
TRAGEDY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR SURVIVORS

Caring for the Families of America's Fallen Heroes



2025 IMPACT REPORT



TAPS

TAPS

WYKSTRA

U.S. ARMY



“ IN HONOR OF ALL WHO
SERVED AND DIED ”

DEAR TAPS FAMILY AND FRIENDS,

As I reflect on 2025, my heart is filled with immense gratitude for the unwavering love, compassion, and support that fuel our mission every single day. This year, more than ever, we have seen the true power of community, the way hope can take root in shared stories, heartfelt connection, and collective commitment to honoring those who served and died for our freedom.

In 2025, TAPS welcomed more than **9,500 new survivors** into our care. Each one carries a story of love and loss, and through TAPS, each has found a community that understands. From spouses and parents to children, siblings, battle buddies, and friends, every survivor who reaches out to TAPS finds a place of belonging and a path toward healing.

This year marked extraordinary growth in how we deliver care. We brought the love of TAPS closer to survivors in their own hometowns through **248 TAPS Togethers**, locally hosted gatherings that foster connection, healing, and remembrance. These grassroots events have expanded to communities across the nation, strengthening the web of support that ensures no survivor ever walks alone.

TAPS also proudly continued its leadership in policy and legislative action, with **advocacy efforts** impacting **more than four million** military and veteran survivors. We stood alongside policymakers and partners to advance survivor benefits, mental health care access, and recognition of families of the fallen, reminding the nation that the cost of freedom is best measured in the lives forever changed by service and sacrifice.

Through sports and entertainment partnerships, we united fans, athletes, and audiences nationwide to honor the fallen and celebrate their legacies. Together, we paid tribute to more than **300 fallen heroes**, with powerful moments of remembrance shared at stadiums, racetracks, arenas, and concert stages across the country, each one a reminder that love lives on in the stories of those who served.

Because of your generosity, we have witnessed extraordinary growth in the reach and impact of our programs. Our Peer Mentors shared over **7,300 volunteer engagements**, providing support, guiding newly bereaved survivors, and fostering healing through event volunteer opportunities, TAPS Togethers, and Care Groups. **More than 600 grieving children found comfort** in TAPS Youth Programs, receiving support from a Military Mentor to navigate their grief. Across all programs, we delivered over **11,000 critical support services**, ensuring survivors received the care and resources they needed. Through our national network of local community support, more than **1,800 unique survivors** found connection, understanding, and hope because of you.

The incredible impact of TAPS would not be possible without the steadfast compassion of our donors, volunteers, and partners who believe in our mission. Together, we have built a living legacy of love and resilience, a community that ensures every survivor is embraced with care, and every fallen hero is remembered with honor.

With all my heart,

Bonnie Carroll
President and Founder
Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS)



TAPS YEAR IN REVIEW

★ 2025 ★

TAPS IS HERE
24/7

FOR ALL WHO GRIEVE THE DEATH
OF A MILITARY OR VETERAN
loved one

208,000+
SURVIVOR CONNECTIONS
WITH TAPS



600+
MILITARY MENTORS
VOLUNTEERED



33,000+
HOURS SUPPORTING
THE TAPS MISSION

24%

OF ALL NEW TAPS SURVIVORS
ARE GRIEVING THE DEATH
OF THEIR PARENT



14,000+

SURVIVORS GRIEVING
THE DEATH OF THEIR
MILITARY OR VETERAN
LOVED ONE ATTENDED
A TAPS EVENT



24,100+
CALLS WITH THE
24/7 HELPLINE



9,560

NEW SURVIVORS
CONNECTED WITH TAPS



VALUE OF EDUCATIONAL
BENEFITS TAPS IDENTIFIED
FOR MILITARY AND
VETERAN SURVIVORS



IN RETROACTIVE
BENEFITS SECURED
FOR MILITARY AND
VETERAN SURVIVORS

AVERAGE OF

26

NEW
SURVIVORS
EACH DAY
CONNECT
WITH TAPS



TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 5 Core Services & Values
- 6 Immediate Survivor Support
- 8 Peer Mentors
- 10 TAPS Connections
- 12 Casework
- 13 Education Support Services
- 14 Suicide Prevention & Postvention Programs
- 15 Policy & Legislative Achievements
- 16 Youth Programs
- 17 Military & Legacy Mentors
- 20 Survivor Seminars
- 21 Corporate Volunteer Engagement
- 22 Adult & Young Adult Programs
- 24 Sports & Entertainment
- 26 TAPS Institute for Hope and Healing®
- 27 TAPS International

REPORTS

- 29 TAPS Support to the Department of War

ABOUT TAPS

- 34 Letter from the President of TAPS Board of Directors
- 35 Funding
- 36 TAPS Partners & Sponsors
- 37 TAPS Honor Guard Gala

WE ARE TAPS



17%

of all new survivors who connected with TAPS in 2025 were children under the age of 18

RELATIONSHIP TO MILITARY AND VETERAN LOVED ONES AMONG ALL SURVIVORS CONNECTED WITH TAPS IN 2025



20%
PARENTS



24%
CHILDREN
*MAY BE OVER OR UNDER THE AGE OF 18



23%
PARTNERS

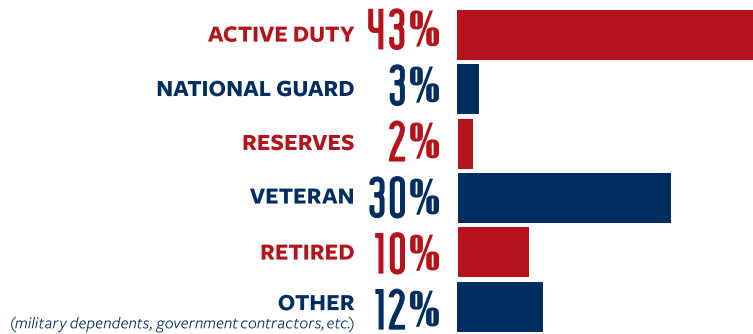


9%
SIBLINGS
*MAY BE OVER OR UNDER THE AGE OF 18

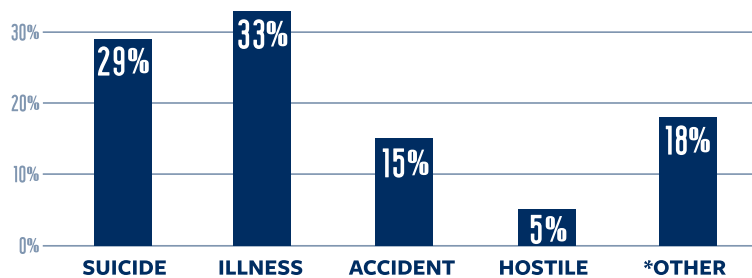


24%
LOVED ONES
*MAY BE OVER OR UNDER THE AGE OF 18

DUTY STATUS AMONG ALL SURVIVORS CONNECTED WITH TAPS IN 2025

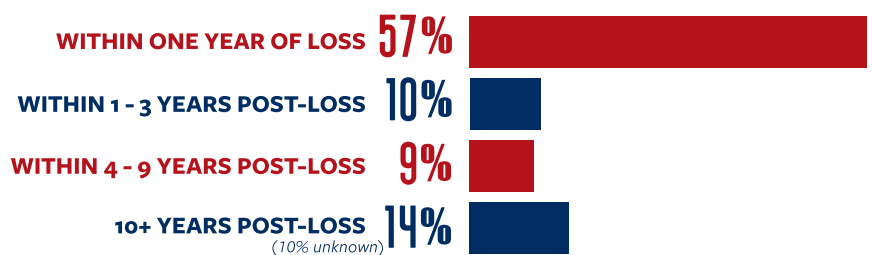


CAUSE OF DEATH AMONG ALL MILITARY SURVIVORS CONNECTED WITH TAPS IN 2025



*Includes friendly fire, homicide, noncombat-related incidents, nonhostile, undetermined, or unknown at the time of intake with TAPS. Numbers will vary upon connection with survivors to identify a cause of death.

