



Dear Friends of Re-Creation,

No preamble. No clever metaphors.

We need your help.

We were told the last week of April by the Department of Veterans Affairs that Re-Creation will receive no funding for 2017. A loss of \$64,000.00. This loss is not reflective of any issue with the Re-Creation program nor an active decision by VA. Indeed, our new VA contact addressing this issue has been gracious and accommodating. She has relayed how appreciative the department is of our service, our history and that they are doing what they can to get things set back in order for 2018. But 2017 is a wash.

How did this happen? Well, we don't really know. We could relay what we *think* happened, but that would be speculation. The fact is... it has happened.

Be reminded that Re-Creation has been endeavoring in this mission under coordinated contract with the VA for 35 years. For the past 17 of those years, we have received \$64,000.00/year from VA.

That number reflects a payment of \$800/show for 80 shows/year.

Of course, you already know the group does more than 140 VA / State Home shows a year, and that they cost much more than \$800/ea.

We make the program work through the dedication and generosity of people like YOU!

This development is crippling. But we are hopeful, as is VA, that the issue will be corrected for 2018.

In the meantime, we need you to consider "standing in the gap."

We thought if 1000 people would send in \$64.00/ea. we could recoup the deficit and keep the program running.

We do not want to cancel one single facility!

Surely with all the people on the Re-Creation mailing list, all of the former members, all of the commercial clients at fairs and banquets, the folks in the Florida circuit...really, all over the USA, there are enough of YOU to keep the program going. If you want to...

Just this week, a recreation therapist from a VA called and relayed that her residents have been badgering her to have the group come back. "When are they coming?" She was pleased to say, "This September!"

One gentleman, very seriously said, "Well, then I won't die until after they come. Then I can die a happy man."

True story. And THAT is how important this mission is to these men and women!

As members of the Board, we do more than emotionally support Re-Creation. We have all given, for many years, through F.O.R-C.E.S. and donations to the general fund. But we have already sent in another gift of \$64 to 'stand in the gap.'

Will you consider doing the same? Donate online, send a check, use your Re-Creation app. The time to act is now!

Jay will keep you posted of developments, and we will press forward to continue to serve!

Thank you!

Considerately,

Betsy Boyer, Chair
Re-Creation USA, Inc. Board of Directors

Lee Wineholt, Vice-Chair
Re-Creation USA, Inc. Board of Directors

John Godissart, Secretary
Re-Creation USA, Inc. Board of Directors

Bryce Boyer, Member
Re-Creation USA, Inc. Board of Directors

John Massa, Member
Re-Creation USA, Inc. Board of Directors

Jay Muller, Director
Re-Creation USA, Inc.

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