Taking Care of Their Families While They Protect Ours

2015 Highlights
Dear SEAL-NSW Family Foundation Supporters,

Thank you for all of your time, generosity and help in making 2015 a great success. It is because of you that the SEAL-Naval Special Warfare Family Foundation (NSWFF) is able to provide ongoing support to the US Navy SEALs, Special Warfare Combat Crewman (SWCC), unit specialists and importantly, the family members of the Naval Special Warfare (NSW) community.

In 2015, we served more than 10,000 Naval Special Warfare family members in close coordination with the NSW Command focusing on meeting the NSW community’s needs through complete understanding and transparency. The Foundation’s goals are to continue our heritage of innovation and responsiveness as the NSW community needs evolve due to the changing pace of our global threats.

At the heart of our mission is the objective of enabling the Operator to stay focused on their mission while knowing their families are being taken care of. This care spans all stages of the NSW Operator’s career, starting with Graduation, through the Operator and their family’s time in the Teams, and to their transition back to civilian life. Their journey is filled with many challenges and these are the times when the SEAL-Naval Special Warfare Family Foundation is able to do its finest work.

We have continued to build upon our many programs in 2015. We started by making new families feel at home in the NSW community, brought spouses together during deployments, deepened our efforts to care for special needs children in the NSW community and provided resources to the SEAL Teams for their family engagements. Unfortunately and too often the need arises where we support NSW Gold Star engagements, which assists families with the continual and difficult adjustment to life without spouses, fathers, and sons. A family knowing there is an organization there when needed most is the SEAL-Naval Special Warfare Family Foundation’s hallmark. Our emergency assistance to family members is an important aspect of the organization’s focus.

In 2016 we remain focused on meeting the families’ increasing needs, brought on by emerging threats to our national security. These threats will require greater utilization of Special Operations, and specifically the SEALs and NSW community. To help them meet their challenges, the SEAL-Naval Special Warfare Family Foundation will remain nimble, agile and poised to make a positive contribution to the war on terror.

A resilient family creates a more resilient Operator. Our continual support of these brave men enables them to focus on their job of being the best Special Forces Operators in the world. We are grateful for all they do and it’s an honor to assist in any way.

We humbly thank you for your support of the SEAL-Naval Special Warfare Family Foundation. It is with your support we can continue to develop the programs necessary to provide a long-term resource for the NSW community, enable the NSW Operators to win the war on terror and ultimately protect our freedom. Your support truly makes a difference.

Very Respectfully,

John Moninger
Chairman, SEAL-Naval Special Warfare Family Foundation

NO FAMILY LEFT BEHIND
The year 2015 was highly productive for the SEAL-Naval Special Warfare Family Foundation. We’d like to take this opportunity to share with you the success of some of our key programs – your programs – during the past year and extend to you our heartfelt thanks for your support and contributions, both in time and dollars.

The spirit of your generosity during 2015 has made our motto “Taking Care Of Their Families While They Protect Ours” much more than mere words.

It has given these words scope and real meaning – as actions always do.

If you’re a current supporter of the SEAL-Naval Special Warfare Family Foundation, we thank you once again for your past support and in advance for your support in 2016 and beyond! And if you’re planning on helping our family as a new supporter in 2016, we hope this review of the results we’ve achieved in the past year will be an additional incentive to lending your much needed, and welcome, generosity.
BACKGROUND

The SEAL-NSW Family Foundation was founded in 2010 as a non-profit 501(c)3 organization to raise awareness and funds for special programs in direct support of SEAL-NSW families on a local, national and global scale.

OUR MISSION:

To support individual and family readiness through an array of programs specifically targeted to assist the Naval Special Warfare community in maintaining a resilient, sustainable, and healthy force in this era of persistent conflict and frequent deployments.

OUR VISION:

Our vision is to be the premier provider of benevolent civilian support services to the NSW communities we serve. This is pursued by collaborating with the leaders in Family Support to better understand the effects of deployment; by frequent analysis to ensure we are meeting current needs; by the delivery of exceptional programs; and by educating and involving the civilian population in support of these elite warriors.

ABOUT SEAL-NSW FAMILY MEMBERS

Sustained demand on Naval Special Warfare capabilities requires providing direct services to support the well-being of NSW warriors, their immediate families, and others in the NSW extended family.

Our primary focus is the care of the immediate family, providing services and programs that assist spouses and children and, in the case of unmarried service members, their primary and secondary next of kin. Our secondary focus is to give as much support as possible to the broader SEAL family.

