



# CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR FOUNDATION

*Perpetuating a legacy of Courage, Sacrifice and Patriotism*



## The Role of the Foundation

More than 43 million men and women have served in uniform since the Civil War, but only 3,504 have received the Medal of Honor, our Nation's highest award for valor in combat. Since the beginning of World War II, more than 60% of all Medals have been awarded posthumously. Congress chartered The Congressional Medal of Honor Society in 1958. By law, its members consist exclusively of the living Medal of Honor Recipients. Today, they number only 74. These men are bound together by the Medal they wear and by a shared passion to perpetuate its legacy of courage, sacrifice and selfless service.

The Recipients actively pursue this passion through outreach to promote awareness of the Medal and the values it embodies. The challenge is enormous and the window of opportunity is closing with the Recipient average age being more than 70.

With that fact much on their minds, the CMOH Society established the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation (CMOHF) in 1999. The Foundation's mission is to perpetuate the legacy of the Medal through education, outreach and recognition promotions; promote American values, specifically the qualities of courage, sacrifice, selflessness and patriotism; and support the Congressional Medal of Honor Society and the Recipients.

With a sharp focus on young Americans, the Foundation undertakes a broad range of initiatives to achieve these goals, including:

**Medal of Honor Character Development Program:** Designed by teachers to provide elementary, middle and high school students with opportunities to explore the ideals of courage, sacrifice, service and patriotism, and show them how to apply those ideals every day in a lifetime of service above self to family, community and nation. The Foundation's goal is to bring the MOH CDP into all school districts in America. Since 2010, we have trained more than 15,000 educators in 43 different states. In support of our CDP goals, the Foundation placed the entire curriculum, including more than 120 Medal of Honor recipient stories, online and free at [www.themedalofhonor.com](http://www.themedalofhonor.com).

**LiveUp:** LiveUp is an extension of the Medal of Honor Character Development Program. It complements our powerful teacher training CDP with online, interactive and dynamic Medal of Honor content that is delivered directly to teens aged 13-19. Our LiveUp goals are to reach every teen in America, teach them the Medal of Honor values and challenge them to live up to their potential and make a difference in the lives of others. Because LiveUp is digital, online and interactive, it allows teens access to LiveUp where they live, learn and play; on their mobile devices, anytime and anywhere. Teens participate in activities, set goals and share positive real-life experiences. We're extending the MOH Character Development Program with this initiative because we believe the one-two punch of reaching thousands of teachers every year with the current program and simultaneously

engaging millions of teens with LiveUp will hugely accelerate the spread of the Medal of Honor values across the Nation. Visit the LiveUp website at [www.liveup.org](http://www.liveup.org).

**Citizen Honors Awards:** On a day set aside for them, Medal of Honor Recipients recognize everyday Americans who demonstrate courage and selflessness in their daily lives. Each year on March 25, which is National Medal of Honor Day, the Recipients bestow their own special awards on outstanding Americans citizens and organizations that have made a difference in the lives of others. The honorees, who are nominated by their fellow citizens and selected by a panel of Medal of Honor Recipients, receive their awards from the Recipients in a ceremony in Washington, DC. ([www.themedalofhonor.com/CitizenHonors](http://www.themedalofhonor.com/CitizenHonors)).

**Educational Scholarships:** Each year, in concert with the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Agency, the Foundation presents eight Medal of Honor scholarships to outstanding ROTC candidates and another to a teacher pursuing a career in STEM education. The goal of these scholarships is to help ensure the next generation produces leaders and teachers who will keep America safe and strong.

**Living Histories:** The Foundation continues to capture as many of the stories of the living Recipients as possible, told in their own words, for future generations to study and learn from. To date, there are more than 120 living histories, which are available in museum kiosks, at public outreach events, and online at YouTube, Hulu, Vimeo and the CMOHF web site, [www.themedalofhonor.com](http://www.themedalofhonor.com).

**Medal of Honor: Portraits of Valor Beyond the Call of Duty:** This New York Times bestseller captures the contemporary portraits and personal stories of nearly 150 Medal of Honor Recipients. It is now in the 4th printing and still going strong with more than 330,000 copies in circulation. With the help of donors, the Foundation placed more than 53,000 copies in middle and high schools in every state.

**Choosing Courage: Inspiring Studies of What it Means to Be a Hero:** The Foundation's newest book aims to share the important lessons of courage and selfless service with readers aged 10 and up. With unforgettable essays featuring nonfiction accounts of war and everyday heroism and a positive reaction to the hardcover version, more than 100,000 copies of the paperback edition have already been sold.

Through these programs and others, the Foundation continues to reach out to Americans everywhere to perpetuate the legacy of the Medal, the values it represents, and most importantly, support the true heroes who wear it.

For more information, please contact the Foundation at (703) 469-1861.

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