



Knights of Columbus

Central N.J. Fire Truck Pull

Dear:

We all know the incredible sacrifice that is made by our men and women of the Armed Services and by their families. They accept the call to serve and the challenge to “protect and defend” our great country. Should it not then fall to their countrymen to reciprocate and protect them in their hour of need.

Our help is needed today as much as any time in our history. Our wounded veterans face many challenges – medical, physical, psychological, and social. Among the many issues facing our veterans, two have risen to critical levels – homelessness and suicide.

Homeless vets have sadly become a common sight. On just one single night in January last year, our country had 37,800 homeless vets and 23,300 of them without shelter. The image of a vet living on the streets with nothing more than a discarded piece of cardboard is not only an embarrassment but also deplorable.

Many veterans see no light at the end of the tunnel. Twenty-two veterans commit suicide daily and the number continues to rise. We as a nation must own this statistic. As Peter O’Rourke, former Director of Veteran Affairs, said, “One life lost to suicide is one life too many.”

These statistics are shocking. Hopefully you are saying, “But what can I do?” The answer is simple—become a corporate sponsor of the First Annual Central New Jersey Knights of Columbus Fire Truck Pull for Wounded Veterans. The Pull is scheduled for September 28, 2019 at the Lakewood BlueClaws Stadium (FirstEnergy Park). One hundred percent of the net proceeds of this event will be donated to assist wounded veterans through support of two outstanding national programs – Gary Sinese Foundation and Mission 22 – and direct support of local veterans.

The Knights have a proven track record in fundraising. Last year the Knights of Columbus raised and donated over \$185.6 million in donations for charitable needs and projects. Members also volunteered over 75.6 million hours of charity work. Our charitable activities include local, national and international projects including, but not limited to, Special Olympics, the Global Wheelchair Missions, Habitat for Humanity, Coats for Kids, Food for Families as well as many local projects including food banks and veterans programs.

With your company by our side as a sponsor, I know our event will be successful. Your corporate sponsorship of a team or of the event will allow us to help these unsung heroes. Might I suggest that the event would be a good team-building exercise providing participants with camaraderie and a sense of accomplishment while having fun for a good cause. If you cannot put together a team, perhaps you might consider sponsoring a team or a direct monetary donation. Your donation will be tax deductible as we are nonprofit charitable corporation organized and operating under the IRS Code 501 (c) 3. Please be assured that your corporate sponsorship will be publicly acknowledged at the event.

I have included copies of a flyer and challenge statement. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 732-787-0236. Thank you for any consideration that you may afford our request.

Sincerely,

John W. Brandon

John W. Brandon FDD

N.J. State Knights of Columbus Firetruck Pull Challenge Chairman