



Dear prospective sponsor, supporter, or attendee;

Bradford's annual Vet Jam started in 2013 with the goal of supporting local and PA Veterans through fundraising to benefit the Pennsylvania Veteran's Foundation and other organizations dedicated to serving those who served us. Rather than a nationwide organization with heavy operating costs, the Vet Jam Committee and PVF ensured that the funds were staying **local, accountable, and getting to the ground to do the most for PA veterans and the community**. The mission was simple:

- To provide assistance and support for Pennsylvania veterans and their families
- To assist Pennsylvania veterans in need of shelter and the necessities of living
- To provide aid, comfort, assistance, and support for Pennsylvania veterans, including veterans of war or armed conflict and peacetime veterans, and their families.

Vet jam has grown in size, scope, and donations continuously since inception. With the exception of some promotional materials funded by sponsors (in the form of banners) and attendees (in the form of event shirts for sale at the show), **this event puts all proceeds directly to benefit Pennsylvania Veterans**. In past years, the (now defunct) PVF, Fisher House of Pittsburgh, and LEEK Preserve have all been beneficiaries of the funds raised by the event.

Last year, in order to both expand and better streamline the process of getting funds to the ground where they need to go, we have formed our own PA based Nonprofit, Vet Jam of the Twin Tiers and hosted our first expansion events in the PA/NY twin tiers area. Our first expansion event was held October 19th, 2024, in Emporium at the new Event Center at Tubby's Tavern.

Our beneficiaries of this event included some very local causes; **Rides for Vets**, administered by Miller/Raffaele Post 6221 in Emporium, PA, that provides transportation for local veterans to and from medical and other critically needed appointments; **the McKean County Veterans Engagement Board**, providing direct support to local vets to improve their living conditions as well as advocacy at the local and county level to ensure that veterans are represented and have a voice in their local community agendas and legislation; the **LEEK Preserve**, which helps service disabled veterans enjoy quality of life with access to the outdoors and traditional outdoor activities like hunting and fishing; and the **VJTT's own Direct Action fund**, which is earmarked to exclusively to help veterans in the McKean, Potter, Cameron, Elk, Warren, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, and Allegany counties with immediate and urgent needs in housing, healthcare, mobility and nutrition.

This inaugural event raised a net \$5300 for the beneficiaries at an 80% efficiency rating of revenue to costs. This year, Tubby's and the VJTT have again teamed up to provide two-day, two stage event featuring 16 musical acts from acoustic, to classic rock, alternative, country, modern rock and pop.

In our first year, VJTT has paid out over \$8000 directly to local charities and individuals as a result of these fundraising efforts, including **\$1400 to one veteran to replace their heating system in winter and \$2500 to another who, while undergoing cancer treatment, had to have major overhaul to their water/sewage system to allow their home to remain inhabitable. We believe, as I'm sure you will, that these are very worthy, transparent, and well-organized and efficient causes.**

**What we are requesting:** Merchandise/Monetary donations in any amount to support this year's events and our Direct Action Fund at any point during the year; Venmo and other convenient payment options are available.

Cash/Checks payable to "**Vet Jam of The Twin Tiers**" can be submitted at any time, or in person the day of any listed event.

**Of course we encourage donations directly to any of the above beneficiaries at any point; this isn't a popularity contest or about recognition, it's about getting the help where it is needed.**

**Who to contact:**

President - Ralph Brooks: 585-307-8044	Social Media/Treasurer: Karli Brooks (716) 378-3476
Vice President -Mark Ervin: (814) 598-1676	Secretary: Melissa Newcombe (814) 558-7759
Radio/Press: Casey Franklin (716) 560-8685	Vet Jam of The Twin Tiers – <a href="mailto:vjtwintiers@gmail.com">vjtwintiers@gmail.com</a>

**Full report of funds raised and dispersed with costs will be made public after every event so you can see where every dime goes, so you can be confident in your donations effectiveness! Thank you in advance for your generosity!**