



**INSPIRING WARRIORS
GOLF**



AUGUSTA NATIONAL GOLF CLUB
7-10 APRIL 2024

thewarriorsjourney.org - inspiringwarriorsgolf.org



IMMENSE THANKS TO OUR HOSTS

CHAIRMAN FRED RIDLEY

THE ESTEEMED MEMBERSHIP OF THE AUGUSTA NATIONAL GOLF CLUB

THANK YOU TO OUR FEATURED SPONSORS



Trump International Golf Club



7 April, 2024

Dear Warriors,

It is our pleasure to welcome you and host you at the Augusta National Golf Club this week for our Inspiring Warriors Golf mission. We are immensely appreciative of your service to our beloved country, and this is our way of simply saying “thanks.”

After nearly 20 years of successfully operating the Caddy For A Cure initiative on the PGA TOUR, the 2020 pandemic was the start of a new direction for us. While the world changed, our desire to use this great game of golf as a means to a healthier life did not. We imagined a week where warriors could come and learn, spend time with their battle buddies, and be inspired. That is our hope for you this week and trust that the mission will exceed your expectations.

Arnold Palmer said: “Golf is deceptively simple and endlessly complicated; it satisfies the soul and frustrates the intellect. It is at the same time rewarding and maddening - and it is without a doubt the greatest game mankind has ever invented.”

We continue to be amazed at what golf will do to you and for you - the places you get to go, the people you get to meet, the lessons you will learn about life and yourself, all the while being with your friends, family, and more!

We’re glad you’re here!

Very Respectfully,

Russ, Colleen, & Kayla Holden
Founders



IWG CAMPAIGN ITINERARY

7 APRIL

1800 Welcome Dinner - Home

8 APRIL

0830 Breakfast - Home
1000 TWJ Workshop - Home
1200 Golf - TopGolf Augusta
1300 Lunch - TopGolf Augusta
1830 Dinner / Guest Speaker Teddy Scott - Home

9 APRIL

0700 Breakfast - Home
0800 Travel to Augusta National Golf Club
1200 Lunch - Founders Room with Chairman Ridley
1400 Visit The Masters
1700 Depart Augusta National Golf Club
1830 Dinner / Guest Speaker John “Gucci” Foley - Home

10 APRIL

0830 Breakfast - Home
0930 Depart





The military creates a set of unique challenges that most people don't recognize. These invisible wounds can lead to isolation, addiction, and suicide.

