The America Legion Department of Indiana “Change Lives’: Our Victories, Help Build the Foundation for the Future

The American Legion in its long-standing history has played a vital role in many victories that have enhanced the lives and the quality of life for thousands of veterans and their families here in Indiana.

**Indiana Youth Law Enforcement Academy:**
A partnership with the Indiana Troopers Youth Services and The American Legion, that provides first-hand experience and insight into the operations of law enforcement agencies. More than 120 kids have attended the academy.

**Indiana Military Veterans Hall of Fame:**
Created to publicly emphasize the honor brought forward to our state and nation by the sacrifice of Indiana Military Veterans and their families. The Department of Indiana has supported the HOF since 2013 and now maintains the site located on Historic Benjamin Harrison.

**Hoosier Boys State:**
Sponsored by the Department of Indiana for 82 years. The program promotes the understanding about Indiana’s political process, the power of Democracy and inspire leadership in our future leaders. This program has helped shaped the lives of thousands throughout Indiana.

**Department Service Officer:**
The American Legion has been winning benefits for veterans since 1919. The American Legion Department of Indiana services more than 58,000 veterans and veterans’ dependents survivors assigned to the office. An average month brings those represented Approximately 30 million dollars in federal benefits.

**Legacy Scholarship:**
Provides college scholarships for children of military personnel. The scholarship fulfills a gap after all federal and state grants have been used. The Legacy Scholarship has raised more than 14 million dollars in the past 14 years. During the past five years, Indiana direct contribution to the scholarship fund has averaged more than $28,000 each year.

**Indiana Oratorical Contest:**
Has allowed thousands of Hoosier High School students to hone their speaking skills to learn about the U.S. Constitution and earn scholarships awards. Many young Hoosiers have been the recipient of the scholarships awarded since the program began.

**Homeless Veterans/Rehab Program:**
The Department of Indiana provide grants totaling $2,650 in support of homeless veterans across the state. In addition, $27,500 in gifts were allocated to rehab programs. The rehab program encourage volunteers to visit veterans in VA hospitals and in VA and private nursing homes.

**Opioid Crisis:**
We continue to fight for more counseling and less medication or at least very close control for veterans suffering from mental health conditions. Indiana continues its education among businesses on how to deal with veterans in the workplace.

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**Indiana American Legion Legacy Foundation**
5440 Herbert Lord Rd., Indianapolis In., 46216

p 317-630-1300
f 317-237-9891

www.indianalegion.org/legacyfoundation