

A photograph of four US Marine Color Guards in dress uniform, standing in formation and holding flags. The guards are a mix of men and women, all looking forward with discipline. They are holding a variety of flags, including the US flag, the Marine Corps flag, and a red flag with a white 'S' on it. The background is a red curtain.

Resilient Communities Worldwide

2017-2018 Annual Review

Statement from the Chair



It can be hard to sit back and focus on the long-term impact of the work that we all do – the cycle of response and recovery can be all-consuming.

It's important to take a moment to recognize the extraordinary commitment and passion of our professional community. The Annual Review provides a great chance to recognize all we do to promote resilient communities worldwide at the Disaster Recovery International Foundation.

This year was a banner year for the DRI Foundation in which we dramatically expanded our outreach and programs. The DRI Foundation is strongly committed to promoting volunteerism, as showcased on Volunteer Day, which is organized every year for the Saturday before the DRI conference as a way to give back to our host cities. We were honored to receive citywide proclamations declaring DRI Foundation Day from both Las Vegas and Nashville.

In keeping with the spirit of giving back in ways that support our professional community, our Veterans Outreach Program and brand-new Women in Business Continuity Program grew by leaps and bounds under the leadership of our fiercely dedicated, volunteer-led committees. We awarded scholarships and created initiatives to give qualified candidates a hand up and into a rewarding career path in business continuity. Be sure to page through for some great pictures!

Our commitment to education was also exemplified by the award of two scholarships for the children of Certified Professionals – you won't want to overlook their inspiring essays! In addition to these DRI Foundation-led programs, we also fundraised to support the ongoing recovery from the 2017 Atlantic hurricane season, which posed a tremendous challenge for our professionals and the broader community.

These initiatives reflect the needs we see from our professional community. We are so proud of our continued efforts to advance the Foundation's mission of promoting disaster risk reduction through partnership and education and aiding recovery efforts through fundraising and volunteerism.

We invite you to read on in more detail about all the great programs that reflect our funding priorities. As always, we want to hear from you, so please reach out with your ideas, feedback, and to find out how you can help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'AnneMarie Staley'.

AnneMarie Staley, CBCP, MBCI
Chair, DRI Foundation



Sara and her daughter from Santurce, Puerto Rico, are coping with the realities of life and loss after Hurricane Maria. Photo courtesy of Rebecca Zilenziger / Save the Children.

Key Achievements

\$129,774 raised

total for January 2017-June 2018

100% of donations

received spent on initiatives, not administration*

\$14,890 given

to disaster relief, rebuilding, and resiliency efforts

\$168,000 awarded

for training veterans

55 veterans

awarded scholarships for training, valued at \$168,000

1,200 bags

of produce packed for homebound seniors

10,160 pounds

of food sorted for families in need

\$20,000 awarded

Four \$5,000 college scholarships to children of DRI Certified Professionals

98 volunteers

including DRI Certified Professionals and their families gave back to communities in need

2 DRI Foundation Days

mayors of both of Las Vegas and Nashville proclaimed DRI Foundation Day in recognition of the support volunteers and the DRI Foundation provided to the community

