



VIRGINIA VETERANS SERVICE FOUNDATION
Report to the Board of Veterans Services
December 15, 2023

The Virginia Veterans Services Foundation (VSF) Board of Trustees held their quarterly meeting on December 7, 2023, at the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce in Newport News, Virginia.

There have been two new appointees to the Board. The Governor appointed Marc Andersen from Northern Virginia who has dedicated his life to making investments to those who work to make a difference to serve those who fight for our country. The Speaker of the House appointed Mike Coleman to replace John Esposito.

The Foundation has hired Kayla Arestivo as its Executive Director. Kayla, a licensed professional counselor, is the CEO of Trail for Purpose, supports service members and their families in their fight to overcome the negative effects of trauma, transition, and trials that result from their service in the military. They do this by providing FREE equine-assisted therapies and mental health counseling.

The Foundation Chairman, Paul Haughton, will be stepping down effective December 15. The Vice Chairman, Brad Willaimson, will fulfill the duties of the Chairman.

Financially, the Foundation is on sound footing with a balance at the end of September 2023, of \$3.2 million. The Foundation has sent requests to every VSO in Virginia that has given to the Foundation over the past 5 years. We asked that the Foundation to be considered as your organizations consider way to help Virginia Veterans. Additionally, we sent letters to anyone who donated to the Veterans Care Centers, asking for donation to support a holiday program. The response has been favorable so far, and we will provide you with data at your next meeting on the overall giving for the entire year.

Attached is a copy of the Foundation Annual Report to the General Assembly, which provides specific information on 2023 operations.

The next VSF Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for March 14, 2024, at a location to be determined.

Respectfully Submitted,
Paul Haughton
Chairman
Virginia Veterans Services Foundation