

## DIRECT SUPPORT TO VETERANS/ SERVICE MEMBERS/FAMILIES

In 2022 the ICBYR directly supported veterans, service members and their families. There were many community individuals and businesses that provided funds to enable us to fulfill our mission. They include: Zimmerman American Legion Riders, Kwik Trip, Sage Cleaning, LLC, Rockstad & Company Relics and Wares, Rum River Rods' Car Club, ReMax Team Lundeen, Cambridge City Center Market "Round it Up", Shalom Thrift Shop, St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church, Benevity Fund, Thrivent, Give MN, Network for the Greater Good, sponsors of our golf tournament & dinner dance, and anonymous personal donors.

We helped approximately 370 veterans and their families, who otherwise would not have received assistance, through direct support or referral to appropriate services.

### SUMMARY

All of the above has been accomplished and will continue with the assistance and support of the volunteer members of the Isanti County Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Task Force (approximately 50 members) and other community-based organizations such as the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Polaris Battalion Sea Cadets.

In 2022, over \$54,000 was spent in support of our mission in direct benefit to service members, veterans, and their families. There were over 1,790 volunteer hours logged for Executive Board and Task Force members. Office and promotional expenses were higher than usual as we purchased several additional billboard signs to replace aging installations throughout the county.

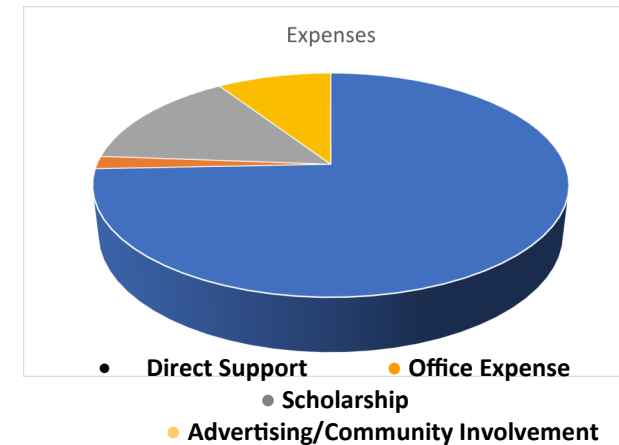
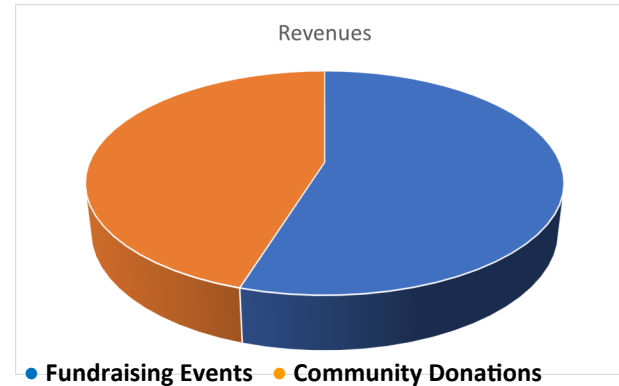
Isanti County Beyond The Yellow Ribbon was officially proclaimed as a Beyond The Yellow Ribbon county on January 5, 2010.

[www.beyondtheyellowribbonisanti.org](http://www.beyondtheyellowribbonisanti.org)

Follow us on Facebook: Beyond the Yellow Ribbon—Isanti County

555 18th Avenue South, Cambridge MN 55008

Isanti County Beyond the Yellow Ribbon became a 501c3 non-profit organization on January 9, 2013.



**Help for Veterans  
& their Families**  
**763-689-3591**  
**IsantiVeteran.org**  
ISANTI COUNTY BEYOND THE YELLOW RIBBON

## 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Isanti County Beyond the Yellow Ribbon, Inc.

### Executive Board

Jim Rostberg – Chair  
David Oslund – Vice-Chair  
Kathy Rostberg – Treasurer  
Gail Genin – Fundraising Chair  
Carol Ann Smith – Secretary

### MISSION STATEMENT:

To support Isanti County's military service members, veterans, and their families, by coordinating services and resources available to them.

### Greetings from the Chair:

2022 was a record year as Isanti County Beyond the Yellow Ribbon (ICBYR) provided \$54,000 in direct support to over 370 veterans and their families who were in financial need. This is only possible due to the generosity of the community. I want to thank the Sponsors of the annual golf tournament and the dinner dance, businesses, organizations and individual donors who, with their financial contributions, help make this direct support possible. I also want to thank the ICBYR Task Force members who volunteered 1,800 hours and whose guidance, support and wisdom provide the direction in meeting the ICBYR Mission.

Task Force and Executive Board members do not receive any form of financial compensation. Compensation comes in the form of realizing the positive impact their participation as an ICBYR volunteer has on our military service members, veterans and their families. Anyone can become a Task Force member. There are no dues. There are only eleven meetings during the year (we do not meet during July due to ICBYR's presence at the Isanti County Fair). Volunteer when and where you can. No

matter your level of participation know that you will be making a significant difference in the lives of our military service members, veterans and their families. Thank you, Jim Rostberg, Chair

### Supporting our Mission: COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

The work of the ICBYR is accomplished through the Executive Board, the Task Force and several committees and coordinators created to accomplish our goals. They include:

Billboard Committee  
BYR Friends Coordinator  
Community Services Resource Coordinator  
Fundraising Committee  
Investment Coordinator  
Resource/Brochure Committee  
Scholarship Committee  
Website/Social Media Committee

In addition, ICBYR has liaisons to:

Law Enforcement  
Local Schools  
Congregational Community  
Packages for the Deployed Community

## FUNDRAISING

The Isanti County Beyond the Yellow Ribbon is funded 100% by donations. There are no dues to join and the Executive Board and Task Force members donate their time (1,794 hours in 2022). Our funding comes from donations from very supportive local community members, donations collected at various events and fundraising projects. Local businesses such as Sage Cleaning LLC and Rockstad & Company Relics & Wares host events with proceeds going to ICBYR.

