

WAYPOINT VETS

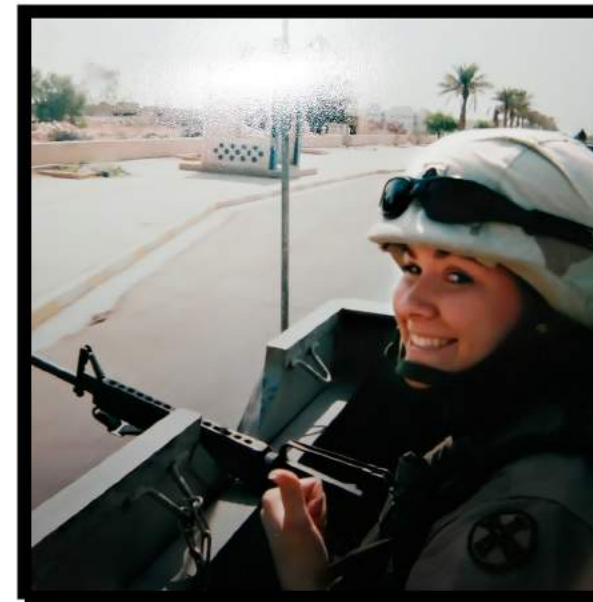
A VETERAN OPERATED 501(c)(3) CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION



ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

- 2023 -

CLEAR INTENT. HUMBLE BEGINNINGS.



SGT Sarah Lee is an Army OIF Combat Veteran and Founder of Waypoint Vets. She enlisted at age 17, served for 8 years, and was honorably discharged in 2009. At age 20, SGT Lee deployed to Iraq in 2004 for 12 months with the 216th Combat Engineers under the 1st Infantry Division, and with the 612th Combat Engineers to Panama, Central America in 2002. Sarah is a Life Member of AMVETS (Post 1776), the VFW (8422) and MOC (Pup Tent 5), the American Legion (Post 88), the Society of the 1st Infantry Division, and a full patch member of both the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association (18-1) and Rolling Thunder Inc (TN-1).

In 2018, SGT Lee completed a 4,010 mile self-supported cycling journey across America named A Vicious Cycle. The level of healing, clarity, and kindness she experienced while immersed in our beautiful nation was unexpected and life saving. The combination of physical and mental intensity while surrounded by life resulted in a complete transformation. Sarah is adamant about making a real difference for her community. "I want my fellow Veterans to understand that they're deserving and capable of great things. While the war inside is very different from the wars we were trained to win, you are not alone in this fight."



"A Waypoint is defined as a stopping point along a journey that helps us to know where we are and where we're going. In the military, it's a point of relief before continuing a mission. This recharge and renewed sense of self is exactly what our offerings are designed to deliver. To help better navigate the process of applying who we were to who we are in a way that results in growth and rediscovery. The northern end of the compass symbolizes forward - the direction on which we must focus. The rings represent the ripple effect that results from our contributions to this world. **We must Honor the Fallen by Living and choose to live FULLY on their behalf.**"



OUR PASSION AND PURPOSE

Waypoint Vets is a veteran-run 501(c)(3) charitable organization with the mission of Uniting and Empowering Veterans through Camaraderie and Adventure. The Waypoint Vets experience combines mental and physical intensity with the beauty of nature to deliver unique clarity and lasting healing to military veterans. We are actively combating post traumatic stress, military sexual trauma, and suicidal ideation *on a national scale*.



Our national adventures always include the leadership of mental health experts, trained professionals, and experienced guides. We provide top of the line gear, safe lodging, delicious meals prepared according to our participant's dietary restrictions, and dynamic itineraries catered to ability levels. We have an ever growing team of passionate veteran volunteers. No salaries are taken, and we cover the costs for our veteran signups through donations, sponsorships, and in-kind support. The heartbeat of our mission and message is to Honor the Fallen by Living, and by taking back our health and happiness *together*.