We depend on your help to accomplish our mission and achieve our vision successfully. Please remember that Freedom Isn’t Free: the needs of the NSW Family community are increasing and the need for funding is keeping pace, accordingly.
SCOPE AND SERVICES

The scope of services provided by the SEAL-NSW Family Foundation embraces three Core Areas:

THE WARRIOR

THE FAMILY

THE FALLEN HEROES
2015 FUNDRAISING EVENTS
**KEY PROGRAMS, OBJECTIVES AND RESULTS FOR 2015**

**Summary of Program Fund Distribution**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Resiliency</td>
<td>45%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bereavement</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Support</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<td>Family Integration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Direct Support</td>
<td>15%</td>
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**2015 Fundraising Events**

- **Rancho Santa Fe, CA | Del Mar Country Club, Golf Tournament and Gala | March**
- **Charlotte, NC | Quail Hollow Club Gala | March**
- **Los Angeles, CA | USS Iowa Gala | May**
- **Omaha, NE | Nebraska Dinner Fundraiser | September**
- **New York, NY | Pier 51 Gala | September**
- **San Diego, CA | Dick’s Last Resort Dinner Auction | October**
- **Pierre, SD | El Dorado Holdings Celebrity Hunt | October**
THE WARRIOR

Family is important. We make it a point to meet the families the night before their service member (SEAL/SWCC) graduates from their NAVSOC Basic Training Course. Our graduation event provides an opportunity for the families to meet each other prior to embarking on their own Navy journey. Each graduation brings over 200 guests to celebrate this very special occasion. A strong family makes for an even stronger Operator. We believe this is the right way to introduce the families into this special community.

- We conducted 6 SEAL and 6 SWCC dinners this year. Approximately 1,625 family members attended these special occasion dinners.

“When my son passed, I was asked where our family wanted to hold the memorial reception to celebrate his life. We felt the best place was the BUD/S grinder because this is where he began his Navy journey, and where it will end.”
- SEAL Parent

HEALTH PROGRAMS

The mission of Operator Mindfulness and Mobility (OMM) is to build resiliency for the Operator; support relational health between the Operator and their spouse; and strengthen family mental and physical health through the practice of yoga. OMM provided a total of 2,694 hours of mental/physical health support in 2015. Of that, 252 hours were attended for Family Wellness Yoga Practice, reaching 126 Operators and their spouses. OMM Operator Classes were attended at 732 hours and have reached 780 Operators. Total spouses and Operators reached in 2015 were 904.

- Enrollment of 175 participants and growing
- Classes “maxing out” on a regular basis
- Popular with couples, singles and deployed spouses
- Classes rolling out to Active Duty as part of the daily grind, command requested

“OMM yoga is exceptional because I benefit from it as an Operator, while also having fun spending time with my wife. It supports us while we are apart, together and through the transitions.”
- Active Duty Operator
SISTERHOOD

The SEAL-NSW Family Foundation Sisterhood Program provides the vital service of creating occasions for NSW spouses to interact in person and discuss areas of shared concern. We actively support the Sisterhood around the globe by hosting their bi-monthly meetings. Most of these get-togethers feature a specific theme or a guest speaker and are specifically designed to build resiliency and reinforce SEAL “family” esprit de corps.

- We conducted 23 Sisterhood events in 2015; 6 on east coast, 6 on west coast, 4 in Bahrain, 4 in Hawaii and 3 in Germany, where over 1,200 spouses got together to discuss issues of mutual concern. In 2016 we will begin supporting three new Sisterhood groups, reaching as far as Kodiak, Alaska, Stennis, MS, and Fort Story, VA.

“Own Bahrain Sisterhood met in the beginning of December before the holidays. We tried hard to get all the Sisters together before we all went our merry ways for Christmas. Our venue was perfect for our ornament exchange because they gave us a private room to gather together privately. Just the simple act of giving each other an ornament brought so much joy and laughter. Our Sisterhood is small which allows us to get to know each other well and build special bonds. Some of us work on the base, some of us work out together, but every other month all of us have the opportunity to get together and support one another. Thanks to the foundation for making it happen! From the Sisters in Bahrain we hope 2016 brings you and all our Sisters around the world much happiness and success! SHUKRAN!”
- SEAL Spouse - Bahrain

FAMILY READINESS GROUPS

Family Readiness Groups (FRG’s) utilize grant money to fund activities in line with our mission to increase resiliency across the NSW family. This is done by increasing cohesiveness, providing training and education, and encouraging positive peer support and family interactions.

