

The Southern Arizona Veterans and First Responders Living Memorial honors people who have the capacity to put the needs of their neighbors, communities and country before their own.

Dedicated volunteers are working to personally engage with philanthropic individuals, corporations and foundation throughout southern Arizona to raise \$1.9 million to build and maintain the Memorial.

Firefighters Help Form the Fabric of Their Communities



For over 35 years, Fire Chief Randy Karrer has worked in southern Arizona with local fire departments to serve and protect the community. His love of the fire service and commitment to service are apparent when you listen to him speak to his Golder Ranch Firefighters about expectations he has for their service model.

Chief Karrer sees firefighters as part of the fabric of any community they work and live in. He can be heard telling firefighters, "If people don't know who to call, they should call us. We may not be the appropriate resource but we can help them find the appropriate solution for their problem." He sincerely believes that as public safety providers, Golder Ranch Firefighters should be a liaison for the public between their problem and the solution.

When people are faced with a medical emergency, they are scared. Chief Karrer wants his firefighters to put their fears at ease and render aid. He also wants them to provide that next level of care and support by showing compassion, kindness and genuine concern for the wellbeing of all involved.

Chief Karrer has high expectations for his firefighters and he also wants them to feel supported since the job they do can often be physically and emotionally taxing. A memorial for first responders and veterans in Southern Arizona is one way to show community support for the network of first responders and military veterans that call Southern Arizona home and to bring all members of the community together.

Chief Karrer also sees a memorial as an opportunity to provide a community gathering place that can be a place of memorial, reverence, remembrance and education. He views this as a cornerstone to the

community and a way to provide education to youth about the importance of community service.

"This is a unique opportunity for our community to ignite children's interest into a life of public service and to teach them about putting others before themselves," he says.

Join in the Effort! Fund the Memorial Now!



Southern Arizona does not have a place to honor veterans and first responders who answered their country's and communities call with service, bravery and honor. Construction of the Living Memorial will provide a place of honor, reflection and education for all people to honor those who served and continue to serve.

"This memorial is very important to me because our nation's veterans and first responders serve humbly and honorably every day to protect our way of life in the greatest country on earth," says Steve Didio, Memorial board member and retired U.S. Navy Lieutenant Commander. "We need to do all that we can to

recognize and celebrate their immense contributions."

The fundraising goal of \$1.9 million will provide for the construction and maintenance of the Living Memorial to be located on 2.5 acres in Naranja Park, allocated by the Town of Oro Valley, in full view of the Catalina Mountains' Pusch Ridge.

We have raised more than \$300,000 towards the project and will spend 2019 working to "Fund the Memorial Now!" Expect a call from us or [visit our website to learn more.](#)