



Financial Statements  
and  
Independent Accountants' Review Report



December 31, 2023

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## Independent Accountants' Review Report

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Board of Directors  
Gold Star Mission

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of Gold Star Mission (an Illinois nonprofit corporation), which comprise the statement of assets and net assets – cash basis as of December 31, 2023, and the related statement of revenue, expenses, and changes in net assets - cash basis, and statement of functional expenses – cash basis for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of the organization's management. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting as described in Note A, and for determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Accountants' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to conduct the review engagement in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA. Those standards require us to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance as a basis for reporting whether we are aware of any material modifications that should be made to the financial statements for them to be in accordance with the cash basis of accounting as described in Note A. We believe that the results of our procedures provide a reasonable basis for our conclusion.

We are required to be independent of Gold Star Mission and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our reviews.

### Accountants' Conclusion

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in accordance with the cash basis of accounting as described in Note A.

### Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note A of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our conclusion is not modified with respect to this matter.

*Kerber, Eck, + Braeckel LLP*

Springfield, Illinois  
October 9, 2024

**Gold Star Mission**  
**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND NET ASSETS - CASH BASIS**  
**December 31, 2023**

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**ASSETS**

Cash	\$	128,835
Certificate of deposit		<u>35,706</u>
Total assets	\$	<u><u>164,541</u></u>

**NET ASSETS**

Without donor restriction	\$	<u>164,541</u>
Total net assets	\$	<u><u>164,541</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

**Gold Star Mission**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS - CASH BASIS**  
**Year ended December 31, 2023**

<b>Support and revenue</b>	
Donations and sponsorships	\$ 105,115
Registrations and donations - Gold Star Mission 500	15,093
Registrations and donations - General Logan 200	1,383
Registrations and donations - Run for the Fallen	13,018
Interest income	1,767
Other income	766
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Total support and revenue	137,142
<b>Expenses</b>	
Scholarships	45,189
Supporting services	
Fund raising	59,112
Management and general	17,089
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Total expenses	121,390
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<b>Change in net assets</b>	15,752
<b>Net assets, beginning of year</b>	148,789
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<b>Net assets, end of year</b>	<u><u>\$ 164,541</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

**Gold Star Mission**  
**STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES - CASH BASIS**  
**Year ended December 31, 2023**

	<u>Program Services</u>		<u>Supporting Services</u>		<b>Total</b>
	<b>Scholarships</b>	<b>Fund Raising</b>	<b>Management and General</b>		
Scholarships	\$ 35,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,000
Scholarship dinner	10,189	-	-	-	10,189
Jerseys	-	4,626	-	-	4,626
Other GSM 500	-	3,909	-	-	3,909
Run for Fallen	-	11,196	-	-	11,196
General Logan 200	-	755	-	-	755
Advertising	-	25,806	1,091	-	26,897
Video production	-	11,950	-	-	11,950
Survivor outreach	-	870	-	-	870
Insurance	-	-	2,411	-	2,411
Bank fees	-	-	332	-	332
Professional fees	-	-	616	-	616
Other administration	-	-	12,639	-	12,639
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 45,189</b>	<b>\$ 59,112</b>	<b>\$ 17,089</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 121,390</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

**Gold Star Mission**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2023**

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**NOTE A | SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

A summary of the significant accounting policies consistently applied in the preparation of the accompanying financial statements follows.

*1. Nature of Operations*

Gold Star Mission (the Mission) is an Illinois nonprofit corporation formed on March 21, 2017. The Mission honors and supports Illinois Gold Star families by preserving the memory of fallen heroes through activities, scholarships, and events.

The Mission's activities are funded primarily by donations from the general public.

*2. Basis of Accounting*

The Mission prepares its financial statements on the cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, whereby, revenue and the related assets are recognized when received rather than when earned and expenses are recognized when paid rather than when the obligation is incurred.

*3. Financial Statement Presentation*

The Mission is required to report information regarding its financial position and activities according to two classes of net assets: net assets without donor restrictions and net assets with donor restrictions.

