

**SAFeway FOUNDATION DISTRIBUTES GRANTS TOTALING \$321,000 TO
AREA VETERANS PROGRAMS, THANKS TO CUSTOMER SUPPORT**

Lanham, MD — Safeway Foundation in Safeway’s Eastern Division, continuing its long history of recognizing the enormous sacrifices made by our veterans, has awarded \$321,000 in grants to support 17 local organizations serving veterans. Funds were raised during the grocer’s annual Veteran’s campaign.

Throughout the month of October, Safeway stores in the District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia and Delaware asked customers to “Support Our Veterans,” collecting customer donations at registers to help fund programs that provide local veterans with assistance in career training, stress counseling, social activities and rehab programs, and support to the families of fallen soldiers.

“Safeway Foundation and our local Safeway stores want to thank our customers for generously supporting this important cause,” said Tom Lofland, Safeway Eastern Division President. “We believe that our veterans’ sacrifice and service should be honored, and we are proud to help support their transition back into civilian life.”

Program parameters for the Safeway Foundation grant applicants include supporting Veterans as they gain access to civilian employment; providing access to health care and support groups for Veterans and their families, and supporting the families of fallen heroes.

Among recipients, Goodwill Industries, Maryland Center for Veteran Employment & Training, Project Opportunity and The Washington Center will utilize funding for programs that provide career training, advice and resources for veterans. American Humane will utilize funds to support a program, *Pups4Patriots*, which rescues unwanted dogs in need of homes and trains them to become lifesaving service animals for military veterans struggling with the invisible wounds of war, including Post-Traumatic Stress (PTS) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).

The Veterans Day campaign is just one of the many vital outreach campaigns that Safeway Foundation and Safeway stores undertake each year. In 2017, Safeway Foundation in Safeway’s Eastern Division invested more than \$1.4 million in its communities.

Following are the veteran's organizations receiving grants:

American Humane Society
Blue Star Families, Inc.
Central Union Mission
Easter Seals Serving DC/MD/VA
Goodwill Industries of The Chesapeake, Inc.
Hero Dogs
Home Away Transitional Services
Hylton Performing Arts Center
Maryland Center for Veteran Employment & Training
Project Opportunity (Tri-County Council Foundation, Inc.)
Rebuilding Together DC/Alexandria
Sekhem Health Healing
The Mission Continues
The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars
U.S. Veteran Initiative (USVETS)
USO of Metropolitan Washington-Baltimore
United Way of Central Maryland

MEDIA NOTE High-res images can be found here: <https://app.box.com/s/9an95q8iwlj3ma54jzc56ungk2cme6ce>

About Safeway Foundation

Safeway Foundation, part of Albertsons Companies Foundation, supports causes that impact our customers' lives. Our stores provide the opportunity to mobilize funding and create awareness in our neighborhoods through generous contributions by our customers, our employees' passion, and partnerships with our vendors. We focus on giving locally in the areas of health and human services, hunger relief, education, veterans and helping people with disabilities. Safeway Foundation in Safeway's Eastern Division invested more than \$1.4 million in our neighborhoods in 2017. More information about Safeway Foundation can be found at www.safewayfoundation.org.

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