SOCIETY VOLUNTEERS
Ready, Willing, and Extremely Capable.

NAVY-MARINE CORPS RELIEF SOCIETY®
Serving Sailors, Marines, and their families
I am very proud of our Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society volunteers. Over the past few months, NMCRS volunteers have responded around the globe to meet the needs of Sailors, Marines, and their families whose lives have been impacted by the unique challenges of military life.

NMCRS Yokosuka employees and volunteers organized and operated a most successful collection and distribution of clothing, shoes, and uniforms within hours of the USS Fitzgerald’s collision at sea. They sized, folded, and boxed shirts, pants, belts, shoes, and boots; then they transported the items to the pier using every car and truck they could find; unloaded everything, and set up a thrift shop for returning Sailors – many whom had lost everything but the shirt on their back.

This summer’s record-breaking rain and flooding across the mid-west left many Navy families in the Great Lakes areas without power and destroyed homes. Even our NMCRS Great Lakes office was damaged when the roof caved in. But our staff quickly relocated, kept their doors open, and ensured Navy and Marine Corps families could get financial assistance to evacuate or replace destroyed household goods, clothes, and food.

Volunteers are the workforce of the Society. They willingly give of their time and talents to ensure service members, retirees, and their families are taken care of when life’s challenges seem overwhelming. It is good work. Work that needs to be done. Work that makes a difference.

And it is work that cannot go on without the generous and faithful support of you, our donors. Your gifts matter – every dollar matters to someone in need.

When everyone works together, great things are done.

Sincerely,

Admiral Steve Abbot, U.S. Navy (Retired)
President and Chief Executive Officer

NMCRS Yokosuka volunteers with donated shoes, clothes, and uniforms — pierside, awaiting USS Fitzgerald Sailors.

Within hours of the June 17 collision between the USS Fitzgerald and a cargo ship from the Philippines, employees and volunteers from the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) in Yokosuka, Japan, were mobilizing. By the time the damaged ship docked at Fleet Activities Yokosuka, NMCRS volunteers had organized, transported, and set up an ad hoc thrift shop pier side, to provide—at no cost—clean clothes, uniforms, and shoes to Sailors whose belongings had been lost or ruined.

“As soon as we received news that the USS Fitzgerald would be pulling into port, my first priority was to provide information to anxious community members wondering ‘What is being done for the Fitzgerald Sailors? How can I help?’” explained NMCRS Yokosuka Volunteer and Communications Lead, Sarah Buchholz. “One of our initial Facebook posts was about NMCRS volunteers providing Fitzgerald Sailors with clean clothes, uniforms, and shoes. For many, pictures of our volunteers on the pier provided comfort.”