- Provided grants to 17 registered FRG’s across 7 geographic areas
- Reached an estimated 1,200 family units within the NSW community

“The FRG gives a sense of belonging to the command and the NSW community—the Navy Family. It provides a way to develop friendships, share important information, and share moral support during unit deployments. For the long-term, involvement in FRG activities can foster more positive attitudes among Navy families and provide a better understanding of military life, the unit, and its mission. Thank you SEAL-NSW Family Foundation for providing this opportunity to our community and families.”
- FRG Leadership
CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS

The numbers tell the story:

• One in 88 military children are diagnosed with autism

• Military children ages 11-14 show a 15% increase in emotional/behavioral problems compared to the general population (Rand Corp. Study)

• Approximately 18% of military children are in need of counseling

Our program for children with unique needs, NSWKids, provides direct support to educational diagnostic testing, services, tutoring/mentoring and support to the children of families of active-duty SEALs, SWCC and support personnel.

• NSWKids has 149 active Participants and growing
• NSWKids is currently receiving an average of 3-5 new requests for service per week
• We project maintaining an average of 180 Participants per day for 2016
• Expenditure per Participant averages $8,000 in services annually

HIGHLIGHTS

Participant: A nine-year-old girl who had always struggled and not performed well in school.
NSWKids provided for an extensive psychoeducational evaluation, and it was determined that the child suffers from three different learning disabilities, but is actually intellectually gifted. She is receiving services and her reading level increased three grade levels in nine months with the proper therapies and tutoring. Her dad said, “NSWKids was the game-changer.”

IMPACT

In 2015, NSWKids Participants have reported:

• 97% of Participants’ grades and test scores are improving
• 89% of Participants have seen positive changes in behavior
• 93% of Participants having disciplinary difficulties at school are showing improvement
• 100% of active-duty SEALs say NSWKids assistance to their child has enabled them personally to become better Operators
• 85% of parents report their child’s anxiety levels have decreased

Participant: A twelve-year-old boy having lifelong issues with sensory integration disorder, ADD, and dysgraphia. He found himself struggling in school despite having a higher than average IQ score when tested, and when standard tutoring was ineffective, NSWKids placed him in vision therapy and cognitive brain training. After six months the child is making straight As, his medication dosage has sharply decreased, and his confidence has grown immeasurably. When asked why he thought he was doing so great he responded, “I don’t know...something just clicked.” His mom says she knows NSWKids made the difference and says there are no words to express her gratitude.

Participant: An adolescent boy who had declined from being gifted, athletic, outgoing and popular to lethargic, moody, and needing special education. His parents were desperate and hopeless, and physicians had placed the child on psychiatric medications and had misdiagnosed and labeled him. NSWKids intervened and sent him to the leading brain specialists in the world. He had been misdiagnosed for three years and was finally properly diagnosed with a curable illness. He is currently being treated and is healing. A bright future awaits him. His mom says, “NSWKids has truly been life-saving for my family and I wish to give back in any way that I can.”
EMERGENCY NEEDS

Immediate availability of funds for families is a critical aspect of our work, to cover a wide assortment of family crises that arise with short notice or none at all. While our Operators are deployed and focused on their mission, they can take comfort in knowing if an emergency arises at home, their family has somewhere to turn.

These crises may include but are not limited to spouse respite, child care, family illnesses, care assistance, emergency home repairs (including those necessitated by natural disasters), and other pressing emergencies.

- Provided SEAL family travel assistance to support mother’s illness
- Helped SEALs who needed substance treatment whose immediate needs could not be met by DOD
- Provided homecoming Post Deployment Reintegration for SEAL Team. Included family support, re-integration support, psychological support
- Provided medical reimbursement to cover cost of Medical Acute Care

"Thank you for all the help and support that you provided in airfare to assist me and my family as we dealt with my sister’s death this past Christmas. I cannot express my gratitude for being able to fly out at the last minute, nor being able to fly my wife out to attend the services and be there with me. I was able to spend a couple of hours with my sister before she passed, but if I had not made the flight I would have missed that opportunity. Again, thank you for coordinating the funds to make that possible."

- Active Duty SEAL

THE FAMILY

While we go about our day-to-day routine here in the United States, others are making unimaginable sacrifices on our behalf. It is not just the service members on the front lines who make sacrifices each day, but also their spouses, children and extended families. We view the family as the foundation of the service member and we are here to support them both.

As the Naval Special Warfare community is asked to do more in support of National Security, we continue to raise awareness about these special Operators and their families and meet their increasing need for our specially designed programs. Your financial support ensures we continue to support this unique community during the challenging years ahead.

From all of us at the SEAL-NSW Family Foundation

- Thank you.
GOLD STAR FAMILY SUPPORT

Many of our brave warriors and their families have paid and continue to pay the ultimate price in the name of our freedom. These families and the men that serve deserve peace of mind knowing if they do not return – we are there.

Designed for children who have had to undergo the death of a SEAL parent, the Comfort Zone Camp is a place where these children can find common ground and healing. The camp encourages camaraderie, resiliency and leadership – traits that will carry them through life’s toughest challenges. Weekend-long activities include physically- and mentally-challenging excursions and peer group conversations that include shared feelings, experiences and goals. This is a phased-camp experience not a one-week visit. Many of the campers return after completion to assist in supporting other young Gold Star Children as they navigate the same challenges.