LENGTH OF TIME SINCE LOSS AMONG ALL SURVIVORS CONNECTED WITH TAPS IN 2025





QUINN
LAMAR
JOHNSON-HARRIS
US AIR FORCE
AFGHANISTAN
1994
2015
DJ
MASTER
LIVE IN THE SKY



TAPS MISSION: TAPS is the national nonprofit organization providing compassionate care and comprehensive resources to all those grieving a death in the military or veteran community.

TAPS VISION: We honor our military and veteran service members by caring for all those they loved and left behind.

WHO TAPS SERVES

TAPS sets the national standard for grief and trauma-informed support in the military and veteran community by serving far more than those traditionally recognized after a loss. We support military and veteran survivors and service members grieving the death of a spouse, a child, a battle buddy, or any loved one connected to military service. Our definition of survivor is intentionally more inclusive than the Gold Star designation, ensuring no one is excluded based on rank, relationship, cause of death, or duty status. This commitment allows TAPS to reach those others cannot and to provide care where it is most urgently needed.

CORE SERVICES & VALUES

AT TAPS WE:

HONOR AND REMEMBER: We fervently believe in cherishing and commemorating our fallen loved ones, acknowledging military survivors as the living testament to their loved ones' invaluable service and ultimate sacrifice. Their stories form the fabric of our nation's history, a legacy of recognition and respect.

EMPOWER: Our commitment goes beyond providing solace; we strive to empower survivors with effective coping strategies, invaluable resources, and opportunities for meaningful connections. From the comfort of home to national platforms, we enable survivors to do more than just endure their grief; we help them transform their sorrow into strength and purpose.

CONNECT: Recognizing the isolation that can accompany the grief of a military or veteran death, we ensure a constant lifeline of support. Our 24/7 nationwide network provides peer-based emotional support and crucial casework services, facilitating connections with those who truly understand their struggle and can offer the support they need.

EDUCATE: We create supportive communities for survivors, honoring their unique experiences and engaging them throughout their grief journey and beyond. Our ultimate goal is to cultivate a sense of belonging, enabling survivors to discover hope and healing within their pain, all while respecting their unique paths.

CORE SERVICES

24/7 NATIONAL
MILITARY SURVIVOR HELPLINE



PEER-BASED EMOTIONAL SUPPORT



COMMUNITY-BASED CARE



CASEWORK ASSISTANCE



HOW WE HEAL

Twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, we are a family of survivors ready to embrace and connect all who grieve a death in the military or veteran community with resources, services, and programs. TAPS provides support to survivors regardless of the manner of death, the duty status at the time of death, the survivor's relationship to the deceased, or the survivor's place along their grief journey. TAPS is fortunate to work with leading experts in the fields of grief, bereavement, trauma, and peer support to integrate decades of research on military grief into action to help heal hearts.

2025 HELPLINE REACH

24,152

total calls

5,785

follow-up care calls
placed to survivors

WHY SURVIVORS REACH OUT

38%

Casework

21%

Emotional Support

16%

Program Support

“ I’ll tell you this: The TAPS Helpline has really helped me. There are times I don’t know how I’m going to make it, and I can call and talk. ”

— Surviving Mother

TAPS IS ALWAYS HERE.

ALWAYS HERE WHEN LOSS CHANGES EVERYTHING

When a military or veteran death turns a life upside down, no one should face that moment alone. Every connection at TAPS is designed to meet survivors with understanding, care, and steady support from the very first outreach through the long road of grief.

24/7 NATIONAL MILITARY SURVIVOR HELPLINE

The lifeline turning devastation into connection and isolation into care.

The TAPS National Military Survivor Helpline is **available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year**, and serves as the front door to all TAPS care. It is the only round-the-clock helpline dedicated exclusively to people grieving a death in the military and veteran community, and is staffed by peer Crisis Support Specialists certified by the American Association of Suicidology.

Every call is answered by a trained peer mentor or specialist who understands military life and what it means to receive that devastating phone call or knock on the door. Specialists provide immediate emotional support, crisis stabilization, suicide-risk screening, and safety planning when needed, and they remain present as survivors take their next steps.

SURVIVOR CARE TEAM

The first call comes from a professionally trained peer who has lived a similar loss.

When a military service member or veteran’s death shatters a family, survivors need more than information. They need to be seen, heard, and understood by someone who knows this loss firsthand.

The Survivor Care Team is made up entirely of professionally trained peer supporters who are survivors themselves. They are mothers, spouses, siblings, children, and friends of the fallen. They know grief from the inside and show up with presence, patience, and compassion when everything else has fallen away.



This team provides initial and ongoing personalized emotional support to survivors across the country and around the world. They listen, check in, walk alongside survivors over time, and connect people who share similar losses. Through sustained contact, trusted guidance, and crisis-informed care, the Survivor Care Team helps transform isolation into belonging.

Survivor Care Team members also co-facilitate Care Groups, TAPS Togethers, virtual support spaces, and provide in-depth care management when needed, ensuring survivors are supported across every stage of their grief journey.

Community Resource Network

TAPS Community Resource Network

When survivors reach out to TAPS, support extends beyond listening. The TAPS Community Resource Network connects survivors to trusted, culturally competent care within military, veteran, and grief support communities.

This shared service bridges the Helpline and the Survivor Care Team, combining immediate national expertise with trusted local support. In 2025, approximately **52%** of Community Resource Network connections were initiated through the Helpline and **42%** through the Survivor Care Team. Survivors receive an average of five to six customized connections, including both TAPS resources and vetted local care.

Connections are made in real time and tailored to each survivor's needs, circumstances, and cultural considerations. They include licensed mental health professionals, grief and trauma specialists, suicide-loss providers, EMDR clinicians, inpatient and outpatient treatment programs, rehabilitation services, caregiver support, crisis services, military- and veteran-specific resources, and peer support groups.

1,800+

survivors received an average of six customized local connections

1,000+

vetted community providers actively supported

WHY THIS MATTERS

Together, the National Military Survivor Helpline, the Survivor Care Team, and Community Resource Network ensure that when a survivor connects with TAPS, they are met with immediate compassion and guided toward real, ongoing support at the pace their grief requires.

“ I wanted to let you know that I used the mental health resource you provided. I had my first therapy session today, and I'm very pleased with the therapist and the support she provided. I am hopeful for ongoing sessions with her. I really want to thank you for forwarding that information — I had been calling and calling, and no one accepted CHAMPVA, and I was feeling helpless. Your resources have been wonderful to work with. A big thank you, I'm very thankful for the support TAPS provides. ”

— Surviving Spouse



IN 2025

11,000+

survivors supported by the Survivor Care Team

83,000+

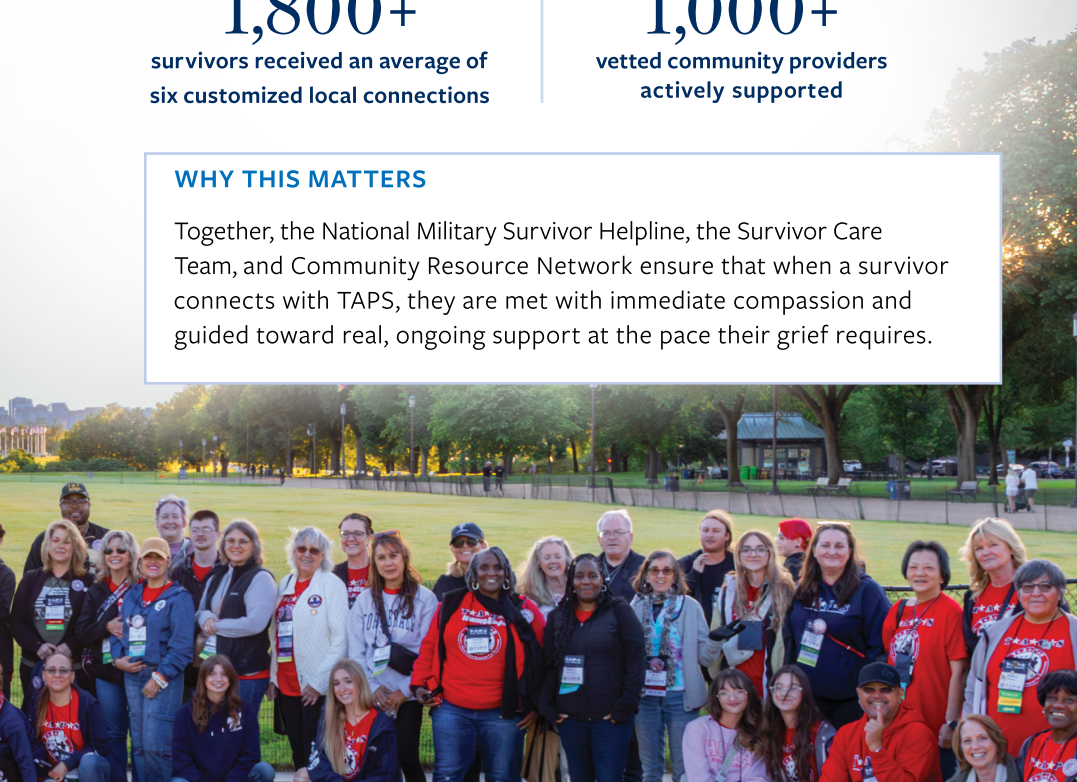
messages of comfort, hope, and understanding shared

