



WINTER 2025 NEWSLETTER

As we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Navy SEAL Foundation (NSF) in 2025, we reflect on the unwavering support of our donors and our steadfast mission to serve the Naval Special Warfare (NSW) community. Since our founding in 2000, we have invested **over \$200 million in programmatic support**, including **\$27.2 million in 2024** across our five pillars: Strength, Resilience, Health, Education, and Community. Our commitment to transparency and impact has again earned us a **perfect score from Charity Navigator**—a distinction we’ve proudly maintained since 2014 and one of only four charities to receive this honor last year. As we look ahead, we invite you to continue standing with us to ensure no NSW warrior, veteran, or family member ever walks alone. Thank you for your generosity, and here’s to the next twenty-five years of making a difference together!



PROGRAMMATIC UPDATES

STRENGTH

BUILDING CAPABILITIES & REDUCING STRESSORS

Supporting active duty service members and their families remains a priority, especially in remote duty locations. This winter, the NSF provided vegetable-growing towers to NSW families in Kodiak, Alaska, where long winters and food shortages create daily stress. These towers ensure families have fresh produce year-round, improving their nutrition and well-being. Our Interdisciplinary Care Evolution for Readiness (ICE-R) program also filled critical gaps in post-deployment medical care, helping service members recover and prepare for their next operational cycle.

NAVYSEALFOUNDATION.ORG

The Navy SEAL Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit (Tax ID: 31-1728910, CFC: 11454). It is an independent, non-federal entity unaffiliated with the Department of Defense or the government.

RESILIENCE

ADDRESSING TRAGEDY & AIDING RECOVERY

During the holiday season, the NSF hosted 130 Gold Star and Surviving Family members for a special White House tour, offering a moment of reflection as they visited the Gold Star Tree, adorned with ornaments honoring their fallen loved ones. Our Gold Star Spouse Christmas Dinner and Ornament Exchange also provided a warm space for surviving spouses to connect, share memories, and find solace during a difficult time of year.



"Thank you for planning the tour. We needed to get away, and this weekend was just what we needed. Meeting other Gold Star Families laying wreaths on their loved ones and hearing their stories... I have had a hard time wanting Christmas to come, and the tour helped change that. Thank you!"

— Gold Star Mother



HEALTH

ENHANCING PHYSICAL & MENTAL WELLNESS

The health and well-being of our warriors remain at the forefront of our mission. This winter, the NSF facilitated critical travel for two SEALs to receive specialized medical care at Massachusetts General Hospital, ensuring they had access to top-tier physicians. Our Warrior Fitness Program continued to deliver life-changing support, improving physical health, mental resilience, and overall quality of life. The NSF also provided recovery equipment to active duty members, ensuring uninterrupted healing and extended support for inpatient rehabilitation for veterans facing substance use struggles.

"From the bottom of my heart, I can't thank you guys enough for what you do for us. This is the first time in over a decade I was able to put on my shoes and socks without tremendous pain. Just that alone was worth it. The work, effort, and time that you guys put into the fundraisers, events, and everything else to raise funds in order for us to attend a program like this is very overwhelming. The tools and knowledge I've gained from this program will, without question, put me on a path to a better quality of life for not only me but for my family."

— Active Duty SEAL



EDUCATION

PROVIDING SCHOLARSHIPS & DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

In January, the NSF launched the 2025 scholarship cycle, continuing our commitment to funding higher education, entrance exams, licensing, and professional development for the NSW community. We also worked closely with universities to ensure NSF scholarships were processed correctly, preventing financial aid reductions and maximizing educational support.



"I am writing to thank you and your organization for the work and dedication that goes into your scholarship program and the scholarship that has been awarded to me. This year, I have been accepted into my intended major, Early Childhood and Family Studies. I have solidified my goal of becoming a pediatric nurse by taking my first biology class, Survey of Physiology. This would not have been an easy opportunity for me without the aid granted to me by the Navy SEAL Foundation. Your acknowledgment of the challenges that the families of veterans can face, especially in providing for higher academics, is one I truly appreciate."

