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For Immediate Release

## LOCAL HOMELESS VETERANS BENEFIT FROM USA CARES CARE PACKAGE DRIVE Thousands of Items Collected during Mayor Fischer's "Give a Day" Week of Service

LOUISVILLE, KY – May 6, 2019 – Last month, USA Cares hosted a Care Package Drive to benefit local homeless veterans as part of Mayor Greg Fischer's "Give a Day" Week of Service campaign. During the nearly two month-long collection, a variety of local businesses and volunteer supporters joined together in gathering thousands of essential items to be donated, resulting in over 540 care packages prepared for homeless veterans in the Louisville area.

USA Cares hosted the Care Package Drive from March 1 through April 18, 2019, during which USA Cares was honored to receive the support of several individuals and organizations, including Align Wealth Management, Park Community Credit Union, Humana, Humana Military, UAW Local 862, Louisville Ice Warriors, Delta Dental and others.

"This was our first involvement with USA Cares. The more we learned about what they do, what their mission was, the more we wanted to help," said Wesley Gersh, Financial Advisor at Align Wealth Management. "We collected goods at our offices, brought them here, volunteered to stuff bags. We have a duty to support the people who support us, and anything we can do to help the veterans, we will."

"Park Community Credit Union has always been committed to the credit union philosophy of people helping people," said Ed Fallon, Director of Partnership Management at Park Community Credit Union. "We were happy to be able to work closely with the staff of USA Cares for the homeless veteran care package campaign. By having the opportunity to work together as a team, this made for an even greater impact on the lives of the veterans and military families in Louisville. We look forward to working again with the USA Cares staff to bring positive change in our community."

In the weeks leading up to the event, USA Cares received thousands of dollars' worth of toothbrushes, soap, razors, shampoo, laundry soap and other essentials, including a donation of a staggering 1,875 pairs of socks. At the culmination of the drive, over two dozen volunteers donated their time to assist USA Cares in sorting the donated items and packing them into care packages. As a result, hundreds of care packages were compiled and delivered to the Department of Veteran Affairs local Healthcare for Homeless Veterans Program, who will distribute the packages to homeless veterans residing in the City of Louisville.

"I would like to thank USA Cares for their tireless effort in supporting our Veterans who carry a load heavier than the ruck sack they carried while in uniform," said John Miles, Veteran Coordinator at the Louisville Metro Office For Veterans. "Just like accepting a mission while on orders and carrying it out to the end, we should never stop caring and supporting those who gave their lives in the defense of this great nation. Our Veterans carried their mission to the end, so let's carry ours!"

"The incredible turnout for this Care Package Drive really puts the power of community into perspective," said Aubrey Gonzalez, Communications Manager at USA Cares. "We are absolutely humbled by the amount of support we received for this project, and we cannot thank our partners, donors, volunteers and staff enough for all the work they dedicated to maximizing the impact of this drive on veterans in our community."

About USA Cares USA Cares ([www.usacares.org](http://www.usacares.org)) is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that addresses the critical and unmet needs of post-9/11 service members and their families by providing them with immediate financial and advocacy support in times of crisis. The non-profit organization strives to reach families at the earliest stage of intervention to prevent further financial distress and suffering. USA Cares has responded to over 112,375 requests for emergency financial help with millions of dollars in granted assistance. USA Cares' Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) number is 12359. To donate or to request assistance, please visit [www.usacares.org](http://www.usacares.org).