**Net Assets without Donor Restrictions** - These net assets generally result from revenues generated by receiving contributions that have no donor restrictions, providing services, and receiving interest from operating investments, less expenses incurred in providing program-related services, raising contributions, and performing administrative functions.

**Net Assets with Donor Restrictions** - These net assets result from gifts of cash and other assets that are received with donor stipulations that limit the use of the donated assets, either temporarily until the donor restriction expires, that is until the stipulated time restriction ends or the purpose of the restriction is accomplished, or permanently, in which the donor has stipulated the funds be maintained in perpetuity. The Mission had no permanently restricted or temporarily restricted net assets at December 31, 2023.

**Gold Star Mission**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2023**

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**NOTE A | SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

*4. Cash and Cash Equivalents*

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash held in checking and savings accounts. The Mission considers all liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents. There were no cash equivalents at December 31, 2023.

*5. Certificate of Deposit*

The certificate of deposit is carried at cost.

*6. Contributions*

Contributions are recognized in the financial statements as they are collected.

Contributions received are recorded as without donor restrictions or with donor restrictions depending on the existence and/or nature of any donor restrictions. All contributions are considered to be available for unrestricted use unless specifically restricted by the donor.

*7. Functional Expense Allocation*

In the statement of activities the costs of programs and supporting service activities have been summarized on a functional basis in three broad categories as follows:

- Program expenses include the costs incurred in providing scholarships and hosting the scholarship dinner.
- Fundraising expenses relate to activities conducted to increase donation income or events whose primary purpose is fundraising including the Gold Star Mission 500, General Logan 200, and Run for the Fallen events.
- Management and general expenses include those expenses that are not directly identifiable with any program specific or fundraising function.



**Gold Star Mission**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2023**

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**NOTE A | SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The statement of functional expenses present the natural classification detail of expenses by function. Expenses that can be identified with specific program or supporting service are charged directly to the program or supporting service. Expenses which apply to more than one functional category are allocated based on estimates made by management. During the year ended December 31, 2023 the Mission had no significant allocated expenses.

*8. Advertising*

The Mission uses advertising and a website to promote its goals and activities. Production costs of advertising are expensed as paid.

*9. Income Taxes*

The Mission, under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and similar provisions of State tax law, is exempt from federal and state income taxes.

The Mission has recognized in the financial statements the effects of all tax positions and continually evaluates expiring statutes of limitations, audits, changes in tax law and new authoritative rulings. The Mission is not aware of any circumstances or events that make it reasonably possible that unrecognized tax benefits may increase or decrease within 12 months of the statement of financial position date. Penalties and interest assessed by taxing authorities are included in expenses, if applicable. There were no penalties or interest paid during the year ended December 31, 2023.

*10. Use of Estimates*

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those results.

*11. Subsequent Events*

Management has evaluated subsequent events for recognition and disclosure in the financial statements through October 9, 2024, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued. Through October 9, 2024, no subsequent events required recognition or disclosure in the financial statements.

**Gold Star Mission**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2023**

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**NOTE B | CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK**

At December 31, 2023, the Mission had \$ 128,835 on deposit at one financial institution. The entire balance was covered by Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insurance.

**NOTE C | CONCENTRATIONS**

During the year ended December 31, 2023, a donation of \$ 25,000 (18% of total revenue) was received from one donor.

**NOTE D | LIQUIDITY AND AVAILABILITY OF FINANCIAL ASSETS**

The following table reflects the Mission's financial assets as of December 31, 2023 available for general expenditure within one year. Financial assets are considered unavailable when illiquid or not convertible to cash within one year.

Financial assets	
Cash	\$ 128,835
Certificate of deposit	<u>35,706</u>
Financial assets available to meet cash needs for general expenditure within one year	<u>\$ 164,541</u>

The Mission's cash flows have variations during the year attributable to timing of payments. To manage liquidity, the Mission structures its financial assets to be available as general expenses and other obligations come due.