PREVENTION

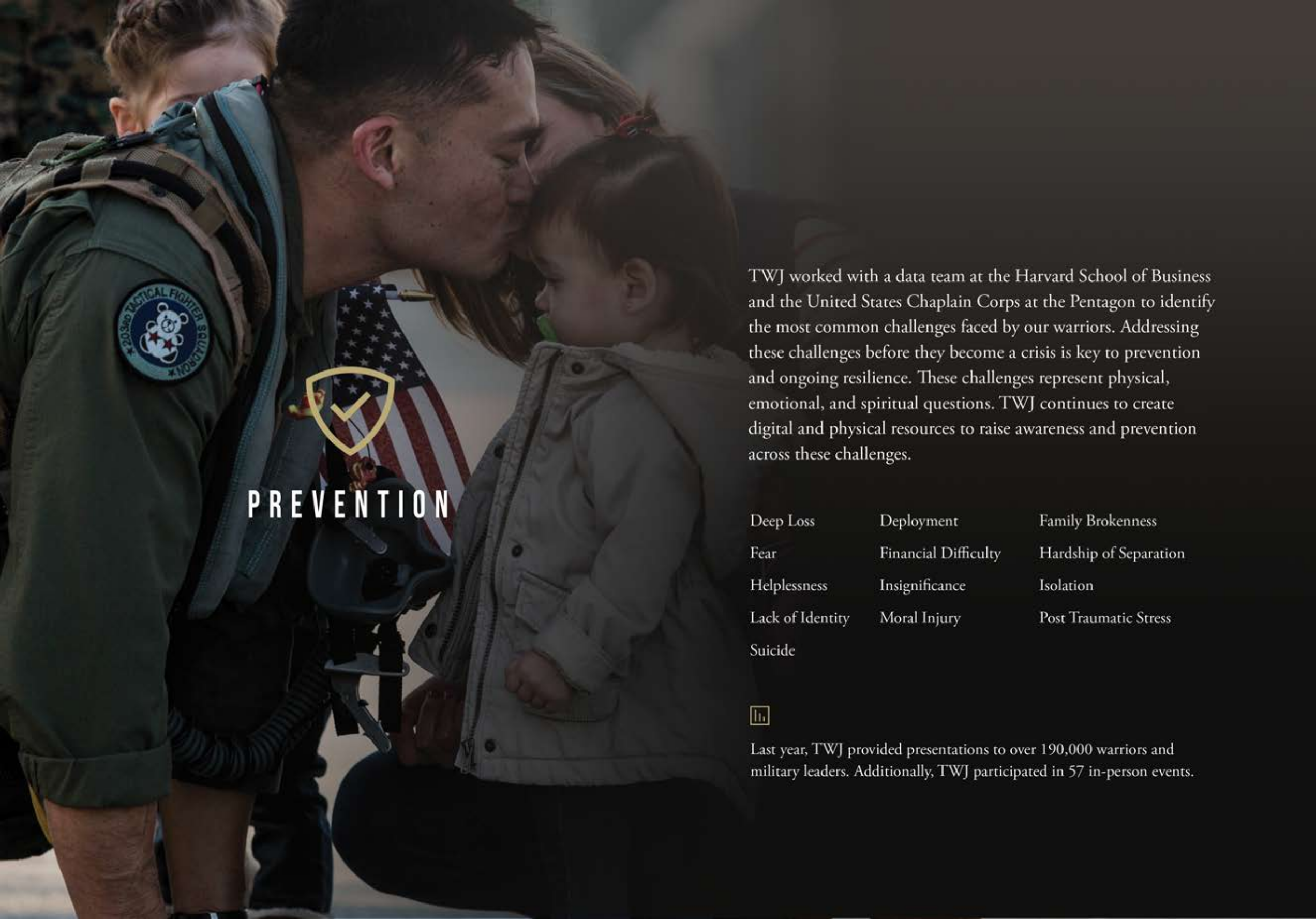
The Warrior's Journey works to raise awareness and create preventative resources to help educate and prepare our warriors for their time in the military and beyond.

INTERVENTION

TWJ has built a team of veterans to provide real-time crisis intervention. Our individualized approach to intervention is always confidential and focused on navigating the available help and resources provided by our more than 70 partner organizations.



According to the U.S. Census Bureau, there are currently around 18 million U.S. Veterans. That's roughly 7% of the US population. There are currently 1.3 million warriors in active duty.



PREVENTION

TWJ worked with a data team at the Harvard School of Business and the United States Chaplain Corps at the Pentagon to identify the most common challenges faced by our warriors. Addressing these challenges before they become a crisis is key to prevention and ongoing resilience. These challenges represent physical, emotional, and spiritual questions. TWJ continues to create digital and physical resources to raise awareness and prevention across these challenges.

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Deep Loss | Deployment | Family Brokenness |
| Fear | Financial Difficulty | Hardship of Separation |
| Helplessness | Insignificance | Isolation |
| Lack of Identity | Moral Injury | Post Traumatic Stress |
| Suicide | | |



Last year, TWJ provided presentations to over 190,000 warriors and military leaders. Additionally, TWJ participated in 57 in-person events.



INTERVENTION

A moment of crisis is not always on the battlefield. The stress of reintegration, the long-term effects of survivor guilt, and feelings of isolation, loss, and moral injury can surface at any time. TWJ provides 24-hour a day access to a connector available no matter the severity of the crisis. Our warriors deserve more than a hotline or governmental form. They deserve another warrior who has the experience and wisdom to be their personal advocate (battle buddy) through the process of healing. There are currently more than 37,000 veteran organizations in the US. No warrior should have to navigate those options alone.

