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ThanksUSA Receives Major Donation for Military Families
Dozens Will Receive Scholarships for Higher Education

McLean, VA – ThanksUSA, the national nonprofit organization dedicated to thanking America's troops through the gift of education, announced today it has received a major gift of \$100,000 from USA Funds, an Indianapolis-based nonprofit organization that supports student success in college and career. The donation, which is double USA Funds' 2014 contribution, comes as ThanksUSA celebrates its 10th anniversary.

“USA Funds’ gift will help dozens of students from military families pursue higher education, which can greatly expand their opportunities to fulfilling careers,” said ThanksUSA Chairman and CEO, Bob Okun. “It is a true gesture of gratitude to our military and their families for all they sacrifice in keeping our nation safe.”

More than 30 need-based college, technical and vocational school awards will be designated **USA Funds/ThanksUSA Scholarships** in 2015. Some of those awards will be presented at the charity’s annual **Treasure Our Troops** fundraising gala to be held at the Four Seasons Hotel on October 6 in Washington, DC. A portion of USA Funds’ donation will help underwrite the event.

“USA Funds promotes Completion With a Purpose, helping students complete postsecondary education equipped with the skills they need to pursue rewarding careers,” said USA Funds’ President and CEO, Bill Hansen. “Our military families are especially deserving of this support, along with our heartfelt thanks for their selfless service.”

Hansen, former Deputy Secretary for the Department of Education, has been a strong supporter of ThanksUSA for many years and served on the charity’s Board.

ThanksUSA was launched 10 years ago, by McLean sisters Rachel and Kelsi Okun, who were then 10 and eight years old respectively. Since its inception, nearly 3,700 children and spouses of our military have received ThanksUSA scholarships, valued at more than \$11 million.

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About ThanksUSA:

ThanksUSA is a non-partisan, charitable effort to mobilize Americans of all ages to “thank” the men and women of the United States armed forces. The organization provides college, technical and vocational school scholarships to the children and spouses of military personnel. For more information, visit www.thanksusa.org.

About USA Funds:

USA Funds is a nonprofit corporation that supports Completion With a Purpose, building a more purposeful path for America’s students to and through college and on to rewarding careers and successful lives. USA Funds pursues its nonprofit mission through philanthropic activities and partnerships, policy research, and programs and services that enhance preparation for, access to and success in higher education. Learn more at www.usafunds.org.