

# RE-CREATION®

"AMERICA'S AMBASSADORS TO HOSPITALIZED VETERANS"

August 2017

"STAND in the GAP" Update

P.O. BOX 220, Port Trevorton, PA 17864  
www.re-creationusa.org

Hello Friends,

This past May we reported that Re-Creation suffered a \$64,000.00 loss in funding usually provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs. This portion of our budget had been constant for the past 17 years. The cut came with no forewarning or reason.

We also reported that our contact at VA was helpful and hopeful that funding would be re-instated for 2018. We will not know the outcome of the committee's efforts until September, 2017.

We asked you, dedicated Americans, to **"Stand in the Gap"** for this year and help recoup the \$64,000.00 loss... a tall order to be sure. But we were confident we could get 1000 people to donate \$64.00, what seemed a manageable sum.

To date:

out of the 7,500 folks who saw the Facebook plea...

out of more than 2000 people who received our physical and email newsletters...

out of over 250 personal missives to former members...

out of hundreds of letters to churches for whom we have sung...

**174 people / churches / organizations have responded.**

They have responded generously to be sure. Thank You!

But I find that response number a bit, ahem, 'sobering...'

Between Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day, everyone celebrates and lifts up America, Liberty and Freedom...and what a glorious Freedom we enjoy!

Re-Creation serves those founders of freedom every single day in VA Medical Centers and State Veterans Homes nation-wide. And we need your help.

A couple weeks ago, I ran into an older gentlemen, a lovely man, who had donated to "Stand in the Gap" and he asked how it was going...

I relayed to him what I just relayed to you.

"Well," he said in that strong, older-generational American way, "You need to send another mailing! Start banging some doors. I can't believe everyone didn't just stop what they were doing and send in \$64.00. That's not an exorbitant amount. Maybe they haven't seen you. Maybe they don't know what this means to the vets." He continued, "Well, I do and my wife and I will be sending in another check. But you send that reminder to people! Now!"

I said, "Yes Sir!" with a wry smile and shook his hand.

He was excited, passionate and on-fire.

And I'll admit, it was nice to see.

And yes, this is your 'reminder'...and we will get another mailing out as soon as we can... in the meantime...

Those 22 former members and 152 individuals and groups have raised just over \$41,000.00 (or an average of \$235.00 ea.)

Wow!

I just realized, too, that \$41,000.00 is 64% of our goal!

64. Again.

mmmmmmmm...love when God does something like that just to remind us that His hand is in all of this. And He will use your gifts to extend that hand to all people who are hurt, recovering, and rehabilitating.

We will continue to go.

Will you join us?

Appreciatively,



Jay Muller, Director  
Re-Creation USA, Inc.



Re-Creation - the 43rd Edition: Jon Gagnon, Jordan Marolf, Julie Horan, Nick Marolf, Gabrielle Darrin  
Jonathan Hepler, Devon Donahue, Austin Eisner, Alexis Long, Tyler West, Stephen Downey

# NEW PROJECTS for RC 43!



## HAPPY!

There's too much negativity in the world, right? Well then, join RE-CREATION's 43rd edition as they celebrate the joy and potential in all of us. Uplifting, Inspiring, Happy!

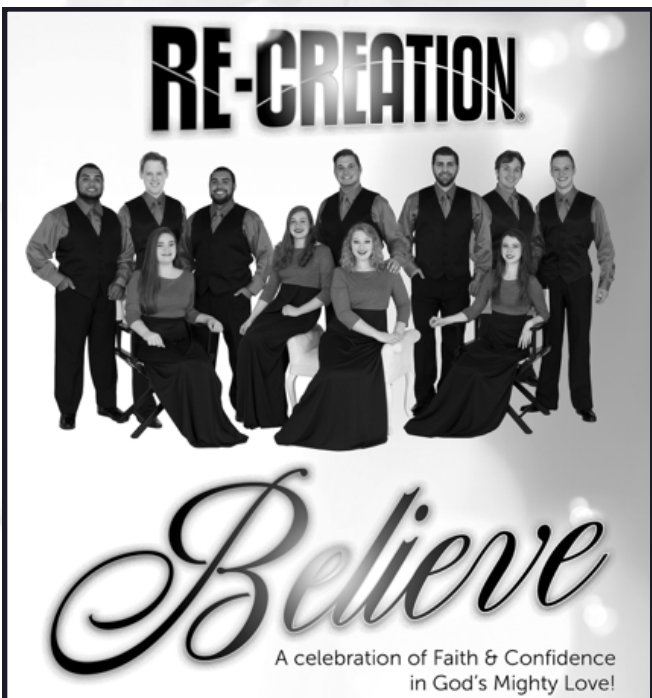
*"Happy, Can't Stop the Feelin', Shake It Off, Get Happy"*  
*"Put on a Happy Face, Always Look on the Bright Side of Life"*  
*"I Got Rhythm, Nice Work if You Can Get It, Embraceable You"*  
*"Listen to the Music, Crocodile Rock, I Want You Back"*  
*"Walkin' On Sunshine, We Got the Beat, I'm From the Country"*  
From the Turn-of-the-Century to the Top-of-the-Charts!

