

Monthly Newsletter



Message from our Founder

There are many Veteran Non Profit Organizations out there so why NXTStep? We are a part of a network of non profits to assist our veterans. While the Department of Veterans Affairs and Veteran Service Officers are the real hero's. they can't do it alone. Organizations like NXTStep help either connect veterans to the VSO's or continue the healing process to ensure success.

Our mission is not to replace but to enhance the current organizations that exist today.

Chris "Gonzo" Gonzalez

Get involved

email gonzo@nxtstepvets.org

Where we are Today

First 6 months

NXTStep Vets was chartered on June 28th, 2024. Since then we have been running full speed to get NXTStep off the ground. Little did I expect to have the impact we have had to the local veteran community in just 6 months. We are now working with 7 alumni who were in their darkest times when we first met.

Where to Next?

We continue to fine tune our focus. When first launched the intent was to work with veterans whom just needed steered to their right track. Our mission has slowly evolved to work with those that have agreed have hit rock bottom to include homelessness.

What we are working on

More information will be coming out in our next issue about our first retreat scheduled for April. This retreat will be an equestrian based retreat to bring together our current Alumni and future alumni in one place.

How You help NXTStep Grow

Mentors, Mentors and did I mention Mentors? Adding more volunteer mentors to our network is crucial. A retreat can help a veteran identify his purpose but a mentor can help that veteran develop that purpose. A preferred mentor would be a veteran whom has transitioned into the civilian world and having developed his/ her career. If you or anyone you know would like to be a mentor, please email gonzo@nxtstepvets.org



Fundraising News

NXTStepo Vets finished its 1st raffle fundraiser with \$2860 in net profits. This is the equivalent to two months housing for a local homeless veteran. Help us make the 2nd one successful by visiting <https://qrco.de/HenryRaffle>

Mike Harrahill, Navy Veteran

Michael (Mike), is a Navy veteran having served from 1990–1997. Mike is an aircraft mechanic whom had no problem becoming employed after transition. Mike took his talents gained in the Navy and thrived financially. 20 years later, his prior issues left him to a mental collapse. In 2024, Mike hit rock bottom when he became homeless. Mike has never registered with the VA or sought out help as a veteran.

I took Mike in November 2024 while Ohio's Temps hit the teens. Mike was living in a tent. NXTStep Vets has picked Mike up by giving him confidence in himself and others. Mike is currently under NXTSteps housing program and is currently seeking employment.


There is still a long road for Mike ahead. He is starting to see his future but we must help him get the care he needs to ensure he is mentally ready to thrive again.

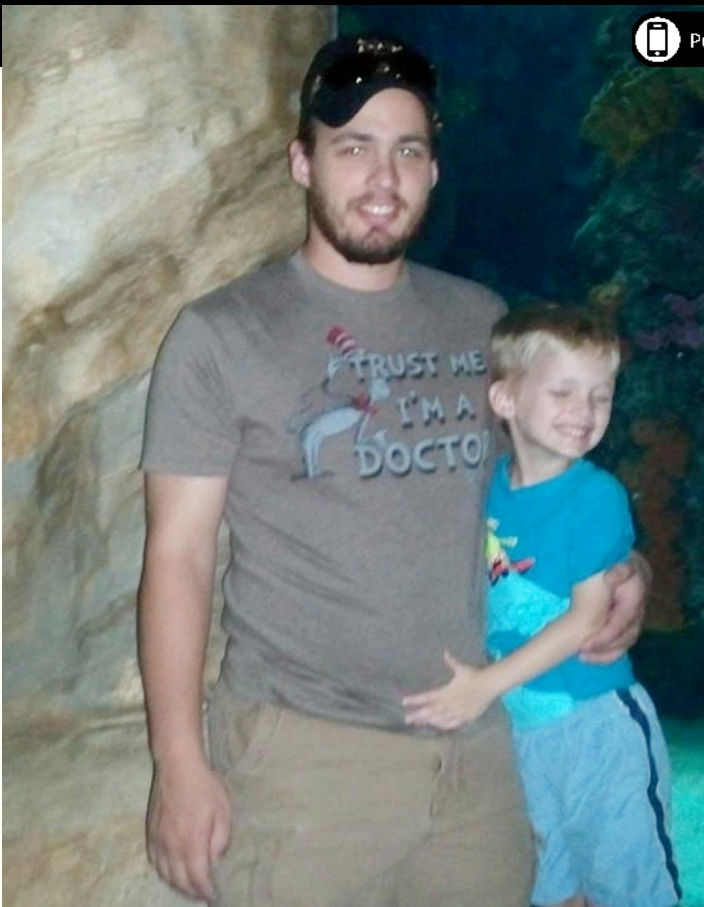
If you know of any opportunities that can help Mike, please feel free to reach out to gonzo@nxtstepvets.org

HENRY GoldenBoy .4570

Purchase Tickets for the Henry GoldenBoy Lever Action .4570 Rifle. This rifle limited with woodstock etching and custom leather sling. Buy your tickets for \$20 a chance and only 250 tickets being sold. Click on <https://qrco.de/HenryRaffle> or scan the QR code below.



