## TRAGBIDY ASSISTANCE PROCRAM FOR SURVIVORS



# CARING FOR THE FAMILIES OF AMERICA'S FALLEN HEROES 

The Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) is the national organization providing compassionate care to all those grieving a military loss. When a veteran or member of America's armed forces dies, TAPS is on the front lines supporting the loved ones left behind.

Since 1994, TAPS has assisted over 85,000 surviving family members, casualty officers and caregivers who are grieving the loss of a military loved one, regardless of the geography or the circumstances of their death. TAPS is a top-rated charity with Charity Navigator, America's largest independent charity evaluator. Today, in its 25 th year, TAPS is still the leading professional organization serving the needs of those grieving a loss in the military community.

TAPS provides peer-based emotional support, grief and trauma resources, grief seminars for adults, Good Grief Camps for children, case work assistance, connections to community-based care, and a $24 / 7$ resource and information helpline for all who have been affected by a military loss. TAPS receives no government funding; our services are free to the surviving loved ones we serve.

TAPS was created to offer support not available through other service organizations, the military, or the government. The heart of our organization is survivors helping survivors heal; this peer based emotional support is one of the most effective strategies to assist the bereaved. TAPS provides assistance to all those affected by the loss of the military member, not just those defined as dependents or beneficiaries by the Department of Defense.
"TAPS enables 2.4 million members of the military to go forward and meet their mission."
Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Joseph Dunford speaking about TAPS

## BRANCH OF SERVICE OF SURVIVORS CONNECTING WITH TAPS

Army 52\%
Marine 17\%
Navy 20\%
Air Force 9\%
Other 2\%

> TOP CAUSES OF DEATH REPRESENTED BY SURVIVORS CONNECTING WITH TAPS

## Suicide 30\%

Illness 26\%
Accident 20\%
Hostile Action 6\%
ОтнеR* 18\%
*Non Hostile, Unknown, Friendly Fire, Homicide

## TAPS CORE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

17 NEWLY BEREAVED SURVIVORS COME TO TAPS EACH DAY FOR RESOURCES AND CARE

NATIONAL MILITARY
SURVIVOR HELPLINE

TAPS Helpline is answered live by TAPS at all times - 24/7/365 - with comfort and care from peer professionals who ensure the caller has open access to all that TAPS provides, including casework, peer support and community-based resources.

GOOD GRIEF CAMPS, RETREATS, AND SEMINARS

TAPS hosts event-based programs across the country that bring surviving loved ones together in a healing environment through facilitated activities focused on coping strategies and peer connections. TAPS Good Grief Camps are structured for military children who are paired with Military Mentors.


This core service of TAPS brings together a national family of all who are grieving to share their pain and find hope and healing. Most of TAPS staff are survivors of military loss who have first-hand knowledge of the uniqueness of losing a loved one who served our country in uniform.

TAPS provides compassionate assistance for all the needs a family may have, including access to pro bono legal assistance, emergency financial resources, information on state and federal survivor benefits, and connections to private social service support for survivors.

## EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES

TAPS guides surviving families through all the bureaucracy and paperwork necessary to receive the education benefits available for the dependents of America's fallen heroes. The Education Support Services Coordinators work with survivors to determine the best options for financial assistance.

TAPS connects families with care in their local community, including unlimited free clinical grief counseling; trauma resources; and local area support groups that are individually researched by TAPS for the needs of each survivor.

TAPS INSTITUTE FOR HOPE AND HEALING

The TAPS Institute for Hope and Healing was founded in 2018 to serve as the critical link between military, mental health leadership, clinicians, researchers, active duty service members, veterans and their families, by providing innovative, insightful, high-impact educational events and trainings. The Institute will provide world class training in grief and loss that will benefit all of America's military families.

SUPPORT OUR TAPS FAMILY
Sponsorship funding enables our families to Remember the Love. Celebrate the Life. Share the Journey.



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