

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
OCTOBER 17 – 18, 2012**

Resolution No. 12: Consolidate Heroes to Hometowns Program into Operation Comfort Warriors

Origin: Public Relations Commission

Submitted by: Finance Commission

WHEREAS, Operation Comfort Warriors and a previous fundraiser for Landstuhl Regional Medical Center have been undertaken as projects by several consecutive National Commanders of The American Legion since 2007; and

WHEREAS, Operation Landstuhl and Operation Comfort Warriors have provided more than \$1 million of assistance to wounded, injured and ill servicemembers and their families, military hospitals, VA Medical Centers, and warrior transition units; and

WHEREAS, Operation Comfort Warriors has achieved recognition as a recipient of a \$250,000 grant from the Pepsi Beverage Company as the first place winner of its Refresh Everything contest; and

WHEREAS, Operation Landstuhl was successfully streamlined into Operation Comfort Warriors in December 2008; and

WHEREAS, The Heroes to Hometowns program has assisted in the transition to civilian life for numerous severely injured service members since its creation in 2007 by using a strong network of volunteer coordinators in Departments and VA Medical Centers; and

WHEREAS, Many of the same veterans assisted through Heroes to Hometowns are eligible for assistance through Operation Comfort Warriors; and

WHEREAS, Multiple programs targeted toward assisting the same population can cause confusion, redundancies and inefficiencies; and

WHEREAS, Operation Comfort Warriors has provided outreach and funding for projects at military hospitals and warrior transition units and has a strong fundraising and communication infrastructure already in place; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion Charities being a 501(c)3 trust that was created to facilitate contributions that benefit various programs of The American Legion; and

WHEREAS, This resolution has the concurrence of the Public Relations Commission, the Internal Affairs Commission, and the Finance Commission; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 17-18, 2012, That Operation Comfort Warriors be an officially recognized program of The American Legion Charities that will support wounded, injured or ill military personnel and veterans by providing morale-building gifts to these individuals, their families, warrior transition units and hospitals; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the functions of the Heroes to Hometowns program be consolidated into The American Legion Operation Comfort Warriors program and use the Operation Comfort Warriors title; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the consolidated program will include all services previously provided and that these services will be enhanced; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That the final responsibility for execution of these programs will reside with the Public Relations Commission until such time as the National Commander may deem it prudent to relocate the delivery of these services.