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## ODVA SPOTLIGHTS VETERANS' COUNCIL 2022 VETERAN FAMILY OF THE YEAR AS NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK BEGINS

**(OKLAHOMA CITY)** – The Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA) celebrated the beginning of National Volunteer Week with the announcement that one of their own, Randall Coon, along with his wife, Becky, had been named the “Veteran Family of the Year” by the Oklahoma Veterans’ Council Monday morning. Mr. & Mrs. Coon founded Veterans Landing of Ponca City, Oklahoma.

“The Veterans Landing is a place for a veteran to be able to connect.” Coon says. “They may just need to sit and enjoy a cup of coffee and talk to fellow veterans or they may need help with a benefit question, employment needs, housing, and food...we meet veterans where they are.”

The Veterans Landing is Ponca City’s only peer run drop-in center, and provides a family friendly, alcohol-free and drug free environment. The goal is to provide a broad range of counseling, outreach, and referral services to eligible veterans and their families.

Acting Executive Director, Sarah Lane stated on Wednesday, “Oklahoma is truly blessed to be filled with organizations and individuals committed to the continued recognition and service support for our servicemembers, veterans, and their families. ODVA could not be prouder of the great work done by Randall Coon in the areas of veteran employment and transition support and his efforts together with Becky as founders and volunteers of Veteran’s Landing.”

ODVA would like to facilitate recognition of organizations that give back to Oklahoma veterans by requesting nomination of those that serve veterans with excellence. To nominate an organization for recognition on ODVA’s social media during National Volunteer Week please e-mail your nomination to [communications@odva.ok.gov](mailto:communications@odva.ok.gov) and share with us the great work done for veterans in communities across our state.

Lane extended a heartfelt “Thank you” to the countless Oklahoma volunteers who come together for the benefit and enrichment of the states nearly 300,000 veterans daily and echoed the words of LTC James Doolittle in proclaiming; “*There is nothing stronger than the heart of a volunteer.*”

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### About ODVA

The Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs provides resources and services to military veterans residing in the state of Oklahoma including assistance with state and federal veterans’ benefits, disability claims, burial and survivor benefits, healthcare, employment, education, suicide prevention, entrepreneurship and veteran-owned businesses, women veteran services and veterans in agriculture. ODVA also operates seven long-term care facilities throughout Oklahoma. To learn more, visit [www.oklahoma.gov/veterans](http://www.oklahoma.gov/veterans)