

A SUPPLEMENT OF **MILWAUKEE BizTimes**

# GIVING GUIDE

REGIONAL PHILANTHROPIC OPPORTUNITIES

2023 EDITION





**HEALING WARRIOR HEARTS - STARFISH FOUNDATION**

ADDRESS: 10919 W. Bluemound Road., Suite 50  
 Wauwatosa, WI 53226  
 PHONE: (414) 374-5433  
 WEBSITES: [healingwarriorhearts.org](http://healingwarriorhearts.org)  
[starfishfound.org](http://starfishfound.org)  
 TOTAL EMPLOYEES: All Volunteers  
 ANNUAL REVENUE: \$55,000  
 YEAR ESTABLISHED: 1998  
 FACEBOOK: [facebook.com/HealingWarriorHearts](https://facebook.com/HealingWarriorHearts)

**SERVICE AREA**

Our primary service area is Southeast Wisconsin. We accept participants from all over the country, if they are able to provide their own transportation.

**TOP FUNDING SOURCES**



■ Private individual donations ..... 50%  
 ■ Organization Donations ..... 30%  
 ■ Grants ..... 20%

**MISSION**

Since 1998, the mission of the Starfish Foundation has been to assist emotional trauma survivors to release their grief, rage, and shame; and allow joy, productivity, and prosperity back into their and their families' lives.



**GOALS**

**Primary Goal:**  
 The primary goal of the Starfish Foundation is to provide financial assistance and resources to individuals to participate in programs designed to support emotional healing and trauma recovery. **Healing Warrior Hearts** is the primary program funded by the Starfish Foundation. It is produced and offered, at no cost, to those who have served in the military.

**Additional Goals:**

- Offer six retreats annually - free to those who have served in the military
- Offer support and personal growth opportunities to Veterans and their families
- Produce Operation Grateful Giving - disseminate winter holiday gifts bags for patients at the VA Medical Center

**FUNDRAISING/EVENTS**

Supporting **Healing Warrior Hearts** by donating to our online campaign is a great way to ensure participants continue to have a safe, confidential environment to share their stories and for those experiences to be witnessed without judgment. We provide a space for healing and hope that there are better days ahead.

The Starfish Foundation generally holds multiple fundraising events for the **Healing Warrior Hearts** program each year. We are also very fortunate to partner with generous organizations and individuals in the community who fundraise on our behalf. For a list of upcoming events, visit our website and/or our Facebook page.

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

"It matters to this one!" The strong belief and hope in the possibility of making a positive difference in the life of even just one other person consistently resonates with those individuals who serve to support the Starfish Foundation. Their valued volunteer time and indispensable financial contributions ensure the Starfish Foundation can provide weekend retreats specifically dedicated to emotional healing.

Here are some volunteer opportunities:

- Serve as a Starfish Foundation Board Member
- Serve on the Fundraising and/or other Board Committees
- Staff weekend retreats
- Pick-up and deliver meals for weekend retreats
- Assist with set-up and/or take-down for weekend retreats
- Attend retreat graduations to acknowledge participants
- Staff event exhibit tables
- Operation Grateful Giving (secure donations for gift bags, help fill gift bags, and/or deliver give bags to patients at Milwaukee VA Medical Center on Christmas Eve)
- Provide graphics and/or design assistance for social media and promotions

**GIVING OPPORTUNITIES**

Your gifts will allow the Starfish Foundation to continue our support of **Healing Warrior Hearts** and to make a positive difference in the lives of those who have served in the military. Here are some giving opportunities for you to show our deserving participants they are not alone, and their service is valued:

- Donate to our fundraising campaign by visiting [Starfishfound.org](http://Starfishfound.org)
- Provide other donations - retreat supplies (office, meals, snacks, paper products, kleenex, toilet tissue, paper towels)
- Sponsor t-shirts, backpacks, books, and other items given to retreat participants
- Donate items for Operation Grateful Giving gift bags
- Become a Member of the Starfish Foundation (\$25 annual membership fee)