As NMCRS Yokosuka Director, Jill Warning, stood pier side with her volunteers, she observed that, “the responses of Fitzgerald Sailors varied widely, from relief and almost mirth—presumably at arriving successfully—to raw and rugged emotion barely suppressed as they hurried past us to seek refuge elsewhere.” At least one-third of the ship’s crew emerged from their ship with only the clothes they were wearing when the collision happened. “We were seeing young Sailors wearing coveralls with senior rank insignia, which was a bit confusing to
In the first 48 hours, like most of our volunteers, I took on any service dress uniform,” Warning praised. Sailor could easily identify and receive their donated Fitzgerald she and our volunteers bundled up uniforms by name so every had the uniform items needed to attend the memorial. Then directly with the Command Master Chief to ensure each Sailor “Our Relief Services Assistant, Chris Sextella, coordinated Shipmates who needed it more.” were unbelievably humble, telling us to keep the extra items for they take more than one pair of socks, or whatever it was, they “Despite our encouragement—sometimes insistence—that they take more than one pair of socks, or whatever it was, they were unbelievably humble, telling us to keep the extra items for Shipmates who needed it more.” “Our Relief Services Assistant, Chris Sextella, coordinated directly with the Command Master Chief to ensure each Sailor had the uniform items needed to attend the memorial. Then she and our volunteers bundled up uniforms by name so every Fitzgerald Sailor could easily identify and receive their donated service dress uniform,” Warning praised. “In the first 48 hours, like most of our volunteers, I took on any task that needed to be done,” recalled Volunteer and Casework Lead, Lauren Tella. “We all answered phones, sorted clothing, shuttled service members around the base, attended briefs and All Hands calls, and answered as many questions as best we could. I did my best to keep our office open for service members while our Director and Relief Services Assistance met with military leaders and commands.” After the initial distribution of clothing and uniforms, NMCRS Yokosuka thrift shop closed temporarily, except for Fitzgerald Sailors, so volunteers could sort and organize the enormous amount of recently donated items. “As each day unfolded, my primary role was to provide the most up-to-date information through Facebook about our donation needs and ongoing relief efforts,” said Buchholz. “Navy personnel from San Diego, Sigonella, Sasebo, Hampton Roads, Pensacola, and other bases wanted to know how they could support their Shipmates. The response was incredibly heartwarming.” “A group of my Japanese friends got together to make a donation, one I knew they couldn’t easily afford,” explained Turco. “Watching, as people like them—wholly unconnected with the US Navy, the Fitzgerald, or NMCRS—open their hearts and wallets to help our Sailors—our family—was unbelievably emotional. All I could do was be grateful and try to tell them just how appreciative we all were for their thoughtfulness and generosity.” Once the Fitzgerald Sailors dealt with the immediate aftermath of the disaster, many visited the NMCRS Yokosuka office seeking financial assistance, in the form of interest-free loans or grants. “They had immediate needs for items like eyeglasses, cell phones, and money to pay their bills because they had spent their paychecks on food, toiletries, and replacing electronic equipment like tablets and laptops,” explained Tella. “Long term, we expect to see Fitzgerald Sailors needing our financial assistance while their claims for damages are processed by the Navy.” On June 27, the Navy held a memorial service for the seven Sailors who died in the accident. Because space was limited where the memorial service was held, NMCRS volunteers and staff participated with more than 2,000 others in a Line of Honor marking the processional route as the families and mourners moved to the memorial service. The USS Fitzgerald remains in port Fleet Activities Yokosuka as repairs are made and the accident is investigated. Meanwhile, her crew is waiting to hear what’s next for them. Many will be reassigned to other ships and duty stations. NMCRS continues to support them.
That’s what Master Chief Dickey’s step-daughter, Cheyenne, says about the decision her stepdad made early in his life. It was 1950. Robert had the athletic skill, no question about that. And at 6’6”, he had the size. But back then, professional basketball players didn’t make the grand sums they do today, and besides, Robert had to help his family.

“He chose the Navy,” Cheyenne says, “and he loved it. He loved every minute of it.” When he joined, Robert decided he wanted to be an electrician’s mate, and that’s what he did for most of his 30-year Navy career, among a few other jobs. He was something of a jack-of-all-trades.

Robert was stationed in Turkey, Italy, Greece – and other countries all around the world. He crossed the equator twice, and he went through the Panama Canal. “He really enjoyed seeing those other countries and cultures,” Cheyenne says. “It was an opportunity he never would have had otherwise.” Robert served in many ships and submarines. His ship was the first on the scene when the USS Liberty was mistakenly hit by the Israelis in 1967.

He first learned about the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society after a six-week deployment to Japan. Expecting a happy welcome home, Robert instead found something very different.

His wife had decided that she didn’t want to be a Navy spouse any longer. She left him and took everything, even his car and bank account. “He came back to nothing,” Cheyenne says, “no home, no clothing – she cleaned him out.”

Stunned, Robert went to his command, who referred him to the Society, where he got help finding a place to live, some extra cash for toiletries and clothing, and other financial assistance.

“The Society helped him get back on track,” Cheyenne says. “He never forgot it, and he vowed that, when he retired, he would give back.”

Robert turned his attention back to his Navy job, and got on with his life. In 1983, he met Cheyenne’s mother, and they later married. He never had children of his own, but Robert cared for the family he married into, including five children, as though it were his own.

Later, when Cheyenne’s mother had a stroke, Robert cared for her as well, and when she succumbed to dementia, he became her primary caregiver. Even when there was no choice but a nursing home for Cheyenne’s mom, Robert visited her every day.

“That’s the kind of man he was,” Cheyenne says. “He would always tell me, ‘Just because she doesn’t remember me, doesn’t mean I don’t remember her.’”

When someone in the family got into financial trouble, when there was a death in the family, when anyone was having trouble, Robert was there. “Once you were ‘his,’” Cheyenne says, “he was always with you, always there for you.”

That’s why it’s no surprise that Robert gave regularly to the Society by allotment when he was on active duty. Neither was it a surprise when Robert left a gift for the Society in his will. He felt it was his duty to his fellow service members to give and to help however he could.