15,000+

text messages exchanged

23,000+

direct calls with survivors by Survivor Care Team





SURVIVORS HELPING SURVIVORS HEAL

Grief following the death of a military or veteran loved one is deeply personal and often isolating. Survivors frequently feel lost, heartbroken, and alone in their experience.

A PEER-INFORMED ORGANIZATION

85%

of TAPS staff are survivors themselves

Who Are Peer Mentors

Peer Mentors are survivors of a military or veteran death who choose to transform their own lived experience into care for others. They are mothers, fathers, spouses, siblings, adult children, partners, and friends of the fallen across all causes and circumstances of death. Each Peer Mentor completes comprehensive grief and trauma-informed training and is supported by survivor staff with advanced professional expertise.

More than **1,000 active Peer Mentors** nationwide work alongside a dedicated team of staff who are also survivors to ensure peer support is ethical, safe, responsive, and deeply human.

HOW PEER SUPPORT WORKS

TAPS peer support is emotionally based and relationship-centered. Survivors are matched with peers who share similar losses, relationships, or lived experiences so they do not have to explain military culture, justify their grief, or navigate loss alone.

Peer Mentor support is offered through one-on-one connections, Care Groups, TAPS Togethers, national and regional events, and community-based TAPS Liaisons. This layered approach allows survivors to engage in ways that meet them where they are and evolve as their needs change.

Peer support does not replace clinical care. It supplements it by filling a critical gap with understanding, presence, and connection grounded in shared experience.

TAPS Grief-Informed Peer Mentor Model™

Peer Mentors work within the TAPS Grief-Informed Peer Mentor Model™, which integrates two nationally recognized frameworks to ensure safe, ethical, and practical support.

The TAPS Bereavement Model™ centers on safety and stabilization, a healthy grief journey, and meaning and purpose. The Reciprocal Peer Support Model emphasizes connection and presence, information gathering and risk assessment, care management, and affirmation.

This approach is recognized as a national best practice by both the American Psychiatric Association and the Department of Defense Center of Excellence.

Together, these models ensure peer support is grounded in cultural competence, trauma awareness, and clear ethical boundaries. In 2025, TAPS continued to strengthen this integrated model, so every Peer Mentor is equipped to support survivors while safeguarding both those receiving care and those providing it.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Connection with someone who has lived this loss changes everything. Shared experience builds trust. Trust creates safety. Safety creates space for healing and hope. Peer Mentor support reflects a simple truth: *We are who we serve.*

Advanced Peer Mentor Training

Because broken hearts deserve skilled care

Grief is tender. Supporting a person grieving requires more than good intentions.

TAPS invests deeply in training Peer Mentors through both Foundational and Advanced Grief-Informed Peer Mentor Training. This includes cultural competence, companionship, safety and stabilization, suicide-risk awareness, ethical peer support practices, and meaning-making across the grief journey.

Advanced training prepares Peer Mentors to recognize distress, respond with care, and connect survivors to additional support when needed. This structure protects both the survivor and the mentor, and ensures that peer support remains safe, effective, and sustainable.

“Peer support gave me something I could not find anywhere else: someone who understood without me having to explain.”

— Surviving Spouse

IN 2025

300+

new Peer Mentors trained

200+

connections with
grieving survivors

7,807

new adult survivors
connected with TAPS



“I am looking forward to being a part of the Peer Mentor Program to start giving back. You all have been my saving grace, and I feel my son has led me to this crossroads in my journey to do just that. I will never be the person I was before September 25, 2021, but I am finding out who this woman is in this next chapter, and I have TAPS’ guidance to thank for so much of that.”

— Surviving Parent

BEGINNING IN 2026

TAPS Together will expand into four engagement types:

- ★ CONNECTIONS
- ★ COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS
- ★ SERVICE
- ★ EXPERIENCE



TAPS CONNECTIONS

TAPS TOGETHERS

Connection that changes everything

Sometimes healing begins with a cup of coffee, a shared ceremony, or standing beside someone who understands. TAPS Together are free, community-based gatherings led by Peer Mentors and supervised by TAPS staff that bring survivors together through remembrance, service, and shared experience. From Friendsgiving meals to memorial ceremonies, from family outings to national moments of honor, these events transform isolation into belonging.

200+

TAPS Together hosted

2,100+

survivors connected through TAPS Together

ONE-ON-ONE PEER SUPPORT

Connection that meets you where you are

One-on-one peer support offers survivors a private, personal space to be heard by someone who truly understands their loss. Through intentional matching, survivors are connected with a trained Peer Mentor who shares a similar loss or relationship, creating trust from the very first conversation.

220+ new survivors supported through one-on-one peer mentor connections

These one-on-one connections allow survivors to speak openly, ask hard questions, and navigate grief at their own pace. Peer Mentors listen without judgment, offer understanding rooted in lived experience, and walk alongside survivors through moments of uncertainty, transition, and remembrance.

WHY THIS MATTERS

For many survivors, the first moment of real understanding comes through a Peer Mentor, someone who has lived this loss and can say, “I see you, and I know this pain.” In that moment, survivors are no longer alone. It is this connection that restores hope, builds trust in the journey ahead, and so often becomes the reason they stay, heal, and find their way forward.

CARE GROUPS

Healing happens in community

TAPS Care Groups create trusted spaces where survivors can speak honestly, be vulnerable, and feel understood by others who know this loss. Each group is co-led by trained Peer Mentors and TAPS staff who are survivors themselves, ensuring care is grounded in lived experience, safety, and compassion.

700+

Care Groups offered nationwide,
both virtual and in person

4,800+

survivors participated
in Care Groups

Care Groups meet survivors where they are through both in-person and virtual gatherings. Virtual Care Groups serve parents, partners, siblings, men, women, Spanish-speaking survivors, pre-9/11 families, and many others, so no survivor is overlooked. The depth and diversity of these groups reflect the strength of TAPS' peer-informed model and the scale of care delivered nationwide.

TAPS VIRTUAL CARE GROUPS

BY RELATIONSHIP	BY PEER GROUP	BY MANNER OF LOSS
Parents	Spanish Speaking	Accident Loss (Motorcycle, Auto, and other) Survivors
Parents of Only Child	Men's Chat	
Parents with Multiple Losses	Women's Empowerment	Aviation Loss Survivors
Parents of Suicide Loss	Moms New to Grief	Homicide Loss Survivors
Step-Parents	Young Adults	Illness Loss Survivor
Grandparents	Moms Mentoring Moms	Overdose Loss Survivors
Adult Children	All Survivors Welcome	
Siblings	Peer Mentors	Suicide Loss Survivors - All Relationships
Married Partners	Team TAPS	
Unmarried Partners		
Former Spouses and Partners		
Widows, Partners & Significant Others of Vietnam Veterans		

“ We had a great time! I left feeling positive, and I thought it was so enlightening to hear others' stories. I met people who I otherwise wouldn't have known, and I like knowing they're not too far away! ”

— Surviving Sibling attending TAPS Care Group





CASEWORK

BENEFITS & RESOURCES

TAPS Casework delivers personalized, compassionate support for military and veteran survivors to navigate the complexities of a death.