**To donate financially in support of the Healing Warrior Hearts program, please visit the Ways to Donate page at [healingwarriorhearts.org](http://healingwarriorhearts.org).**

**EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP**



**Patricia Clason**  
 Program Founder



**Dianne Young**  
 President, Board of Directors

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Dianne Young** (President) ★  
 U.S. Marine Corps, Retired
- Michelle R. Hawley** (Vice President, Past President) ★  
 U.S. Army Reserve, Veteran
- Mark Spindler** (Treasurer) ★  
 Civilian
- Michelle Frost** (Secretary) ★  
 Civilian
- Robert Frost** (At-Large Member)  
 Civilian

★ DENOTES EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

**Mary Harvey** (At-Large Member)  
 Former MI Army National Guard/WI Air National Guard

**Toni K. Riviera** (At-Large Member)  
 Civilian

**Dawn "Sky" Strobel**  
 U.S. Army Reserve Veteran





## Saving Lives, Healing Hearts

Featured in the award-winning documentary *Veterans Journey Home* by Warrior Films, the Starfish Foundation has been offering free Healing Warrior Hearts retreats since 1998. These retreats provide a safe, confidential environment for Veterans to share their stories. A judgment-free zone where they find hope and healing. We can give them these gifts because of donors like YOU! Thank you for your generosity.

“This is one of the best and most exciting healing modalities for Veterans in existence. I got to personally witness the January 2018 Healing Warrior Hearts weekend and was blown away. My only prayer is that 1,000s of Veterans from across the country might someday be able to experience something this profound and transformative.”

— Great Non-Profits Testimonial from *fmfilm*



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## Our Community Needs You



Kate and Dan Meyer

**B**izTimes Media is pleased to present our 13th annual Giving Guide. We hope you find the content on the following pages inspiring. Our intent once again is to connect business owners and leaders with the nonprofit community. We also aim to provide information and tangible ideas for you to invest in our community by giving your time, talent and treasure, personally and/or with your employees.

Our region's wonderful nonprofits serve a variety of important causes, and they need our help. As the need in the community continues to grow, so does the need for all of us to get involved and make a difference.

This year's edition is, once again, truly a guide to giving, with stories about how to empower your employees in corporate giving (page 6), the best ways to volunteer your time and skills to a nonprofit (page 4) and best practices for planned giving (page 10). In between these articles, you will find stories from community leaders describing why they give and why they serve.

Starting on page 21, area nonprofits are profiled in detail. You will learn about their mission, ways to give and volunteer opportunities. Included again this year, on pages 17-19, you'll find a wish list from the featured nonprofits. Following the profiles, beginning on page 142, you'll find hundreds of additional nonprofit organizations listed, providing you with additional ways to get involved.

BizTimes Media is the only family and locally owned business media company in the region, and we have a vested interest in the success and vibrancy in our community. We continue our commitment to highlighting the nonprofit community and connecting it with the business community. In addition to this annual Giving Guide, we publish a Nonprofit Weekly e-newsletter, produce the annual Nonprofit Excellence Awards program, have regular nonprofit coverage in "BizTimes Milwaukee" and offer a free nonprofit directory on [biztimes.com](http://biztimes.com) to any interested nonprofit.

Thanks to all of the nonprofits that made a commitment to be part of this year's Giving Guide, and thank you to the companies and individuals who provided underwriting support for some of the organizations.

Year-round digital edition access to the 2023 Giving Guide is also available at [biztimes.com/giving](http://biztimes.com/giving).

If you missed being part of the Giving Guide or are looking to include your favorite nonprofit organization in next year's edition, please send us an email at [dan.meyer@biztimes.com](mailto:dan.meyer@biztimes.com) or [kate.meyer@biztimes.com](mailto:kate.meyer@biztimes.com).

Sincerely,

**DAN MEYER**

Publisher/Owner, BizTimes Media

**KATE MEYER**

Community Engagement/Owner, BizTimes Media