



Post 9-11 Era



Desert Storm Era



Vietnam Era



Korean War Era



WWII Era



2022 ANNUAL REPORT

To be the "voice" of women veterans and help them excel beyond their own expectations!

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO

“Just Do The Work”. It is a phrase said on many platforms and drilled into the minds of the staff of Northeast Florida Women Veterans. It tells us to focus and be intentional about what we do each day. This is, always looking out for the wellbeing of women veterans and their children. Northeast Florida Women Veterans continue to live by this simple rule.

It is you who has shown up in many ways. You have ensured our doors stay open. You who have been our support network. Over the past 10 years, countless women veterans and their children have walked through our doors for assistance and we have been able to help them because of you. For this we are grateful.

Northeast Florida is home to more than 15,000 women veterans, representing all branches of service, every war from WWII to present, and every race and ethnicity. They are single, divorced, widowed, with and without children, and they are living in every area of Northeast Florida. Many have successful careers and many are homeless, at-risk, or challenged to survive everyday living. We serve all.

Duval county is the largest population of women veterans in the state of Florida and the second largest in the nation, representing 10% - 15% of the veteran population.

Having Northeast Florida as a place to grow and thrive is not only good for the veteran, but good for the communities they live in. Our veterans have access to more resources than most cities. That is credit to Jacksonville being the most veteran-friendly city in the country.

This booklet is designed to show you where we are, the importance of our work, and the need for your support. We hope you will continue to take this journey with us by way of financial support and/or volunteering.

Thank you for your partnership and friendship!

Dee Quaranta
CEO/President

Patricia Wolfe, RADM, SC, USN (Retired)
Chair, Board of Directors

OUR STAFF



Deloris Quaranta
CEO/President



Amanda Conley
Social Worker/Program Manager



Sandra Boyd
Office Manager



Sharleen Deary
Grant/Outreach Coordinator



Natalie Marciano-Sidberry
Senior Case Manager



Amy Collins
Case Manager



Sanya Mackenzie
Program Coordinator
HerTOTALWellness



Zakkiyah Jackson
Program Assistant

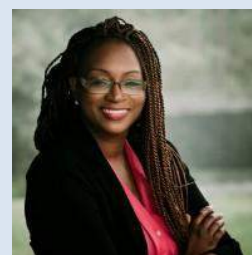


Shirley Brown
Receptionist

PROGRAM FACILITATORS



Pinky Uttayaya-Andrews
Owner, Zenergy Fitness & Performance, LLC
Program Facilitator, HerHEALTHYLife



Demika Jackson
Owner, ReInvetU, LLC
Program Facilitator, HerBIZ

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Patricia Wolfe, Board Chair
RADM,SC,USN (Retired)



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Executive Director, KIPP Jacksonville Schools



Charles Fields, Board Member
Branch Manager, Wells Fargo



Suzette Cudjoe-Hodge Johnson, Board Member
Business System Development Analyst



Penny Justice, Board Member
Employment Coach, Florida Employment Support Program (ESP)
Interactive Government Holdings (IGH) Contractor

OUR VISION

Northeast Florida Women Veterans, Inc. will be the voice of women veterans and help them excel beyond their own expectations.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Northeast Florida Women Veterans, Inc. is focused on ensuring women who have served on Active Duty, National Guard or Reserves and their children, transition into the civilian community with the tools they need to become self-sufficient. We operate a resource center to provide supportive and career services to women veterans, advocate for and promote community awareness of their challenges and accomplishments at the local, state and national level ensuring each has a voice.

OUR VALUES

Integrity – Be true to what we say we are.

Commitment – Following through with what we say we will do.

Ownership of Process – Staking our name on what we do.

Collaboration – Working internally and externally as a team to accomplish what we do.

Accountability – Being responsible for what we do.

Communication – Being clear and concise about what we do.