In times of deep grief, survivors often face a daunting maze of paperwork to access vital resources and benefits. Our Casework team steps in to advocate, helping survivors navigate urgent needs such as funeral honors, benefits, financial aid, legal concerns, and document retrieval. Survivors and third-party organizations, including national service groups, government agencies, and funeral homes, also turn to us for support. The demand for our Casework team's assistance is growing as more surviving military and veteran families seek help.

“When my husband, a Special Forces Green Beret, took his own life on March 26, 2025, I was devastated and on the brink of losing my home. TAPS Casework stepped in when I had nowhere else to turn. They helped save my home and, in many ways, saved my life. TAPS does not just honor fallen soldiers. They protect the families left behind.”

— Surviving Spouse

“TAPS showed up for my son with autism and me when we needed help the most. Their care changed our lives. We are deeply grateful and forever humbled.”

— Surviving Spouse



Supporting survivors of a military death through the complexities after the loss of their military member

9,790 survivor support cases resolved

Official Papers | Employment
Headstone | Health Care
Investigations | Line of Duty
Legal Cases | Medals
Personal Effects | Burial Flags



Providing emergency financial support in their greatest time of need

\$661K+ in emergency financial assistance

Groceries | Mortgage/Rent
Post-Mortem Cleaning
Travel Costs | Burial Expenses
Moving Expenses | School Supplies
Clothing | Tutoring | Holiday Support



Retroactive benefits awarded to survivors with the support of TAPS Casework team

\$7.9M+ retroactive benefits secured for military & veteran survivors

DFAS (SBP and AOP)
VA (DIC, Survivors' Pension, and Burial Allowances)
OSGLI (SGLI, VGLI and SGLI-DE)



EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES

SURVIVOR EDUCATION BENEFITS

TAPS connects military and veteran survivors with tuition waivers, benefits, and scholarships for academic success.

TAPS Education Support Services is dedicated to inspiring hope and guiding our survivors as they pursue their dreams. We provide personalized support, helping them access scholarships, education benefits, and resources that ease financial stress and open doors to future success.

For survivors entering postsecondary education, we align their aspirations with federal, state, and private benefits to reduce their financial burden. Our team is recognized for its expertise in identifying, aligning, and maximizing educational resources to make higher education accessible.

TAPS College Experience

In 2025, **55** military survivors participated in an education-focused program in Arlington, Virginia. The multi-day event offered hands-on guidance in resume building, budgeting, networking, education benefits, FAFSA completion, scholarships, and the college application process. Participants also joined an on-site college campus tour, providing a firsthand look at campus life, academic opportunities, and key factors to consider when exploring postsecondary options.





SUICIDE PREVENTION & POSTVENTION PROGRAMS

SAFETY, STABILIZATION & RISK REDUCTION

For decades, TAPS has provided care, support, and protection for suicide-loss survivors across generations.

Suicide bereavement carries complex challenges marked by trauma, stigma, and layered grief. At TAPS, bereaved survivors are met with compassion and understanding grounded in lived experience and decades of expertise. Guided by the TAPS Postvention Model™, comprehensive, trauma-informed support is provided from first contact through long-term healing, including stabilization, peer support, specialized casework, and tailored resources for suicide loss. Since launching the National Military Suicide Survivor Seminar and Good Grief Camp in 2009, TAPS has led the nation in advancing suicide postvention and elevating the voices of military and veteran suicide-loss survivors.

Advancing Suicide-Loss Care in 2025

In 2025, TAPS expanded and strengthened suicide-loss support and protection efforts through increased trauma-informed programs, services, and innovations:

- ★ Implemented enhanced trauma-informed practices at the National Military Suicide Survivor Seminar, including individualized, structured pre-event and post-event care and the elevation of peer-based grief support for both newly bereaved and long-term loss survivors.
- ★ Conducted personalized outreach to families with children newly bereaved by suicide, ensuring immediate safety and stabilization with clear, compassionate communication and safe messaging.
- ★ Launched the first widow and intimate partner-focused retreat for suicide-loss survivors.
- ★ Expanded suicide-loss survivor Care Groups and embedded culturally competent providers experienced in military and veteran suicide loss.
- ★ Mobilized emergency crisis response to military leaders and community members.
- ★ Developed an international suicide-loss curriculum and training program piloted with Australia's Department of Veterans Affairs, and designed for national and global application based on the TAPS Suicide Postvention Model™ and Grief-Informed Peer Mentor Model™.
- ★ Provided subject matter expertise through customized consultations, briefings, and trainings.

2025 SUICIDE LOSS IMPACT

29%

of all new survivors in 2025 were grieving a death by suicide

30,000+

suicide-loss survivors supported by TAPS

2,729

new suicide-loss survivors connected in 2025

300+

suicide-loss survivors attended the 17th Annual National Military Suicide Loss Survivor Seminar and Good Grief Camp

POLICY & LEGISLATION

LIFTING THE VOICES OF MILITARY AND VETERAN SURVIVORS

TAPS advocates for military survivors across all manners of death, duty statuses, eras of service, and relationships to the deceased. In 2025, TAPS ensured survivor voices were heard at the highest levels of government, advancing meaningful policy change and protecting earned benefits for families nationwide.

During the 119th Congress, the TAPS Government and Legislative Affairs team worked closely with lawmakers to introduce and champion legislation addressing the most urgent needs of surviving families. TAPS also hosted its 3rd Annual Gold Star Families Advocacy Week in September 2025, bringing survivor voices directly to Capitol Hill.

More than **150** surviving family members, ages 6 to 75, from **35** states, alongside **30** veteran service organization partners, visited nearly **400** congressional offices to educate policymakers on the lived experiences and needs of military survivors.

“*Advocating is an open love letter to my late husband. It’s been an incredible way to channel my grief in both a positive and meaningful way.*”

— Surviving Spouse

Key Legislative Priorities Advanced in 2025

TAPS advocated for five critical survivor-focused policy initiatives:

Love Lives On Act: Would allow surviving spouses to retain survivor benefits upon remarriage at any age. Current law forces many to choose between love, stability, and financial security for their children.

Caring for Survivors Act: Would strengthen Dependency and Indemnity Compensation for more than **500,000 survivors**, increasing DIC from 43 to 55 percent and reducing the disability rating requirement from 10 to five years.

Health Care Fairness for Military Families Act: Would correct inequities in physical and mental health care coverage for military personnel and surviving families, extending TRICARE coverage through age 26.

CHAMPVA Children’s Care Protection Act: Would align VA health care coverage for children of disabled veterans and deceased veterans with private sector standards by extending eligibility to age 26.

Service-Connected Suicide Compensation Act: Would extend survivor benefits to families of veterans who died by suicide after separation, recognizing that service-connection does not end with active duty.

ADDITIONAL POLICY ACHIEVEMENTS

- ★ Gold Star Families Compact signed by nearly **30 states and territories**, strengthening recognition, services, and support for surviving families.
- ★ Aviation Cancer Examination Study Act signed into law, mandating cancer and mortality research for military aviators and aircrew.
- ★ Individual Longitudinal Exposure Record expansion passed in the Fiscal Year 2026 National Defense Authorization Act, improving tracking of toxic exposures for service members, veterans, and survivors.
- ★ Congressional ban on commissary privatization enacted within the FY 2026 NDAA, protecting essential savings and food access for military and surviving families.

TAPS also hosted **250 survivor advocates** at the Annual Congressional Reception, honoring Representatives Richard Hudson, Julia Brownley, and Kelly Morrison for their leadership on behalf of surviving families.

In 2025, TAPS testified and submitted statements for the congressional record **eight times** and participated in numerous congressional roundtables, ensuring survivor perspectives shaped policy decisions.



EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE

59

children under the age of five were cared for by TAPS Early Childhood Care in 2025

For our youngest survivors under five, TAPS offers tailored care and programming, giving parents peace of mind that their child is safe and nurtured, allowing them space to focus on their own healing.

593

children attended a TAPS Good Grief Camp in 2025

678

children attended a TAPS Youth Program in 2025

94%

parents and caregivers reported their experience at a TAPS Youth Program helped their child(ren) cope with their grief

AFTER ATTENDING GOOD GRIEF CAMP

77%

of parents and caregivers reported their child was more open to talk or share about their grief

81%

of parents and caregivers reported noticing positive changes in their child's attitude

YOUTH PROGRAMS

NURTURING HEARTS AND BUILDING BONDS

TAPS provides grieving children and teens a haven for processing grief and trauma with supportive connections.

The death of a military loved one leaves behind survivors of all ages. We help our young survivors build a community of support for their grief. Children and teens process emotions at our virtual and in-person Youth Programs while connecting with other young survivors. Children, teens, and families learn how to talk openly about their loss, recognize ways of coping, build positive coping behaviors, and safely share their feelings.

“ I finally felt like I wasn't carrying all of this on my own. I didn't feel like a burden. I felt seen, not just as a grieving person, but as a normal person. ”

— Good Grief Camp Teen

In 2025, TAPS cared for **2,100+** bereaved military and veteran children

“ Family camp was so meaningful to our family. We learned a lot about each other, and it is a starting point for us to be able to put our lives back together. ”

— Family Camp Parent

1,654
new grieving children connected with TAPS in 2025

41%
of all new grieving children connected with TAPS in 2025 are suicide-loss survivors



MILITARY & LEGACY MENTORS

IN HONOR OF THEIR SERVICE

TAPS Military and Legacy Mentors support children on their grief journey, providing enduring support and mentorship for a lifetime.

Mentorship from adult role models is vital for surviving military children. Military Mentors are military service members or veterans who volunteer to support grieving children in TAPS Youth Programs. This experience fosters growth, understanding, and healing for both children and mentors, who often find comfort in processing their grief through this meaningful connection.

684

in-person and virtual mentor engagements with surviving military families in 2025

33,400+

Military Mentor hours logged

Legacy Mentors are survivors who lost their military or veteran loved one as a child, are now over the age of 18, and have returned to mentor younger bereaved survivors. TAPS Legacy Mentors embody how the TAPS community walks alongside survivors to remember the love, celebrate the life, and share the journey.

127

Legacy Mentors volunteer their time to support children of surviving military and veteran families



“Throughout my years with TAPS, I’ve learned that we don’t always have the answers to the questions these children ask, but what matters most is being there for them, walking with them through their grief. It’s an honor to stand beside these incredible young people and help them grow with grief.”

— 2025 TAPS Military Mentor of the Year Army SSG Jarred Hufford, USA, Retired





TAPS



TAPS



2,600+
survivors attended
a seminar in 2025

1,700+
attended a National
Military Survivor Seminar

900+
attended a Regional
Military Survivor Seminar

OTHER BENEFITS OF ATTENDING SEMINARS:

84%

reported attending TAPS seminars
helped them understand their grief

89%

reported attending TAPS seminars gave
them hope for the future

87%

reported that TAPS seminars gave them
new information to help cope with grief

94%

reported that TAPS seminars helped
them feel socially connected

SURVIVOR SEMINARS

LOVE LIVES ON

TAPS Military Survivor Seminars are where connection begins and hope is restored. Survivors come together from across the country to be surrounded by others who understand this loss, to learn from trusted experts, and to feel, often for the first time, that they are not alone. Open to all military and veteran survivors, at every point in their grief, these gatherings create a safe and compassionate space to honor loved ones, share stories, and begin to find a way forward. Here, grief is met with understanding, and isolation is transformed into community, strength, and healing.

What do survivors gain by attending a TAPS seminar?

- ★ TAPS seminars bring survivors together with others who understand this loss, turning isolation into connection and helping reduce the risk of depression and prolonged or complicated grief.
- ★ Survivors gain tools and support that reduce isolation, ease emotional pain, lower risk of crisis, and strengthen overall health and well-being, helping them move forward with greater stability and hope.



CORPORATE VOLUNTEERS

CORPORATE ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Employee Engagement ✦ Mission Support ✦ Athletic Fundraising

Corporate partners extend care to military and veteran survivors through volunteerism, dedicated fundraising, and team participation in athletic events.

Marathons and endurance races ✦ Armed Forces Cycling Classic
Charity golf tournaments ✦ Employee volunteer teams
Mission support at survivor events

These initiatives create meaningful opportunities for companies to align their values with measurable impact. By engaging employees and investing in partnerships that support survivors, corporate leaders help sustain the programs and services that provide lifelong care for grieving families.

2025 IMPACT

8,900+
volunteer engagements

48,000+
volunteer hours supporting
survivors nationwide





ADULT & YOUNG ADULT PROGRAMS

GRIEF IS NOT AN ILLNESS TO CURE; IT IS LOVE LIVING ON AFTER LOSS

TAPS Adult and Young Adult Programs create intentional spaces where survivors come together to process grief, build connection, and move forward with support from others who understand. These programs are not about fixing grief. They are about walking alongside it, together.

Programs are designed around shared experiences, such as a relationship to the loved one, the manner of loss, or phase in their life. In these settings, survivors feel seen, heard, and supported by a community grounded in compassion, peer connection, and trauma-informed care.

Adult Programs

TAPS Adult Programs support survivors through retreats, workshops, and gatherings that foster connection, reflection, and personal growth. Survivors engage in meaningful conversations, shared learning, and healing experiences that strengthen resilience and reduce isolation.

“ This retreat created deep connection and healing through vulnerability, art, movement, and shared history. The expressive arts made grief safer to share, strengthened our connection, and helped us grow together. TAPS truly understands the power of connection in loss. ”

— Surviving Partner



WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

The Women's Empowerment program supports bereaved women as they explore identity, resilience, and purpose after loss. Through creative expression, movement, mindfulness, journaling, and shared dialogue, women gain tools to navigate grief with clarity and courage.

53

Women's Empowerment events held

642

women engaged in Women's Empowerment in 2025

81%

gained new tools to aid in healing and personal growth from the Women's Empowerment retreats

84%

felt empowered to make a life change after returning home

Survivor Outdoor Programs

TAPS Outdoor Programs invite survivors and families to heal through nature, shared challenge, and connection. In partnership with the National Park Trust, survivors build confidence, strengthen relationships, and experience moments of restoration in outdoor settings.

261
survivors
attended 16 events

49,645
engagements in online
Outdoor campaigns

IMPACT OF HEALING IN NATURE

86%
learned new ways to better cope
with grief by being outdoors

100%
found the outdoors
helpful in the grieving process

Young Adult Program

The TAPS Young Adult Program supports survivors ages 18 to 30 as they navigate grief alongside major life transitions. Through peer connection, mentorship, and age-appropriate programming, young adults build resilience, hardiness, and lasting community.

This program bridges youth and adult services, offering a space where young adults can honor their loss while growing into their future with support.

773

new young adult survivors welcomed in 2025

RESEARCH INSIGHT

Research shows that young adult survivors engaged in TAPS peer support report fewer symptoms of complicated grief and higher levels of posttraumatic growth, particularly in relational connection and resilience. These findings reinforce the long-term value of peer-based, survivor-centered care.

Dooley, C. M., Leal, A., Brinneman, J., Carroll, B., & Bartone, P. T. (in press). Peer support and coping with grief in military families. Death Studies.



“The TAPS event was uplifting and meaningful, giving me both comfort and direction in my healing journey.”
— Surviving Father

MEN'S PROGRAM

The TAPS Men's Program creates spaces for honest conversation, shared experience, and connection. Through retreats and gatherings, men are supported in navigating grief in ways that feel authentic and accessible.

25

Men's Program events held

442

men participated

100%

reported the Men's Program helped them feel more socially connected which reduces isolation and loneliness





TAPS was honored to be part of the holiday episode of NCIS. Following the episode, the cast did a PSA for TAPS, each cast member wearing a TAPS photo button of a fallen service member.



