



## The Lundbeck US Charitable Fund is Committed to Supporting US Veterans and the Military Community

The Lundbeck US Charitable Fund is an independently managed nonprofit 501(c)(3) committed to responsibly and appropriately supporting organizations and programs that share Lundbeck's dedication to restoring brain health.

One of its areas of focus is the veteran and military community – a population that suffers from a disproportionate burden of mental health disorders. The Fund is making significant commitments to amplify and expand the reach of incredible organizations that are supporting the mental health of our veterans throughout the US.

### Military Veterans and Mental Health

Because of their unique experiences and exposure to traumatic situations, Veterans suffer from a disproportionate burden of mental health disorders and have a significant need for mental health care.

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, nearly **40% of Veterans aged 18-25** and **>25% of all Veterans 18+** had either a substance use disorder or a mental illness in 2021.<sup>1</sup>

Reaching Veterans with care can be challenging – studies have indicated that as many as **60% of military personnel** who experience mental health problems do not seek help, and one of the most frequently reported barriers is concerns about stigma.<sup>2</sup>

## PTSD and Depression



PTSD is **three times more likely** among Veterans who deployed to combat environments compared to those who did not.<sup>3</sup>

Research indicates that **~14-16% of U.S. service members** who have been deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq have been affected by post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and depression, and an estimated **29%** are expected to experience PTSD at some point in their life.<sup>5,4</sup>

## Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBIs)



According to the Department of Defense, **>450,000 service members** have sustained a TBI since 2000.<sup>5</sup>

Most TBIs (nearly 400,000) were considered mild, such as a concussion. However, studies suggest that **Veterans who have sustained a mild TBI are still more likely to experience co-occurring health conditions**, such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and depression, most likely due to the wartime experiences that cause the TBIs.<sup>6</sup>

And, according to the National Headache Foundation, these types of **brain injuries can lead to post-traumatic headache disorder**, where headache and migraine can show up weeks or months after an injury and the debilitating symptoms can last for years.<sup>7</sup>

## Suicide

According to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), **U.S. Veterans comprised 16% of adult suicide deaths** in the U.S. in 2020, while only comprising 8% of the adult population.<sup>8</sup>

In 2020, **suicide was the 13<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death** among Veterans and the **second leading cause of death** among Veterans under the age of 45.<sup>1</sup>



Overall numbers and statistics are considered to be under-reported, with some research concluding that the **Veteran suicide rate is 2.4 times greater** than reported by VA.<sup>9</sup>

### Lundbeck US Charitable Fund Impact

Funded with support from the US affiliate of H. Lundbeck A/S, a global pharmaceutical company specialized in brain diseases, the Lundbeck US Charitable Fund is an independently managed nonprofit 501(c)(3) committed to responsibly and appropriately supporting organizations and programs that share our dedication to restoring brain health. For more than 70 years, Lundbeck has been at the forefront of neuroscience research, tirelessly dedicated to restoring brain health so every person can be their best.



LUNDBECK US CHARITABLE FUND

The Lundbeck US Charitable Fund is donating more than **\$4 million** over three years, from 2023 to 2025, to support Veteran and military-focused organizations, including RUSH's Road Home Program, the Headstrong Project, and Stop Soldier Suicide.



The Road Home Program helps veterans and their families make healthier transitions to civilian life by offering specialized mental health care, peer-to-peer outreach, counseling, and community resource navigation.



The Headstrong Project is a non-profit mental health organization providing confidential, barrier-free, and stigma-free PTSD treatment to veterans, service members, and family connected to their care.



Stop Soldier Suicide uses a one-of-a-kind suicide intervention model, innovative use of data insights, and a technology-first approach to reduce military and veteran suicide rates and save lives, regardless of period served or discharge status.

<sup>1</sup> SAMHSA 2021 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Among the Veteran Population Aged 18 and Older - 2023

<sup>2</sup> Stigma as a barrier to seeking health care among military personnel with mental health problems - 2015

<sup>3</sup> National Center for PTSD – VA [https://www.ptsd.va.gov/understand/common/common\\_veterans.asp](https://www.ptsd.va.gov/understand/common/common_veterans.asp)

<sup>4</sup> Veteran and Military Mental Health Issues article <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34283458/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://health.mil/Military-Health-Topics/Centers-of-Excellence/Traumatic-Brain-Injury-Center-of-Excellence/DOD-TBI-Worldwide-Numbers>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.center4research.org/traumatic-brain-injury-post-traumatic-stress-disorder-military-veterans-two-problems-collide/>

<sup>7</sup> <https://headaches.org/how-post-traumatic-headache-impacts-our-veterans/>

<sup>8</sup> 2022 National Veterans Suicide Prevention Annual Report – Veterans Affairs – September 2022

<sup>9</sup> America's Warrior Partnership Operation Deep Dive Report Summary- 2022