



February, 2026

Behind the Ribbon: How Our Programs Are Lighting the Way to Brighter Futures.

Yellow Ribbon Initiatives

Delivering Smiles and Hope to Patients at the Veterans Administration Palo Alto Health Care System

The Veterans Memorial and Support Foundation proudly supports the needs of the Veterans Affairs Palo Alto Health Care System.

Each quarter, the VA Volunteer Service distributes a list of departmental needs so community organizations can provide meaningful support. In the past month alone, our Foundation responded to four of these requests and also hosted a pizza luncheon in November to bring comfort and connection to veterans and their families.

Fisher Houses – Palo Alto

The Fisher Houses at the Palo Alto VA provide housing for families of veterans receiving medical care. Because there are no nearby grocery stores within easy reach, obtaining meals can be challenging for families staying there.

In November, our Foundation delivered six large pizzas for the families — a simple gesture that was warmly received. We were grateful for the opportunity to visit, share conversations, and hear their heartfelt appreciation.

Additionally, we recently presented a \$1,000 donation to the Fisher Houses to help restock their refrigerators and provide ongoing support for visiting families.

These efforts are made possible through the generous support of donors Polly Hillis Scalora and Anita & Kevan Del Grande. Their contributions allow us to respond quickly and directly to the evolving needs of our veterans and their families.



Pictured left to right is the President Emeritus of the Foundation Mike Frangadakis, the manager of Fisher House 1 Jorge Mendoza (an Air Force veteran), and Wayne Heimsoth, a board member of the Foundation.

Spinal Cord Injury & Disorders Unit

At the request of the unit, we donated gift cards to support the Spinal Cord Injury & Disorders Unit therapeutic BBQ and cooking group, which helps veterans build skills and camaraderie in a healing environment.



Pictured are Board Member Wayne Heimsoth, and Huy Diep, Recreation Therapist

Mental Health Clinic – Monterey Division

To enhance music therapy offerings, we purchased and donated a left-handed guitar so that left-handed veterans can fully participate in therapeutic sessions.



Board member Wayne Heimsoth gifts Alisa Krinsky representing Alex Lesser, Music Therapist a left handed Martin guitar.

Trauma Recovery Program

We proudly supported the Trauma Recovery Program in two meaningful ways:

- Donated gift cards to purchase food for special events and holiday gatherings.
- Donated additional gift cards to purchase art supplies for creative therapy programs.





Board member Wayne Heimsoth presents gift cards for food supplies and art materials to Alisa Krinsky representing Suzanne Deisher, Art Therapist and Tien Gerredette, Creative Arts Therapist.

The contributions to the Spinal Cord Injury & Disorders Unit, the Mental Health Clinic and the Trauma Recovery Program were made possible through the generous support of Board Advisor - Duino Giordano and the Veterans Memorial & Support Foundation.

We remain committed to standing alongside those who have served, ensuring that both veterans and their loved ones feel supported, valued, and cared for.

Start Your Day on the Sunny Side Up!

ARE YOU A VETERAN?

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9:00 AM
Denny's Restaurant
1140 Hillsdale Ave., San Jose

Phone
833-HonorAVet
833-466-6728
or scan to Register!



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Are you a Veteran? Would you like to unlock the power within? Join us at our Friday Morning Veterans Support Breakfast!

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Veterans Memorial & Support Foundation | 481 North Santa Cruz, #250 | Los Gatos, CA 95030 US

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