OUR FOCUS

Resource Center

- Provide individual and group counseling
- Direct Services (Operation HandUP - financial assistance, clothing, food, transportation)
- Workshops
- Host programs (HerTOTALWellness, HerBIZ, HerHEALTHYLife, HerTime)
- HerSPACE (Emergency Shelter/Transitional housing)

Advocacy

- Participate in conferences, panels, and other events to speak on behalf of women veterans
- Partner with other groups with similar interest on behalf of women veterans

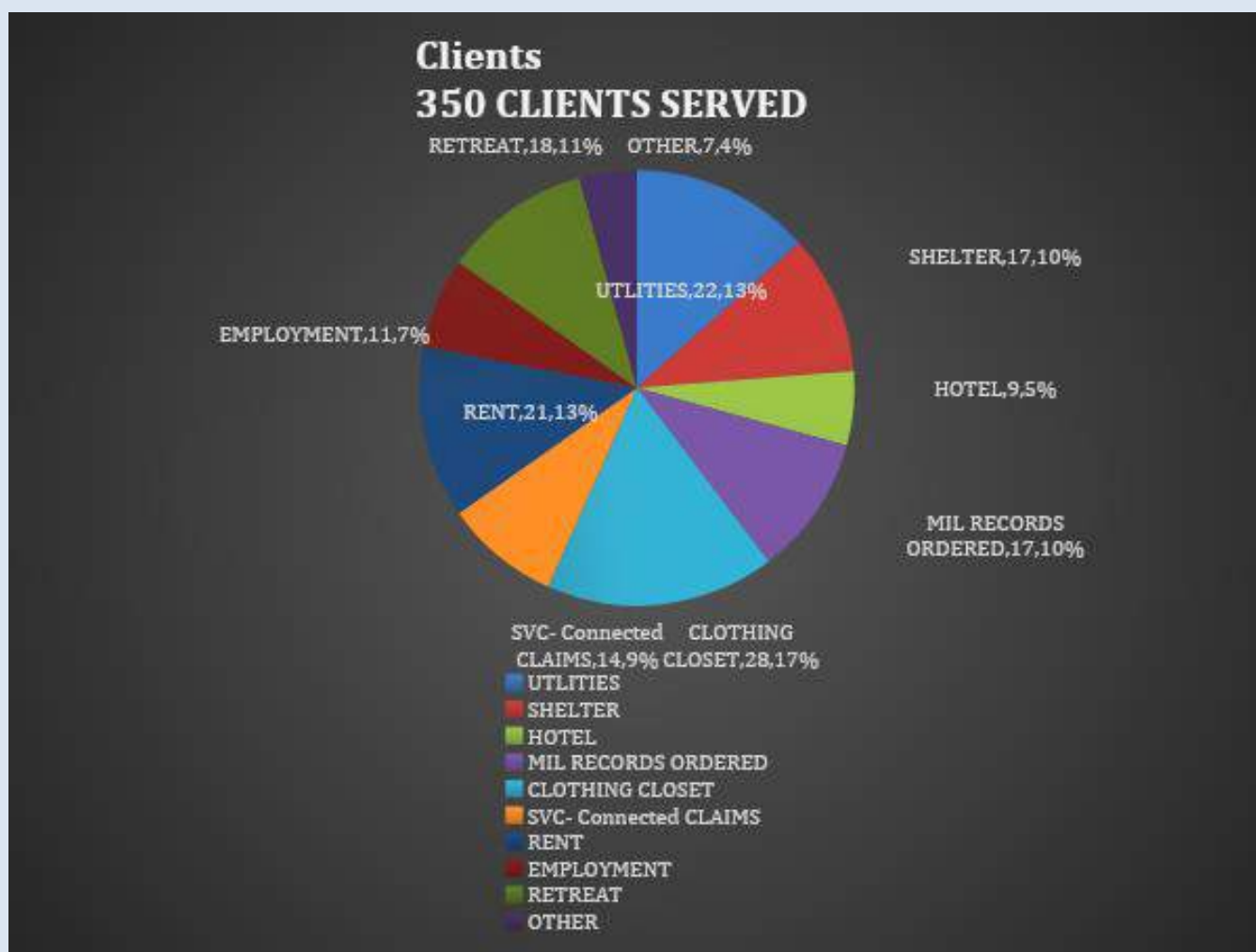
Community Outreach

- Host events that connect veterans to their community
- Host events that celebrate the accomplishments of women veterans
- Attend events and encourage community partnerships.

OUR PROGRAMS

All our programs are available to women veterans and their daughters (18-24). This includes reservists and national guard members. We also accept all types of discharge statuses from honorable to dishonorable. If you wore a uniform and served a day, we consider you a veteran. In addition, we do not discriminate based on race, color, creed, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, or marital status.

Operation HandUP – Operation HandUP provides direct services to homeless and at-risk women veterans. The services include emergency shelter, financial assistance, clothing, food, and transportation.



HerTOTALWellness - This 6-week program is designed to empower women veterans on their path to self-sufficiency by addressing their holistic needs. HerTOTALWellness is focused on three primary domains of wellness: Body, mind, and Economic Empowerment.



