

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Injured Veterans Find Therapy Fun at Summer Sports Clinic

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Winchester, CA – A major injury—the loss of limb, sight, sound or other significant physical or psychological trauma is almost always totally life-altering, and many newly injured young veterans are unaware of just how much a catastrophic wound will affect their day-to-day lives. Simple daily tasks once taken for granted may become overly time-consuming and exhausting. For a considerable number of our troops returning from deployment overseas, this is a stark reality—the adjustment to life with a disability.

Thankfully for some of these brave men and women, sports and activities they once thought were beyond their abilities are now within reach. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and its cutting-edge use of adaptive sports medicine and rehabilitation is sponsoring the 4th annual National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic. The Clinic, hosted by the VA San Diego Healthcare System with the help of many sponsors including the founding sponsor Help Hospitalized Veterans (HHV), will take place September 18-23, 2011 in San Diego, California. Veterans with traumatic brain injury, visual impairments, amputations, burn injuries, post-traumatic stress disorder and other challenging injuries will be provided the opportunity to surf, sail, cycle, participate in track & field games and other outdoor sports.

Advancements in prosthetics and sports technology have paved the way for veterans to participate in functions which they may have felt incapable of participating in. “Lives will be changed at this event, and HHV encourages the local community to attend in support of our nation’s veterans and to have a great time,” said HHV President and CEO Mike Lynch. “Miracles happen because of the Summer Sports Clinic, and HHV is extremely proud to be a part of it,” added Lynch.

For more information regarding the National Summer Sports Clinic, visit [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov) and click “media room.” Event contacts can be reached as follows: Tristan Heaton, local site coordinator, (858) 642-6426, Jose Llamas, VA’s media contact, (202) 461-7549 and Frank Cimorelli, HHV’s special events liaison, (928) 771-2071.

For more information regarding HHV programs and services visit [www.hhv.org](http://www.hhv.org) or call (888) 567-VETS.