“He’d be proud to know that his gift will help Sailors and Marines for years to come,” Cheyenne says. “He was always there for us, and he was always there for the Society in that same way. Honor, duty, service to others – that’s Robert’s legacy, and there’s no one more deserving of it than him.”

If you would like to learn more about easy ways to support tomorrow’s Sailors, Marines, and their families through a gift in your will, please visit www.myimpactwithnmcrs.org
Do you have a car that you no longer need?

Would you like to donate it AND support Sailors and Marines in their time of need? There is an easy way to do both!

1. Go to www.careasy.org to complete the easy online form, and choose the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society as your charity of choice, or call 855-500-RIDE (7433).

2. Sit back and relax! CARS will do the rest, from pickup to selling and generating a tax receipt. The car doesn’t even have to be in running condition. Proceeds from the sales of donated cars are sent to the Society every month.

Here is what Emily L. from Virginia Beach said:

“As an active duty sailor, I appreciate how easy it was to donate my car. Everyone was so polite and helpful. They were even able to pick it up on base, even though it didn’t run! Best of all, the proceeds from the sale were way more than I expected and are completely tax deductible. I couldn’t be happier with my experience!”

Donor David H. from Virginia echoed her:

“Just to let you know the corvette is on its way as we speak. It was picked up earlier today and is on its way to its next assignment! It makes me happy to think that down the line it will help some Navy or Marine Corps family a bit.”

BEGINNING MAY 1, THE DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE (DFAS) HAS A NEW ADDRESS TO HELP SPEED UP CUSTOMER SERVICE. THE LONDON, KY ADDRESS HAS BEEN DISCONTINUED, ALTHOUGH MAIL SENT THERE WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE NEW ADDRESS. THE PHONE NUMBER REMAINS UNCHANGED: 1-800-321-1080.

Retired Pay correspondence:
DFAS - US Military Retired Pay
8899 E 56th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46249-1200

Annuitant Pay correspondence:
DFAS - US Military Annuitant Pay
8899 E 56th St
Indianapolis, IN 46246-1300

The DFAS website https://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary.html provides information and links to any additional paperwork that might need to be submitted.

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society’s Legacy® Newsletter is published three times each year. Its articles help donors understand the impact of their gifts. It also informs active duty and retired Navy and Marine Corps members and their families about the programs and services available to them. We value your privacy. The Society does not rent or sell names, addresses, or e-mails to third parties.

EVERY DOLLAR MATTERS. EVERY DONOR MAKES A DIFFERENCE.
A Lifetime of Service: How Florence’s Love for the Navy Is Her Legacy

Florence entered the Navy during World War II as an officer candidate, becoming a commissioned ensign after midshipman’s school, and retiring as a full commander after 20 years of service. She loved her time in the Navy and appreciated the opportunities it offered her. She even met her husband at her last duty station – Naval Air Station Glenview, outside of Chicago, Ill. Florence served all over the world. “I went to Alaska when it was not yet a state,” she says. But she holds a special place in her heart for Japan.

“I went to Japan on a military transport ship,” Florence says. “We were allowed to wear civilian clothes the whole time, except for the day when we sailed into Tokyo Bay. We had to be in full uniform.” This was the mid-1950s. It was early morning. The submarine nets were still up, so Florence’s ship had to lie off until the ship could enter the bay. “When they opened those gates,” Florence says, “three destroyers came out, and I remember being so proud and so thrilled to see those American flags flying.”

Florence served for two years in Japan at the fleet weather central. “Part of my job,” Florence says, “was to give a weather briefing every morning to the Admiral who was Commander-in-Chief, Pacific.”

After Japan, Florence returned to the States to serve in the Pentagon, the headquarters of Navy aerology. In fact, the 9-11 terrorist attack plane that flew into the Pentagon struck the area where Florence’s office used to be.

Throughout her time in the Navy, Florence was aware of the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, and was always impressed with the Society’s mission. “I’ve been fortunate in not having financial problems,” she says, “but I can sympathize with enlisted men and women who don’t get paid very much. Especially if they have a family.”

That’s why, in addition to giving monthly to help Sea Service members and their families in need, Florence has decided to do even more. She’s given a special gift – a legacy gift that will continue her support for years to come.

“I’m a churchgoer,” she says, “and I believe we’re here to serve God and to help each other. This is a way of doing that.”

The legacy gift that Florence has given is a charitable gift annuity. It pays her a regular income while it funds the work of the Society, and it creates her legacy of compassion for Sailors, Marines, and their families. The impact of Florence’s gift will continue for generations. “I think it’s a lovely idea,” Florence says, “to help someone else after you’re gone.”

