



SEAL FAMILY LEGACY

ANNUAL REPORT

2022



A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

Welcome to this first edition of SEAL Family Legacy's Annual Report. We're glad you found us and are delighted you've chosen to learn more about our organization.

When we founded SEAL Family Legacy in late 2021, it was out of a passion for honoring military members killed in service to our country and supporting the loved ones they left behind (Gold Star Families). Our primary focus is specifically on the Gold Star children who often endure these losses at such a young age and ensuring they have the emotional and one-on-one support to not just endure, but to thrive....to build their own legacies.

Having grown up in and benefited from the Quad Cities area in so many ways, it was also of importance to us to give back by serving as many local families as possible. However, regardless of location, any Gold Star family applicant with children under the age of eighteen are considered as a potential beneficiary of the organization.

A fundamental action taken in starting this mission out in the right direction was to invite Gold Star Families to a board meeting to learn more about the challenges they face, the support they need, both immediately after their loss and long-term, and what they need going forward. We learned some important information that has led our organizational direction and allows us to serve Gold Star Families in ways that are truly meaningful and beneficial to them.



Honoring Heroes
**FURTHERING
LEGACIES**

Our progress....

Much has happened within our organization over the course of the last year and we were able to achieve, and in some cases, exceed, many of the goals we set in place. We filled seven board seats, made our first big announcement of receiving our 501(c)(3) non profit status from the IRS, and held our first awareness ride with nearly 100 vehicles participating, just to name a few. We built personal relationships with the children of a parent lost in service to our country, with the spouse who grieves for their husband or wife, and with supporters like you in our communities.

According to National Today, there are more than 470,000 Gold Star Families in the U.S.⁽¹⁾ With so many of those families having young children, we know we still have much work to do to reach as many as possible and let them know we are here for them, you are here for them, and our communities stand behind them.

We value our relationship with supporters throughout the communities we serve and hope you'll join us on this mission to spread awareness about Gold Star Families and the loved ones they lost in service to our great country.

We are proud to share in the pages that follow, further details about our activities over the last year and the impact your support has on this mission. We hope you find value in the information shared in this report and that, through its transparent details, it fosters trust and confidence in our mission of service to Gold Star Families and honoring their military service member who died in service to our nation. We encourage you to visit our website at SEALFamilyLegacy.org and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

Mandy Angotti

Mandy Angotti
Chair



1. National Today. Gold Star Mother's and Family Day, September 24, 2023. <https://nationaltoday.com/gold-star-mothers-and-family-day/>

WHO WE ARE

Founded in 2021, SEAL Family Legacy was formed out of a desire to support the children of Gold Star Families and ensure the families had *financial* support to meet needs they may have in the short or long term. It was important to us that these children and their surviving parent and immediate family know that they are loved and supported and that many recognize the sacrifices they have made. In addition, it was of equal importance to honor the parent that paid the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country. Through this mission our goal is for the organization to build lasting relationships with the families they serve and help each child know they can fulfill their own destiny and legacy.

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, SEAL Family Legacy raises awareness for military members killed in service to our country *AND* raises funds to help support the children they left behind. Our differentiator? We specifically serve Gold Star military families with children under 18, selecting a minimum of two military branch family beneficiaries each year, one of which is a Navy SEAL family. We also have ongoing programs throughout the year that offer long-term support for the beneficiary children. All profits from this 100% volunteer organization are paid directly to the families we serve.



