

Season of Giving

Greetings Camp Centurion Family,

As I reflect on this season, I think of those still suffering—the people of the North Carolina mountains, those in war-torn countries, and those affected by the current state of our nation. I am humbled, knowing how truly blessed we are. I want to thank each of you for your support of our work at Camp Centurion. I also ask for your continued support, as we still have many needs to meet in our home. But first I would like to share with you some thoughts on giving from the heart.

Giving from the heart goes beyond the mere act of handing over money or items; it's about offering something deeply personal, infused with genuine care and compassion. When we give wholeheartedly, we acknowledge the needs and experiences of others, creating connections that transcend physical gifts. This kind of giving reflects empathy and kindness, showing those we help that they are valued and not alone. By giving with this level of thoughtfulness, we offer a piece of ourselves that makes a lasting difference, offering comfort, hope, and a sense of shared humanity.

True giving from the heart also enriches the giver, creating a sense of purpose and fulfillment that no material gain can match. It's an opportunity to reflect on our own abundance and recognize the impact we can have on others. Such generosity fosters community and encourages a culture of compassion and support. When we give without expectation, we inspire others to do the same, creating a ripple effect that strengthens the bonds between us all.

Ken Heavner

President, Board of Directors

From our Director:

As I have settled in as the Director Camp Centurion, I am reaching out to ask for your support in helping us meet the essential needs of our home. We are dedicated to providing a safe and welcoming space for Veterans as they transition back into civilian life, but we rely on the generosity of our community to keep our home well-equipped. We would be grateful for any assistance your organization or congregation could provide, specifically with donations of household items and essentials. Together, we can make a significant impact in the lives of those who have served our country and now seek a fresh start.

Below is a list of our needs:

Large trash bags, Gatorades, one gallon freezer bags, one quart freezer bags, dryer sheets, shower gel, razor blades, shaving gel, shaving cream, paper towels, toilet paper, Windex, bleach, Clorox wipes, Lysol cleaner, toilet bowl cleaner, wasp and bug killer, paper cups, paper bowls, dish soap, mouth wash, swiffer spray, swiffer pads, cooking oil, aluminum foil, paper towels, paper plates, plastic forks, spoons, knives, tide pods, dishwasher pods.

Here is the link to our Amazon Wish list if you are willing to help us out in these areas:

<https://a.co/5idsFwm>. Otherwise please contact me if you wish to purchase items a different way.

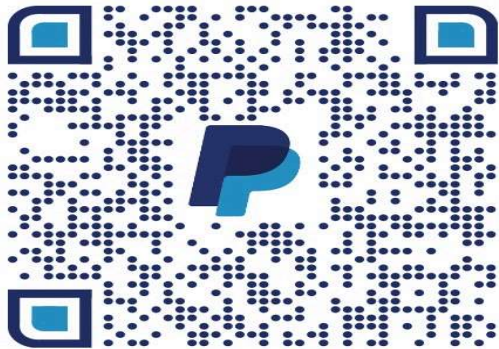
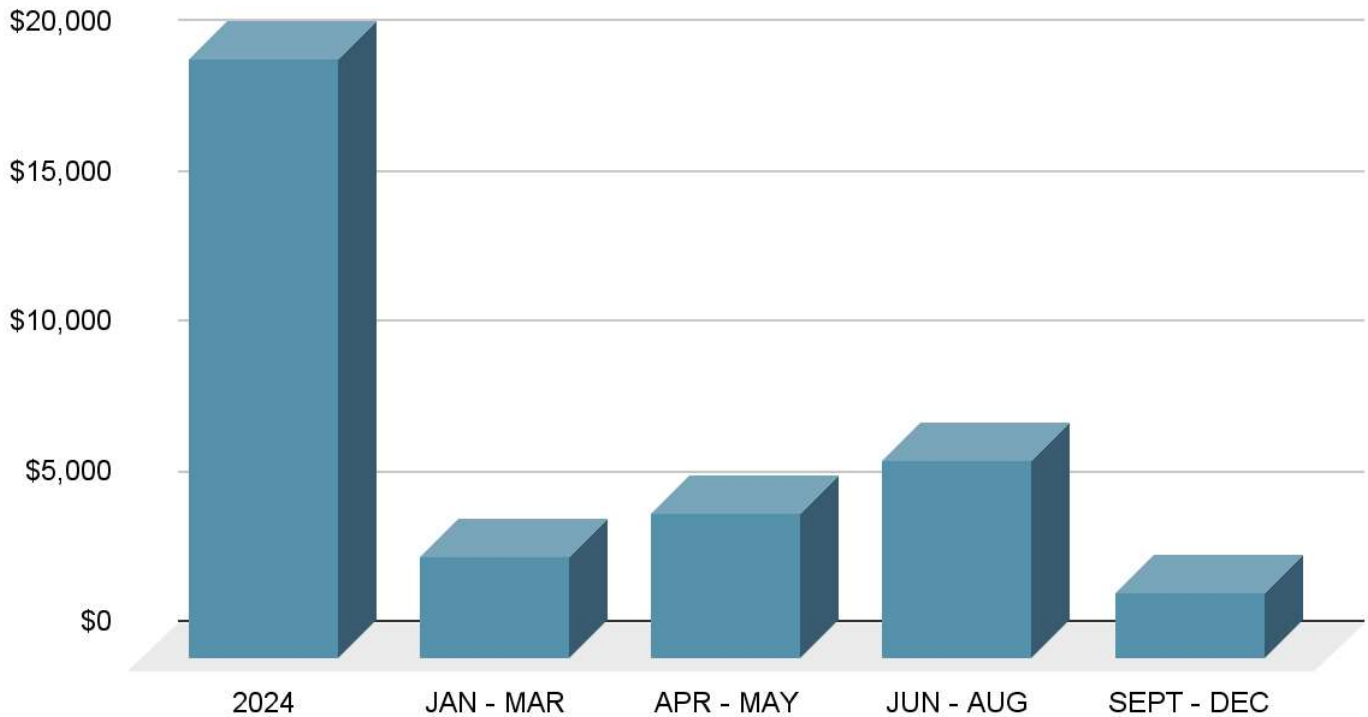
UPCOMING EVENTS: Open House will be 10am - 2pm on January 11th, 2025. We would like you to come visit our home for an in person tour to find out more about our mission. Light refreshments will be provided. Please come out and join us! Please contact me if you would like more information!