HOW IT WORKS

1. A warrior or family member contacts TWJ online, in-person, or through a referral.
2. TWJ matches the warrior to a connector based on role, rank, branch, and gender.
3. The connector responds within 24 hours (often just minutes) to triage the situation and help build a plan of action.
4. The connector helps navigate partner resources and next steps. This can include ongoing personal conversations, professional counseling or coaching, partner programs, and VA assistance.
5. TWJ continues regular check-ins to provide future resources and help.



The Warrior's Journey has provided ongoing support to more than 15,000 warriors.



TO THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED

And to those who made the ultimate sacrifice...

**We Say Thank You.
We will never forget.**

THE VISION BEHIND THE MISSION

RUSS HOLDEN

Russ has been a PGA of America Class A golf professional for over 38 years. In 1987, Holden befriended two-time Masters Champion Bernhard Langer and then worked nearly 20 years for him on the PGA TOUR as his coach and caddy both part- and full-time. Russ then initiated Caddy For A Cure to pursue his vision of supporting wounded veterans through the game of golf. His extensive experience in golf enables him to offer unique and meaningful ways to support veterans and their families thru the game. Russ, his wife Colleen, son Brandon and daughter Kayla are all deeply involved in the game at varying levels. Brandon is the Head Golf Professional at Mayacoo Lakes Country Club in West Palm Beach, FL where he and his wife Shannon live with daughter Sadie. Kayla is in her Senior year playing golf at the University of Tennessee.



KEVIN WEAVER

Kevin serves as President/CEO and Co-Founder of The Warrior's Journey and is a US Air Force veteran. He served in the USAF Security Forces at the 24th SPS and in the Office of Special Investigations at U.S. Southern Command in the Republic of Panama from 1983-1987. Leveraging his 30 years of pastoral leadership experience, he is utilizing his skills to help develop and advance the vision of The Warrior's Journey to help veterans and their families.

Kevin and his wife KyAnne have three sons; Kaleb and his wife Michaelah and twin daughters, Norah and Charis, staff Pastors at Abundant Life Church, Lee's Summit, MO; Keith, Capt. U.S. Army Special Forces, Ft Bullis, TX, along with his wife Kelli and their children, Thomas, Taylor, and Jill; and Klay and his wife Amanda, Capt. U.S. Army Armor officer, 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, KS.



OUR HONORED GUESTS...



BJ JACKSON

Specialist., US ARMY

Robert "B.J." Jackson of Des Moines, Iowa was severely wounded while serving our country in Iraq in 2003. On August 7, 2003, his first day off in over a month, B.J. was driving a Humvee with four other soldiers through Baghdad. The vehicle struck a phosphorous land mine and was immediately hit by a rocket propelled grenade. Jackson lost both legs below the knee, and suffered severe burns on his arms, legs and back, and flash burns on his face and head. Over the first five days, Jackson received 25 units of blood. He spent nearly 50 days in the post burn unit. He and wife Abby live in Orlando, FL, with their (6) children.



TODD NELSON

Master SGT., US ARMY

Todd Nelson was injured by a suicide bomber in Kabul, Afghanistan in 2007. He has undergone over 20 life-saving surgeries and 20 reconstructive surgeries to rebuild disfigured facial features. Today, Todd and his lovely wife Sarah are living their best life encouraging men and women around the world with their story of hope. Todd is employed by USAA and assists other wounded warriors find employment. Todd cherishes life like never before, and is excited for the challenges and opportunities that await.



LYNDON ORTIZ

LCpl., USMC

At age 18, LCpl Ortiz was deployed overseas to the 3rd Battalion, 8th Marines 2nd Marine Division in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. On July 17, 2005 he was part of a Quick Reaction Force sent to rescue Marines who had been hit by IEDs. The Improvised Explosive Device contained 155mm artillery rounds and propane gas tanks. Two other Marines were injured with the explosion. He had reconstructive surgery on his left shoulder, suffered hearing loss and Traumatic Brain Injury. Lyndon and his lovely family now reside in Orlando, FL.