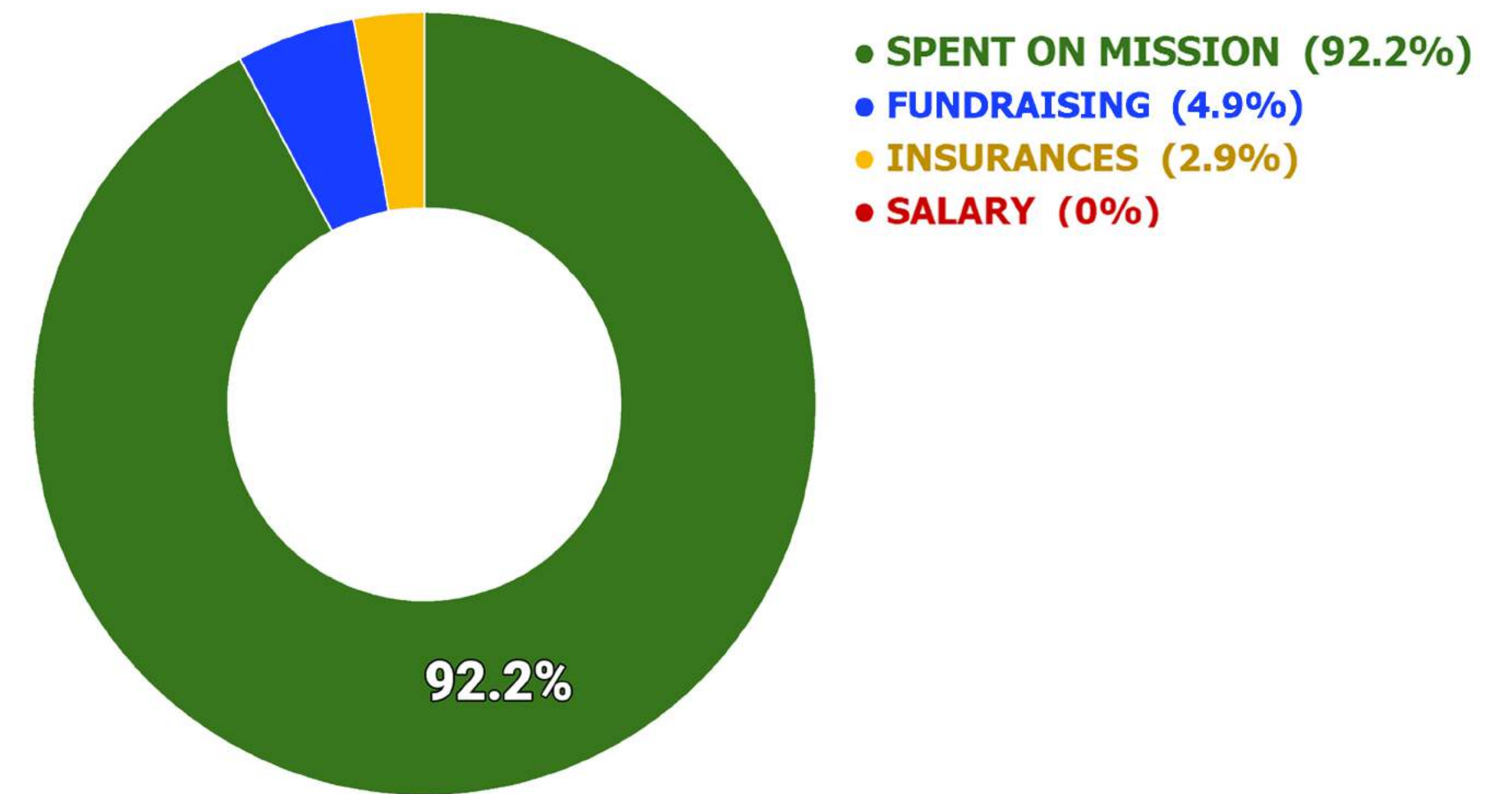
WHO WE SERVE

The Waypoint Vets experience is open to any honorably discharged Military Veteran, to include National Guard and Reservists. We proudly serve all eras, branches, nationalities, and walks of life. There is no disability or combat requirement in order to sign up; *our foundation as veterans is the focus*.



HOW WE SPEND

Waypoint Vets is an organization of humble beginnings and clear intent. We have achieved top tier transparency with Giving Matters, Guidestar, Charity Navigator, etc. We are fully insured, to include General Liability, Directors and Officers, Workman's Comp, and Accidental Insurances. We are current on all filings, reports, and our financials have been carefully documented, categorized, and reported to the penny since inception. Our mission operates on donations from individuals, supporters and sponsors. We cover the costs for our veteran participants. *No salaries are taken*.



OUR ALUMNI PROGRAM



Waypoint Vets has established an Alumni Program, enabling our growing family to stay close-knit; giving them access to mental health seminars, fitness classes, the services of our nationally accredited Veterans Service Officer, and communications with Alumni from our other trips as well as our team. We are creating a national network of both professional and peer support, and have deeply impacted deserving military veterans in more than 30 states since receiving our IRS Letter of Determination in 2019 and becoming operational in Fall of 2020.