**plus rousing renditions of new patriotic anthems:**

*"Soul of Liberty"* written by RC alumni Jim Worthing  
*"This Land is Your Land, My Country 'Tis of Thee"*

CD available September 2017 / DVD available November 2017

*There will be no public video-taping this year.  
We will be filming in an actual care facility!*



## BELIEVE!

An inspiring celebration of God's great love!  
An alive worship experience of dynamic vocals and new renditions of faithful hymns, praise and worship and kids songs!

*"Blessed Be the Name of the Lord, How Great Thou Art"*  
*"Old Time Religion, 'Tis So Sweet, Sunday School Medley"*  
*"I Believe in a Hill Called Mt. Calvary, Jesus Hold My Hand"*

**plus original music:**

*"Believer's Prayer, Just Say Jesus"* written by Mary & Jay Muller  
*"I Believe"* written by RC alumni Jim Worthing  
*"Believe in Me Children"* written by Hugh Brooks & Dave Kazee

CD available September 2017 / DVD available November 2017

**Join us for the BELIEVE - VIDEO TAPING!**

**Sunday August 20, 2017, 7:00 pm**

**St. Paul's U.C.C. Selinsgrove, PA**



*\* Respectfully, as this is a full-size professional camera shoot, please, no infants or children who would not (or could not) enjoy (or endure) a two-hour program of Gospel music! Thank you for your consideration.  
\* And please dress appropriately for church!*

## DYNAMIC TESTIMONIES OF YOUR SERVICE TO AMERICA!

May these wonderful letters from VA Medical Centers and State Veterans Homes remind us all of the importance, the vital need, for Re-Creation's service! Stay with us! [www.re-creationusa.org](http://www.re-creationusa.org)

*"Greetings Jay,*

*We absolutely loved the show. The Vets, family and staff were still talking about the show days afterwards. **This is one of those great memories that they will never forget.** Thank you for being a part of that, thank Re-Creation for bringing so much light and appreciation to our Seattle Vets. We will forever be grateful."*

*~ Seattle, WA, VAMC*

*"Once again, you have thrilled and delighted our Veterans with your show! The performance was spectacular, and **our residents enjoyed the personal attention and interaction of your performers,** and all the glittering costumes and breathtaking music!*

*We certainly appreciate all your tireless efforts to maintain an organization like Re-Creation. We know it takes a lot of hard work, fundraising, traveling, nurturing relationships, recruiting, training, etc. We are all very grateful that you expend these efforts to bring pleasure and tribute to our Veterans.*

*On behalf of the Medical Center staff and our Veteran residents and patients, thank you again for your support and generosity. We hope to see you again soon."*

*~ Philadelphia, PA VAMC*

*"Thank you for sending your Re-Creation crew to the Lincoln V.A. Their performance was outstanding and very appreciated by the large audience. **I even heard one well seasoned veteran say "it was better than Branson."** Their patriotic finale left more than a few lumps in throats and misty eyes. Thanks again and we look forward to Re-Creation coming back to Lincoln."*

*~ Lincoln, NE VAMC*

*"The performers captivated the residents' hearts and imaginations with the production. **Residents really enjoyed shaking the hands of the cast after the show, as well as receiving signed photos and getting their picture taken with the performers!** This type of performance cultivates national pride, as well as provides the recognition and respect the veterans so richly deserve! Residents' qualities of life were truly enhanced.*

*Thank you also for the assistance with escorting residents to Chilson Hall! This was a special opportunity for the residents to connect with the Re-Creation cast and crew. The copies of the Re-Creation performances on CD and DVD for the residents' library are greatly appreciated!*

*Your dedicated and talented team are an inspiration to all! We can't wait to see what Re-Creation will bring to the WA Soldier' Home at the next performance! Thank you for all that Re-Creation does for veterans across the country!"*

*~ Washington Soldiers' Home, Orting, WA*

*"They performed to a packed house! We heard many positive comments after the show, with the most common being, **"When are they coming back?"** Thank you for your support of the program. Their performance was the topic of many weeks before their arrival and will continue to be talked about fondly for a long time afterwards!"*

*~ Marquette, MI SVH*



## **A wonderfully unique gift came in from a care facility.**

We sing for and serve the residents at this particular nursing home, usually twice a year...in the summer and at Christmastime. They pay for the show. They are not a VA or VA State Home, but, of course, have many, many veterans among their residents. And the impact of the show is always HUGE! The staff tell us the residents talk about the group for months before we arrive and months after we're gone...Wow!

