## Has Vet Smiles helped?

Since 2018, Vet Smiles has provided > \$375,000 in financial assistance for more than 450 veterans. **To date, every donated dollar and all grants have gone to direct dental care for a veteran in need.** Any administrative costs have been paid by the foundation staff. *Current 31 December 2023*.



**Katrina** needed a complete set of dentures, because of injuries received in the line of duty; but not covered by VA. **What a smile!** 

**Roy** was one of our first in WNC. His feedback: "It's all in the name ... VET SMILES. My name is Roy. In 2018, my wife and I went into NC Serves Western to get help... I explained I needed help with my dental ...I went not really expecting a lot. Vet Smiles went above and beyond what we expected, and I can't thank everyone enough. **These people are the real deal.**"

**Kyle is our most recent success:** "To have my smile back gives me the opportunity to show the world how truly blessed I am. When I smile the world smiles back and that has completed the healing process in my soul."



EIN 85-2366130 / 501c (3) in NC

## **2023 Recognitions**

**NC Community Service Award** from National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)

*American Made Heroes* ~ one of six veteran owned nonprofits in the entire USA for supporting fellow veterans

# How can <u>you</u> help a veteran with dental needs?

The VSF needs funding partners and both individual and organization donations to expand the "Vet Smiles" project to help more veterans with gaps in their oral healthcare throughout North Carolina.

For more information on how to participate ~ or to make a donation ~ please contact:

- David E McCracken Chairperson davide@vetsmiles.org Phone 984.233.3350
- Jesse A McCorvey Growth Officer jessea@vetsmiles.org Phone 984.233.3297

#### Donate

By check: // Payable to: VSF

- Mail to: 104 South White St, Suite 146 Wake Forest, NC 27587
- Via 'donate' button on VSF website at: https://vetsmiles.org



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## 5 February 2024 Update

The **Veteran Smiles Foundation** (VSF) is a public charity organization, located in Wake Forest, NC, and provides educational and financial support to low income veterans seeking to improve their oral healthcare.

Only 15% of veterans qualify for free dental care at VA hospitals and clinics and many of the over 78,000 low income North Carolina veterans cannot afford the extensive costs of dental care. VSF was formed to fill this gap in veterans' services within North Carolina.

**What is "Vet Smiles"?** VSF's year-round VET SMILES initiative is in partnership with the East Carolina University (ECU) School of Dental Medicine, and Veteran Service Officers throughout the state.

After a veteran is determined a priority for support (eligible for VA healthcare and low income validated), the VET SMILES project begins with an oral exam and X-rays to outline a dental plan specific to their oral health needs. Dental plans include routine checkups, annual cleanings, as well as minor and major dental work. Level of assistance based on funds available, the veteran contributing to his/her own dental care, as well as support from the ECU veteran patient care fund & other donors.