

# STATE OF INDIANA

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS

302 WEST WASHINGTON STREET ROOM E120  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-2738



Eric J. Holcomb, Governor  
Dennis A. Wimer, Director

October 9, 2024

Dear Indiana Community,

On behalf of the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs and the State of Indiana, I am honored to support the upcoming Hoosier Heroes Appreciation Day (HHAD). This event is set to honor Indiana's Heroes who have dedicated so much to their communities, their state and this nation.

I have been blessed to be a part of this events predecessor since its inception almost ten years ago. I am excited by the expansion for the 2025 event to include Veterans, Military and First Responders (Law Enforcement, Fire Fighters, Hospital and EMS personnel). The Veterans Support Council (VSC), Inc. has led this activity so well for Veterans and the Military, but the inclusion of our First Responders and recognizing their heroic actions is a significant enhancement for 2023. HHAD was previously known as the Mayor's Veterans Appreciation Day, which was last held in 2019. The transition from the Mayor's Veterans Appreciation Day to the HHAD is exciting and a bold step for the VSC to take on.

I encourage all organizations and individuals to collaborate with VSC on the 2025 HHAD. The Indiana Veteran, Military and First Responder community is one of the strongest across our nation. Events like this show our heroes the support they have in the community and every organization should be a part, to the fullest extent they are able. VSC has established Hoosier Heroes Appreciation Day, a wholly owned subsidiary of VSC, a non-profit Indiana Corporation, ensuring tax deductibility for donations, sponsorships, and contributions.

HHAD will be open to the public, with some activities requiring a discounted fee from the Indianapolis Zoo and the Indianapolis Indians. I encourage you to join me and sign up to volunteer or become a vendor/exhibitor, sponsor, employer, or participant.

Hoosier Heroes Appreciation Day is Saturday, September 13th, 2025, at White River State Park in downtown Indianapolis. Additional information is available at [www.HoosierHeroes.net](http://www.HoosierHeroes.net).

Sincerely,

Dennis A. Wimer  
Director, Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs