



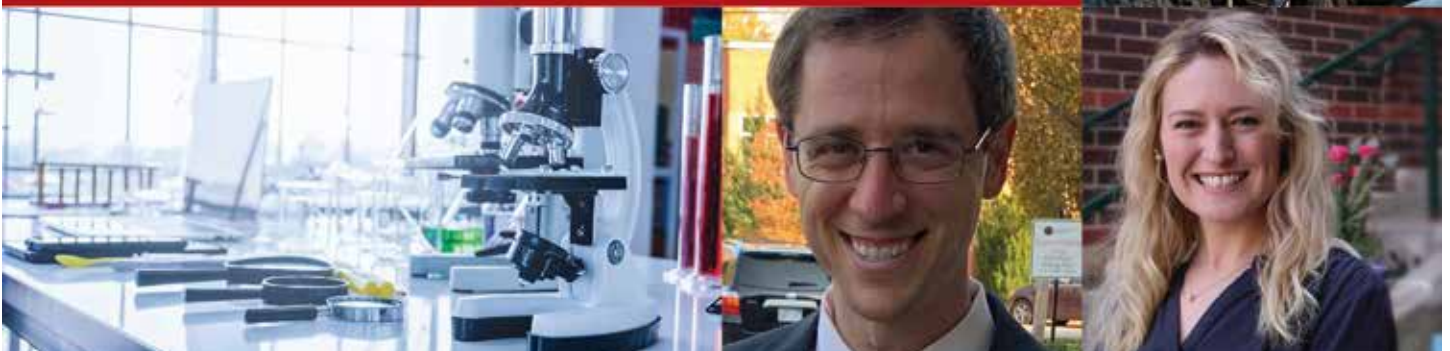
LEGACY[®]

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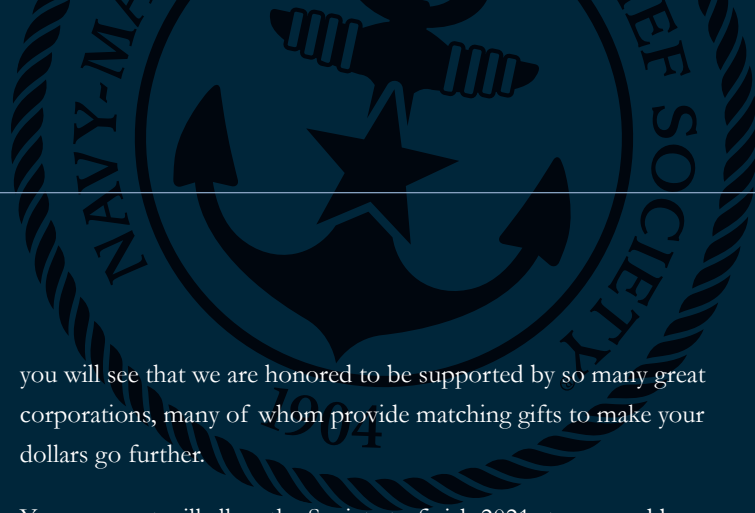
NEWSLETTER



**THANKS TO YOUR GENEROSITY
STUDENTS CAN PURSUE THEIR
EDUCATIONAL DREAMS**



MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR SAILORS, MARINES, AND THEIR FAMILIES



From the Signal Bridge



October marked the second anniversary of my stepping into the role as President, Chief Executive Officer of Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society. As I reflect on the past two years, I am incredibly proud of the outstanding job the Society staff and volunteers have done adapting to the ever-changing health

conditions of their workplaces and remaining focused on serving Marines and Sailors in need. I continue to be humbled by their dedication and compassion for our mission and those we serve.

Your generous support allows NMCRS to quickly respond to unexpected needs. Our programs and services are designed to address many events as they happen. This issue highlights how several of our overseas offices assisted with Operation Allies Refuge. Our local directors and their teams of dedicated volunteers jumped in to assist with sorting donations and training new volunteers working all hours of the day and night to provide clothes, toys, hygiene products and diapers to the evacuees who landed at their bases. All of these additional duties were done while never losing sight of our core mission to assist Sea Service members and their families.