OUR PASSIONATE TEAM

Our growing Waypoint Vets team is composed of volunteers and professionals with a passion to serve their fellow veterans. **No salaries are taken.**



SGT SARAH LEE, ARMY
FOUNDER / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

OIF Combat Veteran, 8 yrs service
BS in Technology, Assoc. of Art & BA



MSG LORE HARMON, ARMY
OPERATIONS MANAGER

OIF & OEF Combat Veteran, 32 yrs service
Bronze Star Recipient, 3 Oak Leaf Clusters



SRA JACKIE WILDER, USAF
SECRETARY

United States Air Force, 4 yrs service
Bachelor's in Business Leadership



PO2 JONATHAN BELL, NAVY
TREASURER

OIF & OEF Combat Veteran, 6 yrs Service
Bachelor's of Business Admin in Finance



CPT JOE MAKOUSKE, USMC
SOUTHWEST COORDINATOR

OEF Combat Veteran, Commander
Expert Guiding & Wilderness Therapist
Masters in Mental Health Counseling



CPT TAMMY MCCREERY, ARMY
MENTAL WELLNESS COACH

Army OIF Combat Veteran
Masters of Counseling Psychology
MA in Human Services, BA in Psychology
Inpatient Psychiatric Counseling



SSGT TIM WOODY, USAF
VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER

OIF & OEF Combat Veteran, Retired
President, TN Veterans CSO Association



SPC KENDRA WARD, ARMY
CONTENT MANAGER

Army Supply Specialist, 3 yrs service
23 yrs Marketing & Media Management



GYSGT NATE TIUSECO, USMC
TRIP LEADER & PHOTOGRAPHER

Marine Security Guard Commander, 7 Tours
Published Photojournalist, Athlete, & Coach



SGT CHERYL LINGENFELTER, ARMY
TRIP LEADER

6 yrs service, NATO Medal Recipient
Bachelors in Social Services and Psychology



SSG JO'ANNES WILLIAMS, ARMY
CERTIFIED FITNESS TRAINER

OIF and OEF Combat Veteran, 14 yrs service
NFPT Certified Master Fitness Trainer



MSG HEINTZELMAN, ARMY
GEAR AND TRANSPORTATION

22 yrs, Kosovo & OEF Combat Veteran
PhD in Psychology, Author



COL JIM BACHMAN, ARMY
ADVISORY BOARD

Vietnam War Battery Commander, 29 yrs
Masters in National Security and Strategy



CPL JONATHAN ZAMBELA, USMC
SOUTHWEST LEAD FACILITATOR

Owner, Zion Guru & Nama-Stay Retreat
22+ yr Expert Adventure / Wilderness Guide

OUR NATIONAL ADVENTURES

CANYONEERING & WILDERNESS CAMP

ZION, UTAH: Veteran participants navigate breathtaking terrain, take on 100'+ rappels through the canyons, and spend several days and nights disconnected; with a base camp located deep in the mesmerizing wilderness of Utah. We will tent camp and enjoy healing and camaraderie over our nightly bonfires under a blanket of stars.



MOUNT RAINIER CLIMB

ASHFORD, WA: Our most intense offering. This experience includes mountaineering school, a climb up to Camp Muir at 10,000' with a possible push to the 14,411' summit. Our Veterans are on a rope team, and base camp is located on spectacular glaciers. Veterans will enjoy a team hike to High Rock Lookout to admire Mount Rainier from afar prior to their epic climb.

WHITE WATER RAFTING, HORSEBACK RIDING, SCENIC WATERFALL HIKE

OCOEE, TN: Veteran participants will take on professionally guided Class 4 and 5 rapids on the infamous Ocoee River. They will also enjoy horseback riding through the Appalachians and take on a scenic wilderness hike to beautiful Benton Falls. Lodging includes peaceful, remote cabins.



MIDDLE EAST CONFLICTS WALL

MARSEILLES, IL: Combat Veterans will unite in Marseilles, IL to visit the Memorial both during daylight and at night, hiking at beautiful Starved Rock State Park between visits. The names of their Fallen are engraved on these walls. We will etch their names, and share over a candlelight vigil.