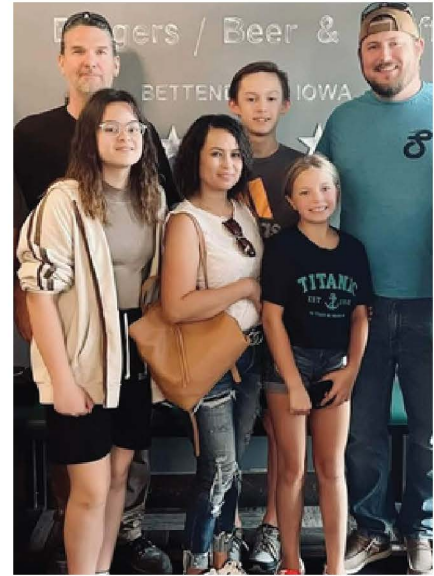
WHAT WE DO



Annie Cox, Gold Star Widow



Sgt. Jesse Grindey's Children at His Gravesite



Sgt. Jesse Grindey's Family & SFL Board Members, Mark and Jeff

With the support of people like you who are grateful for the sacrifice of those who gave their all in service to our country, we're able to offer programs and funds to support the children of the Gold Star families we serve. Programs and opportunities to give back range from presenting a large monetary donation to the families, providing hand-written notes and a signed flag from supporters, our Legacy Buddies one-on-one child mentoring and support program, an annual awareness ride and gala, and a birthday card program. We invite you to join us for these personal presentations and see, first-hand, the impact that the support and financial donations have on these families - we guarantee it's not something you'll forget.

THE GOLD STAR LAPEL BUTTON

Gold Star Lapel Button (signifies died in a combat theater) features a gold star, one-quarter inch in diameter, on a purple circular background (signifies the families' grief or mourning) that is three-quarters inch in diameter within a wreath of gold laurel leaves (signifies valor). The Gold Star Lapel Button is furnished to eligible family members of a Soldier who was killed serving in combat, during an international terrorist attack, or as part of a peacekeeping force. (2)



2. U.S. Army. Lapel Buttons, May 5, 2013. <https://www.army.mil/standto/archive/2013/12/05/>

(cont'd)

In November, we had the privilege of being a featured beneficiary organization for the Quad City Storm Professional Hockey game, sponsored by QC Pools and Spas, that raised \$6,228 for our cause on Veteran's Day. We were also afforded the opportunity to share more about our organization, and one of our Gold Star Families got to share more about the son they lost in service with a large and engaged audience.

These events and programs serve as critical opportunities for us to educate and inform the public about Gold Star Families. With your support, we have been able to initiate meaningful support programs, such as the Birthday Card Program and Legacy Buddies program, which will begin in 2023.

The Legacy Buddies program focuses on providing Gold Star children with (primarily) male role models and opportunities for connection and fun outings, all developed from feedback we received from Gold Star Widows and Mothers. Outings may include anything from fishing opportunities to attending Bears games and everything in between. Meanwhile, our Birthday Card Program will allow us to stay connected with Gold Star kids by sending them birthday cards with \$100 and personal notes from our team as a reminder that we're here for them whenever they need us.

Finally, our annual Ride & Cruise and our upcoming 2023 Gala provide unique opportunities for the community to hear from fantastic and typically famous, locally and/or nationally, speakers, often with military service backgrounds, and learn more about the impact of Gold Star Families. We are confident that your attendance at either of these events will leave an impact by what you hear, see, and learn, and we encourage you to attend.

We cannot thank our volunteers, participants, and financial donors enough for their generous support, which allows us to continue supporting our Gold Star Families and making a positive impact in their lives.



Sgt. Jesse Grindey's son, Jesse Jr, with Actor and TV Personality, Gary Metivier, on stage at the Mississippi Valley Fair in Davenport, Iowa.

WHY WE DO IT



*Navy Special Warfare Operator
Chief Petty Officer (SEAL), Kevin A. Houston*



Gold Star Child, Elea



Sgt. Douglas J. Riney

In many of our speaking opportunities, we have learned that there is still a great need for awareness and education about what a Gold Star Family is. Our goal is to change that, so we will keep sharing and keep educating until it becomes common knowledge.

A GOLD STAR FAMILY:

**consists of spouses, children, parents, siblings or others
whose loved one died while in service to our nation.**

We provide a necessary service for Gold Star Families who have lost loved ones, connecting them with other Gold Star Families, offering financial assistance, and mentoring Gold Star children.

