



Press Release

*For Immediate Release*

**Stand For Vets to Build a Network of Support for Veterans Re-Entering Civilian Life**

**LAGUNA NIGUEL, Calif., MAY 9, 2019**—The Stand For Vets (also known as The Mark Hodel Veteran's Foundation), is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to serving Veterans and their families by providing personalized support, resources, and assistance during their re-entry into the civilian world.

Founder John Hodel explains, "When our brave men and women choose to join the military, their lives will never be quite the same. Military training is designed to break you down and build you up to be an elite fighting force. Those experiences, in a highly structured environment over a period of years, can make transitioning from the military to civilian life very challenging."

According to a recent VA study, an average of 20 veterans commits suicide on a daily basis. One of the primary reasons? Broken relationships and lack of a supportive network. The culture shock and lack of understanding in the civilian environment can also make re-entry very isolating. Stand For Vets aims to change this.

Stand For Vets decided to get ahead of the problem, one veteran at a time. Foundation will provide the transitioning veteran a single point of contact who will serve as their confidant or "sponsor". The purpose of the sponsor is to provide support, friendship, and serve as the primary communication portal to the Stand For Vets organization, as to the veteran's true needs. Behind the sponsor will exist a pre-established network of volunteers and service providers that will be ready to help as needed. If the non-profit does not offer the service, they will find it. Additionally, Stand For Vets will provide financial help, as is deemed necessary, on a case by case basis. Foundation's goal is to provide personal warmth, support, and family, outside of military service, and get them through a successful transition into civilian life. Veterans and their families will not feel alone.

Stand For Vets is launching its network pilot program summer of 2019, and expected to open their network to the public to join come Fall 2019. Stand For Vets was founded by John Hodel in honor of his late older brother, Mark Hodel, who served in the Vietnam War and died serving our country.

For those who want to get involved, donate, and for veterans who want to apply, go to [standforvets.org](http://standforvets.org).

**About Stand for Vets / Mark Hodel Veteran's Foundation** Stand for Vets / Mark Hodel Veteran's Foundation is dedicated raising funds to support our veterans - providing a fresh start and community as they enter civilian life, providing personalized services that will assist them in moving forward. We are deeply committed to creating a supportive, inclusive, and beneficial network of active duty, veteran, and civilian professionals which can help selected veterans as they make the difficult transition back to civilian life.

Mark Hodel Veteran's Foundation® is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

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