

# Veterans Chamber of Commerce: COVID-19 relief fund launched to support Wisconsin veteran service organizations

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MILWAUKEE – “This could destroy the organization.”

That’s how the leader of a Wisconsin nonprofit veteran service organization responded when asked how they have been impacted by the COVID-19 crisis.

Whether it’s housing service providers forced to shut down shelters, food pantries being shut down or scaled back, employment resources overwhelmed by increased demand, or the disruption of services for mental health care and treatment, veterans across Wisconsin are already being impacted because these organizations are not able to meet their needs.

In response to this crisis, Lift for the 22 and the Wisconsin Veterans Chamber of Commerce have teamed up to raise funds to support Wisconsin’s veteran service organizations.

“Service providers across Wisconsin provide critical care and support to vulnerable veterans and their families, and they’re being forced to close or scale back their services,” said Saul Newton, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce. “Situations like this are precisely why these organizations exist and are needed — to be a voice, a champion, and an advocate to ensure the needs of veterans and their families are being addressed.”

All proceeds will go to nonprofit social services providing housing, health and

wellness, and economic empowerment services to veterans, service members and their families.

Nonprofit charities and service providers have been rapidly adapting to the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19), and acting as quickly as possible to ensure the vulnerable populations they serve are informed, have access to the resources they need, and receive support and assistance to make it through this period with as little interruption as possible.

“When veterans were called to serve, we answered the call. But now, our veterans need our help,” said Dan Newberry, Executive Director, Lift for the 22. “Please do not forget about the unique impact that this crisis will have on the veteran community. We encourage everyone to donate what you can to help our nation’s heroes and their families make it through this crisis.”

To donate, individuals can text GIVE or DONATE to (503) 831-9923 or they can donate online at: <https://liftforthe22.networkforgood.com/projects/-96057-covid-19-relief-fund>. All donations are tax deductible.