# New Year, New Hope, New Commitment

#### **Greetings Camp Centurion Supporters,**

As we step into the promising realm of the New Year, I am filled with a sense of hope and excitement for the opportunities that lie ahead for Camp Centurion and our Veterans. This is a time of new beginnings, a chance to reflect on our past achievements, and an opportunity to chart a course for even greater impact in the lives of those who have served our country selflessly.

In this season of renewal, let us reaffirm our commitment to making a positive difference. The dawn of a new year brings with it the promise of fresh starts and the potential for transformative change. As a dedicated Camp Centurion family supporting our veterans, we have the unique privilege of being catalysts for positive change in the lives of those who have sacrificed so much for our freedom.

As we move forward into this year, let us seize every opportunity to give generously and make a lasting impact. Whether it's through our ongoing programs, community outreach, or innovative initiatives, each act of kindness has the power to create ripples of change. By continuing to work together, we can ensure that our veterans receive the support and gratitude they deserve.

I am profoundly thankful for the unwavering dedication and tireless efforts of our team, volunteers, and supporters. Your commitment to our cause is the driving force behind our success, and I am deeply grateful for the passion and compassion you bring to our mission.

As we embark on this next chapter, let us do so with a sense of purpose, unity, and gratitude. Together, we can make this year a beacon of hope for our veterans and a testament to the positive impact that a dedicated community can achieve.

Wishing you and our entire veterans' non-profit community a joyous New Year filled with compassion, resilience, and boundless possibilities.

With immense gratitude,

## Joel Dalton

Joel Dalton

President, Board of Directors

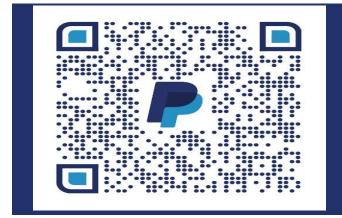






Our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual **Gratitude Luncheon** on the 18th of November 2023 was a huge success. We want to thank everyone who came out for a great time of fellowship. We would like to thank all who donated and labored to make this day possible. Not only today but every day in making a difference in the lives of the Veterans we serve. We are changing one life at a time!

- Representative Donnie Loftis
- Representative John Torbett
- The Gaston County Veterans Treatment Court
- Our #1 Volunteer Slick Rick Villarreal
- Our Board of Directors
- The Veterans we serve
- Free Holiness Church of Vale
- Trinity Assembly of God
- American Legion Post 100 Auxiliary
- Howard Shope
- William & Heather Brest
- Headline Family Salon Kings Mountain
- Mrs. Vicky Lewis
- Triple Aces Barbershop
- Dallas Christian Ministries



If you would like to donate to our cause, please scan this QR code and become a one-time donor or a monthly recurring donor!!!

We could really use your support!!!

#### Note from the Director

As we have closed the chapter of our first impactful year, I am filled with gratitude for each one of you who has contributed to the success of Camp Centurion. Your dedication and support have been the driving force behind our mission, and I want to express my heartfelt thanks.

Together, we have made a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve. Your commitment to our cause inspires me daily, and I am privileged to work alongside such a passionate and caring community.

As we look forward to the opportunities that the New Year brings, let's continue our journey of positive impact. Thank you for your unwavering support and for being an integral part of Camp Centurion.

Wishing you a joyous and fulfilling year ahead.

We do have a volunteer workday coming up on the 27th of January 2024, 9am to 3pm. Breakfast will be provided. Please come out and fellowship with us.

Also, we are in need of soft drinks and sports drinks of any type.

#### **Director Ken**

### **Chaplain's Corner**

When I went before my ordination board, one of the members, who knew that I had a ministry to veterans, asked me if all the veterans I counseled had problems with drugs and alcohol. I responded that drugs and alcohol are not the problems; they are the coping mechanisms. There are numerous coping mechanisms such as drugs, alcohol, promiscuity, perfectionism, hoarding, and a host of others, and we make a mistake when we try to treat coping mechanisms without addressing the underlying problems that led to the adoption of the coping mechanisms.

Recently, one of the residents of Camp Centurion returned to using his old coping mechanisms. This is sad but not surprising. Scripture tells us that even the Apostle Paul, who wrote a large portion of the New Testament, had the same issues: Romans 7:15 (NLT) " I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate." I cannot count the number of times I have voiced the same lamentation.

So, what did Paul do and what can you or I do to address both the problems and the coping mechanisms? The answer is that we can do nothing except what we are told in John 6:29 (NLT) "This is the only work God wants from you: Believe in the one he has sent." Your volunteer services and your donations are greatly appreciated. Yet even more so your prayers for both the staff and residents of Camp Centurion that we might believe the One the Father has sent.

#### Chaplain Bud