TAPS Families were so excited to show their support for the NCIS holiday episode featuring TAPS! They held watch parties all across America!

150+

Sports & Entertainment engagements honoring

355

military deceased

1,800+

attendees connected with Sports & Entertainment for meaningful engagements honoring the life and service of their military loved one.

SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT

CONNECTING THROUGH SHARED MOMENTS

TAPS Sports & Entertainment brings survivors together to build new memories and celebrate the lives of America's fallen.

Our Sports & Entertainment programs go beyond single events; they create lasting memories for survivors as they connect with others who understand their journey. Through the TAPS sports program, teams4taps, survivors engage meaningfully with sports teams and athletes their loved ones admired, sharing stories and honoring their heroes. These unique experiences become a powerful, healing part of the grief journey. Similarly, Stars4TAPS offers opportunities to create new memories by visiting film and television sets, screenings, as well as concerts and theater performances. These moments foster connection and celebrate the lives and service of their loved ones in truly special ways.



The Phoenix Suns hosted TAPS Families for Hoops for Troops!



A fantastic day at the Cincinnati Open!



The New York Giants recognized a TAPS family and honored their fallen hero on-field during their November Salute to Service game.



The San Diego Wave hosted TAPS families at three games this season. Players wore the TAPS logo on their jerseys.

During NBA All-Star weekend in San Francisco, the NBA Referees welcomed children from TAPS on court for a beautiful experience to honor their loved ones.



The NFL surprised a TAPS family with Super Bowl tickets - in honor of their loved one at a San Francisco 49ers game!



Lord and Lady Carnarvon welcomed TAPS back to Highclere Castle. The "Weekend to Remember" event coincided with the release of the third Downton Abbey film.



A TAPS survivor takes a moment to recognize the tribute paid by the Tennessee Titans to honor their fallen loved one during their Salute to Service event.



Over Memorial Day weekend, the Los Angeles Angels welcomed TAPS to honor and celebrate life and service of fallen military heroes.



The New Orleans Saints warmly embraced TAPS, inviting a surviving family and battle buddy to attend their Salute to Service game. They also carried their loved one, a tremendous fan of the team, in his urn to the Saints team practice.



TAPS INSTITUTE FOR HOPE AND HEALING®

WHERE EDUCATION EMPOWERS HEALING AND MEANING

The TAPS Institute for Hope and Healing® honors grief as a natural response to loss. Through accessible, evidence-informed education, the Institute supports survivors, supporters, and the professionals who walk alongside them, offering understanding rather than fixes and connection rather than isolation. In 2025, the Institute continued expanding a vibrant learning community through live programs, cohort experiences, digital resources, and partnerships with leading scholars and practitioners, creating meaningful opportunities for healing, growth, and connection.

Community Learning Cohorts

In 2025, the Institute expanded community learning experiences by providing interactive cohort-based pathways into courageous self-leadership, emotional literacy, resilience, and identity restoration.

In 2025, the
 Institute delivered

193

learning experiences, creating
 consistent opportunities for grounding,
 growth, and meaning.

20,843

total registrations

214

on-demand digital learning resources
 housed in our expansive webinar archive
 extending care beyond live sessions

145

group sessions

3,848

participant engagements

Survivors explored values, vulnerability, resilience, and meaning-making while building confidence, community, and a deeper understanding of who they are becoming after loss.

Connecting With Experts

In 2025, scholars, clinicians, advocates, and military leaders partnered with the Institute, contributing to:

48

live webinars

3,823

total participant connections



26

T★A★P★S



TAPS INTERNATIONAL

WAR GRIEF TO POSITIVE PEACE

TAPS International leads a global movement to bring hope and healing to families grieving the death of a military or conflict-related loved one, uniting a powerful network of more than **57** country partners through the Global Federation of Organizations Caring for Families of Military and Conflict Deceased.

At the heart of this alliance is the TAPS Bereavement Model™, a peer-based, survivor-driven approach that transcends language and culture to create resilient, compassionate communities of care. By sharing this model worldwide, TAPS empowers organizations to meet the unique emotional needs of survivors, fostering understanding, solidarity, and a lasting legacy of love in the face of profound loss.



UKRAINE — TAPS Ukraine continued to expand support across the country and held its annual summer camps sponsored by Boeing, creating safe spaces where grieving families and children could find connection, stability, and healing.



LITHUANIA — TAPS partnered with leaders and communities in Lithuania to honor four U.S. soldiers killed in a training accident, ensuring their sacrifice was remembered with dignity and that their families felt the embrace of allies who grieve with them.



UNITED KINGDOM — From the U.K. NFL experience that brought bereaved families together to deeper collaboration on peer-based support, TAPS strengthened our relationship with U.K. partners to grow lasting care and connection for families after loss.



AUSTRALIA — A TAPS team traveled to Sydney to help build a suicide-loss postvention program for the families of Australian service members, sharing practical tools, peer-support strategies, and a model of care that meets grief with courage and compassion.



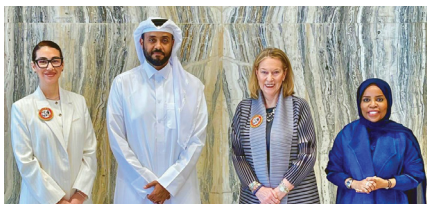
NIGERIA — In Abuja, TAPS met with the Minister of Women's Affairs and widows of the Nigerian military to listen, learn, and share hope — building relationships and peer-informed approaches that honor sacrifice and strengthen families left behind.



ITALY — Led by Italian Air Force surviving son Joao Merollo, TAPS Italy officially launched in Rome with a wreath-laying ceremony that honored the fallen and affirmed a growing community of survivors committed to supporting one another through grief.



LIBYA — TAPS continued training with women's organizations in Libya, strengthening locally led support for widows and children and advancing trauma-informed programs that promote stability, resilience, and long-term community healing.



QATAR — At the International Stability Operations Association conference in Doha, TAPS engaged with Qatari leaders and organizations on mental wellness, building relationships and exchanging approaches that expand trauma- and grief-informed care.



ROMANIA — In Bucharest, TAPS met with Romanian leaders to advance care for families of the Romanian military deceased, sharing lessons from the TAPS model and supporting the growth of peer-based programs rooted in remembrance and resilience.



ISRAEL — TAPS continued our partnership with the Israeli Defense Forces Widows and Orphans Organization, meeting with Director Shlomi Nahumson to strengthen shared support for widows, orphans, and all who are grieving the death of a loved one in service.



MILITARY SURVIVORS: ELIGIBILITY FOR SUPPORT

SURVIVOR	TAPS ELIGIBLE	MILITARY CASUALTY PROGRAM ELIGIBLE <small>* if listed as Next of Kin</small>
Parent	✓	✓
Spouse	✓	✓
Fiancé/Fiancée	✓	
Significant Other	✓	
Unmarried Partner	✓	
Former Spouse	✓	✓
Former Partner	✓	
Grandparent	✓	✓
Biological/Step/Adopted Child	✓	✓
Sibling	✓	
Battle Buddy	✓	
Niece/Nephew	✓	
Aunt/Uncle	✓	
Cousin	✓	
Father/Mother-in-Law	✓	
Grandchild	✓	
Child of Fiancé/Significant Other	✓	

More than **73%** of survivors supported by TAPS may not be eligible for official military casualty benefits.

