

The Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation
Recovery Presentation
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Warriors Journey Home Ministry: Listen – Speak – Heal

Alethes

Truth: something that cannot escape notice. Cannot be forgotten.

“Sentiment without action is the ruin of the soul.” Edward Abbey

- Our focus is healing the heart and restoring the soul. This is the community’s responsibility. Healing and restoration cannot take place outside of community.
- Traditional treatment segregates the veteran from the community. Segregation leaves unfinished homecoming and disconnects the veteran from the family as well as the community. The community never “hears” the truth of war or military service.
- The “disconnect” leaves the soul wounded. The community is essential in bringing our veterans home.
- True religion connects us with one another. The root of “religion” is *religio* which literally means “connection to the divine.” Legitimate religion connects us to one another and The Divine. This is a sacred and a spiritual connection.
- In other cultures there is a connection between the warrior’s role and spirit.
- Because of religious diversity Warriors Journey Home Ministry (WJHM) is non-sectarian. We honor all beliefs.

The Don’t List:

- **Don’t treat a veteran as “damaged goods.”**
- **Don’t attempt to return a veteran to being a civilian.**
- **Don’t refer to a veteran as a hero.**
- **Don’t try to “save” a veteran.**
- **Don’t lecture on reform.**
- **Don’t recruit for your group.**

WJHM Community

- In kind support.
- Educate.
- Anticipate the difficulty of the work.
- People of Strong Heart (civilians) are companions.
- Partner with professional resources.

The strength of being in community:

- Ecclesiastes 4:9 *A cord of three is not easily broken.*
- Genesis 2:18 *It is not good to be alone.*
- The essential community:
 - The need to connect.
 - Veterans “feel” alienated.
 - When the community fails to listen the connection fails and the veteran feels pathologized.

Movies that speak:

The Incredible Shrinking Man (1953)

The Horse Whisperer (Touchstone Pictures 1998)

Additional Notes