ED SALAU

1LT., USMC

1LT. Salau resides in North Carolina with his wife Dawn. He is currently working as a civilian employee of the United States Marine Corps. He is a Purple Heart recipient among many other awards. He has received a percutaneous osseointegration procedure on his left leg amputation. Salau loves golf and plays virtually every chance that he can.



MICHAEL PROSCIA

SGT., USMC

SGT. Proscia suffered traumatic brain injury, PTSD, neck and back spinal injury to include a spinal stimulator, ruptured eardrum and hearing loss, prosthetic right hip, left and right ankle injuries including a subtalar fusion pins and plates, paralyzed left hemi-diaphragm/lung to include need of supplemental Oxygen. In despite of all this continues to play golf regularly and enjoys fishing and hunting as well in his home state of Montana.



JUAN VELAZQUEZ

SGT., US ARMY

SGT. Velazquez joined the Army in 2006. Served as a combat engineer and did tours to Iraq and Afghanistan. On October 23 2009 on a mission conducting route clearings combat patrol our sister platoon was hit directly causing multiples WIA and KIA. The platoon was called to assist as QRF, they immediately engaged in direct fire with the enemy, being struck by an IED. Juan credits golf for bringing him back into the living. Juan has been blessed with a beautiful wife and five amazing and wonderful children who make him better everyday.





PGA PROFESSIONALS

We are delighted to have a wealth of PGA Professionals to assist the Inspiring Warriors Golf mission. Some of the finest in the game of golf offer their time and expertise for the men and women who raised their right hands for our freedoms.

BOB FORD PGA

Bob has qualified and played in 10 PGA Championships. He was a 10-time Tri-State Section Player of the Year, the 1988 PGA Professional of the year, and is a PGA Golf Professional Hall of Fame Member. Bob was the Professional at Oakmont CC for 37 years and Seminole GC for 21 years.



LESLIE GUTTENBERG LPGA

Leslie is a member of the LPGA Teaching and Club Professional Division. She is a former Northeast LPGA Teacher of the Year. Leslie was named to the "50 Top Women Teachers" in the United States and Golf Magazine has rated her as one of the top instructors in the country, as well.



MARK GUTTENBERG PGA

Mark has been a PGA Member since 1977. He competed full time on the PGA TOUR in 1982. Mark was ranked by Golf Digest as the #1 instructor in the state of Virginia for 8 consecutive years. He has also been the Mid-Atlantic PGA Teacher of the Year.



RUSS HOLDEN PGA

Russ was a collegiate All-American at Malone University in Ohio. He has played on the European PGA Tour and extensively throughout the country. He has qualified three times for the PGA Club Professional Championship. He is also a coach for World Golf Hall of Famer Dennis Walters.



STEVE PARKER PGA

Steve is a Northern Ohio PGA Past President and Hall of Fame Member. He was a five-time qualifier to the PGA Professional Championship and a two-time qualifier to the PGA Senior Professional Championship.



BOB DOLAN PGA

Bob has had an incredible career culminating in his induction in the PGA Hall of Fame. His Middle Atlantic Section accomplishments include the 1996 President's Award, 1997 PGA Professional of the Year, 1998 Junior Golf Leader, 1999 and 2010 Bill Strausbaugh Award, and the 2004 Professional Development Award.



ROB SCHAAL PGA

Rob has been a Member of the PGA of America for 48 years. He was the New Jersey PGA "TEACHER OF THE YEAR" in 2002. Rob played on the PGA TOUR and also played on the PGA TOUR Champions. Rob qualified and played in the 2002 Senior U S OPEN.



Keynote Speakers



John "Gucci" Foley



Teddy Scott

INSPIRATIONAL Speakers

The key to INSPIRATION is the wisdom and knowledge of those who have **Overcome Adversity, and learned the keys to SUCCESS.**

Inspiring Warriors Golf has been blessed to have wonderful speakers for our veterans.



Gary Player



REP Brian Mast



Dennis Walters



GEN James Myles



Kid Rock



Dan Boever



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