In this issue of Legacy you will also read about how NMCRS provides educational grants and interest-free loans to help dependent children and spouses on their path to an undergraduate or graduate degree. You will learn about Jack and Robbie Higgins, who used the Society's services in their time of need, became lifelong donors when they were able, and taught their children to support us too. As their son Craig shared, "As you get older and come Christmastime, you get to the point where you can't get your parents anything because they have everything they need. So, whatever we would have spent on a present, we sent it to Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society." We are very fortunate to have families whose commitment to NMCRS runs so deeply. Finally,

you will see that we are honored to be supported by so many great corporations, many of whom provide matching gifts to make your dollars go further.

Your support will allow the Society to finish 2021 strong, and be ready for 2022. I would like to thank you for your commitment to supporting Marines and Sailors. It is because of your generosity that Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society is able to keep active duty members ready for their next mission, and to provide financial and educational needs to retirees and their family members. As always, thank you for your patriotism, your faithful and generous support - and your continued trust in NMCRS.

Semper Fidelis,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jack Klimp".

LTGEN JACK KLIMP, USMC (RET.)

President and Chief Executive Officer

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Entering (and Exiting) Crisis Mode with the Help of NMCRS

By Ashley Estill

Jack Higgins joined the Navy when he was only 16, during WWII. Jack was from a rural area in Western North Carolina and joining the Navy provided him with opportunity and security he likely would not have otherwise had. Jack married his sweetheart, Robbie, and in 1956, their son, Craig was born.

In 1958, the Higgins family was stationed in Long Beach, California. While Robbie and Craig were home, Jack was on a “no-contact” mission in the South Pacific. Robbie unfortunately received a call that put her in crisis mode.



Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society benefactors, Jack and Robbie Higgins. As thanks for the help they received, Jack and Robbie – and their children – became lifelong donors to NMCRS.

She spoke with a funeral director in Burnsville, North Carolina who told her that her father-in-law, Zebulon Higgins, had passed away. *How would she tell her husband? What if the Navy couldn't reach him? What would she do?*

Unsuccessful at reaching Jack, Robbie had no idea what to do – she only knew that someone had to be in North Carolina to represent

the family. *But going with her two-year-old seemed impossible.*

Robbie was working at the commissary on base when one of the ladies who worked there recommended that she reach out to the Navy Relief Society Office and share her predicament.

“Mom went down there, and the Relief Society basically took over her plight,” Craig said. “They would continue to lobby the Navy to get ahold of my Dad – and they did, but he could not get back. Navy Relief then lined up a flight for Mom – can you imagine what flights were like in the 50s?”

Craig continued to share that the Society paid for his Mom’s flight to North Carolina and back, but his Mom was still distraught because she had no idea who would watch her son.

Well, an acquaintance of Robbie’s took care of Craig and the Society arranged for the Red Cross to contact Robbie’s friend every morning to get an update on Craig and figured out how to call Robbie in North Carolina to let her know how he was doing while she was away.

“Her father-in-law died, she had a young son, and her husband was somewhere in the South Pacific,” Craig said. “Mom always said she didn’t know how she would have gotten through that crisis in her young life without the Navy Relief Society.”

Jack retired from the Navy after 20 years of service, and the family settled in Tennessee. Although they never had a lot of extra money, when they had even \$5, Robbie would send a donation to Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society because of the impact they made on her.

As Craig grew up, his mother would tell him and his younger brother, that if they had any extra money, “send these people some money. They helped me and your Dad a long time ago,” Craig said.

And he always did.

“Here’s the kicker,” Craig said. “As you get older and come Christmastime, you get to the point where you can’t get your parents anything because they have everything they need. So, whatever we would have spent on a present, we sent it to Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society. My brother and I have been doing that for decades and always sent a notification to our parents that a donation was made in their honor.”

Continued on page 4



Craig Higgins, with his father, Jack Higgins, who served in the Navy for 20 years and retired in 1964.

Jack passed away six years ago at age 88 and Robbie still lives in Tennessee. Craig continues to donate to Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society – he knows that every little bit helps and can make a world of difference in the lives of our military and their families.

“No pun intended – Mom knew others would be in the same boat and wanted to help NMCRS do the same thing for others that they did for her.”

This holiday season consider a gift that will give back. Make a donation to Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society in honor of a loved one. To learn more, visit www.nmcrs.org/donate.

*The Society's name was changed from the Navy Relief Society to Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society in 1990.

Fall Into The Season of Giving. Donate Your Vehicle Today!