In the past number of years, we've enjoyed seeing Marianne, a lady visiting her resident-brother, John, at the shows. They always sit near the front and are always singing along, clapping, smiling. She has related to us time and again how much he looks forward to the shows...as does she!

I received this from her a couple months back...

*"I will always have great memories of and a fondness for Re-Creation. My brother, John, resided where Re-Creation performs yearly. John and I loved to attend these performances together and always had a front row seat so he could sing along and interact with the performers. When we attended this past December, little did I know it would be the last afternoon I would spend with my brother before his unexpected death three days later. I will be forever grateful to Re-Creation for the opportunity they gave me to share this last, special performance with John."*

Humbling. Special.

Later, we received a \$5,000.00 check for "Stand in the Gap" from the Auxiliary of this particular facility.

WHAT?! A non-profit care facility whom we serve actually blessing us with such a substantial gift?

I was floored.

When I called to inquire how all this happened, the response was...

*"Well, we know better than most, first-hand really, just how important this program is. We love Re-Creation. We can't imagine them NOT coming back anymore. **We would be devastated.** We don't want any facility to not have the chance to have this remarkable group of young people at their place, to sing and bless their residents. We wanted to help in any way we could."*

I was floored...again.

But the 'appropriateness' of it all made sense, really.

**Surely those we serve, those who are relative to the program, those who are healed, restored, encouraged and lifted by Re-Creation WOULD grasp, more than anyone, the vital impact of the group on the human spirit, mind and body!**

Marianne sits on the Auxiliary and, along with the other members, had a hand in that group's decision to donate to Re-Creation. She's not a staff member or an administrator. She is just a loving sister and a volunteer in service to the residents.

And her character is mirrored by all the folks we've met there. The staff members are phenomenal with the residents and patients. They are kind, attentive and professional.

All the members of the Auxiliary read the same letter you did concerning the loss of funding to Re-Creation...and they decided to act.

Will you?

[www.re-creationusa.org](http://www.re-creationusa.org)

## Another wonderfully unique gift came in anonymously.

Someone, who wishes to remain anonymous, donated \$6,400.00 to our "Stand in the Gap" campaign.

This person relayed to me that they (*yes, I know that's the wrong pronoun...just go with it...*) had come into some extra resources and had been considering how to tithe. Our Re-Creation newsletter arrived outlining the loss of funding this year and the direction of gifting seemed clear! What a blessing!

I asked if I could post about the gift online and in print and we had a very plain discussion.

In an age where so many people want 'credit' for the good they do, when so many people want to be seen or congratulated, this person simply wanted to inspire others.

And our mysterious donor was humble, gracious and all-to-knowing of human nature...

*"You can write what you want," they told me, "I know some people will see that amount and think, "Great, I don't have to do anything!" But we know that's not true. That's only a portion, and of course, there's always a need. I'm hoping a grand gesture will prompt others to make grand gestures. I'm not the only one who has come into a little extra, or has the opportunity to do something like this. I hope they'll see it and do the same. Tell them that!"*

...*"a little extra,"* Indeed.

You've read that we are 64% to our goal.

A goal that could change drastically should VA Central Office not be able to reinstate funding for 2018.

And, as our mystery-donor stated, "there is always a need."

Travel costs continue to rise. Insurance, gas, vehicles...the implements of mission always increase.

You know what hasn't increased? The stipend for the young people. Not in 10 years!

They continue to come and serve and give. They mount these tours with enthusiasm and fervor. And they do it knowing they have some support from F.O.R-C.E.S., but that they are missionaries in the best sense of the word. And they do an amazing job!

*"Re-Creation performed at the Minnesota Veterans Home and was a big hit! As always, the group was exceptional. **They impress with an incredible capacity for teamwork, organization, talent, compassion and dedication.** The show was a great mix of singing, dancing, and showmanship.*

*Since your flyers went up about a month ago, there have been daily inquiries of "when are those kids going to be here?" About 110 veterans attended the show. With visitors and staff, we estimate 160 people were served that day. **Thank you again for including us on the tour.** We are always honored to host Re-Creation and would love to do so again when you return to the Minneapolis area. We appreciate the time and talents of the performing group and all of the people who make up the Re-Creation team!"*

~ Minneapolis, MN SVH

"the Re-Creation team..." That includes our anonymous friend. That includes YOU!

Stay with us!