### **2022 Fundraising events to support our Mission:**

**ICBYR** sponsors two major fundraising events. They are a **Dinner/Dance** in the Spring at the Armed Forces Reserve Community Center and an **Annual ICBYR Golf Tournament** in September at The Purple Hawk Country Club. In 2022 these two events provided about 55 percent of our revenue. The remainder of our revenue comes from anonymous donors in our community and donations received at other various events.



## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The ICBYR could not accomplish its mission without strong community support. We connect with our community through:

**A strong partnership** with the County Veterans Service Office

**A website** with over 98,000 hits since its creation.

**"Friends of ICBYR"** – local businesses offer discounted services or products to local veterans/military personnel. "Friends" are

featured on our website and Facebook pages.

**Excellent relationships** with local Veteran and Fraternal organizations such as the Cambridge American Legion Post 290, Zimmerman American Legion Riders, Isanti VFW Post 2735, Shalom Shop, Veterans Memorial Park, and the Isanti Lions Club, as well as Isanti County, and the cities of Braham, Cambridge and Isanti.

**Relationship** with the local Ministerial Association.

**Membership** in the North 65 Chamber of Commerce and Braham Area Chamber of Commerce

## COMMUNITY BENEFIT & ICBYR ACTIVITIES in 2022:

Isanti County Beyond the Yellow Ribbon is organized to support Isanti County's military service members, veterans, and their families. We offer these services in the form of: **Packages for The Deployed Community** We send packages to service members as names and addresses become available. Items were collected and several boxes were sent to our service members who are currently deployed. Local schools were able to provide letters of thanks and valentines to include in the boxes.

**Financial Assistance** – We have provided and will continue to provide financial assistance to service members, veterans and their families as requested and appropriate. We have provided furnace repair, automobile loan payments, utility bills, automobile insurance and repair, propane tank fills, tire replacement, medical and dental bills, rent payments, mortgage payments, home repairs, and provided assistance in securing other services available. We also provided over 150 grocery and gas gift cards in \$50 increments in support of the Isanti County Veterans Service Office and the Cambridge Armed Forces Reserve Community Center. These gift cards are designed to help with immediate basic needs. Additionally Holiday gift cards in \$100 increments were provided for 45 service members, veterans and their families.

In support of the Cambridge Armed Forces Community Center, the ICBYR hosted a pre-deployment ceremony and luncheon for the 850 HEC; attended the 84th troop command and 850th HEC family picnics and the HHD Christmas Party. We also participated in the collection of school supplies and toys through Operation Homefront.

Veterans benefit information and Veteran's healthcare information is provided as requested and is coordinated with the County Veterans Service Officer.

**Home Safety Checks** – In cooperation with the Isanti County Sheriff's office and Isanti County Safety & Rescue, home safety checks are provided, free of charge, to service members, veterans and their families on an as needed basis.

**Goods and Services** – We have provided direct assistance to families helping with lawn care, auto repair, home repair including painting, appliance repair and moving assistance.

**Camo and Veterans Quilts** – We are no longer assembling quilts but, as long as our supply lasts, we will furnish bedrolls to any service member who is deployed outside of the continental United States.

**Scholarship** – In 2022 we presented four \$2500 ICBYR Scholarships to eligible students. Funding was provided from the 2021 Golf Tournament.

**Local Army Reserve Units** – We have "adopted" the reserve/guard units that drill in Cambridge MN. We continue to work with the 850<sup>th</sup> HEC and Family Readiness Group (FRG) to provide assistance to families on an as needed basis. We supported "Meals from the Heart" providing boxes of non-perishable groceries distributed by Cambridge AFRCC Soldier and Family Readiness Specialist.

**Signs** - We have local billboards within our county and several 4' x 8' signs at local businesses and township halls for the purpose of increasing the awareness of the services we offer. We continue to look for new locations within the community.

**Law Enforcement Liaison & De-escalation Training** – ICBYR has a law enforcement liaison that attends our monthly meetings. ICBYR decals are placed on all law enforcement, EMS, Fire and public safety vehicles in the County.

**Website & Social Media** – ICBYR has an active & newly updated website. Task Force meetings and special events are also broadcast on Facebook and Twitter.

**Faith Based**– the Congregational Committee is the ICBYR liaison to local clergy.



**Community Events** - We are part of the community and thus participate in several annual community events including the Braham Appreciation Day Parade, Isanti Rodeo Jubilee Days Parade, Minnesota State Fair Military Appreciation Day Parade, Cambridge Snowflake Lighted Parade, North 65 Chamber of Commerce Senior Resource Fair. First-ever Cambridge Isanti High School Military Signing Day, support of local Veterans day dinners, PICK'M Up Suicide Prevention Coalition, Braham Pie Day, Cambridge Primary School "Silent Dismissal".