COMPARISON OF ONGOING PROGRAMS/SERVICES FOR MILITARY SURVIVORS

SERVICE	TAPS PROGRAMS	MILITARY/GOVERNMENT CASUALTY PROGRAMS
Make personal death notifications to those designated as next-of-kin.		✓
Process government benefits to those who are eligible.		✓
Render Honors at Burial of Eligible Service Members.		✓
Refer to other support organizations.		✓
Provide burial benefits to those who are eligible.		✓

TAPS Programs: Cost to the Government = \$0 Cost to the Survivors = \$0

SERVICE	TAPS PROGRAMS	MILITARY/GOVERNMENT CASUALTY PROGRAMS
<p>Provide customized guidance, access, and support navigating educational benefits for federal, state, and private education assistance scholarships.</p> <p>\$149.7M+ value of education benefits TAPS identified for military survivors in 2025</p>	✓	
<p>Assist all grieving a military or veteran death regardless of the duty status at the time of death, or the designation as next-of-kin with customized casework assistance.</p> <p>\$7.9M+ in retroactive benefits for military survivors in 2025</p>	✓	
<p>Provide customized guidance and navigation of benefits regardless of the duty status at the time of death (funeral/burial assistance, headstones, housing, employment assistance, health care, investigations, medals/ribbons, official document requests, personal effects, line of duty, and additional flights for those not designated as next-of-kin)</p>	✓	
<p>TAPS Emergency Financial Assistance supports survivors facing urgent needs after a loss, including post-mortem cleanup, groceries, and other financial hardships.</p> <p>TAPS provided \$661K in 2025 to fill critical gaps in financial coverage for military survivors.</p>	✓	
<p>Access to a live-answer 24/7 National Military Survivor Helpline.</p> <p>24,000+ calls with the 24/7 National Military Helpline in 2025</p>	✓	
<p>Offer trauma-informed peer support and resources for suicide-loss survivors, guided by the nationally recognized TAPS Postvention Model™.</p> <p>2,729 new suicide-loss survivors connected with TAPS in 2025</p>	✓	
<p>Provided personalized grief and trauma resources for adults and children.</p> <p>11,000+ customized resources for grief and trauma provided by TAPS in 2025</p>	✓	
<p>TAPS sends Daily Reflections each morning and personalized messages on meaningful days, ensuring survivors feel supported, remembered, and never alone.</p> <p>83,000+ messages of comfort, hope, and understanding shared with survivors in 2025</p>	✓	
<p>Provide 24/7 compassionate and customized peer-based support via phone, email, text, and live chat.</p> <p>23,900+ calls and connections with peer professionals for compassionate care in 2025</p>	✓	

TAPS PROGRAMS: Cost to the Government = \$0 Cost to the Survivors = \$0

SERVICE	TAPS PROGRAMS	MILITARY/GOVERNMENT CASUALTY PROGRAMS
<p>Host and welcome survivors across all ages, all duty statuses, and all relationships to the deceased at local TAPS Care Groups across the nation, facilitated by TAPS Peer Mentors and mental health professionals.</p> <p>Over 700 Care Groups hosted in-person across the nation for bereaved military and veteran survivors in 2025.</p>	✓	
<p>The TAPS Grief and Trauma Resource Network connects survivors nationwide with vetted providers and community resources tailored to their needs, ensuring alignment with best practices and evidence-informed care.</p>	✓	
<p>Provide free live and archival professional education for military and veteran survivors and those supporting grieving military and veteran families.</p> <p>7,600+ individuals connected with the TAPS Institute for Hope and Healing® for professional training on grief and trauma.</p>	✓	
<p>Support survivors in developing meaning from their loss by providing training and engagement opportunities to serve as Peer Mentors to support other newly bereaved survivors through grief-informed Peer Mentor Training.</p> <p>300+ new Peer Mentors trained in grief- and trauma-informed peer support in alignment with the TAPS Bereavement Model™.</p>	✓	
<p>Welcome survivors across all demographics to develop skills for a healthy grief journey at health, wellness, and self-care grief retreats with a special emphasis on the healing power of nature.</p> <p>1,300+ survivors reported they are better able to cope with their grief since attending Women’s Empowerment, Men’s Programming, and Outdoor engagement grief- programs in 2025.</p>	✓	
<p>Host regional and national grief seminars for adults and children with specialized and customized programming to meet diverse grief needs across all relationships to the deceased, all manners of death, and all generations of survivors.</p> <p>2,600+ survivors attended a TAPS seminar in 2025 with 89% reporting they are better able to connect with others to process their grief in a healthy way and avoid isolation.</p>	✓	
<p>Connect bereaved children with a trained Military Mentor to support a healthy experience and safe environment to process their grief at age-appropriate levels.</p> <p>700+ Military Mentors volunteered 33,000+ hours supporting surviving military children in 2025.</p>	✓	

TAPS PROGRAMS: Cost to the Government = \$0 Cost to the Survivors = \$0

SERVICE	TAPS PROGRAMS	MILITARY/GOVERNMENT CASUALTY PROGRAMS
<p>TAPS Youth Programs are nationally recognized and research-based, offering age-appropriate, grief-centered support that fosters healing, resilience, and peer connection.</p> <p>678 bereaved children attended a TAPS Youth Program in 2025. Across national and regional seminars, 97% of survivors and caregivers reported positive changes in their child’s attitude, outlook, or ability to cope with grief after attending Good Grief Camp.</p>	✓	
<p>Build relationships with professional sports associations and teams to honor the life and legacy of the fallen while creating new memories of joy for those they loved and left behind.</p> <p>1,800+ survivors participated in meaningful engagements honoring the life and service of their military loved one.</p>	✓	
<p>Host local community gatherings and activities for military and veteran survivors to connect with others in their local community.</p>	✓	✓
<p>TAPS Online Community gatherings connect survivors from the comfort of their own home based on shared loss experiences such as manner of death, relationship, or era of service, fostering understanding, belonging, and hope.</p> <p>TAPS hosts over 30 different online community groups to connect survivors from the comfort of their homes with a nationwide network of support.</p>	✓	
<p>Create and publish quarterly TAPS Magazine with submissions from international experts in grief, bereavement, trauma, and thanatology for military and veteran survivors and our partners in military casualty.</p> <p>192,000+ copies of the TAPS Magazine provided for free to military and veteran survivors and supporters in 2025.</p>	✓	
<p>Maintain a nationally accessible website with a comprehensive, evidence-informed grief library and vetted resources for military and veteran survivors of all backgrounds.</p>	✓	
<p>Acknowledge and validate survivors’ grief needs via social media.</p>	✓	✓
<p>Share inspirational and supportive messages near and on important holidays for survivors.</p>	✓	✓
<p>All programs are grounded in the TAPS Military and Veteran Bereavement Model™ and Postvention Model™, ensuring evidence-based, research-informed care for those grieving and living with trauma.</p>	✓	

TAPS PROGRAMS: Cost to the Government = \$0 Cost to the Survivors = \$0

TESTIMONIALS

FROM MILITARY LEADERS

Since 1994, TAPS has supported all those grieving the loss of a service member or veteran with compassionate care and critical resources. Throughout the last three decades, our nation's most senior military leaders have trusted TAPS to care for military survivors.



“When an untimely and tragic death occurs and a service member is lost, the work of TAPS bears a quiet testimony that even deep in the pain and tragedy of the loss, members of the military family are ready to step forward, to help shoulder a burden and to help the grieving cope and heal. In its countless contributions, TAPS helps to deliver the triumph of tenderness and kindness over pain, suffering, and loss.”

— 12th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Colin Powell, USA



“It can only be done by people who have walked this very difficult road before you, and who are now willing to devote their energies and their caring and their heart to take your hand and say, ‘walk with me.’”

— 13th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General John Shalikashvili, USA



“I am eternally grateful for TAPS. We spend a lot of time, in these very challenging times, looking for organizations that make a difference. There is not one that makes more of a difference, in my view, than TAPS.”

— 17th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Michael Mullen, USN



“What is unique about TAPS is the level of commitment to all survivors. Your loved one may not have died on the battlefield. They might not have died in a duty status. You may not be officially recognized as ‘next of kin.’ But TAPS has built a sanctuary that transcends these distinctions, honoring all service members who’ve lost their lives, and supporting the loved ones they left behind.”



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EMERITUS MEMBER

General Martin Dempsey, USA (Ret)

18th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



DEAR TAPS FAMILY AND SUPPORTERS,

As Chairman of the Board, I am deeply honored to share the extraordinary impact our organization achieved in 2025, made possible through the compassion, generosity, and unwavering commitment of our TAPS Family.

This year, TAPS supported more than **58,000** survivors worldwide, providing direct care and connection that strengthened families, friendships, and communities. From the moment a life is forever changed by loss, through every step of healing, and hope that follows, our commitment remains clear: no military or veteran survivor should ever have to grieve alone.

