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TO: Department and Chapter Commanders and Adjutants
FROM: Barry A. Jesinoski, National Adjutant
DATE: January 30, 2024
SUBJECT: Special documentary screening for DAV members

I'm excited to share with you an opportunity for DAV members to experience a powerful documentary film that inspires hope and reduces the stigma around mental health in the veteran community.

Directed by Emmy Award-winner Jack Youngelson, <u>HERE. IS. BETTER.</u> is a feature-length film that follows four veterans on their journeys to overcoming the debilitating effects of PTSD through a variety of treatments. It has been hailed as "one of the most moving films I have seen in years" by Dominic Patten of Deadline and "full of silent courage" by the New York Times. Watch the trailer <u>here</u>.

Thanks to the generosity of the filmmakers, DAV members will be able to access the film, for free, through a customized virtual platform, **from Feb. 27 through March 27.** While members can watch the film on their own, we strongly encourage chapters and departments to gather in person for a screening. Doing so will help foster group discussion, community support and the sharing of resources. The film team has graciously offered to waive license fees for all DAV groups who are interested in hosting a screening. To take advantage of this opportunity, **simply complete this form** and the film team will provide you with everything you need, including access information, discussion materials and more.

This opportunity coincides with the release of DAV's latest report, *Women Veterans: The Journey to Mental Wellness*, which provides an in-depth look at the unique factors contributing to the staggering rate of suicide and other negative mental health outcomes among women veterans. The report will be available at womenveterans.org beginning Feb. 27.

For questions related to the screening, please email <u>edepompei@dav.org</u>.

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Barry A. Jesinoski National Adjutant