The pick-up is free and your gift is tax-deductible.

[Give Now](#)

Visit nmcrs.careasy.org
for more information



This holiday season, give a gift that helps Sailors, Marines, and their families – and honors a friend or family member – all at the same time.

To make a gift in honor of a colleague or loved one, visit www.nmcrs.org/donate or contact us at 800-654-8364. We will be happy to send a card to your honoree, acknowledging your generous support, in their name, to the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society.

With your donation, you will be bringing holiday joy to your honoree and ensuring that NMCRS stands ready to assist Sea Service members and their families each and every day.



MAKE A DONATION IN LIEU OF A HOLIDAY GIFT

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Answers The Call To Assist With Support Efforts During Operation Allies Refuge

By Thelisha A. Woods

When Operation Allies Refuge evacuated hundreds of families from Afghanistan, many organizations answered the call to help. Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society was one of those organizations that supported the efforts surrounding this operation. Several Society offices including NMCRS Rota, NMCRS Sigonella, and NMCRS Naples, assisted by training volunteers and coordinating their support, along with our Thrift Shop volunteers in collecting, sorting, and distributing thousands of donated items.

“The spirit, dedication, and compassion found in our staff members, and our many Society volunteers, is truly incredible,” remarked NMCRS President and CEO, LtGen Jack W. Klimp, USMC (Ret.) “So many people from our team worked tirelessly to ensure families had necessities such as clothing, blankets, diapers, towels and even toys for the children who were evacuated. I’m very proud of how we were able to come together to make things a little bit easier for those who were impacted.”

NMCRS can “be there” for moments like this, because of donors like you. Your generous giving allows us to give back in ways and experiences that are truly priceless.



NMCRS Sigonella volunteers unloading donated items in support of Operation Allies Refuge at Naval Air Station Sigonella. (Photo Credit: Petty Officer 2nd Class Claire DuBois)



NMCRS Rota volunteers at the reception table assisting with sign-ups and check-ins for volunteers, and with donation drop-offs for donors. (Photo Credit: NAVSTA Public Affairs)



NMCRS Rota staff members briefing reporters on the volunteer efforts during a community donation drive. (Photo Credit: Courtney Pollock)



NMCRS Naples volunteers serving at the donation processing center, a place set up to greet donors as well as the staging area for packing the donations. (Photo Credit: NMCRS Naples Facebook)

The Society's Education Program Helps Students Pursue Their Educational Goals And Achieve Their Dreams

By Thelisha A. Woods

Since the founding of NMCRS, the Society has always been there to help students with their educational endeavors. Initially, in 1904 the Education Program provided aid to military orphans to attend school. Over the years the program expanded, offering interest-free loans and grants to spouses and children of active duty and retired Sea Service members, and to the children of deceased Sea Service members to complete their undergraduate

education. In 2020 the program evolved even more to include assistance for those pursuing Master's degrees. The following stories are just a snapshot of all the lives touched. Learn how your donations have made it possible for the Society's Education Program to make a difference in the lives of so many students as they grow in their careers in various fields and industries. To learn more, www.nmcrrs.org/education.



STUDENT NAME:

Aliyah Flowers

SCHOOL NAME:

University of Central Florida

DEGREE SOUGHT:

Bachelor's in Communications

HOW THE NMCRS EDUCATION PROGRAM HELPED:

"This award has impacted my education plans, because this year I wasn't sure if I would have money to continue my education. This grant has helped me be able to continue [college] and earn my degree and knowledge."



STUDENT NAME:

Camden Scheller

SCHOOL NAME:

Yale University

DEGREE SOUGHT:

Bachelor's in Economics and Global Affairs

HOW THE NMCRS EDUCATION PROGRAM HELPED:

"It will allow me to focus on school solely as I will not have to worry about the financial burdens that come with attending college. Furthermore, it will bring me one step closer to being able to attend college debt-free. I will be able to begin my life outside of school very effectively."



STUDENT NAME:

Caroline Keegan

SCHOOL NAME:

Fred Wilson School of Pharmacy at High Point University

DEGREE SOUGHT:

Pharm D (Doctor of Pharmacy)

HOW THE NMCRS EDUCATION PROGRAM HELPED:

"Having the support of the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society has allowed me to pursue a career path that I am passionate about. I hope to one day use my pharmacy degree to serve the military community that has served me for so long."



