



## PENNSYLVANIA LIONS BEACON LODGE CAMP

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Web: [www.beaconlodge.com](http://www.beaconlodge.com) Email: [beaconlodgencamp@verizon.net](mailto:beaconlodgencamp@verizon.net)

Capt. Sarah Lambert,  
CPT, MS, PAARNG  
Program Manager

February 13, 2014

Re: Proposal for Family Retreat Program for Combat Veterans and Families

Dear Capt. Lambert:

Thank you for your request to submit a letter of proposal to the PAARNG regarding our plans for the Family Retreat program at Beacon Lodge Camp. PA Lions Beacon Lodge Camp board of directors, staff, other Lions and interested individuals are currently developing plans to present **Project New Hope at Beacon Lodge**; a new program dedicated to the needs of disabled combat veterans. All U.S. combat veterans and their families will be welcome.

The goal of **Project New Hope at Beacon Lodge** is to expand the services provided by the camp for the past 65 years to the blind and handicapped residents of Pennsylvania to include a retreat program for veterans and their family members to deal with their lives after wartime service.

Project New Hope at Beacon Lodge Camp, located in Mount Union, PA in central Pennsylvania, offers an ideal outdoor retreat that encompasses 583 acres of scenic mountain woodland with fully accessible facilities, accommodations and activities. The camp offers two areas of housing at the camp available to veterans and their families to relax and enjoy the peaceful surroundings, while also offering the opportunity to hear guest speakers and participate in activities that include a large outdoor pavilion, playground, outdoor heated swimming pool that is wheelchair-accessible, lake for fishing and paddle-boating, nature trails, camping facilities, archery/22 rifle range, climbing tower, zip line and much more. It is a wonderful facility – a perfect place for **Project New Hope!**

PA Lions Beacon Lodge Camp has five full time employees who run the office, the camp, and maintain the facilities. Other part-time personnel are hired as temporary help during the camping season. Efforts are being made to identify Federal, State and Local resources to support and run Project New Hope at Beacon Lodge. Consideration should be given to governmental agencies, local volunteers, National Guard and Reserve Units, veteran's service employees, veteran's center and hospital staff, other veterans support groups and local medical personnel. Project New Hope at Beacon Lodge will furnish accommodations and present activities in a relaxed atmosphere where veterans and families will be provided supportive,

educational, and recreational opportunities. The facilities in both the upper and lower sections of the camp can accommodate between 20-25 families. Project New Hope at Beacon Lodge can offer a weekend retreat, or a week long camping experience. The inaugural session of Project New Hope at Beacon Lodge has been scheduled for Labor Day weekend 2014, August 28<sup>th</sup> through the 31<sup>st</sup>.

Committee members are currently researching grants and other funding opportunities to make the camping session free of charge to the attendees.

Thank You for taking the time to consider our efforts to expand the use of our camp facilities in a positive and productive manner. We would appreciate an opportunity to meet with you and representatives of the PAARNG to offer a better view of our facilities and proposed program. I can be contacted at 570-823-6035 or e-mail: [robjmill@aol.com](mailto:robjmill@aol.com).

Sincerely,

Joan Milligan  
Past District Governor  
Marketing Chairperson  
PA Lions Beacon Lodge Camp  
(570) 823-6035, (570) 262-6388  
E-mail: [robjmill@aol.com](mailto:robjmill@aol.com)

**BEACON LODGE  
PROJECT  
NEW HOPE**

*is a Weekend Retreat  
Camping Experience  
for Pennsylvania  
Disabled Veterans and  
Their Families*

**To Sign-Up for a Retreat**

If you are a PA Disabled Veteran  
and you would like to attend a retreat,  
please contact us at

PA Lions Beacon Lodge Camp  
114 State Route 103 S  
Mount Union, PA 17066  
814-542-2511

E-mail: [beaconlodgencamp@verizon.net](mailto:beaconlodgencamp@verizon.net)  
[www.beaconlodge.com](http://www.beaconlodge.com)

**To Make a Donation**

These retreats are provided FREE of charge  
to PA Disabled Veterans and their families.

To make a contribution to this worthy program,  
please send donations to:

**Beacon Lodge / Project New Hope**

114 State Route 103 S  
Mount Union, PA 17066

**Beacon Lodge / Project New Hope**

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Mount Union, PA 17066



**Helping PA Disabled Veterans  
and Their Families**



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## Project New Hope



Project New Hope was founded by caring individuals who understand that for disabled veterans and their families, the wartime experience does not end the day a disabled veteran comes home. The effects are often felt throughout a disabled veteran's entire lifetime and can have an impact on each family member, often in ways that may be quite subtle, or hidden from view.

Healing and understanding is vital to life success after military service. Each family member will deal with what has happened in their own way. Returning disabled veterans face the challenge of transitioning from military to civilian life. For many, they feel alone and forgotten. Spouses and children may struggle, first with their loved one being gone and then another adjustment after their return.

No matter which era a soldier served, ALL PA Disabled Veterans and their families are welcome.

There is no charge for PA Disabled Veterans and their families with Project New Hope. Donations are greatly appreciated.

## Programs Being Offered

- Presentations
- Workshops
- Benefits Briefing
- Counseling Sessions
- Camping Activities
- Financial Advice
- Entertainment

## PA Lions Beacon Lodge

PA Lions Beacon Lodge Camp, located in Mount Union, PA in central Pennsylvania, offers an ideal outdoor retreat that encompasses 583 acres of scenic mountain woodland with fully accessible facilities, accommodations and activities. Beacon Lodge began in 1948 to provide blind and visually impaired individuals the opportunity to enjoy a camping experience.



The Children's Village area of the camp includes 12 air conditioned cabins complete with bathroom facilities and individual storage cabinets for personal items. Each cabin can accommodate up to seven family members. The cabin area includes a dining hall, infirmary, art room, laundry facility and activity center.



The Main Lodge, which serves as the Adult Camp, houses a large dining room, kitchen, living room, library, a sun porch and guest rooms. It also includes a canteen, infirmary, an activity/art room and family accommodations.

## Camp Facilities

Camp Facilities include:

- Large Outdoor Pavilion
- Playground & Nature Trails
- Outdoor Bowling Alleys
- Wheel-Chair Accessible Outdoor Heated Pool
- Lake for Fishing & Paddleboating
- Mountain & Tandem Bikes
- Camping Facilities
- Climbing Tower
- Zip Line & More!

