

Lions Project New Hope Northwest Update

Lions Project New Hope Northwest (LPNH NW) has one major goal-

“To insure the effects of combat stress be dealt with, allowing individuals and families to enjoy a normal and prosperous lifestyle”

The beneficiaries are the combat veterans and, as importantly, those that who must deal with the collateral damage; the families and friends. The children bear the brunt of the collateral damage and must live with it for a lifetime. Currently the children are not receiving the assistance they direly need. LPNHNW is dedicated to provide that needed support to all. As Lions - We Serve, We Must Not Fail, Failure Is Not an Option

LPNHNW has established partnerships with veteran’s support professional organizations; Federal Way Vet Center, Give an Hour, and The Soldier’s Project. As a result of this approach several joint retreats are being planned for 2016. These partnerships are formalized with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for each retreat.

Four retreats have been scheduled at a new retreat site, Gwinwood Conference Grounds and Westwood Retreat Center in Lacey, WA. The LPNHNW website is continually updated for retreat details – www.lionsprojectnewhopenw.org. Also, planning is underway to conduct a day workshops for both men and women veterans. . The purpose of the one day workshop to introduce PTS support into the local community.

As a Lion, what can you do to support our combat veteran families deal with PTS and its concomitant collateral damage? Be a ‘spokesperson” within your community to help insure our combat veterans and families are aware there is no cost support available. Volunteer where you feel you can help.

As a Club, thank you for your continued support of the veteran’s families and children’s weekend retreats. Because of the continued support these retreats are provided at no cost so there is not an obstacle of financial burden to our veterans. Lions Project New Hope Northwest asks clubs to place a line item in the budget, for a contribution of \$250 or more, which earns the Traditional LPNHNW Banner Patch. \$500 or more earns The Joel Graves Founder’s Patch. Club sponsorship of these retreats provides valuable working tools for re-integration/resolution workshops for our veterans, their spouses and children. Chevrons provided yearly for continued donations once patches are earned.

Lions volunteers are always needed to fill vacancies on the Lions Project New Hope Board and committees: Secretary, Fund Raising Oversight, VP of Operation, Workshop Organization, Treasurer, Grants, Volunteer Coordinator, Kids Camp Leader and Coordinator with Lions Clubs. Men and Women Lions are always need at our summer retreats to provide both administrative support at the retreats and to provide activities for the children of the veteran's families.

Pat Bucknell, President Lions Project New Hope