STUDENT NAME:

Claire Leidy

SCHOOL NAME:

Pennsylvania State University, University Park

DEGREE SOUGHT:

Bachelor's in Biobehavioral Health

HOW THE NMCRS EDUCATION PROGRAM HELPED:

"I have been fortunate to enter my third year of college debt-free and feeling financially stable following the uncertainties of the COVID-19 pandemic."



STUDENT NAME:

Joe Viviano

SCHOOL NAME:

Johnson County Community College

DEGREE SOUGHT:

Bachelor's in Computer Science and Data Analytics

HOW THE NMCRS EDUCATION PROGRAM HELPED:

“This award has made it much easier to pursue my studies without taking on part-time jobs that interfere with uninterrupted concentration on coursework. Once I have the opportunity to pay it forward to a future generation, I will without hesitation do so.”



STUDENT NAME:

Kellie Alexander

SCHOOL NAME:

Indiana University Purdue University
Indianapolis-Lilly Family School of
Philanthropy

DEGREE SOUGHT:

Master's in Philanthropic Studies

HOW THE NMCRS EDUCATION PROGRAM HELPED:

“I am now able to focus on school and complete my accelerated graduate degree in one year! This assistance is incredible, and these grants can help you pursue your educational goals. I did not think I would be fortunate enough to receive a grant but here I am, and I am so honored to have been chosen!”

NMCRS IS THANKFUL FOR YOUR DONATIONS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON



By Beth Suarez

The generosity of our donors and partners makes it possible for Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society to be there for active duty and retired Sailors, Marines, and their family members when they are in financial need. We are grateful to the thousands of individuals and families who step forward each year to make a tax-deductible donation.

We extend thanks as well to the corporations and foundations that support our work. These institutions are committed to serving Sea Service members, and their philanthropy is

inspired by the significant support the Society receives from individuals. In fact, several corporations allow NMCRS to leverage their corporate gift as a matching challenge. Through these challenge campaigns, the impact of individual donations is doubled, meaning more resources to fund NMCRS programs and services. We offer a special shout-out to Leonardo DRS, Raytheon Missiles and Defense, and Lockheed Martin for sponsoring challenge campaigns in 2021! And to all our institutional partners, we offer our deepest thanks.

WAYS TO GIVE



Donate in the way that works best for you. Each gift you give helps Sailors, Marines, and their families when they need it. Your gift provides urgent financial assistance, budgeting instruction, nurse visits, education grants, and so much more. To make a donation, please send your check to NMCRS, Attention: Development Department, 875 N. Randolph St, Ste 225, Arlington, VA, 22203 or donate online at www.nmcrs.org/donate. You may also wish to explore some of these other ways to give.

ESTABLISH A MONTHLY GIFT

Set up a monthly donation to support the Society year round, for an automatic gift you don't have to worry about. This can be done through your credit card, ACH or from your pay by allotment. To learn more visit: www.nmcrs.org/donate

MATCHING GIFTS

Some companies provide matching donations to their employees' charitable gifts to the Society. Check to see if your employer participates.

BENEFICIARY DESIGNATION

Consider naming the Society as a beneficiary of an IRA, 401k, life insurance policy, bank or brokerage account. You can also include the Society as a beneficiary in your will or trust. By doing this, you will be touching the lives of Sailors and Marines in the future.

FUNDRAISING EVENT

Let us know if you are planning an event or activity to help support the NMCRS mission.

VEHICLE DONATIONS

If you have a vehicle you can donate the Society, contact us for instructions or go to our website <https://nmcrs.careasy.org/HOME.html>. All vehicles are accepted and will be picked up wherever they are located.

STOCK DONATIONS

Donations of stocks and bonds are simple ways to support NMCRS. Along with a tax deduction, you may avoid capital gains tax by making the gift directly to our brokerage account.

GIFTS FROM DONOR ADVISED FUNDS AND IRA PLANS

Many donors have found these gifts to be the most tax advantageous gift they can make. Be sure to know the rules for these gifts, and you may find you can increase your gift while decreasing taxes.

NMCRS does not receive any government funds, we operate entirely on private donations. Thank you for your support!

To explore ways you can support the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, please contact NMCRS Development Department at giving@nmcrs.org or (800) 654-8364.



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MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR SAILORS, MARINES, AND THEIR FAMILIES