We exist as one body to help ensure the memory of the military parent who paid the ultimate sacrifice protecting our great nation is honored and not forgotten. We believe the children left behind in these tragedies deserve to know that their parent died a hero for our country. In addition, we want them to know that they have their own future and their own legacy to fulfill.

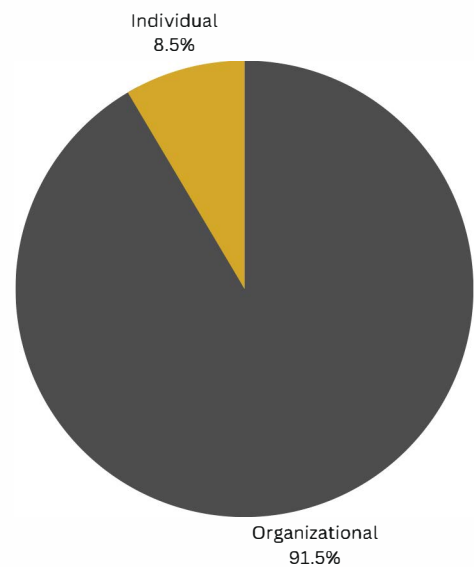
We've met the families and heard their stories, sat with them while they cried, and listened as they've shared their concerns for the children they are now trying to raise. We do it for them, for the kids, and for the father or mother they will no longer have around to help in times of need - it's the least we can do for those who have given so much.

Financial HIGHLIGHTS

SEAL Family Legacy could not succeed in the mission of supporting Gold Star Families without support from our donors. In 2022, we received fantastic backing from businesses, organizations, and the general public.

91.5% of funding came from businesses and organizations that share our passion for supporting Gold Star Families. The average donation from these patriotic organizations was \$2,864.29.

Through our fundraising events and personal outreach we were able to connect with a wide range of individuals who wanted to make a difference in the lives of Gold Star Families. The average donation from these selfless supporters was \$241.94.



