obligation that we all have to America's veterans.

SoldierStrong was founded to help America's military veterans take their next steps forward in life by connecting them with revolutionary medical technology, such as the Ekso Indego exoskeleton, also known as the "SoldierSuit," to help paralyzed and injured veterans walk again and the BraveMind virtual reality system to treat veterans living with post-traumatic stress.

Over the past 10 years, SoldierStrong has donated 30 robotic exoskeletons and 30 BraveMind systems to VA medical centers and other facilities across the country. Since its inception in the wake of the tragic events of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, SoldierStrong has donated more than \$5.5 million in

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revolutionary medical technology - and we're not done yet.

Of course we can't do it alone. As you will see throughout these pages we have found tremendous friends and support from our partners, especially United Rentals, Rahal Letterman Lanigan Racing and Graham Rahal, in addition to the many patriots across the country who show up time and again to support our mission and our nation's heroes. On behalf of our board and everyone at SoldierStrong, I express my deepest gratitude and appreciation for the continued support. Because of the generosity from our partners and supporters like you, we have built and maintained tremendous momentum so far this year and hope to continue this momentum to best serve our nation's heroes well into the future.

God bless.

CHEM

Chris Meek, Co-Founder and Chairman



# THE GRAHAM AND COURTNEY RAHAL FOUNDATION HOSTS ANNUAL DRIVERS TOURNAMENT TO BENEFIT SOLDIERSTRONG

The Graham and Courtney Rahal Foundation (GCRF) hosted the organization's annual Drivers Tournament on Thursday, May 25 at Brickyard Crossing in Indianapolis, IN ahead of the Indy 500. Over \$315,000 was raised from the event and went to both SoldierStrong and GCRF's other beneficiary, One Cure. Thanks to GCRF and the support of many sponsors, including United Rentals, it was a successful day out on the golf course that drew tremendous support for SoldierStrong's mission and provided us a platform to raise awareness about the life changing medical technologies we donate to better the lives of veterans. We are especially appreciative for the continued generosity displayed by Graham and Courtney Rahal and their foundation.

## SOLDIERSTRONG AMBASSADOR SGT DAN ROSE DEMONSTRATES THE EXOSKELETON AT RAHAL LETTERMAN LANIGAN RACING RECEPTION

SoldierStrong Ambassador Sgt Dan Rose had the opportunity to demonstrate the Ekso Indego exoskeleton at Rahal Letterman Lanigan Racing's reception the evening before the Indy 500. For those that don't know, for every lap NTT IndyCar Driver Graham Rahal completes in the 2023 NTT IndyCar series, United Rentals donates \$50 to SoldierStrong through the Turns For Troops initiative. Since its inception in 2016, Turns For Troops has raised more than \$1.8 million for SoldierStrong. We are incredibly grateful to United Rentals, Rahal Letterman Lanigan Racing and Graham Rahal for making every lap one of honor and for including us in events leading up to the big race day. Simply put, we could not have the same impact without their support!















## A PEEK INSIDE SOLDIERSTRONG'S



SoldierStrong hosted the Stand Up! For Veterans Luncheon on June 13 to raise awareness and funds to help military veterans take their next steps forward in life after service with a crowd of over 100 at the historic Kingsley Inn in Bloomfield Hills, MI.

# HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE STAND UP! FOR VETERANS LUNCHEON INCLUDE:

- Hon. Jon Runyan, former University of Michigan and National Football League (NFL) standout and SoldierStrong Advisory Board Member, served as keynote speaker
- Robert Dempster, a Michigan businessman and host of "The Positive Patriot" radio show, served as the master of ceremonies
- A demonstration of the SoldierSuit by paralyzed retired Marine Staff Sergeant Bryce Cherryholmes
- Trips of a Lifetime silent auction presented by AmFund

We are incredibly grateful to the many patriots in Michigan who "stood up" for the heroes who selflessly stood up for us while on the battlefield and beyond. It was a memorable afternoon of honoring and paying tribute to our nation's heroes!











TOGETHER, WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE - THANK YOU!



## STRONGTIMES HIGHLIGHTS \*\*\*\*\*

# MINNEAPOLIS VA HOSTS CEREMONY TO RECOGNIZE DONATION MADE BY SOLDIERSTRONG

To celebrate a donation of an Ekso Indego exoskeleton made by SoldierStrong late last year, the Minneapolis VA Health Care System hosted a ceremony in May. The donated SoldierSuit will assist Minnesota's paralyzed and injured veterans in standing and walking again. U.S. Marine Corps Veteran Jared "Wes" Farwell of Shakopee, MN demonstrated how he uses the device at the event after having sustained life threatening injuries in a motorcycle accident. SoldierStrong

remains proud to work with the VA Healthcare System as it provides care to more than 27,000 veterans with spinal cord injuries and is thankful to the Minneapolis VA for providing world class healthcare to the state's veterans.

NEARLY HALF OF ALL SPINAL CORD INJURIES HAPPEN TO PEOPLE BETWEEN THE AGES OF 16 AND 30. THE FACT THAT SO MANY YOUNG PEOPLE WILL SUFFER SUCH INJURIES MEANS THAT THOUSANDS MORE PEOPLE EACH YEAR WILL LIVE WITH THE EFFECTS OF THESE INJURIES FOR DECADES.

- Chris Meek



# SOLDIERSTRONG RECOGNIZES BRIAN FISCHER AS 2023 SOLDIERSCHOLAR RECIPIENT

Delivering on our commitment to help military veterans take a significant academic step forward, SoldierStrong is proud to recognize Brian Fischer, a Navy SEAL Chief, Combat Medic and Naval Special Warfare Sniper, as the latest recipient of our scholarship initiative, SoldierScholar. Mr. Fischer entered the military at 19 years old and while on Active Duty obtained a Bachelor of Science in Leadership for Emergency Action and Disaster Response from George Washington University. He is currently enrolled in Georgetown's Master of Science in Finance Program and with the conclusion of his military service in sight, he envisions the possibility of a future in the business/finance sector.

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK SOLDIERSTRONG FOR ALL THE SUPPORT YOU PROVIDE SERVICE MEMBERS IN EVERY ASPECT OF YOUR MISSION. OBTAINING A SCHOLARSHIP WILL BE IMMENSELY SUPPORTIVE TO MY FAMILY AND WILL PROVIDE A GREAT DEAL OF FINANCIAL RELIEF DURING MY PURSUIT OF MY EDUCATION WHILE COINCIDING WITH THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT I PROVIDE TO MY WIFE AND CHILDREN.

- Brian Fischer



## STRONGTIMES HIGHLIGHTS \*\*\*\*\*

# CREATE A LEGACY FOR SOLDIERSTRONG

# FREEWILL

Are you looking for a way to create a legacy to honor those who fought and defended our freedoms? SoldierStrong is excited to share a secure online tool to help you support our efforts to provide revolutionary medical technologies to better the lives of veterans through a stock donation. Learn more about how your stock can benefit our work and your savings!



Scan to visit site

## **NEXT STEPS FORWARD WITH CHRIS MEEK**

Join SoldierStrong co-founder and chairman Chris Meek for his weekly podcast every Tuesday at 1 PM ET/10 AM PT for an uplifting hour focused on personal empowerment, commitment to overall wellbeing and motivation to achieve more than you ever thought possible.

In 2020, Chris began hosting Next Steps Forward with Chris Meek via the VoiceAmerica Talk Radio Network, the industry's leading producer and online broadcaster of on-demand talk radio programming. Next Steps Forward hosts leaders from the worlds of business, sports, entertainment, medicine and politics to engage thought-provoking discussion to help us all take the next steps forward in our journey to better ourselves.















Join us every Tuesday at 1 PM ET Learn More at NextStepsForward.com



Scan to visit site



## **SOLDIERSTRONG PARTNERS**

#### **2023 PATRIOTS PROGRAM**

Join the 2023 Patriots Program by donating \$20 per month to support SoldierStrong's mission to reduce the number of veteran suicides and provide PTS treatment options. As a thank you, you'll receive a unique gift.

Join us now by clicking on this link or scanning the QR code to make a difference.



#### **SOLDIER PARTNERS**

As our mission evolves to meet the ever-changing needs of the community we serve, we recognize that we could not fully accomplish our mission without the help of our current partners below:





















**WILLIAM DEAN III CHARITABLE FOUNDATION** 















#### BECOME A PARTNER OR CORPORATE SPONSOR

In the past ten years, we have accomplished so much thanks to the support of our partners, corporate sponsors, and thousands of Americans that believe our veterans deserve the best medical care there is to offer. SoldierStrong is committed to providing America's heroes with the technology and therapy they desperately need and deserve. We are actively seeking new partnerships and would love to speak with you about partnership opportunities!

**Learn More:** SoldierStrong.org

Call: 888.898.3235

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