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Jacksonville Area Veterans Receive New Suits At ‘Suits for Soldiers’ Ceremony

Soldiers Honored With New Suits Upon Completing Program, Ready to Start New Chapter in Life

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (Tuesday, July 27, 2010) - Eleven wounded warriors are now dressed for success and ready to enter the civilian workforce, thanks to Haven Hospice and Dignity U Wear’s recent presentation ceremony in which the soldiers received new dress suits for new opportunities.

“It is so moving to see these soldiers wearing these new suits,” says Executive Director for Dignity U Wear, Bob Bryan. “They are starting a new chapter in their lives and these suits, along with the skills and education they have received through the Wounded Warrior Project, will give them the confidence they need to excel in the community and in the workforce.”

The soldiers all participated in, and successfully completed, a 12-month program through the Wounded Warrior Project, in which they learned various educational needs and job training skills, while also receiving rehabilitative care for various injuries sustained while serving overseas.

“Working alongside Dignity U Wear to provide these veterans with suits has been an honor,” said Haven Hospice President, Tim Bowen. “It’s absolutely wonderful to see.”

Andrew Coughlan, a veteran who completed the Wounded Warrior Project program and was fitted for a new suit last month, expressed his sincere appreciation during the ceremony to Haven Hospice, Dignity U Wear and the Wounded Warrior Project, saying that because of the compassion from the representatives of this program and these organizations, he is able to have a new start in life.

“This entire experience has been one that I will not soon forget, and I want to thank you all for that,” said Coughlan. “This program has gotten me back up on my feet and I’m grateful to have had the opportunity to participate. I know that I’m going to wear this suit with just as much pride as I did my last.”



The wounded warriors show off their new suits with representatives from Men’s Wearhouse, Trimeka Benjamin from Haven Hospice and Bob Bryan from Dignity U Wear.

About Dignity U Wear

Dignity U Wear distributes brand new clothing it receives from apparel manufacturers, distributors and retailers through a network of nonprofit social service agencies throughout the United States. The organization specializes in receiving, warehousing and distributing brand new clothing to people in need at absolutely no cost to them. Since it was founded in 2000, the organization has provided more than 6.6 million pieces, valued at \$112million, to more than 435,000 people. For more information, visit www.dignityuwear.org.

About Haven Hospice

Haven Hospice is North Florida’s expert in end-of-life and palliative care and has been recognized as a national Circle of Life Award® winner for leadership in improving the care of patients near the end of life or with life-threatening conditions. Haven Hospice has also been recognized as a Florida Pacesetter for its leadership in promoting advance directives. Haven Hospice has served more than 45,000 patients and families since 1979 and has been licensed in Florida as a not-for-profit hospice since 1980. For more information, visit www.havenhospice.org or call 800-727-1889.

About the Wounded Warrior Project

The mission of the Wounded Warrior Project is to honor and empower wounded warriors. Its purpose is to raise awareness and to enlist the public’s aid for the needs of severely injured service members, to help severely injured men and women aid and assist each other, and to provide unique, direct programs

and services to meet their needs. WWP is a national, apolitical organization headquartered in Jacksonville, FL. To get involved and learn more, visit www.woundedwarriorproject.org.

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