Figures as of June 30, 2018

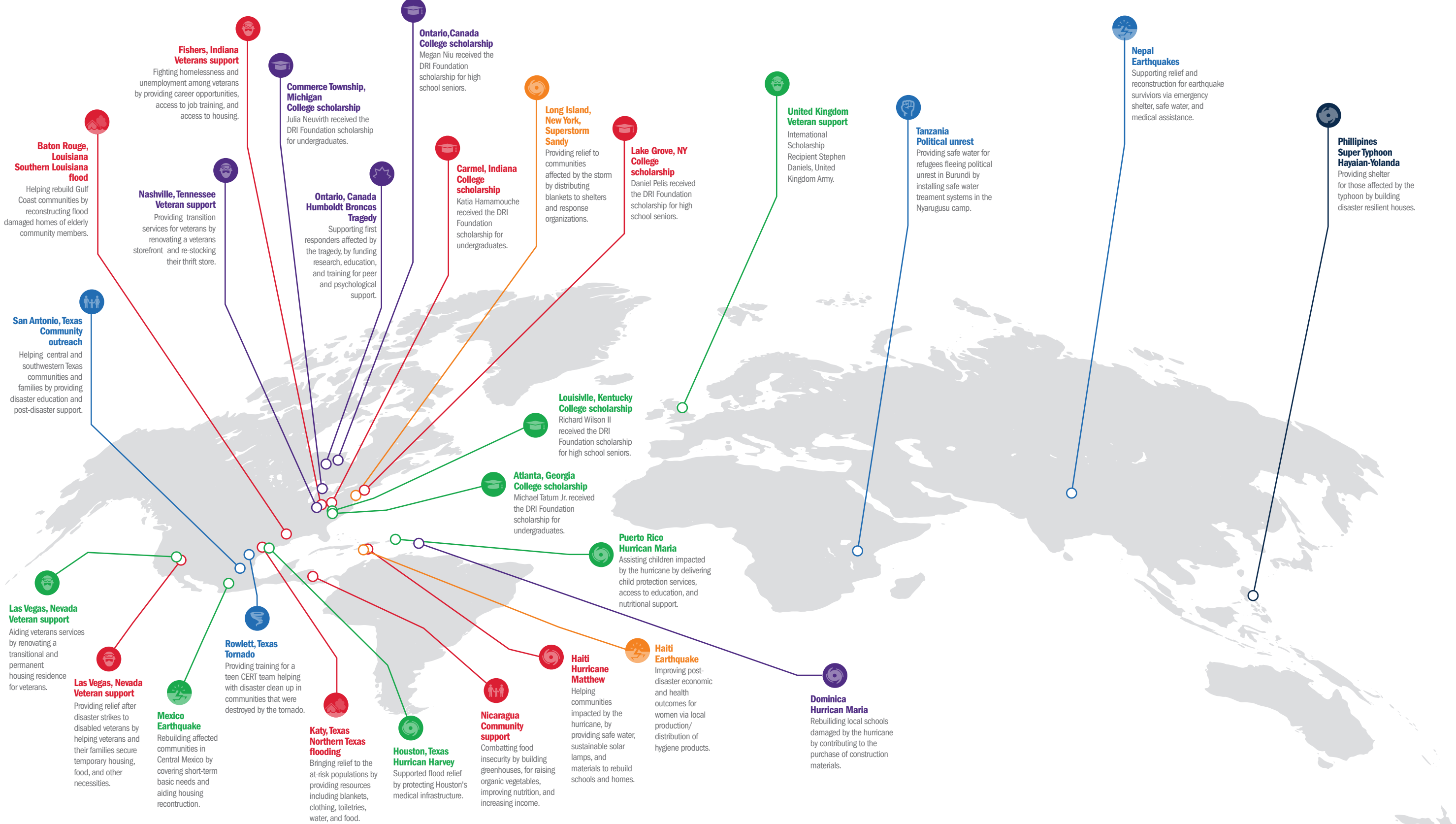
*DRI International covers the operating costs of the DRI Foundation.

Children in Punta Santiago play a game organized by Save the Children's child protection team. The activity was part of long-term efforts to help children affected by Hurricane Maria become more resilient. Photo courtesy of Gabriel Gonzalez/ Save the Children.

[Make a donation](#)

Global giving

Our global giving map is an at-a-glance record of your generous donations at work around the world.



Make a donation



Photo courtesy of TECHO Por Mi Pais/ International Community Foundation.

We partner with non-profit organizations in communities impacted by disasters to provide help where it is needed most.

Hurricane Maria is regarded as being the worst natural disaster on record to affect Dominica and Puerto Rico and is the tenth most intense Atlantic hurricane on record. Hurricane Harvey set records in Houston as well, and Mexico was hit with a catastrophic earthquake.

But not all disasters are natural disasters, we also responded to a tragic accident in Canada with a donation dedicated to first responders.

Read on.



Photo courtesy of Dominica Ministry of Education.

Help for Dominica's Schools

When Category 5 Hurricane Maria made landfall on September 18, 2017, rainfall ahead of the hurricane had already caused several landslides in Dominica. Maximum sustained winds of 165 mph – the most extreme ever recorded on the island – damaged practically every home, building, and the island's entire infrastructure. With cellular, radio, and internet services down, Maria cut Dominica off from the outside world. Initial ham radio reports from the capital of Roseau on September 19 indicated "total devastation." That devastation affected all 73,000 residents. DRI Founda-

tion President Al Berman reached out to contacts there to see how the Foundation could help. "We are in need of so many items. Twenty eight of our schools were completely destroyed, complete roof damage or some other damage. We have lost resources, teaching materials, equipment, and furniture. We are looking to replace all our computers. Whatever you donate will be put to good use," wrote Chandler Hyacinth the Permanent Secretary with Dominica's Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development. The Foundation responded with a donation to the ministry.



Photo courtesy of Ebed Carrasquillo / Save the Children.

Saving Puerto Rico's Children

On September 19, 2017, Category 4 Hurricane Maria made landfall in Puerto Rico, pummeling the U.S. territory with catastrophic levels of rain and winds up to 155 miles per hour. It was the largest disaster in Puerto Rico since 1928 – power was knocked out for the entire island. Save the Children was on the island within 96 hours. They distributed clean water, family hygiene supplies, shelter/home repair kits and solar light kits. They remain in Puerto Rico today, providing an ongoing response

that has benefitted more than 60,000 children and adults to date. The long-term response strategy has identified 40 communities where the needs are greatest – mostly those directly in the track of the hurricane – and they are committed to helping more than 200,000 children and adults who live there through September of 2019. With our support and a donation, Save the Children will continue to deliver child protection services, access to education, and nutritional support.



Photo courtesy of Southeast Texas Regional Advisory Council (SETRAC).