[www.re-creationusa.org](http://www.re-creationusa.org)

# RE-CREATION.

## AUGUST

6	<b>Christ UM Church Selinsgrove, PA</b>	<b>8 AM &amp; 10:30 AM</b>
6	<b>Grace &amp; Truth Fellowship @ Conestoga Christian School Morgantown, PA</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
8	Centre Crest Nursing Home Bellefonte, PA	Private
9	<b>West End Fair Laurelton, PA</b>	<b>7 PM &amp; 8:30 PM</b>
12	<b>Valley View Park Valley View, PA</b>	<b>7 PM &amp; 8 PM</b>
13	<b>Cedarville UM Church Pottstown, PA</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>
13	<b>Cedarville UM Church Pottstown, PA</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
18	<b>Perry County Fair Newport, PA</b>	<b>8:00 PM</b>
20	<b>St. Paul's UCC Selinsgrove, PA</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>

20 **RC 43 VIDEO-TAPING! St. Paul's U.C.C**  
**7:00 PM Selinsgrove, PA**  
*Come be part of a worshipful evening as we capture  
 RC 43 on video to create DVD's to be distributed  
 to every Care Facility Re-Creation visits!  
 Your enthusiasm is needed!*

*(Please, as this is a night of professional recording,  
 be cautious about bringing young children or infants...  
 the evening will last about 2 hours)*

27	<b>St. Paul's Reformed Church Beavertown, PA</b>	<b>10:10 AM</b>
27	<b>St. James Lutheran Church Wapwallopen, PA</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>

## SEPTEMBER

3	<b>1st Church of Christ Lock Haven, PA</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>
3	<b>PA church pending</b>	<b>PM</b>
5	Bennington, VT SVH	2:00 PM
6	White River Junction, VT VAMC	10:00 AM
7	Tilton, NH SVH	2:00 PM
8	Manchester, NH VAMC	7:00 PM
11	Boston, MA (JP) VAMC	10:30 AM
11	Boston, MA (WR) VAMC	2:00 PM
12	Bedford, MA VAMC	2:00 PM
13	Chelsea, MA SVH	1:30 PM
14	Brockton, MA VAMC	1:30 PM
14	Providence, RI VAMC	6:00 PM
16	Bristol, RI SVH	2:00 PM
18	Northampton, MA VAMC	2:00 PM
19	Holyoke, MA SVH	2:00 PM
20	West Haven, CT VAMC	7:00 PM
21	Rocky Hill, CT SVH	1:45 PM
22	Newington, CT VAMC	10:00 AM
23	<b>Hatfield Plaza Square Hatfield, PA</b>	<b>5:30 PM</b>
24	<b>Bridgeville Church Narvon, PA</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>
24	<b>Heidelberg UCC Hatfield, PA</b>	<b>7:30 PM</b>

Join us at the Bloomsburg Fair!  
 September 28 @ 5:00 PM  
 September 29 @ 1:00 PM & 5:00 PM  
 September 30 @ 5:00 PM & 8:30 PM  
 All shows will be presented at the free stage.

## OCTOBER

1	<b>PA church pending</b>	<b>AM</b>
1	<b>Zion Lutheran Church Dauphin, PA</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
4	Leavenworth, KS VAMC	7:00 PM
5	Topeka, KS VAMC	10:30 AM
6	Cameron, MO SVH	2:00 PM
7	Grandview Elks Lodge Grandview, MO	Private
9	Warrensburg, MO SVH	2:30 PM
10	Kansas City, MO VAMC	10:30 AM
11	Columbia, MO VAMC	2:00 PM
12	Mexico, MO SVH	2:00 PM
13	St. James, MO SVH	2:00 PM
16	Poplar Bluff, MO VAMC	2:00 PM
17	Cape Girardeau, MO SVH	2:00 PM
18	St. Louis, MO VAMC	10:30 AM
19	St. Louis, MO SVH	2:00 PM
20	Quincy, IL SVH	2:00 PM
23	Chicago, IL VAMC	10:30 AM
24	North Chicago, IL VAMC	6:30 PM
25	Hines, IL VAMC	2:00 PM
26	Danville, IL VAMC	2:00 PM
29	<b>1st Presbyterian Church Hawley, PA</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>
29	<b>PA church pending</b>	<b>PM</b>

## NOVEMBER

1	Huntington, WV VAMC	11:30 AM
1	Barboursville, WV SVH	7:00 PM
2	Beckley, WV VAMC	2:00 PM
3	Clarksburg, WV VAMC	10:30 AM
5	<b>Cornerstone Christian Church</b>	<b>10:15 AM</b>

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	<b>Lewisburg, PA</b>	
5	<b>First United Methodist Church Mt. Holly, NJ</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
6	Vineland, NJ SVH	2:00 PM
7	Menlo Park, NJ SVH	2:00 PM
8	Paramus, NJ SVH	2:00 PM
9	Lyons, NJ VAMC	2:00 PM
11	<b>Susquehanna Valley Mall</b>	<b>2:00 PM &amp; 7:00 PM</b>
12	<b>Faith UM Church Stroudsburg, PA</b>	<b>8:15 AM &amp; 9:45 AM</b>
12	<b>Mountainhome UM Church</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>

Bold - "HAPPY!" Open to the Public  
 Bold & Italic - "BELIEVE!" Open to the Public