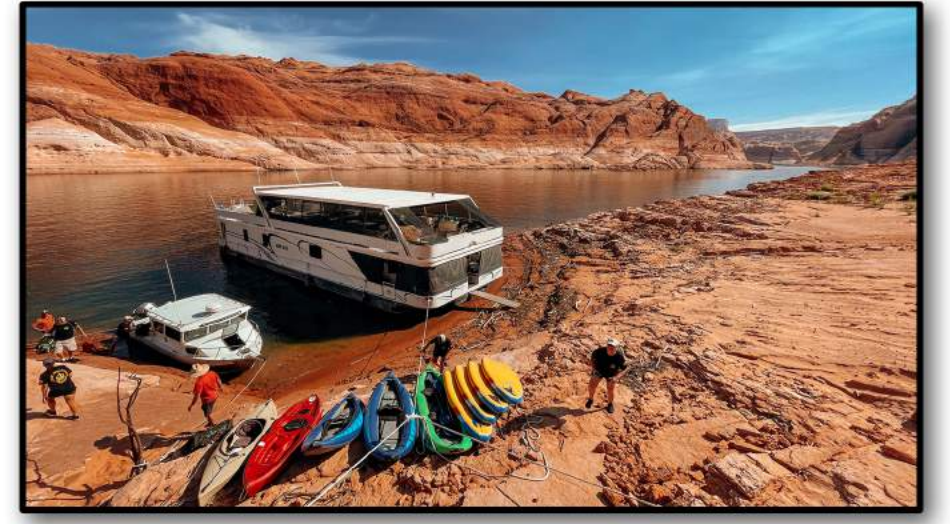
DESTIN WOMEN VETERANS RETREAT

DESTIN, FL: Women veterans will unite to experience a fitness / relaxation retreat in Destin, FL, led by a Certified Fitness Trainer and Mental Health Coach to elevate their bodies and minds. The experience includes white sand beach hikes, morning yoga and meditation, as well as challenging full body workouts, water aerobics, and bonding.



LAKE POWELL HOUSEBOAT ADVENTURE

PAGE, AZ: Veterans board a 100' houseboat and embark on an epic trek into Lake Powell for 5 days and 4 nights. They will rappel through breathtaking slot canyons, engage in watersports, mountaineering, kayaking, camp outs, and relaxing immersed in the serene landscape. At night, they will enjoy bonfires, and the camaraderie that follows.



SALMON FISHING AND HIKING

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: Veterans will set out into the choppy channels of the Pacific in pursuit of hooking Chinook, Sockeye, and Coho Salmon. Off the water, we will explore spectacular locations throughout nearby National Parks, hike to waterfalls, and enjoy a well-earned home cooked feast, featuring our delicious fresh catch.



MAMMOTH CAVE EXPLORATION

MAMMOTH CAVE, KY: Veterans will unite in central Kentucky to the world's longest known cave system. Only 400 miles of this limestone labyrinth has been explored, with 600 miles unexplored. Lodging will include quaint shared cabins with a tent camping option within this famous National Park.

ZION WINTER RETREAT

ZION, UT: This ultra dynamic, rejuvenating experience combines breathtaking hikes through the Bryce Canyon hoodoos as well as canyoneering in Zion and exploring the Narrows while immersed in the Virgin River. Includes luxury accommodations at either Zion Red Rock or Nama-Stay Properties.



TESTIMONIALS

THE VOICES OF ALUMNI FROM OUR PROGRAM, WITH PERMISSION

"This adventure, the organizers, and the other participants pulled me from my lowest depths, and **it saved my life**. I would not be the person I am today without Waypoint Vets."

"I got to be a veteran again, with other vets in an environment that **challenged and changed us** with moments of clarity, reflection, and healing. I shared stories and struggles that no one else knows."

"It was a non-judgmental environment filled with my fellow veterans. I was able to **let my guard down** and open up and share things I hadn't been able to talk about with anyone else before."

"**I was able to let go** of the most significant burdens of my military career. For the first time, I knew that I was surrounded by people who genuinely care about me."

"I learned I am worthy, **I am enough**, and I deserve to be happy! I finally have the courage to make myself a priority."

"I felt comfortable. Like **I belonged**. I felt like someone actually cared for once, and that my story **mattered**."

"**I received closure for a 29 year period of my life.**"

"It helped me to bring my true self back, and realize that **I'm still capable** of doing things I need to do. I have so much more to offer than I realized."

"It was profound to learn that veterans from **all walks of life** can come together to find love, support and learn something new."

"Since the trip, it feels like I've woken up and it's a new day. **I feel free** to move on because there's nothing I could've done back then that would have matched the gifts that this experience has given to me."

