

LIFE prides itself on helping those in need and for being the champion for those who cannot speak but who enrich our lives and everyday make us a little more... human.

Issue 70 May 7, 2020

Healthcare Heroes Edition



Dear Friends:

For several months now, every day in the newspapers, on TV news, and on Facebook and other social media platforms, there are stories of nurses, doctors, and other medical and healthcare professionals putting their lives on the line to fight the horrific COVID-19 pandemic.

Through it all, I can't help but think of how much these courageous men and women remind me of the countless thousands of disabled veterans I have met and spoken with over the years building the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial in Washington DC, working to create a National Day of Honor for them and producing two PBS documentaries illuminating their plight throughout our nation's history, among other initiatives.

Indeed, the medical professionals fighting to saves lives in this global pandemic are in a war against an insidious opponent. They may not be combatting bullets, rockets and bombs but they are combatting a virus that is equally, if not more deadly. In fact, more Americans have already died from COVID-19 than in the Vietnam War. And just as disabled military veterans come home from the front with permanent physical and psychological scars, doctors, nurses, and other healthcare workers are coming home from the frontlines with their own scars. They are working really long hours, seeing traumas that are burning into their minds, and have very limited time to release and relieve all this stress. And experts warn that if not managed and treated, their mental health issues will become chronic and life-altering -the same as with the hundreds of thousands of military veterans with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder!

(Dear Friends continued)

The result can be fatal. Consider, for example, the fact that in March the national Crisis Text Line handled about 6,000 text conversations, double its usual, with an increasing number of texts coming from paramedics and nurses. 84% of those who reached out identified as essential workers. Moreover, we already know that doctors, nurses and emergency medical workers are at double the risk of suicide as the general population.

National Nurses Appreciation Week 2020 is this coming week. As they are the frontline of a world health crisis, nursing professionals need our support now more than ever. Their skill and commitment during the coronavirus pandemic make a lifesaving difference every day. Let's do what we can to let them know how much we appreciate them and their sacrifice. Please create and post online messages and videos of support, and above all, join me in giving these she-roes and heroes the greatest gift of all: our love and heartfelt gratitude.

With Love,

Lois

Upcoming Events

TBD
American Military Hero Dog Monument Dedication

Tri-County Animal Rescue, Boca Raton, FL

12:00 noon

Light lunch to follow

By Invitation Only

February 19, 2021

Lois Pope and LIFE's Board invite you to

LIFE's 27th Annual Lady in Red Gala

The Breakers Palm Beach

6:00 pm

To learn more or to donate, visit www.life-edu.org or call 561.582.8083.