AVERAGE ORGANIZATIONAL DONATION



\$2,864.29

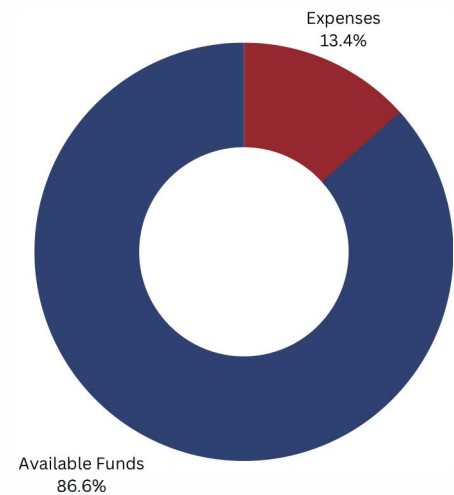
AVERAGE INDIVIDUAL DONATION



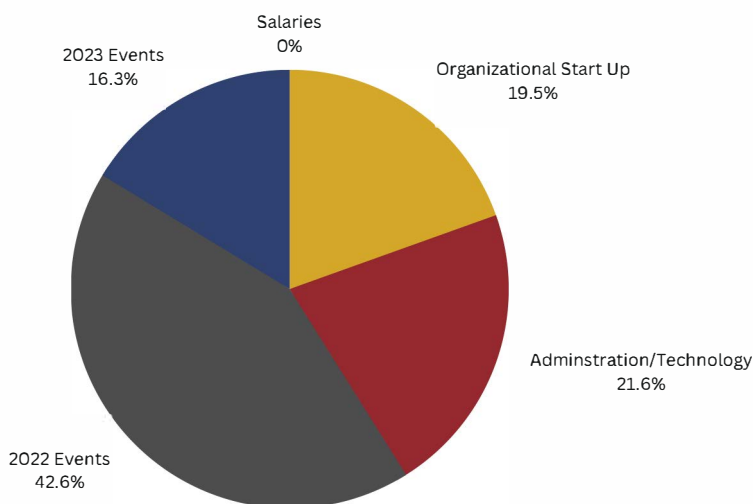
\$241.94

The Better Business Bureau recommends nonprofits spend no more than 35% of contributions on fundraising expenses⁽³⁾. During SEAL Family Legacy's first year, 13.4% of all monies raised was spent on overhead, which included start-up costs. Our first year as an organization was a capital raising year, so there were no direct family disbursements. Thanks to our generous donors, SEAL Family Legacy will be supporting two Gold Star Families in 2023.

EXPENSE RATIO



BREAKDOWN OF EXPENSES



The SEAL Family Legacy board is committed to spend all funds raised responsibly in order to ensure your donations support Gold Star Families and awareness initiatives to the fullest extent possible. In-depth board discussions are held for all expenses in order to verify the cost will benefit the mission. No board member or volunteer takes a salary or wage at SEAL Family Legacy. We also use an independent accountant to prepare our financials in order to demonstrate the high priority we place on transparency.

3. BBB Standards For Charity Accounting 2022: <https://tinyurl.com/BBBStandards>



Financial HIGHLIGHTS

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



Centennial Roofing is a trusted and reliable roofing contractor serving the Quad Cities area with professionalism and integrity. Their team of skilled experts provides a wide range of roofing services, from repairs to full installations, using high-quality materials and innovative techniques. Their commitment to excellence and customer satisfaction has earned them a reputation as one of the best in the business. We are proud to have partnered with Centennial Roofing and appreciate their dedication to giving back to the community. We look forward to continuing our relationship with them and recommend their services to anyone in need of roofing solutions.



Hiland Toyota is a top-notch dealership in the Quad Cities area that has been serving customers with exceptional service and high-quality vehicles for many years. Their knowledgeable and friendly staff is committed to helping customers find the perfect car to fit their needs, budget, and lifestyle. They go above and beyond to ensure that every customer is treated with the utmost respect and receives personalized attention. Hiland Toyota is also dedicated to supporting local causes and organizations, making a positive impact in the community. We are grateful for the support and partnership of Hiland Toyota.



Cargill is a global leader in the agricultural industry, committed to nourishing the world in a safe, responsible and sustainable way. With a legacy of innovation and a dedication to quality, Cargill provides an array of food, agriculture, financial and industrial products and services to customers in more than 70 countries. Their focus on sustainability, ethics and community engagement is commendable and has made a positive impact on the lives of many around the world. It has been an honor to work with Cargill in pursuit of our shared mission to create a better world, and we are excited to continue our collaboration into the future.



FedEx is a renowned logistics company that has been delivering exceptional services to businesses and individuals worldwide for decades. With its innovative technology and unmatched expertise, FedEx has transformed the way we send and receive packages, making it easier and more convenient for everyone. Through its commitment to sustainability, FedEx also strives to minimize its environmental impact and contribute to a better future for all. We are grateful for the invaluable support that FedEx has provided to SEAL Family Legacy and look forward to continuing our partnership for years to come.

For more information on becoming a sponsor, please email Mark Angotti, Mission Growth and Relations Officer at board1@sealfamilylegacy.org.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



Stern Beverage is a top distributor of beer, wine, and spirits in the Quad Cities, committed to quality, sustainability, and community involvement. With an excellent selection of products and customer service, they make a significant impact on the area. We are grateful for their support.



The QC Storm hockey organization is a beloved team in the Quad Cities, providing exceptional entertainment and giving back to the community. Their talented players and coaches consistently deliver unforgettable moments for fans. We are grateful for their contributions and proud to support them.



Kids for Vets in the Quad Cities organizes lemonade stands run by young volunteers to raise funds for local veterans and their families. The proceeds provide assistance with housing, medical care, and finances. Their efforts make a positive impact on the lives of many veterans in the area, and we are grateful for their dedication to this important cause.

