

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Minority Veterans of America Announces COVID-19 Relief Fund Dedicated to Provide Financial Assistance to Minority Veteran Community**

[Seattle, WA -- April 23, 2020] Minority Veterans of America is dedicating \$30,000 to provide financial assistance to the minority veteran community during the COVID-19 pandemic. The fund is designed to deliver direct aid to members in communities served by the non-profit. Relief will be offered in the Seattle/King County, WA area, Richmond, VA, and Atlanta, GA. Disbursements will support access to food and transportation assistance.

Since the declaration of national emergency due to COVID-19, Minority Vets has worked to continue to serve the minority veteran community while bracing for the negative impacts caused by the pandemic that disproportionately affects minority communities. Minority Vets has created a virtual resource database, delivered virtual events and programming to support veterans and their families during national social and physical distancing, and has established a relief fund while continuing to monitor and assess the needs of the community.

“When we started Minority Vets in 2017, it was out of a deep desire to serve the community, in the best and hardest of times,” said Executive Director and co-founder Lindsay Church. “We will continue to check in with our members throughout this national emergency, and after, to ensure that we are responsive, adaptive, and innovative in how we deliver service to meet our community's greatest needs.”

Minority Veterans of America’s COVID-19 Relief Fund will be open for applications from members May 1 through May 8, 2020 and will reopen during the first week of every month to ensure the community’s needs are met through the duration of the crisis. Assistance will be offered through MVA’s P2P program in the Seattle/King County, WA area, and through local Chapter Programs in Richmond, VA and Atlanta, GA. Membership in the organization is free, and can be gained by visiting <http://minorityvets.org/join/>

For members outside of Atlanta, Richmond, and Seattle/King County who are in need of resources, information, or community connection, visit the MVA COVID-19 site at <http://minorityvets.org/covid19/> comprised of MVA related support content, as well as that of outside organizations and agencies. These resources and information are updated regularly.

For more information about Minority Veterans of America or how to contribute, please contact Cassie Gabelt at [cgabelt@minorityvets.org](mailto:cgabelt@minorityvets.org).

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*Minority Veterans of America (MVA) is a non-partisan, non-profit organization that was designed to create belonging and advance equity for underrepresented veterans, such as womxn, people of color, LGBTQ, and religious minorities. The organization aims to transform the narrative of the American veteran by building an interconnected community, fostering greater understanding of our memberships’ identities, and serving minority veterans through the development of targeted programming and advocacy. For more information, visit [www.minorityvets.org](http://www.minorityvets.org).*