Commander Florence Coyne McDonald created her legacy with a wonderful and generous gift for the Society.

It was her first day in the Navy. Florence Coyne McDonald (nicknamed Flip, as in “flip a Coyne”) had taken a train from New Orleans, La., where she grew up, to Northampton, Mass. This was 1943, with World War II raging. Florence had joined the Navy right out of college.

Arriving in Massachusetts, anticipating the start of an exciting Navy career, Florence’s luggage was lost. Then she sprained her ankle, and it was pulsing with pain whenever she walked or stood.

Struggling, she reported to her commanding officer, who sat with his feet up on his desk, casting a dubious eye over this new recruit. “I don’t think he believed me that I’d hurt my ankle,” Florence says, laughing about the incident now. She remembers being shocked that the officer didn’t even ask her to sit down. “Maybe he was upset about being assigned to this duty with all these women,” she says, with a chuckle.

Despite that uncertain start, Florence immediately took to Navy life, and her career skyrocketed. Impressed with her intelligence, her superiors discussed sending her to navigator’s school, but later, they decided that aerology – meteorology, or weather forecasting – would suit her better.

“I was sent to MIT to study meteorology for a year,” Florence says, “and that was my job for most of my time in the Navy.”
# The Impact of Your Dollars

**Making a difference for sailors, marines, and their families — Thanks to your donations**

## 2016

### NMCRS Team

- **Volunteers**: 4,191
- **Traditional Visiting Nurses**: 32
- **Combat Casualty Assistance Visiting Nurses**: 24
- **Administrative Staff**: 168

### Programs

- **458,035** Volunteered Hours
- **28,367** Home visits and other contacts with mothers and newborns, elderly retirees, widows and widowers
- **31,090** Home visits and other contacts to provide Combat Casualty Assistance (CCA)

### Financial Assistance

**Interest-free Loans and Grants**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basic Living Expenses (food, lodging)</td>
<td>$18,662,672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation (car repairs, insurance, car payment, rental)</td>
<td>$12,009,617</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Emergency</td>
<td>$4,132,202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Transportation Expenses (PCS, gas, parents to bedside)</td>
<td>$1,445,334</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation due to Family Member Illness</td>
<td>$3,084,575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (Pay Entitlement Shortfalls, Predatory Loan Avoidance)</td>
<td>$1,602,102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household Set-Up</td>
<td>$1,850,123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funeral Expenses</td>
<td>$1,071,261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical/Dental (non-military medical facilities)</td>
<td>$747,249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>$269,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**56,556** Clients received financial assistance

**$45.1 million**

### Inflows

- **Loan Repayments**: $41.6 million
- **Contributions**: $19.2 million
- **Other Receipts (thrift shops, etc)**: $1.0 million

**$61.8 million**

### Outflows

- **Financial Assistance**: $45.1 million
- **Programs**: $20.8 million
- **Management & General**: $2.6 million
- **Fundraising**: $1.5 million

**$70 million**

### Note:
The difference between inflows and outflows during 2016 was covered by funds from the Society’s Investment Reserve and other assets.

As of 05/01/2017 (Final)

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Were you inspired? Pass this copy of Legacy® Newsletter to a friend!
Reasons to Update your Beneficiary Designations

Checking just one means it’s time for an update.

A gift by beneficiary designation is easy to set up with just your signature. Simply request a beneficiary designation form from your plan administrator. Here are some of the assets that transfer by beneficiary designation that would make a wonderful gift to the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society:

- IRAs, 401ks and other qualified plans
- A fully paid life insurance policy
- Certificates of deposit
- Bank and brokerage accounts
- Monies remaining in a donor advised fund

LEARN MORE AT WWW.MYIMPACTWITHNMCRS.ORG/BENEFICIARY

The 2016 Annual Report is now available. As you read the report, you will discover how much your support means to the men and women who stand the watch here at home and across the globe to protect our freedom. We’re proud to report that independent auditors and charity rating organizations continue to find our business practices and mission effectiveness to be consistent with the highest standards of nonprofit management. Thank you for your loyalty and compassion.

Read the 2016 Report online at: www.nmcrs.org/financials

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society

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The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society does not provide legal or tax advisory services. Work with your attorney and financial advisor to plan charitable arrangements that work best for you and your estate. The information contained herein is intended solely for general informational purposes.