**MITCHELL
ARMS &
OUTDOORS**

Mitchell Arms and Outdoors offers a diverse selection of high-quality firearms, ammunition, and outdoor gear in the Quad Cities. Their knowledgeable staff prioritizes safety and provides expert guidance to customers. We appreciate their commitment to quality and safety, and thank them for their ongoing support of our organization.

**BRENNY'S
MOTORCYCLE CLINIC**

Brenny's Motorcycle Clinic offers exceptional sales, service, and repair of motorcycles in the Quad Cities area. They provide a wide range of motorcycles, parts, and accessories, and their team offers personalized service to each customer. We are grateful for their ongoing support of our organization and appreciate their dedication to providing outstanding service to the motorcycle community.

**MIDWEST
PRESSURE
WASHERS
SALES • SERVICE • PARTS**

Midwest Pressure Washers provides high-quality pressure washing equipment and service in the Quad Cities. They specialize in selling, and servicing a wide range of pressure washers and accessories, and selling cleaning chemicals. Their experienced team offers expert advice and personalized solutions to each customer. We are grateful for their support of our organization and commitment to quality customer service.

Looking FORWARD

As we reflect on the remarkable success we achieved in 2022 as a start-up, we eagerly anticipate the tremendous potential and opportunities that lies ahead for us and for Gold Star Families in 2023.

Building upon our achievements, 2023 offers a plethora of opportunities for us to further amplify our message and success. The platforms that are being provided to us allows us to reach a diverse range of individuals and effectively raise awareness about Gold Star Families, educating the public on the significance of their sacrifice and the support they deserve.

Moreover, we are committed to seeking out new and innovative avenues to educate the public about the unique experiences and challenges faced by Gold Star Families. By embracing creative approaches and utilizing various platforms, we aim to engage a wider audience, fostering empathy, understanding, and support for these remarkable families.

We continue to remain focused on our fundraising efforts, understanding that the financial support we generate is crucial in providing essential services and resources to Gold Star Families.

Through our continued dedication and diligence, we aim to develop innovative strategies that inspire generosity and empower individuals and communities to contribute to our cause.

With boundless enthusiasm and a shared commitment, we are confident that 2023 will surpass the successes of the previous year. Together, we will create a lasting impact, honoring the legacies of our fallen heroes and uplifting Gold Star Families across the nation.



OUR BOARD

SEAL Family Legacy consists of a seven member Board of Directors, made up of veterans and patriots, that hold monthly board meetings. Each board member brings a diverse background, experiences, and skill sets that lend to the success of carrying out our mission. The 100% volunteer board commits an extensive amount of time, has great passion, and is honored to serve the military community. Before every board meeting, these patriotic members recite the pledge of allegiance.



Mandy Angotti
Chair



Brady Allison
Secretary



Brandon Maeglin
Treasurer



Mark Angotti
Business Growth &
Relations Officer



Rob Dennis
Public Relations
Officer



Jeff Wheeler
Logistics & Technical
Officer

BOARD MEMBERS EMERITUS



Jose Cerda



Ben Nickel

2023 EVENTS

Please consider attending one of our awareness events this year - we'd be honored to meet you! Details of upcoming events can be found on our [Facebook page](#) or on our website at sealfamilylegacy.org/events.

2023 SEAL FAMILY LEGACY EVENTS

Feb

Business Event

March

St Paddy's Day Booth

April

Easter Booth

Adoption Ceremony

May

Presidential Nominee Round Table Veteran
Discussion

Memorial Day Ceremony as Guest of Honor

July

Dinner Gala

Local Family Check Presentation

Awareness Ride and Cruise

Virginia Beach Family Check Presentation

August

MVF Main Stage

September

Tribute Fest

October

Geneseo Hero Run



Visit: SEALFamilyLegacy.org

SEAL Family Legacy INC

A 501(c)(3) non-profit

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