



**COMBAT
SOLDIERS
RECOVERY
FUND**

KEEPING in TOUCH

Summer 2017

www.combatsoldiersrecoveryfund.org

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A big thank you to Frank T. Shull IV of Mortgage Lending for giving 10% of his future commissions to CSRF!

Please send donations to:

Combat Soldiers Recovery Fund
3804 Williams Lane
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

www.combatsoldiersrecoveryfund.org

MAY IS FUNDRAISING MONTH FOR CSRF

\$8,000 Collected at May Fundraiser Hosted by Columbia Country Club

Sixteen years after terrorists attacked America, our country remains at war. That means the men and women serving in the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines continue to be at risk and continue to pay the price of defending America with their blood and limbs. There is no glory in being wounded. Especially for those who lose limbs or who carry unseen scars, such as Traumatic Brain Injury.

Helping minister to those who have sacrificed themselves is why Combat Soldiers Recovery Foundation exists. No amount of money can compensate a man or woman who has lost a part of their body or who battle the demons of post-traumatic stress disorder. But money is a tangible reminder that people care.

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Revere Bank Sponsors the Greater Bethesda Chamber of Commerce Golf Classic Benefitting Combat Soldiers Recovery Fund

The 2017 Golf Classic, put on by the Greater Bethesda Chamber of Commerce and Revere Bank, raised more than \$3,000 for the Combat Soldiers Recovery Fund (CSRF). The event was held at the Whiskey Creek Golf Club on May 1. More than 100 local business professionals participated in the networking and fundraising event. The CSRF provides financial aid to American military members recovering from severe wounds suffered in service of our nation.



Garland Miller (Combat Soldier Recovery Fund), H.L. Ward (Revere Bank), Ken Cook (Revere Bank), and Marine Robert Baker.

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One month ago, May 24, 2017, a group of patriots gathered at the Columbia Country Club as part of the on-going effort to raise funds for CSRF. We collected \$8,000. The men and women who showed up did not come for the free wine and beer. They were not hungering for canapés and finger sandwiches (though the chicken salad was dandy). They wanted to show CSRF founder, Garland Miller, that they stood with her.

As is typical of Garland, the event was about others. She took time out to recognize the volunteers who happily donate their time to support this effort. But the highlight of the night event was the chance to meet Joseph De Prisco (aka Joey), his wife and his twin sons. Joey was a recipient of a CSRF check. He was a Navy Corpsman serving with the Marine Corps in the Anbar province of Iraq in 2006 where he was caught in a blast of a buried improvised explosive. It was a mine designed to destroy tanks and trucks. The blast of from that bomb also mangled bodies and scrambled brains. Joey De Prisco suffered a Traumatic Brain Injury.

According to the TraumaticBrainInjury.com:

Traumatic brain injury, often referred to as TBI, is most often an acute event similar to other injuries. That is where the similarity between traumatic brain injury and other injuries ends. One moment the person is normal and the next moment life has abruptly changed.

In most other aspects, a traumatic brain injury is very different. Since our brain defines who we are, the consequences of a brain injury can affect all aspects of our lives, including our personality. A brain injury is different from a broken limb or punctured lung. An injury in these areas limit the use of a specific part of your body, but your personality and mental abilities remain unchanged. Most often, these body structures heal and regain their previous function.

Brain injuries do not heal like other injuries. Recovery is a functional recovery, based on mechanisms that remain uncertain. No two brain injuries are alike and the consequence of two similar injuries may be very different. Symptoms may appear right away or may not be present for days or weeks after the injury. One of the consequences of brain injury is that the person often does not realize that a brain injury has occurred.

Joey is recovering and is a proud husband and father. It is easy for you to read these words and not appreciate how meaningful a small check from CSRF can be in the life of a wounded sailor. Joey, with his beautiful wife and fire cracker kids, made all who heard him speak understand that the simple act of writing a check could actually change a life for the better. The other joy of the reception was the chance to watch Joey's two toddlers scramble around the reception area. They embody the essence of being little boys, filled with life, love and curiosity. The CSRF gift not only helped Joey, but it helped give Joey the means to be the father those boys need.

Thanks for your gifts. You are making a difference.