 Purchase Now



Alumni Update Shawn Reese Army Combat Veteran

On the last Newsletter we discussed Shawn's story. Shawn's story is a 18 year story in the making. Part of what we do at NXTStep is continue to follow our veterans till they have reached the path they seek, then they become mentors.

Shawn has stepped up and started to follow his path. Shawn has been a VFW Life Member for 15 years but never participated or went to a VFW. While Shawn was in our housing and immediate care, he wanted to learn more about how Non-Profits function and why they exist,

I am happy to share that he is moving on with his life and is currently assisting 7 days a week at a local MT Dora, FL VFW. He sends me suggestions on what he finds at other VFW locations and continues to seek mentorship to ensure he can run a successful Non-Profit.

It is Veterans like Shawn that let me know what we are doing at NXTStep Vets is the right thing to do.

VET Golf Classic

Mark Your Calendar!

The VET (Veteran Engagement Tournament) Golf Classic is locked on for June 5-6th 2025 in Loveland OH. I am proud to announce that we will be teaming with WayPoint Vets on this venture and it will benefit both veterans organizations.

Donation Efforts

- *Final Mile Golf Classic- \$9,500
- *CVMA OH12-2 - \$2,500
- *VFW Post 5354 -\$4,100
- *Gun Raffle -\$2,860

2024 Financial Recap

Fundraising is one of the toughest parts of a Non-Profit organization apart from the actual mission of engaging with Veterans. Part of our mission at NXTStep Vets is full transparency on where funds are directed.

In 2024, we raised \$19,483 to assist our veteran community. \$10, 939 went right back into the mission of helping veterans. We have T-Shirts and Raffle Tickets for sale to help continue that mission.

In December, we held our first mini-retreat with NXTStep board members and Alumni. During this time, our board member saw the difference we were making in that veterans life,

2025 will be a landmark year to determine our future growth and mission, be a part of it by mentoring, fundraising or just sharing our mission.

Row Labels	Sum of Withdrawals	Sum of Deposits
Advertising	\$312.68	
Alumni Car Donation	\$2,614.00	
Alumni Clothing	\$369.25	
Alumni Hotel	\$3,032.56	\$150.00
Alumni Legal Fees	\$3,689.50	
Alumni Location	\$984.50	
Alumni Meals	\$249.40	
Bank Fees	\$18.00	
Donated Items	\$412.09	
Golf Tournament		\$9,500.00
IRS Fees	\$600.00	
Meals & Entertainment	\$291.37	
Raffle Items	\$3,135.20	
Raffle Sales		\$5,133.15
Raffle Tickets	\$84.06	
State Fees	\$491.87	
T Shirt Sale	\$600.00	
Travel	\$651.65	
Website	\$166.70	
(blank)	\$257.02	
Donation Received		\$4,700.00
Alumni Cash Donation	\$246.00	
Grand Total	\$18,205.85	\$19,483.15

HENRY Raffle

Help us sell all 250 tickets this 1st qtr. Our raffle ticket sales help support NXTStep Housing veterans. At an average cost of \$130 monthly per veteran, we need to sell all 250 tickets. Our average raffle carries an investment of \$1,100 cost per raffle.

Mentorship

If you would like to become a mentor for NXTStep Vets, please email gonzo@nxtstepvets.org. Mentors are one of the most powerful tools that we have to help our veterans.

Veteran Engagement Tournament Golf Classic JUNE 5-6TH 2025

TEAMS \$800

Solo's \$200

Remembrance Signs \$100

VET Golf Classic

Sign up now and pay later for our VET Golf Classic benefiting NXTStep Vets and WayPoint Vets. Both organizations are dedicated to Empowering veterans and helping them find their purpose to thrive.

This years Golf Tournament will be at Hickory Woods Golf Course in Loveland OH. The Banquet will be held at the VFW Post 5354 in Loveland OH. The Post is nestled on a 16 acre property and the future home to NXTStep Vets Tiny Homes to help homeless veterans.

Thursday June 5th will start with a Bourbon Trail Tasting experience on a party bus then arrive at the Post by 5pm that day. Don't like Borboun? Join us for fun times with our veterans on the post firing range, Try different weapons systems or bring your own!

The banquet will be hold lakeside at the post and will be proceeded by a live auction.

Sponsorship

Are you looking for SponsorShip Opportunities? Reach out to gonzo@nxtstepvets.org for tournamanet Sponsorship Packaes,

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