

185 for Heroes

we run because they fought



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

185 for Heroes Becomes a Non-Profit and Announces a New Board of Directors

April 1, 2013

After three successful years of raising money and awareness for wounded veterans, 185 for Heroes is now a registered Maryland nonprofit, opening new doors for the passionate team to advance their mission in serving our country's heroes. "The 185 for Heroes team is thrilled and we are looking forward to fulfilling our mission and serving our wounded veterans in ways never thought of before!" said 185 for Heroes President and Co-founder, Clay Anderson.

The organization started in the spring of 2010, when Ashley Ackenhausen and her brother Clay Anderson, decided to take on an endurance challenge to support our veterans. With the support of a dedicated bike team, the tenacious siblings ran the 185 miles of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Trail (C & O), stretching from Maryland to D.C., over the course of one week. With a desire to turn their passion for extreme endurance sports into a charitable event, they gave all donations to the Wounded Warrior Project (WWP), since both Ashley and Clay have seen the work that the WWP has provided for their fellow servicemen and women during their services in the U.S. Navy.

After the success and great response to the first year's finish line event, Ashley and Clay decided to turn their endurance challenge into an annual fundraiser for wounded veterans. They assembled a group of dedicated professionals and advocates to advance the mission of 185 for Heroes further throughout the community. In just three short years the organization has raised over \$41,000 for wounded veterans and has grown a network of over 500 supporters.

This fall, 185 for Heroes will hold their 4th annual running fundraiser from September 15th – 21st, concluding in a final ceremony at Georgetown University, where speakers, veterans, runners, and community members will join together to honor our country's dedicated heroes. With the transition into a nonprofit, 185 for Heroes also has a new board of directors, utilizing a diverse set of expertise and a consistent passion towards the 185 cause. The new board includes,

- **President:** Clayton Anderson
- **Vice President of Operations:** Ashley Ackenhausen
- **Vice President of Events:** David Baran
- **Secretary:** Lauren Anderson
- **Treasurer:** Nicole Johnson
- **Sponsorships Director:** Syndi Matthews
- **Fundraising Director:** Rebekah Arpan
- **Public Affairs Director:** Lauren Hoepper
- **Strategic Partnerships Director:** Kelly Czaja
- **Veterans Liaison:** Justin Hoover
- **Georgetown Running Club Representative:** James Allen

100% of all donations made to the 185 for Heroes event will go directly to Operation Second Chance (OSC), a Maryland-based organization whose mission is “to serve wounded, injured, and ill combat veterans.” To learn more about OSC’s dedication to serving veterans, please visit the [OSC website](#).

For more information about 185 for Heroes and to donate, please visit: <http://www.185forheroes.org/>

Reporter or Interested Sponsors May Contact:
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