



## Veterans Restorative Care Center Hot Lake Springs Resort, La Grande, Oregon

### For Immediate Release

A revolutionary approach for the care of disabled veterans, the Veterans Restorative Care Center, will be unveiled October 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> at the Hot Lake Springs Resort near La Grande, Oregon.

The founding organizations will share their plan to deploy a natural approach to medical treatment as well as education, vocational and recreational resources for the veterans and their families. The historic Hot Lake Springs Resort near La Grande, Oregon will be repurposed to fulfill this vision. The end result will include the restoration of bodies, spirits, families, identities and purpose – and to become a national model for others to be inspired and follow.

The Hot Lake Springs Resort and surrounding business community are preparing the foundation for career-training opportunities in multiple fields including healthcare, aquaculture and hydroponics.

The founding organizations of the Veterans Restorative Care Center are:

**Warrior Bonfire Program** (Clinton, MS and [www.warriorbonfireprogram.org](http://www.warriorbonfireprogram.org)) The Warrior Bonfire Program was founded by Dan Fordice III to provide opportunities that improve the lives of warriors wounded in combat. The focus is on creating activity based programs in a safe, secure and stress free environment with other warriors who have similar experiences, and to promote camaraderie and therapeutic treatment on their journey to recovery and healing.

*“We are truly humbled and grateful to be the Veteran non-profit partner in this unique and visionary opportunity to continue to assist our very deserving disabled veterans.”*

--Warrior Bonfire Program Vice President of Outreach, Mike Chesne

**National University of Natural Medicine** (Portland, OR and [www.nunm.edu](http://www.nunm.edu)) The National University of Natural Medicine (NUNM) is the oldest accredited naturopathic medical school in North America and a globally recognized leader in natural medicine education, training and research. NUNM’s naturopathic and Chinese medicine programs focus on optimizing physical, mental and spiritual health, and treating disease in a patient-centered model of natural health care.

*“We’re proud to participate in this unique opportunity to discover innovative solutions that will bring change, education and deep healing to the men and women of our armed forces who have contributed so much to protect the safety and security of the world we live in.”*

--NUNM President, David J. Schleich, PhD

**Hot Lake Springs Resort and Spa** (La Grande, OR and [www.hotlakesprings.com](http://www.hotlakesprings.com)) The hot springs first served as a place of rest in the 1840’s to families traversing the Oregon trail. Since 2003, Hot Lake Springs has been in the loving, caring hands of the Lee and David Manuel Family. They have led the effort to restore this wonderful property and piece of American history and are central to its future.

*“The Manuel family considers the restoration project at Hot Lake Springs to have been a great privilege. We are thankful for the opportunity to have been a small part of its past, present, and future. Since the onset of this monumental historic project in 2003, it has been our desire to make certain that the future of Hot Lake Springs be forever stable, while being an ongoing economic asset both to Union County and the entire state of Oregon. The Manuel family is excited to see Hot*

*Lake Springs approach this new endeavor of partnering with several distinguished organizations, the fine people of Union County, and the agencies in our great state of Oregon to move to the next level of historic success in assisting our veterans who have given so much.”*

--Hot Lake Springs Owner, Lee Manuel

**DyneAquaculture, Inc.** (Dallas, TX and [www.dyneaquaculture.com](http://www.dyneaquaculture.com)). DyneAquaculture President and CEO (Lt. Col. US Army retired and disabled veteran) will serve as the official corporate host of the summit. John is passionate about helping veterans. He is a positive change agent in areas including the creation of US manufacturing jobs to feed a hungry world.

*“My team and I look forward to collaborating with these tremendous organizations, Union County, and the state of Oregon to develop a place where we truly help improve the lives of many of our Veterans, their families, and local citizens.”*

--DyneAquaculture President & CEO, John Bickel

\*\*Contributions can be made to the Veterans Restorative Care Center project through the Warrior Bonfire Program website: [www.warriorbonfireprogram.org](http://www.warriorbonfireprogram.org) (click DONATE at the bottom of the home page).

