



**VA Loma Linda Healthcare  
System  
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## **News Release**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
June 23, 2009**

### **Injured Iraqi Combat Veteran to Receive Car**

LOMA LINDA, Calif.-- Shawn McConahey is a hero who is still fighting a battle at home. He is a Army Veteran who served and was wounded in Operation Desert Shield. The mortar rounds that hit him have left scrap metal in his body and earned him a Purple Heart.

Now that he is home he has encountered a different battle - a struggle to overcome the war experience and to live a normal life. Most daunting has been the financial difficulties that made it impossible to fix his car. Without a vehicle it was impossible for McConahey to keep his medical appointments and receive the care he needs.

When Don Sutton, Patient Advocate for the Loma Linda VA Combat Veteran Team, recognized this obstacle to his care, he set out on a mission to find help. He found the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes who identified a donor who will be delivering a vehicle to the Veteran and his family on Tuesday, June 23 at 1 p.m. at the Corona Vet Center located at 800 Magnolia Ave., Ste. 110.

The Coalition to Salute America's Heroes was created to provide a way for individuals, corporations and others to support our troops by helping severely wounded and disabled Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom veterans and their families rebuild their lives. They have 5 key programs in place to directly assist severely wounded servicemen and women.

- Wounded Hero Emergency Financial Relief - provides urgent financial assistance to disabled veterans
- Homes for Wounded Heroes - offers nearly cost-free, new or renovated disability adapted homes to men and women

- Hire A Hero - reaches out through a network of organizations to help prepare and place motivated, qualified veterans in quality jobs
- Family Support Network - offers special services to help relieve financial and emotional burdens facing heroes and their families
- Road to Recovery Conferences - are all-expense paid, educational and service events for wounded servicemen and women and their families

For information on the organization and how you can help visit: [www.saluteheroes.org](http://www.saluteheroes.org)

or call 1-888-44-SALUTE (72588).

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