



Special Operations Warrior Foundation

Fact Sheet

FAST FACTS

SOWF was awarded its fifth consecutive 4-star rating for financial efficiency. Only 5% of all charities have received this esteemed rating.

SOWF has 141 students enrolled in colleges and universities across the country.

Last year, the foundation provided \$4.8 million in scholarship grants, financial aid and counseling to the families of fallen special operations personnel.

OVERHEAD

The SOWF is proud of its low overhead. In 2010, the administrative overhead was 5.25%

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PURPOSE: For more than 30 years, the Special Operations Warrior Foundation has provided surviving children of Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps Special Operations Forces (SOF) with the college education their fallen parent would have wanted for them and also provide financial assistance and support to special operations personnel who are severely wounded.

MISSION: The Special Operations Warrior Foundation (SOWF) was founded in 1980 to serve the military's special operations forces and their families. A tax-exempt 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization, SOWF is dedicated to providing free college scholarship grants, not loans, and educational counseling to the children surviving special operations personnel who are killed in a training accident or operational mission. Additionally, the SOWF provides funds to the families of severely wounded special operations personnel to meet immediate needs when special operations personnel are hospitalized with severe wounds.

ORGANIZATION: The SOWF is governed by a Board of Directors (up to 25 members), which consults with a Board of Advisors. The Board of Directors has four standing committees: Executive, Development, Audit & Finance, and Governance. The SOWF office is located four miles from MacDill AFB, the home of the United States Special Operations Command. The Foundation has full-time salaried employees including: President/CEO, Executive Director, two Family Services & Financial Aid Advisors, School Psychologist & Family Counselor, Public Relations Director, Events and Communications Manager, Director of Philanthropy, and three administrative assistants.

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT: The Special Operations Warrior Foundation is committed to providing educational counseling and free college scholarship grants -- not loans -- for tuition, books, fees, room & board for more than 900 children of fallen special operations personnel. In 2010, SOWF provided \$4.8 million in scholarship grants, educational programs, beneficiary support, counseling and secured funds for future obligations.

WOUNDED SOF WARRIOR SUPPORT: The Special Operations Warrior Foundation provides much needed immediate financial assistance to special operations personnel who are severely wounded. In 2010, the SOWF provided \$375,000 to the families of wounded SOF, bringing the total since 2005 to more than \$1.3 million to families of wounded special operations personnel.

CHALLENGES: The Warrior Foundation strives to relieve Special Operations personnel of the one concern, their families, which might distract them when they need to be—and when America needs them to be—at their very best. Since 1980, over 800 Special Operations personnel have lost their lives on operational missions or during intense training programs. Today, more than 910 children survive these oft-unsung heroes. With over 125 children eligible for college each year, the Foundation's actuary valuation financial need is \$76 million.

FUND RAISING: The Special Operations Warrior Foundation obtains its funding from corporations, private citizens, fundraising events and from participation in the Combined Federal Campaign and State Campaigns in Florida, North Carolina, Washington, Texas, California, Maryland, and Virginia. The Special Operations Warrior Foundation is the recipient of its fifth consecutive four-star rating (out of four stars) for its financial efficiency from a charity watchdog group, Charity Navigator.

John T. Carney Jr., President/ CEO Steven L. McLeary, Executive Director
State Employee Campaigns in California, Florida, Maryland, North Carolina, Texas, Virginia, and Washington
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