



Veterans Drop-In Center - Veterans 5K Run

I am a volunteer at the Veterans Drop-In Center. I would like to tell you about our organization, and how you can help.

The Veterans Drop-In Center began in 2010 when a group of caring, compassionate people decided that Rockford area veterans and their families needed a place to gather and meet with their peers without some of the fees and formalities that come with other veterans organizations. We are constantly expanding upon the list of services and activities that we offer and currently offer 2 meals a day, computer usage, haircuts, meditation classes, massage, and chiropractic treatment. We also offer clothing, basic necessities, and the ability to connect to local veterans' organizations.

Our mission is to provide a safe, supportive, and positive social environment where all veterans and their families, along with local veteran service organizations, can give and receive help transitioning into and continuing to adapt to post-service life. However, we are an organization that exists solely because of charitable donations and fundraisers; therefore we would like to request a donation in the form of a sponsorship from you. We hope that you will support our efforts to provide veterans with fellowship, hot food, and a positive environment in which they can help themselves and each other. We are currently open from 12:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. and would like to eventually be open 24 hours; but need your help.

One of our biggest fundraisers for the center is The Veterans 5K Run & Walk on Sat, Nov 3, 2018 at 9 a.m. at Mercyhealth Sportscore 1. (see more details at <https://runsignup.com/Race/IL/Rockford/Veterans5K>)

This is our 6th annual fundraiser for the Drop-In Center. We have gone from 148 participants the first year to almost 600 last year. This has become a great fundraising event for our center and a fun event for the community. We offer opening ceremonies where we honor our veterans. This is a family fun event and includes a free kids fun run. We have our unique dog tag awards, all participants enjoy our long sleeve shirts with our "memorial wall" on the back, our custom bibs, the patriotic theme and special prizes for each branch of the military. We are a circuit scored run for the Rockford Roadrunners and we have a USATF certified, beautiful 5K course. Please help support the Veterans Drop-In Center by supporting us in this fundraiser as a sponsor.

See Below for Sponsorship levels and Opportunities. A \$500 sponsorship could help the center provide services to 10 Veterans for a month, a \$1,000 sponsorship could help provide services to 20 Vets a month, and a \$2,000 sponsorship could help provide services to 40 vets a month. Please consider helping our Veterans!

Other sponsorship opportunities:

- Sponsor an item of food for the post run food tent. Examples would be sub sandwiches, chips, water, granola, fruit, etc.
- Sponsor an item for participants bags
- Donate a door prize to be given away at awards ceremony
- Sponsor a Veteran contest prize-fastest veteran in each branch or most patriotic apparel prize.
- Sponsor the cash prizes, which would be announced at awards and on an e-mail blast.
- Sponsor the participation medals with your name on the lanyards of 600 participants.

Thank you very much for your consideration of our request. Remember, any funds that you donate to the Veterans Drop-In Center are tax-deductible, as we are a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization.

Annual Veterans 5K Run & Walk – Sponsorship Opportunities

<i>To Benefit the Veterans Drop-In Center, a 501c nonprofit org in Rockford.</i>	<i>Flagship – \$10,000</i>	<i>Star - \$5000</i>	<i>Red - \$2,000</i>	<i>White - \$1,000</i>	<i>Blue - \$500</i>
Presenter of Race. Company name presents the 5th annual Veterans 5K Run & Walk.	Yes				
Logo banner displayed at the start/finish line	Yes				
Recognition by MC at Opening and Awards Ceremonies	Yes, with opportunity to speak	Yes			
Sponsor provided banners prominently displayed at the event	Three (3)	Two (2)	One (1)		
Logo on PSA	Yes, with recognition as presenter provided by WTVO and played approximately 500 times.	Prominent	Large	No	No
Logo on 600+ Shirts	Top of back	Prominent	Large	Medium	Small
Signs provided with company logo posted along race course	Ten (10)	Six (6)	Three (3)	One (1)	
Sponsor supplied advertising / marketing item in all racers' bags	Yes, with 2 promotional items provided	Yes, with 1 promotional item provided	Yes	Yes	Yes
Email blasts, posters, registration forms, postcards (2000), event website(s) social media	Logo and Name as presenter on all marketing efforts	Logo on all marketing efforts	Logo on posters, postcards (2,000), event website (s), social media and event pages	Logo on posters, event website (s), social media and event pages	Logo on event website (s), social media and event pages
Included on our sponsor banner displayed at event	As present	Prominent	Large	Medium	Small
Hyperlink to your website from ours	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Thank you print included in each registration bag	Presenting recognition and logo	Prominent logo	Large logo	Medium logo	Small logo
Includes a booth at the Event and at packet pick-up the evening before to further promote and market your business	Yes	Yes	Yes	Booth at Event Only	Booth at Event Only
Free Entries to the event	25	20	10	6	2

***Of Note: We have tripled the amount of participants since our first year. This has become a widely known event for our area runners, walkers, and veterans. Our PSA provided by our partner WTVO was prominently played over 500 times during NFL games, Nascar, and more. Booth available for \$100 or in-kind donation of same worth for our swag bags or similar.

Please contact Denise Phillips at dinfill@aol.com or Lois Shores at lshores2922@gmail.com for the sponsorship level you are interested in.

Veterans Drop-in Center site: <http://www.veteransdropincenter.com>

To register to run: <https://runsignup.com/Race/IL/Rockford/veterans5K>

Facebook site: <https://www.facebook.com/VeteransDropIn5K/>