



News & Announcements

Today is #GivingTuesday. On this day, people around the world come together to celebrate giving back. You, too, can take this opportunity to join the movement and support a cause close to your heart. We urge you to take a moment to think about those who have given to you – like our country's Veterans and service members. They have sacrificed so much for our freedom. Please help us to help them.

Since 2001, 2.6 million Veterans and servicemembers have been deployed around the world. One in three develop Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), and one in five suffer a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), during their service.

Along with PTSD and TBI, the Emory Healthcare Veterans Program also treats warriors suffering from anxiety, depression and military sexual trauma. We are here to help warriors with these invisible wounds of service. Your support will go toward therapy, medications, family sessions and classes to help warriors get back to a healthier civilian life. This video will show you the significant impact your donations make.



Philanthropy fuels the life-changing work of the Emory Healthcare Veterans Program. Support, at any level, will help our warriors along the road to recovery. Join the movement and make a gift today!

[Make a Gift](#)

More News...

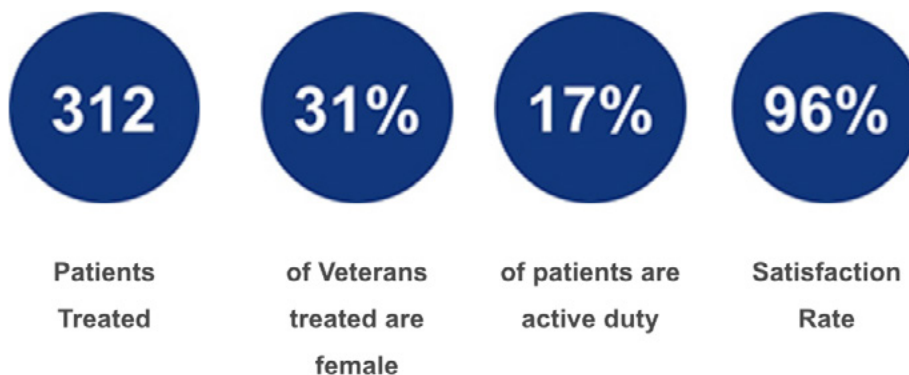
Recently, the Emory Healthcare Veterans Program celebrated Veterans Day with many activities and awareness about our program and other services available to warriors to help them live their best lives.

Read about the various ways Emory supports Veterans and servicemembers.

[Read More](#)

By The Numbers

Intensive Outpatient Program Stats
as of November 2018



Stories of Impact



Wanting to follow in his older brother's footsteps, Tim Banik enlisted in the Marines in 2006. After enlisting, he was deployed to Iraq in 2008 and again in 2009. On one of his deployments, Tim was sent to Fallujah, Iraq. His mission was to patrol an area that included a 10-15 mile stretch of road. He was the driver of truck #1, which meant that it was his responsibility to keep an eye out for IEDs and other dangers to keep the men behind him safe. After Tim returned home from deployment, he was a different person. He was easily agitated and got angry very quickly. He preferred to be alone. His drinking increased during this time. As Tim put it, he "just felt like [he] had lost [his] identity." Then, Tim's wife heard about the Emory Healthcare Veterans Program from a family friend. He knew that he had to make the effort to get help for the sake of his marriage.

After starting the program, Tim realized how much he had needed it. "Once I started taking some layers off and going through some of the counseling with Dr. Sprang, I realized that maybe I was a little over my head with what I could handle on my own."

During the program, Tim participated in prolonged exposure therapy. In these intense sessions, he would repeat events that he previously had been avoiding. He and his therapist were able to drill down on two events that had been haunting him. One had to do with a close friend that had gotten hurt, and the other was a raid that left him feeling guilty and anxious. By repeating these events out loud, Tim said, "You realize that maybe it's not as scary as you had made it out to be for so long." In one of his sessions, when he was repeating an experience, he yawned in the middle of the story. It was at this moment that Tim realized that "it became less of a real-life experience and more of a story." When he had first discussed this experience, it was difficult, scary and uncomfortable. After therapy, it no longer brought up those same emotions. He could retell the story, and it no longer affected him in the same way.

After completing the program, Tim got his life back. In his own words: "It worked for me, and I swear to you I never thought that was possible. I never thought I could have my life back."

Tim is currently working in the mortgage department of a bank, and he and his wife live a happy life in Roswell, Georgia. Since the program, he has been able to travel out of the country, something he never wanted to do before treatment. He says, "I've never been this happy in my life, and it's all because of the program." By sharing his story, Tim hopes to help other Veterans know that "you have a program here and you have a chance to get your life back. I never thought that was possible."



Tim and his wife on a trip to Spain in June, 2018. Photo credit: Tim Banik

In Case You Missed It

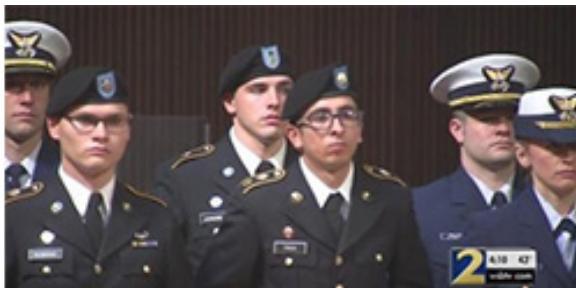
social media highlights



Participants in the Emory Healthcare Veterans Program joined Coach Pierce prior to tip-off at the Hawks' Veteran Appreciation Day game. Thank you Atlanta Hawks for this special opportunity!



At the September 17 Atlanta Braves game, our program received \$29 million in grants from Wounded Warrior Project to expand treatment of warriors with invisible wounds. We are a proud member of Wounded Warrior Project's #WarriorCareNetwork, and we look forward to helping many more warriors.



WSB-TV did a segment about how our program is healing invisible wounds for #Veterans. As mentioned, we are one of four programs that collaborate with Wounded Warrior Project to make up the Warrior Care Network, which provides treatment to Veterans living with post-traumatic stress disorder (#PTSD), traumatic brain injury (#TBI) and other related conditions.



Our leadership team and one of our former program participants were proud to be part of a #WarriorCareNetwork event aboard the U.S.S. Intrepid in New York City. At this event, the Wounded Warrior Project announced that it will provide funding to us and the other three academic medical centers that make up the #WarriorCareNetwork, so that over 16,000 #Veterans with invisible wounds may be treated over the next five years. We are excited to continue this partnership and treat many more #Veterans!