In 2022, HerTOTALWellness had 26 participants. 17 Graduated. Of the 9 not graduating, 6 became employed and 3 dropped for personal reason.

HerBIZ – This is a 6-month program designed to walk women veterans through the process of starting their own business. They receive hands-on assistance in creating a business plan, setting goals, establishing personal financial stability, and applying for needed funds, licensing and registrations as needed, to name a few. The expectation is that each participant will have opened or be ready to open their business at the end of six months.



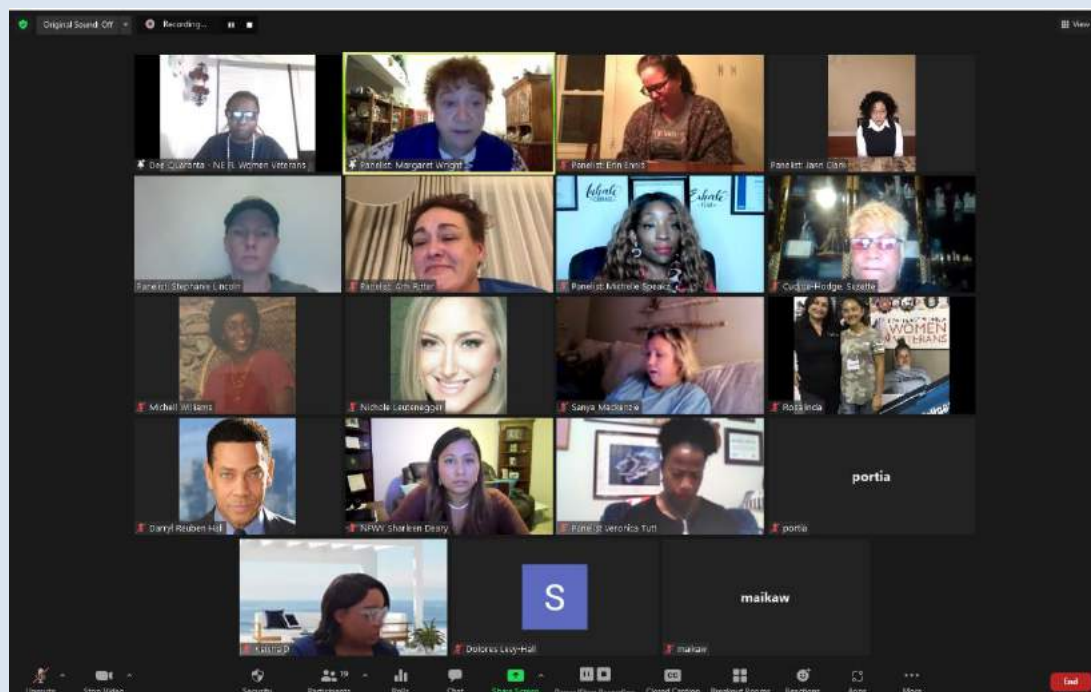
In 2022, HerBIZ graduated 16 new business start-ups. HerBIZ is facilitated by Ms Demika Jackson, CEO, ReInVentU, and President/Founder of the Jacksonville Veterans Chamber of Commerce.

HerHEALTHYLife -. HerHEALTHYLife is a 6-month program empowering women veterans to adopt healthier and sustainable lifestyles to become the best version that they can be.



There are currently 6 participants who started in 2022 and will graduate March 2023. This program is facilitated by Mrs. Pinky Uttayaya-Andrews, Owner of *Zenergy Fitness & Performance, LLC*.

HerVOICE – HerVOICE allows women veterans the opportunity to tell their story of military service, transition, and where they are now. This documentary will be available on YouTube and other media platforms to share with the public the lives of women who served. The intent is to educate the public concerning the accomplishments and challenges of women veterans.



HerTIME – HerTIME was created in response to the growing suicide rate among women veterans. The retreat provides 2 nights and 3 days of peace, reflection, and connection. It is intended to restore mind and body, reconnect to self, and connect with other women veterans while disconnecting from technology and getting back to nature through mindfulness and resiliency workshops, therapeutic art, positive affirmations, and fireside group sessions.



In 2022, there were 18 participants that attended HerTIME retreats.

HerSPACE – HerSPACE provides emergency shelter and temporary housing for women veterans and their children. During the veteran’s stay, they are assigned a case manager who helps them in setting goals and prepares them for permanent housing. Women are required to attend our HerTOTALWellness program depending on the week it starts.