The aim is to create personal growth and development opportunities and as such, the program represents the primary Gold Star Family program NSW stands behind at this time.

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Since 9/11, the Naval Special Warfare community has lost close to 150 warriors during training and in combat, both at home and on foreign land. We mourn the loss of each, and honor them and their families for their sacrifice. Many of these brave men left behind families with young children. We’ve made it part of our mission to help these children through what will likely be the most difficult time in their lives.

The aim is to create personal growth and development opportunities and as such, the program represents the primary Gold Star Family program NSW stands behind at this time.

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"Thank you so much from the bottom of my heart for making this possible, not just for me but for all the kids. I take so many skills from these camps that I share with my family to help them. So I thank you, SEAL-NSW Family Foundation."

- A Comfort Zone Camper

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FAMILY RESILIENCY

Resiliency does not just happen. Our community Team Building efforts focus on activities and events that promote connecting NSW Families throughout the year. Our activities include gatherings, outings, and events designed for spouses, children and families.

With this in mind, the SEAL-NSW Family Foundation provides a series of workshops based on community needs.

THIRD LOCATION DECOMPRESSION (TLD)

Spouse Third Location Decompression is a term used for workshops designed to prepare spouses for their husbands’ return from deployment.

The purpose is to provide preparation for adaptation to a home environment that will have inevitably changed between deployment and the service member’s return. It better prepares the spouse as well as the entire family for this change in home dynamic.

- In March 2015, 70 families served
- In August 2015, 50 families served
- Hosted the 6th Annual NSW Harvest Hoedown, with an estimated attendance of 607 participants for both days; 408 overnight campers and 200 day campers

"Thank you so much to everyone that made today’s event possible and informative. It’s a nice way to start the final month of deployment. Today’s speakers were the most relevant of any I’ve been to and I think bringing Command Leadership was a perfect touch. Thanks again! I’m so appreciative of all you do to make life easier."

- Spouse of Deployed Service Member

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"Thank you so much from the bottom of my heart for making this possible, not just for me but for all the kids. I take so many skills from these camps that I share with my family to help them. So I thank you, SEAL-NSW Family Foundation."

- A Comfort Zone Camper

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HIGHLIGHTS
THE FALLEN HEROES

SEAL-NSW Family Foundation programs that embrace the needs of the families of Fallen Heroes include:

• Bereavement funding to support the clear needs that arise through the loss of a family member. This includes funeral support and miscellaneous family costs, including costs over time that may be required to support family healing.

• Gold Star Families who have lost a service member to operational, training or off-duty causes are provided support regularly by the Family Foundation. This includes additional funeral expenses, moving relatives across town or oceans, providing for children and whatever else is needed for the comfort and solace of surviving family members. This support continues long after loved ones are laid to rest. Our Gold Star Family initiatives support family trips to interment sites on special occasions, holiday gatherings for survivors, assistance with survivor medical expenses and assistance with private family foundations and memorials.

• The Comfort Zone Camp provides additional support for the children of the fallen (see Gold Star Family Support).

• Memorial and Heritage support is provided by the Family Foundation in the form of monuments (such as Extortion 17), building and classroom dedication, naming ceremonies and local tributes for our Fallen.

"Please extend my sincerest thanks to your board and donors for the trip to Arlington for Wreaths Across America. As you know, my husband recently passed and this was the first year the kids and I attended the event. It was a great way to honor and remember him at Christmas, made all the more special by SEAL-NSW Family Foundation bringing all of us families together. It is very true that our connection with these families makes the burden lighter and the path easier. Your generosity in helping us be together for such important moments is so appreciated. My kids are still talking about what a wonderful time they had!"

-Gold Star Spouse
GOALS FOR 2016

Our goals for 2016 are simple. Stay the course. Persevere in securing the success of our Mission and Vision and increase support to increase the reach and impact of our efforts in supporting the ongoing needs of the SEAL-NSW family!

There are many opportunities to provide ongoing support.

DONATIONS FOR PROGRAM SUPPORT | CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS
VOLUNTEERING | EVENT SPONSORSHIP/DONATIONS
MATCHING GIFTS | STOCK DONATIONS/LIFE INSURANCE

Please call or email with your questions and/or to discuss how to get engaged in supporting the SEAL-NSWFF initiatives in 2016 and beyond.

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Thank you on behalf of our team and the men and families we continue to serve!
THANK YOU ON BEHALF OF OUR TEAM AND THE MEN AND FAMILIES WE CONTINUE TO SERVE!

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