To whom it may concern,

Please let me introduce myself, I am Jason White, founder of PTSD First Responders Extended Network Golf Tournament. I have been with Corrections Service Canada for over 14 years in various roles. In my spare time I teach RPM (spin/cycle) classes for Goodlife Fitness and am a proud volunteer for Boots on the Ground.

2020- 2022 were years like never before, faced with a challenge that has hit all of us with hardship and resilience. We turn to 2023 with hope and fortitude to move forward with hope of better days ahead.

Through this time our first responders, day in and day out; have been on the frontline to serve their communities in a Pandemic that threatens them everyday they serve. Mental health for first responders have been pushed to the brink as they witness death, struggles, suffering and loss of hopes and dreams from hard work. Boots on the Ground have been with all first responders across Ontario through every step of the way, providing one on one peer support.

I would like to share with you a statement from Dave McLennan, Founder of Boots on the Ground.

**“Thank you for your support of Boots on the Ground in 2021-2022.**

**Your support and investment in BOTG allows us to continue to offer our services on our peer support help line during these difficult times. Our telephone lines are open 24 hours per day 7 days a week, offering confidential and anonymous peer support to First Responders across Ontario. We currently offer in-person support in the GTA. To manage this service we have recruited, trained and supported 155 First Responder volunteers.**

**Over the past year, we have been able to accomplish many things including;**

**Answering 686 calls for assistance in 2022. (1852 calls since our November 2018 launch)**

**Training many volunteers virtually and in person.**

**Continuation of our psychologist assistance program to provide funding for First Responders who do not have adequate coverage and would otherwise not be able to afford to see a clinician.**

**Expansion of our PTSD service dog program. Six First Responders have now received 8-week-old lab puppies from Boots on the Ground. They are now embarking on a two-year journey together. They will receive weekly training from BOTG and upon completion of the training program; they will have a certified PTSD service dog of their own. One of our PTSD service dogs has recently been qualified as a service dog!**

* **Launch of our Therpay dog program. We now have trained therapy dogs that attend Frist Resopnder facilities across Ontario to offer support to First Respnders in stressfull times.**
* **Launch of our peer to peer group debrief program where we offer peer to peer group debriefs after critical incidents to smaller organizations that do not have peer support teams or to larger services that would like an external debrief.**
* **The First Responder community has embraced our service and fully appreciate the anonymous service being provided to their people.**

**We are proud of all that we have accomplished in our first three years, but there is more to be done.”**

On July 8th, 2023, we come together for a day of support, gratitude and fun with community members and First Responders. All proceeds go to Boots on the Ground for their continued support of First Responders through peer support and ever-growing services.

Your generosity and support build our tournament for success. Supporting our event makes a direct impact to the frontline first responders that keep our communities safe, let us help keep them safe. We greatly appreciate all donations and support.

Please visit our website for documents, information and interviews with leaders from First Responding agencies.

https://ptsd1ren.wixsite.com/mysite

We are asking for your support with any of the following:

* Sponsor a hole $200 / other form of sponsorship
* **Corporate Sponsorship Package** (email us for more information)
* Donate a prize(s) or package for a door prize or silent auction
* Cash donation
* Other

Thank you in advance, we look forward to hearing from you.

Jason White

PTSD First Responders Extended Network

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