Our shelter, The Lighthouse, is the property of St Andrews Lutheran Church by the Sea. They have generously allowed us to lease this home at \$1.00 annually. It houses 7 women veterans and their children. The downstairs room is designated as an ADA compliant space. It is located on Beach Blvd just a few blocks from Jacksonville Beach.



**In 2022, 10 women came through
our shelter.
8 moved into stable housing.
7 became employed.**



MILESTONES

2012

- Established
- Held first Women Veterans Roundtable at Florida State College at Jacksonville
 - Sponsored by Jaguars Foundation and FSCJ
- Special coverage with First Coast News on creation of organization

2014

- Created First in the country, Women Veterans Recognition Week
 - Received proclamation from the city of Jacksonville
 - Held Mental Health Forum and Health Fair
 - Military Display in City Hall of Women Veteran Period Uniforms
 - Through HandsOn Jacksonville, created documentaries on women veterans to be maintained at the Library of Congress.
 - Created “Traveling Stories” where women veterans visited school aged children to share their military stories.
 - Held first Women Veterans Recognition Gala HONORING WWII women veterans.

2015

- Launched “RestorHER research with a grant from Women’s Giving Alliance to assess the needs of women veterans in Duval County.
- Second Annual Women Veterans Recognition Week
 - Held Recognition Gala which now included Korea and Vietnam era veterans
- Gathered women veterans and their families of all services to march in the Veterans Day parade for the first time.

2020

- Launched three new programs, HerBIZ, HerHEALTHYLife, and HerSPACE
- HerBIZ – A program that helps women veterans start their own business.
- HerHEALTHYLife – Encourages women veterans to live a healthier lifestyle.
- CEO inducted into the State of Florida Veterans Hall of Fame

2021

- HerSPACE - A 4-bedroom home was leased to the organization for transitional housing for women veterans and their children. Opened doors June 2021.
- Launched new program. HerTIME.
- Purchased vehicle to transport women to appointments and facilitate housing search. Funded by a grant from Wounded Warrior Project.
-

2022

- Received State of Florida funding to operate programs. Sponsors were Senator Audrey Gibson & State Representative Cord Byrd. Also support of Florida Department of Veterans Affairs (FDVA).
- Partnered with FDVA to host the first Women Veterans Conference in Jacksonville.

FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS

We would like to thank the follow supporter for making sure our programs and services continue meeting the needs. **Contributions are cumulative from 2012 to present.**

CORNERSTONE CONTRIBUTORS (\$200,000 & up)

STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA BLUE FOUNDATION
WOUNDED WARRIOR PROJECT

ANCHOR CONTRIBUTORS (\$100,000 & up)

THE WOMEN'S GIVING ALLIANCE

DIAMOND CONTRIBUTORS (\$75,000 & up)

COJ CARE ACT FUNDS DELORES BARR WEAVER FOUNDATION

PLATINUM CONTRIBUTORS (\$50,000 & up)

UNITED WAY CARE ACT FUNDS SELAH FOUNDATION
THE PLAYERS' CHAMPIONSHIP

GOLD CONTRIBUTORS (\$25,000 & up)

DISABLED VETERANS' NATIONAL FOUNDATION
THE JAGUAR FOUNDATION

SILVER CONTRIBUTORS (\$10,000 & up)

K-9's FOR WARRIORS THE FIRE WATCH
CSX BAPTIST HEALTH
THE VYSTAR TRUST FUND

BRONZE CONTRIBUTORS (\$5000 & up)

JACKSONVILLE MARINE CHARITIES
COMCAST NBC TPC STORYTELLERS
PATRICIA WOLFE DEE QUARANTA
CHRIS & CHAR MILLER

COPPER CONTRIBUTORS (\$2000 & up)

