**Frequently Asked Questions**

1. **What inspired you to create Combat Boots and High Heels?**

Combat Boots and High Heels formed from two main personal life experiences.

The founder had a friend who was young, energetic, assertive, and who had several life aspirations as a 22 year old active duty infantryman. Early into the initial occupation of Iraq, he deployed. Returning and transitioning off of active duty, this veteran expanded his family by having a beautiful baby girl. Yet, during this time of transition, he had definite signs of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Everyone thought he would adjust, that time would be the remedy needed. Yet, he now lives in a homeless shelter and is barely able to function in society. This is one story of countless out there. These people need help and we want to contribute. As one of the military sayings go, “no Soldier left behind!”.

Secondly, as a female veteran, our founder realized that there is a lack of resources available for female-specific needs that are accessible or even discussed in the military community. Her friend, another female veteran, had a breast cancer scare and was searching for support and found it difficult to navigate through the systems. This sprung our founder into action; female veterans have unique needs which must be addressed. Breast Cancer, ovarian cancer, breast feeding assistance, support groups, and networking are some of the items needing attention and support. Our goal is to provide a portion of our efforts and donations to these specific issues and causes.

1. **How do I know where my donation goes?**

This is our first year fundraising on behalf of our nonprofit organization, but we will be publishing an annual report on our public website. These will provide a breakdown of how donations are impacting our military veterans. Additionally, different events may have unique themes supporting specific causes.

1. **Why should I donate to Combat Boots and High Heels versus another charity?**

We would love for you to support our cause, but we encourage people to donate to any organization that supports veterans.

1. **Does it only support female veterans?**

Combat Boots and High Heels support all veterans. We do focus a portion of our proceeds to target female veteran’s needs, but the majority of our aid goes to all veterans.

1. **Is Combat Boots and High Heels affiliated with the military?**

Combat Boots and High Heels is a nonprofit organization that supports veterans, but has no official affiliation with any military branch.

1. **If I didn’t deploy can I receive Aid?**

Our definition of a Veteran is someone who served in the military. That means that they might not have deployed and they might not have served any time on active duty. The military puts high demands on its personnel regardless if it’s in a combat zone or at home.

1. **How is Combat Boots and High Heels different from other charities?**

We don’t promise that we are different than any and all charities. Our only commitment is that we are here to help veterans and we want to focus on needs that we don’t feel are being addressed by the mainstream. If this is being done by other organizations as well, then we are proud members of the team.

1. **Is Combat Boots and High Heels a 501 (c) 3?**

Yes we are an approved 501 (c) 3.

1. **How does Combat Boots and High Heels focus some of the funding on female veterans?**

We will be doing campaigns that get the word out to female veterans and dependents in order to continue raising awareness and donations for medical assistance in support of Breast Cancer and Ovarian Cancer. Additionally, we will be donating breast pumps to veteran nursing mothers in need. We will foster support groups and networking tools that encourage female veteran participation.

1. **How can I volunteer?**

We are always looking for volunteers. Whether you want to volunteer for a specific event or whether you want to be an on-call volunteer, we would love for you to contact us. Send us an email at combatboots.highheels@gmail.com and we will send you the application.

1. **Do I have to donate money to be a Sponsor?**

You do not have to donate money to be a sponsor. You can donate supplies, resources, or time. We partner with our sponsors in order to create a mutually beneficial sponsorship program.