Over **14,000** survivors found connection through engagements, seminars, retreats, and TAPS Togethers. Our Helpline answered **18,367** calls from those seeking care in their most difficult moments. Through programs for adults, children, and families, we created spaces for healing that honored every story, every sacrifice, and every loved one remembered.

The TAPS team continues to lead the field in survivor care, expanding research, strengthening partnerships, and building innovative pathways for hope and resilience. This year, we advanced our TAPS Peer Support Model of Care™, extending our reach and deepening the impact of our mission for generations to come.

As I reflect on all that has been accomplished, I am humbled by the heart and determination of every member of this community, our survivors, staff, volunteers, partners, and donors. Together, we have built more than a program; we have built a legacy of love and service that endures.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for standing with us, believing in our mission, and helping TAPS bring light to the darkest moments. With your continued partnership, we will carry forward the promise that every survivor finds healing, connection, and hope.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JW', written over a vertical line.

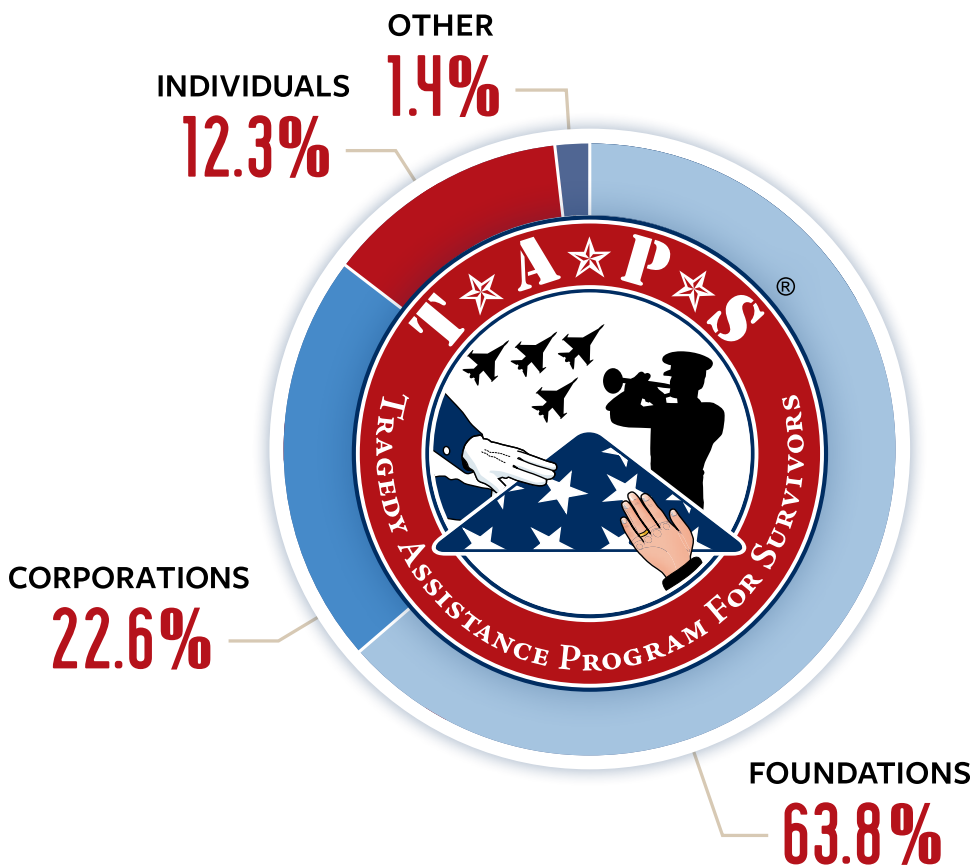
John B. Wood,

*Chairman of the Board of Directors
Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors*

2025 FUNDING

REPRESENTED BY OUR DONORS

TAPS RECEIVES
ZERO
GOVERNMENT FUNDING



WITH GRATITUDE FOR YOUR SUPPORT

TAPS is able to provide programs and services for military and veteran survivors thanks to the **\$15.1 million** invested by individuals, corporations, estates, and foundations.

Strengthening the Care That Survivors Rely On

In 2025, TAPS was awarded a **\$7.5 million grant** from the Lilly Endowment Inc., to be distributed over three years, to support critical infrastructure that sustains and strengthens survivor care nationwide.

\$0.84 OF EVERY DOLLAR DONATED PROVIDES DIRECT AND IMMEDIATE SUPPORT TO TAPS SURVIVORS



* The financial results included in this report may contain unaudited figures. TAPS' complete audited financial statements can be found at TAPS.org/Financials.



PARTNERS & SPONSORS

NATIONAL PARTNERS



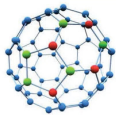
Lilly Endowment Inc.
A private foundation since 1937



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PRESENTING



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VEHICLES FOR VETERANS
SUPPORTING DISABLED VETERANS

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Brighton Marine ★ Easy Step Enterprises/The Good Feet Store ★ Gillette ★ H-E-B ★ Johnny Mac Soldiers Fund
Land of the Free Foundation ★ Lockheed Martin Corporation ★ Nebraska Soldiers Fund ★ OshKosh Defense
PMI | US ★ RTX ★ TJO LiUNA Charitable Foundation ★ TriWest Healthcare Alliance

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Anonymous Surviving Air Force Spouse ★ Evernorth Federal Services ★ JE Foundation ★ Kimberly Delp-McCloskey
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The O'Shea Family Foundation ★ Puente de Maravillas Foundation ★ Telos Corporation ★ Veterans United Foundation ★ Wells Fargo

TAPS HONOR GUARD GALA



TAPS.ORG/DONATE

HONOR THE FAMILIES OF THE FALLEN

Sponsor a Table at the Annual TAPS Honor Guard Gala

The 2025 TAPS Honor Guard Gala, held at the historic National Building Museum in Washington, D.C., was an unforgettable evening of remembrance, reflection, and resolve. With more than 600 distinguished guests in attendance, including military and government leaders, corporate partners, philanthropic supporters, and families of the fallen, the gala raised an exceptional **\$2.0M+** in support of TAPS programs and resources.

These vital funds sustain our year-round services, including grief counseling, peer support, Good Grief Camps for children, regional survivor seminars, and our 24/7 National Military Survivor Helpline. This ensures that all those grieving a loss of a military or veteran loved one are met with around-the-clock wrap-around care, connection, and hope.

By sponsoring a table, you will not only be part of a memorable evening honoring service and sacrifice, but also stand shoulder to shoulder with the families of our nation's fallen heroes, ensuring they never grieve alone. Your sponsorship funds life-saving programs for all those living with grief and trauma by providing constant access to peer support and customized programs to help heal hearts and rebuild lives after loss.

Join Us in Making a Lasting Impact

Become a TAPS Honor Guard Gala sponsor and be part of a night that honors lives, celebrates legacies, and brings healing to those who bear the cost of freedom.

To Learn More About Sponsorship of the March 23, 2027 TAPS Honor Guard Gala, please email Gala@TAPS.org or call 202.588.TAPS(8277).

\$250,000	PRESENTING SPONSORSHIP
\$100,000	VALOR SPONSORSHIP
\$75,000	RECEPTION SPONSORSHIP
\$50,000	PATRIOT SPONSORSHIP
\$25,000	EAGLE SPONSORSHIP
\$15,000	LIBERTY SPONSORSHIP
\$10,000	FREEDOM SPONSORSHIP

DONATE

- ★ Combined Federal Campaign
- ★ Employer-matched giving
- ★ Planned or estate giving
- ★ Vehicle donation

FUNDRAISE

- ★ Host a Facebook fundraiser
- ★ Host or support a fundraiser
- ★ Race with Team TAPS
- ★ Donate to a racer with Team TAPS

SHOP TO SUPPORT TAPS

- ★ TAPS Store
- ★ Tribute Tiles

SPONSORSHIP

- ★ Honor Guard Gala
- ★ TAPS Programs and Services
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2025 IMPACT REPORT