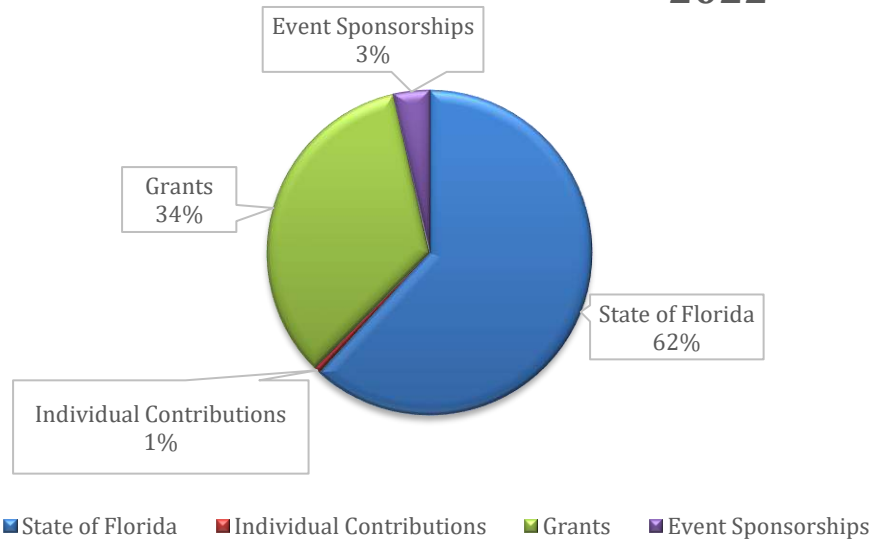
ENTERPRISE HOLDINGS	LOCKHEED MARTIN	MEDTRONICS
PENNY JUSTICE	WALMART	ALLY FINANCIAL
HARVEY & SHATRECE BUCHANAN	PILOT INTERNATIONAL	

CHAMPION CONTRIBUTORS (\$1999 & under)

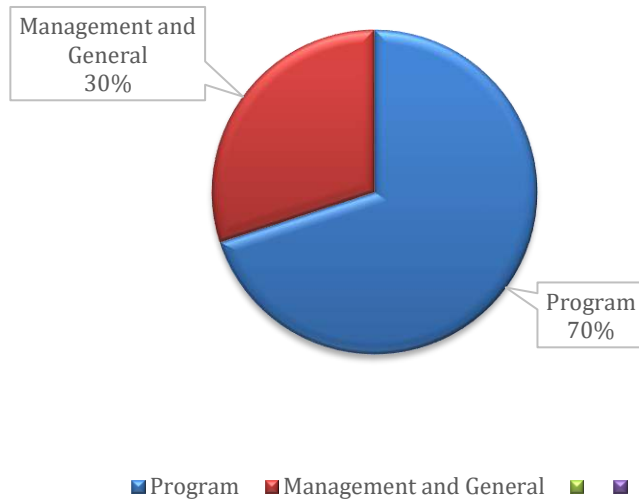
"Thank you" to the many champions who support our work. Your giving not only adds up, but sustains us. We are forever grateful.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW 2022

How Our Support Was Provided 2022



How We Invested Your Support 2022



Advocacy



Community Engagement



OUR NEED

As we look back over the year, we are compelled to look further back to the beginning of the pandemic to now. We have survived the challenges of the pandemic but are now seeing the aftermath. We have worked hard to encourage women veterans who are isolated to come from among the shadows. The pandemic caused us to take a few steps back, but we are determined to move forward, especially in our rural areas. Our aim in 2023, is to penetrate the rural areas and reach those women veterans who are not in the VA system and are not taking advantage of their benefits.

You will make the difference. Your support will provide us the tools and resources needed to expand our work.

Our desire is:

- Provide supportive service through vouchers for childcare, groceries, transportation, and Welcome Home tubs.
- Provide programs that address the needs of women veterans and help them become successful holistically on a national level.
- Share our template of work with other cities and states.
- Advocate for women veterans.
- Own a building for our organization to operate in.
- Reach the rural areas of Northeast Florida.

Our Invitation

Our nation has come a long way in supporting its veterans who sacrificed so much for the country. We invite you as individuals and as corporations to become the lead in recognizing the needs of women veterans. Your support will provide for the basic needs of women veterans of all ages and branches of service. Become a partner. Go to our website and give or mail checks to the below address.

Contact Information

103 Century 21 Drive, Suite 201
Jacksonville, Florida 32216
904-862-6039
www.forwomenvets.org

Nuggets for Life

You are the author of your life. Know when to change the chapter.

*

If it's not broken, figuring out how to fix it is a waste of time.

*

Truth has never lied.

*

Stay focused – the commotion on the side is not your business.

*

Be willing to do the same work you ask those you lead to do. I promise; it won't hurt you.

*

Learn to celebrate the different input of others. You can't always be right!

*

It's too much work to wear two faces. Just be you.

*

Treat folks with kindness. That's the day they will decide to live.

●

You are only responsible for how you react.

*

You are valuable and you matter.