— NSF Scholarship Recipient



COMMUNITY

EMPOWERING CONNECTIONS & PRESERVING LEGACY

Thanks to the NSF's Holiday Fest events, the holidays were a time of joy for all involved. From Germany to Hawaii, over 3,300 service members and their families participated in festive gatherings featuring Santa visits, winter-themed activities, and opportunities to reconnect. On the East Coast, nearly 1,600 attendees enjoyed a night of celebration, while the West Coast Winterfest at Oma's Christmas Farm welcomed 1,200 NSW family members for a day of fun and tradition. The NSF also hosted reconnect events, such as the annual Army-Navy game gathering in Washington, D.C., strengthening bonds among veterans.



"Wonderful to see so many friends from the community and spend time together as a family. Also, it is endlessly wonderful to have a fabulous meal like this with all of the decisions made, food cooked, and details taken care of. A sweet moment from the evening: I thought our kids, ages 8 and 11, would consider themselves too old for Santa. They surprised us by standing in the line, then calling us over, insisting we get a family photo with Santa. I left this event feeling refreshed, energized, and so grateful to feel so taken care of for many years now by the Navy SEAL Foundation. Endless thanks!"

— Active Duty SEAL





EVENINGS OF TRIBUTE

LOS ANGELES

The Los Angeles Evening of Tribute in November was a huge success, raising \$2.5 million to support our mission. The evening honored Shield AI, recipient of the NSF Patriot Award, accepted by Co-Founder and President Brandon Tseng, for their contributions to national defense. The night concluded with a keynote address by Admiral James Stavridis, USN (Ret.), emphasizing resilience and service.



NAPLES

In January, the 3rd Annual Naples Evening of Tribute honored William R. Johnson, former President, CEO, and Chairman of H.J. Heinz and Chairman of the Board of UPS, with the NSF Patriot Award. Dr. Robert M. Gates delivered an impactful keynote address, and Barrett Bourgeois, Gold Star son of CAPT Brian Bourgeois, USN, SEAL, shared a heartfelt testimony. The event raised an impactful \$2.5 million supporting our programs.



HOUSTON

The 7th annual Houston Evening of Tribute in early February raised over \$1.8 million and honored the NASA Flight Operations Directorate at the Johnson Space Center. The evening featured remarks from Norman Knight, NSF programmatic reflections from CAPT Keith E. Marinics, USN, SEAL, and a powerful keynote to conclude the night by former astronaut, CAPT Chris Cassidy, USN (Ret.), SEAL.





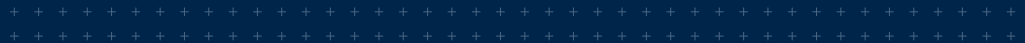
TAMPA BAY FROGMAN SWIM

This year’s Tampa Bay Frogman Swim faced small craft warnings, heavy fog, high winds, rip currents, and lightning—conditions that ultimately led to the cancellation of the swim. Instead, it became a powerful gathering of thirty Gold Star and Surviving Families (GSSF), veterans, and civilians, all honoring our fallen NSW operators. Despite the weather, nearly 600 attendees stood through wind and rain to pay tribute at the memorial ceremony. CAPT Ron Malloy, USN (Ret.), SEAL’s speech, delivered in a downpour, held the crowd captive, and over 100 volunteers braved the elements to ensure an unforgettable memorial and after-event at American Legion Post-138. Thanks to the unwavering support of swimmers, volunteers, sponsors, and donors, the swim raised over \$1 million and continues to provide a space for GSSFs to connect, heal, and know their loved ones are never forgotten.



[**CLICK HERE FOR A FULL LIST OF UPCOMING EVENTS →**](#)

KEY PARTNERSHIPS



Kill Cliff’s Black Friday campaign raised over \$10,000 by donating \$5 per case sold to the NSF.



GOVX’s “Gives Back” campaign in November raised over \$30,000, including an additional \$10,000 match from Luminox.



The Premier Lacrosse League (PLL) raised over \$4,000 through a Veterans Day hat sale.



OTHER NEWS

Forty veteran SEALs and their spouses were honored guests at the LA Rams' Salute to Service Game in November, thanks to the generosity of Matthew and Kelly Stafford. Their attendance was covered on Monday Night Football, where veteran SEALs also participated in a pushup contest vs. former Philadelphia Eagle Jason Kelce on ESPN's Monday Night Football Countdown.



The NSF's "On The X" podcast wrapped up 2024 with record-breaking success at nearly **1 million downloads** in its first six months, securing its position in the **top 1% of global podcasts** and culminating in a listener giveaway featuring books from guests, a Luminox watch, and other prizes.



WAYS TO LISTEN