"It's a **life changing experience** that helps you grow as an individual. You'll make memories and friendships that become essential in your healing process."

"Sarah and her organization Waypoint Vets are changing lives. **I'm a living example** of that. She should be lifted and encouraged through your support."

"**Finding Waypoint Vets saved me**. The founder is sincere, genuine, brave, caring, smart, funny... just an amazing person. Meeting fellow veterans and sharing experiences had a huge impact on my life, it gave me courage to truly learn to make myself a priority and start to learn to like myself."

"This organization greatly helps in the lives of veterans. It provides people who have served our country with a **renewed sense of belonging** and allows them to put their lives back into perspective."

"I was deeply impacted by the kindness, humor, and generosity of both the Veteran participants and staff for this trip. This was a **life changing experience that helped me heal inside**. What Waypoint Vets is doing for Veterans is **saving lives**."

"I have never found an Organization that is so authentic, or a group of participants willing to be so open. Passion and direct purpose shined through again in all of us. There was **an instant connection**."

"My retreat empowered me to make big changes in my life. I already feel happier and more at peace. Waypoint Vets gave me the courage to like myself again. I feel so light and free now. **This saved me and took weight off of my heart**."

"I pushed myself and **overcame my fears** without feeling judgment; only love and support from the other participants."

"Waypoint Vets is one of the **most pure organizations** I've found. The heart and soul the founder puts in is immeasurable."

"You are supporting a **mission that gives back to those who risked everything** to keep you and our country safe. The attendees saw and experienced things that are unimaginable, and Waypoint Vets helps them process and overcome negativity and trauma through positive, challenging, and introspective events."

"This is the most amazing program for Veterans who need to reconnect with themselves, better themselves, and **start a healing process** that can't be found in medication or a hospital."

Waypoint Vets helps veterans seek wellness in all aspects of their lives while providing the necessary resources, tools, and peer support to continue their **renewed peace and mindset** indefinitely.

"I was most impacted by being able to let go of painful past experiences and begin the process of healing. I let go of fear and low self-esteem by taking that first step while rappelling. **I felt alive again**."

"Waypoint Vets allowed me to have a **renewed connection with myself** since going through major depression and severe PTSD. It gave me the space to live again instead of just existing."

"**I felt totally treasured**, honored, and blessed to attend. Sarah and the staff selflessly gave of themselves, delighted in our successes and empathized with our challenges and shared struggles."

"**They helped me in so many ways** and allowed me to just be me. I haven't had that experience in so long. They are great and are all about the veterans during the trip and after. They have an amazing outlook and energy to share."

HELP US HELP VETS

MONETARY DONATIONS

Visit www.WaypointVets.org/Support. Donations can be made In Honor or In Memory of a loved one. Their information will be added to our In Memorium Dog Tags and carried along with us on all of our Adventures.

Visit Facebook.com/WaypointVets to make a secure donation (no fee). Our Facebook is a great way to follow our trips and witness your impact!

GIFT CARD DONATIONS

Waypoint Vets makes most food and supply purchases at Walmart, Sams Club, and Costco. We purchase the bulk of our program materials and gear on Amazon. We are happy to provide itemized receipts if the donor requires.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Sponsor a Veteran: \$1,000

This donation will cover the full cost of one veteran, to include meals, lodging, activity costs, necessary gear, professional services, and transportation.

Veteran Flight Sponsorship: \$500

We do request (*not require*) that our participants cover the cost of their flight. However in the event that this is a make or break for them, we offer flight scholarship opportunities. \$500 would safely cover the average cost of one veteran's round trip flight with carry on and one checked bag. This is a massive help toward our organization in facilitating affordable travel to and from these opportunities of immense healing and camaraderie.

Sponsor a National Veteran Adventure: \$10,000

The average cost of an *entire* therapeutic adventure / retreat is \$10,000. We are happy to deliver a complete report of expenses post trip, if needed. We will provide powerful visuals from the trip, and detailed social media posts with tagging that showcases the impact and your generosity and kindness. We are very vocal about our amazing sponsors, but will most certainly honor your anonymity, if so desired. Thank you from the heart for your consideration!

WAYPOINT VETS

**A 501(c)(3) CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION WITH THE MISSION OF
UNITING AND EMPOWERING VETERANS
THROUGH CAMADERIE AND ADVENTURE**



WAYPOINT VETS

www.WaypointVets.org

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"Honor the Fallen by Living"