Emergency Funding for Student Veterans

Issue: Potential Problem Solver with Resources for Veterans

Friends, I met Ralph Smith, Jr, during the Homecoming Parade. Ralph is a problem solver for Veterans, and he may be the person who can provide assistance for Veterans when no other organization can help. I say this after learning that Veterans Emergency Financial Help is mostly an "Urban Legend". Based on my recent experience, my perception is that NO emergency financial help for Veterans in dire circumstances is available through VA Regional in St. Louis, in Indianapolis, or at the Delaware County office. Ball State's Emergency Financial Help is handled on a case by case basis. I say this with the personal knowledge that every one of these offices would like to provide help IF they had the resources to help.

Ralph's title of Education Specialist for Operation Upward Bound means that he provides transition assistance for every veteran in this area as they transition from the military to the civilian life, whether they choose to continue their education, or move into the work force. Ralph has referred many Vets to Ball State and Ivy Tech, and I want to recommend him to you if you are experiencing problems that have not been solved by our office, or any other office on campus. You will enjoy meeting Ralph Smith, Jr. Please give him a call if you need assistance.

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