When you give to Help Heal Veterans, you make it possible for thousands of service members and vets to receive the HHV Therapy Kits that help them cope with and recuperate from the physical, mental, and emotional wounds of their service. And, as you’ll read in this special issue of Proudly We Serve, you are also helping the environment!

But here’s another impact you’re having that you might not even have thought of: You’re helping build a strong, supportive community of veterans from many generations who love to work on HHV Therapy Kits together! It gives them a chance to share experiences, talk through their issues, and give and receive support among people who really understand what they’ve been through.

“Working with the therapy kits helps take your mind off problems,” she says. “They come with everything you need, so there’s no expense to be as creative as you want to be.”

Sadly, her dad passed away recently. Now, she says, “the kits have helped me get through the grieving process.”

Eugenia says HHV Therapy Kits have helped her both physically and emotionally. “I am so happy they’re available,” she says. “I want to express my gratitude to those who make these HHV Therapy Kits possible!”

Thank you for your generous support of HHV. It’s making a difference for brave American veterans in so many ways!

More requests for HHV Therapy Kits are flooding in every day!

Put your gift to work even faster, and help vets receive the help they need and deserve, by giving online at: HealVets.org
Together, we are rising to the challenge of a difficult time

In the last few months, we’ve been powerfully reminded of how important community is. How we need to take care of each other. And how, when Americans pull together, we can overcome any crisis.

Your ongoing support of HHV, and the love and respect you show our service members and vets, is an important part of that. On their behalf, I want you to know how grateful I am.

Requests for HHV Therapy Kits, especially for elderly vets in VA centers and care facilities, continue to be extremely high. You can read one of these requests, from a big VA center on the east coast, on page 4. Thanks to friends like you, we were able to send a semi-trailer full of kits out across the country right away. But we can’t do that in every case.

This crisis is showing yet again how effective our kits are in helping to soothe stressed nerves, calm anxious minds, and sustain mental and emotional health. The longer quarantine and isolation go on, the more important these kits will become.

And that means your continued support of HHV is very important, too! I’m deeply grateful to everyone who has reached out to us, asking how they can help.

If you are able, may I ask you to please give a gift to HHV today? Frankly, we have trouble meeting the full demand for HHV Therapy Kits at the best of times. Now, with limitations on travel and how many people can safely be together in one place, and disruptions to our supply chains and corporate partners, we’re having even more trouble.

But with your help, and consistent with the health and safety of our own staff and volunteers, we’re doing the best we can!

As always, thank you so much for your continued support. Please keep looking after yourself, your loved ones, and your community.

Joe McClain
Captain, USN (Ret)

Joe

Veteran and HHV volunteer Steve Newman is taking steps to protect both his physical and mental health by wearing a mask and working on HHV Therapy Kits in his home.

U.S. Air Force veteran Craig Vanasse is one of many service members and vets who are relying on HHV Therapy Kits for mental and physical stimulation while staying in their home during the coronavirus pandemic.
Vets Say So Themselves:

“Therapy Kits Make the Difference!”

In our 2018 survey of more than 2,500 American veterans, 93 percent of vets with a history of depression, anxiety, and/or post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) said they felt an average of 70 percent better after working on HHV Therapy Kits. Here’s what some other vets have told us:

“I’ve been hospitalized four times. The HHV Therapy Kits you sent pulled me through.” — ANNE, disabled veteran

“Your kits have been better for me than going to therapy.” — JAMES, disabled veteran

“HHV Therapy Kits keep me going.” — CHERYL, disabled veteran

“Every time I have an attack, I turn to an HHV Therapy Kit. They’re better than any medicine I’ve been prescribed.” — DUSTIN, disabled veteran

“HHV Therapy Kits are exactly what I need to make it through the day. Sometimes they are the only things that bring me joy and peace.” — ROBERT, disabled veteran

If veterans and families are self-quarantined or isolated in hospitals, VA centers, seniors facilities, or in their own homes, HHV Therapy Kits are the perfect, proven tool for helping sustain mental and emotional health, as well as physical recovery.

We are committed to fulfilling as many requests for HHV Therapy Kits as our resources and funding allow. Thank you for being part of this important effort!

Not long after Americans began to isolate and quarantine to try to stop the spread of the coronavirus, HHV CEO Joe McClain spoke on YouTube about how this was affecting service members and veterans who rely on HHV Therapy Kits for physical, mental, and emotional recovery. Here’s some of what he said:

“Our veterans risked it all for our freedom. But now, our most vulnerable veterans are isolated in hospitals across the USA. Imagine being in a hospital, in your time of greatest need, and your family, hospital volunteers, and staff can have little to no contact with you. Being alone is terrifying.

“This is where we can all help. I invite you to join us in helping our isolated and sick veterans in their greatest time of need.”

Thank you for all you do to help care for hospitalized, homebound, and recuperating veterans through your support of HHV — especially now!
Isolated Veterans Ask, ★★★★★★★★★★★

“Please Send Us More Kits!”

As soon as America began trying to “flatten the curve” of the spread of COVID-19 by social-distancing and self-isolation, HHV started to receive urgent requests from VA hospitals, veterans’ homes, and other places where sick and elderly vets were now spending their days alone, anxious, and stressed. One east-coast VA center requested four times their usual number of therapy kits!

From the beginning, we have been trying to respond to this huge rise in requests as best we can, consistent with the safety of our staff and volunteers, and the directives of local, state, and federal governments. If you are able, please rush a gift today.

We will immediately put it to work getting HHV Therapy Kits into the hands of as many veterans as we can!

Remembering Samuel Duerr, a Patriot and Friend

Bravo Zulu, and thank you for your service and generosity!

Samuel A. Duerr Jr. proudly served in the Navy in World War II and Korea. After returning home to the Pittsburgh area and marrying the love of his life, Lorraine, he went to work designing and developing packaging for a variety of commercial uses. He never forgot those he served with, and was a longtime supporter of HHV. He also left a generous bequest to HHV in his will. Sam passed last October at the age of 91. We salute his service, and are grateful for his gift.

Sam and Lorraine, who predeceased him, are listed on the Wall of Honor in HHV’s headquarters, which includes the names of hundreds of friends like Sam who have made a bequest to HHV. The Wall of Honor serves as a daily reminder to HHV staff, volunteers, and visitors of how much people like you care about America’s veterans.

For more information ...

HealVets.org/donate/planned-giving (951) 926-4500

Samuel Duerr never forgot the veterans he served alongside in WWII and Korea. His legacy gift to HHV ensures vets will benefit from his generosity for many years to come.