

## **Resources for Caregivers and Veterans\*** **San Diego, California**

### **AMVETS – [www.amvets.org](http://www.amvets.org)**

AMVETS (or American Veterans) has a proud history of assisting veterans and sponsoring numerous programs that serve our country and its citizens. The helping hand that AMVETS extends to veterans and their families takes many forms. One of the most visible is AMVETS' network of trained national service officers (NSOs) accredited by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Funded by the AMVETS National Service Foundation, these men and women can be found in close to 40 states, providing advice and prompt action on compensation claims at no charge to the veteran. Information about NSOs can be found at [www.amvets.org/service/national\\_service\\_officers.html](http://www.amvets.org/service/national_service_officers.html) .

### **Blinded Veterans of America – [www.bva.org](http://www.bva.org)**

BVA employs seven full-time staff members as Field Service Representatives. The Reps have been strategically placed in different geographical areas throughout the United States. Their goal is to locate and assist blinded veterans in overcoming the challenges inherent in sight loss. The Southern CA Field Service Representative is Earl Ivie and can be contacted by e-mail at [bvivee1@va.gov](mailto:bvivee1@va.gov).

### **California Statewide Collaborative for our Military and Families— [www.rebuildhope.org/casc.php](http://www.rebuildhope.org/casc.php)**

This Collaborative is a strong voice advocating for a wholistic, compassionate continuum of services, treatment and care for service members, veterans, families, care givers and care providers. The Collaborative provide a forum to share information and education, raise awareness, focus outreach and promote strategic partnerships that will streamline and improve access to health and human services. They achieve this goal by building fully integrated partnerships of Federal, State, Local and Community in support of our Military and Families. The Collaborative can be reached at by contacting MaryEllen Salzano at [maryellen\\_salzano@yahoo.com](mailto:maryellen_salzano@yahoo.com); 408-779-6916 or 408-489-0911 (cell).

### **Coalition to Salute America's Heroes – [www.saluteheroes.org](http://www.saluteheroes.org)**

The Coalition to Salute America's Heroes is the leading non-governmental provider of emergency financial relief to wounded soldiers from Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom and their families. The Coalition partners with corporate sponsors, individual contributors, and volunteers to provide a simple and

\*This list is intended to provide caregivers of veterans with helpful information about agencies and organizations that provide support, education, resources, and other services to veterans and families. This is not an exhaustive list. There are literally 100s or organizations that support veterans and families in a variety of different ways. The National Alliance for Caregiving does not endorse or receive funding from any organizations included on this list.