Joe Willy Dunn

Director

We aim to raise **\$20,000** for our operating budget for 2024. We are **\$2980 short** of reaching our yearly goal. These funds will cover the basic costs of what we do here at Camp Centurion. Please consider utilizing the link below and becoming a donor. If you feel led to donate, please send a check or money order made payable to Camp Centurion Inc. to PO Box 1008, Bessemer City, NC 28016 or you can utilize the paypal QR code at the bottom of this page.

HELP US REACH OUR 50K GOAL!!!



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 use your support!!!

Introducing our new Board Members:*Board Member*

Aaron enlisted into the North Carolina Army National Guard in 2005. Throughout his career, he has held multiple Field Artillery MOS's and is currently serving as a Battalion Senior Supply NCO for 1st Battalion, 113th Field Artillery. He deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2009 and to Kuwait in 2019 in support of Operation Spartan Shield. Aaron also spent a lot of time in his early years as a volunteer for groups such as the Knights of Columbus and coaching with the Special Olympics. His love for volunteer work and his dedication to fellow veterans will continue to fuel his support of Camp Centurion. He lives in Charlotte, NC and has a 12 year old daughter named Bella.



Board Member

Ricky Dukes Jr. is a family-oriented individual based in Charlotte, NC. He and his wife, Melissa, are dedicated parents to their six children, creating a lively and loving home that reflects their shared values of integrity, growth, and faith. Outside of his professional pursuits, Ricky enjoys activities that bring his family together, whether it's through sports, outdoor adventures, or quiet time that strengthens their bond. Ricky has nearly 15 years of experience in financial services and insurance, currently serving as the owner of The Legacy Financial Group. He's known for his educational approach, helping clients from various backgrounds to understand core financial concepts like budgeting and saving. His passion for empowering clients through financial literacy is a key part of his mission, but it always comes second to the devotion he has for his family.

On November 9th we hosted a community yard sale fundraiser to raise funds for our cause. We would like to thank everyone who donated their items and time in support of our cause. We were able to raise funds and awareness about our mission!!!



Chaplain's Corner

Marines are fortunate; they get to celebrate two military holidays in November. November 10th is The Marine Corps Birthday and November 11 th is Veterans Day. I am reminded of my first Marine Corps Birthday in 1965 when I was a Private stationed at Camp Lejeune with Mike Company, 3 rd Battalion, 6 th Marine Regiment. I had the honor of hearing General Chesty Puller speak. Row upon row of Marines assembled on the expansive parade ground by battalion and company to hear the Marine's Marine. I can still hear the commands of the Sergeant Major echoing across the parade ground that chilly morning as we stood in formation at parade rest with our every breath visible in the autumn air. The Sergeant Major's call to attention was followed by the thunderclap of thousands of pairs of heels slamming together in unison.

A barrel-chested old man wearing a huge topcoat, to ward off the cold, stepped to the podium. Of course, it wasn't nearly as cold as the Frozen Chosun. But he was much younger then. I do not remember all that the General said that morning. But I do remember this. He told us, "You are greater than Napoleon's Army and you are greater than Caesar's Legions for you have never lost your colors." The General's words are still true for Old Glory still flies over a free nation.

Why are we still a free nation? Hear the words of George Washington, "There is a rank due to the United States, among nations, which will be withheld, if not absolutely lost, by the reputation of weakness. If we desire to avoid insult, we must be able to repel it; if we desire to secure peace, one of the most powerful instruments of our rising prosperity; it must be known that we are at all times ready for war." Now about war. All warfare is tribal, and through the ages, the only difference between wars is the size of the tribes and the potency of their weapons. Why do we have wars? It is because of the nature of freedom. The value of freedom is so great that the price of freedom has always been blood, whether it be on the battlefield or on the cross.

Chaplain Bud