Protecting Houston's Medical Infrastructure

Houston was hit hard in August 2017 by Hurricane Harvey, which is tied with Hurricane Katrina for being the costliest hurricane with \$125 billion in damage, primarily from catastrophic flooding in the Houston metropolitan area. The resulting floods inundated hundreds of thousands of homes, displaced more than 30,000 people, prompted more than 17,000 rescues, and resulted in the cancellation of more than 800 Houston area flights. The DRI Foundation responded with a donation to the Southeast Texas Regional Advisory Council (SETRAC) – For Houston Flood Relief which seeks

to develop and sustain a powerful coalition of providers, responders, and other healthcare related partners united together to save lives and improve health outcomes through research, education, and collaboration. The Regional Healthcare Preparedness Coalition is the Preparedness Service Line of SETRAC. The mission of the Coalition is to protect and maintain the medical infrastructure of all regional healthcare agencies, coordinate regional healthcare systems response, provide situational awareness, identify and allocate resources, and develop a well-trained resilient medical community.



Photo courtesy of TEHCO Por Mi Pais/ International Community Foundation.

Earthquake Relief in Mexico

The 2017 Central Mexico earthquake, which hit on the 32nd anniversary of the historic 1985 Mexico City earthquake, resulted in damage in the Mexican states of Puebla and Morelos as well as the Greater Mexico City area, including the collapse of more than 40 buildings. Building collapses claimed 370 lives, including 228 in Mexico City, and injured more than 6,000. The DRI

Foundation supported recovery efforts by making a donation to the International Community Foundation (ICF) – For Mexico Earthquake Relief, which aids Mexico City, Puebla, and Morelos. ICF is working with local organizations in these regions to cover short-term basic needs and longer term reconstruction costs.



Photo courtesy of The Tema Conter Memorial Trust.

Helping Canada's First Responders

On April 6, 2018 a bus crash in Saskatchewan, Canada, killed 16 passengers: 13 of whom were teenagers from the Humboldt Broncos, a junior ice hockey team that plays in the Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League. The team had been traveling by bus when a semi-trailer had failed to yield at a flashing stop. Countless first responders rushed to the scene. Three helicopters and four air ambulance planes were loaned from various cities and companies to help transport the most critically wounded. The Saskatchewan Health Authority, which oversees hospitals and ambulance services

in the province, encouraged employees affected to access counselling available, as many of the first responders had ties to the accident. Jessica Brost, a paramedic from Nipawin stated that the crash was “just too close to home, especially in Saskatchewan, where everyone is either a billet, obsessed with hockey, or the parent of a teenage hockey player.” In support of first responders, the DRI Foundation made a donation to TEMA Canada, an organization that provides assistance to first responders through research, education, training, with peer and psychological support.



Celebrity Spokesperson

You may know her from her television roles, but Emmy Award winning actress Patricia Heaton has taken on another role – speaking out on behalf of the DRI Veterans Outreach Program. Visit our website to view the video she made in support of our program. Says Heaton:

“You know our veterans deserve our help for the sacrifices they’ve made for our country. And when our veterans return from service, they face many challenges. One of the biggest ones is finding the right type of employment, a career that utilizes the skills sets, experiences, and leadership qualities they bring from military service. Many don’t know where to start and can’t find a helping hand that gets them into Corporate America...until now. The Veterans Outreach Scholarship Program was created by the Disaster Recovery Institute Foundation as an important life-changing opportunity to help our veterans become business continuity professionals –a profession that helps organizations prepare for and recover from disasters.

What does business continuity have to do with veterans? Well, more than you might think. Many veterans are talented incident and crisis manag-

ers who already have the core skills they need to formulate plans, manage crises, prioritize, focus response, and make adjustments when things don’t go according to plan.

These scholarships enable qualified veterans to attend business continuity training for free, giving them the tools they need to become DRI Certified Business Continuity Professionals and prepare them for a fulfilling career in the private sector.

With the combination of training, certification, and strong private sector networking, DRI Foundation is helping veterans land highly respected jobs, putting their military experience to great use. Working as business continuity professionals, these veterans who have sacrificed so much to protect our nation will continue to protect our nation’s businesses by helping them prepare for and recover from natural and manmade disasters. That doesn’t just benefit veterans; it benefits all of us and keeps our economy and businesses resilient. Please join me in supporting the DRI Foundation’s Veterans Outreach Program, serving those who served us.”

Veterans Outreach Program

Veterans Outreach Scholarship Program

We remain committed to helping our veterans succeed and demonstrate this commitment through the work of the Veterans Outreach Program. The program provides scholarships that enable qualified veterans to be trained in business continuity, preparing them for post-military careers.

The program is unique and the only one of its kind in our profession. Scholarships include, at no cost to qualified candidates, admission to a DRI International (DRI) business continuity educational course, all course materials, qualifying examination, and all application fees – valued at over \$3,000.

Established in 2016, the program – driven by an energetic and dedicated team – has grown exponentially, with six scholarships awarded in 2016 and 55 scholarships valued at \$168,000 in the subsequent 18 months. The goal for the coming year is to double that number.

Veterans attended training courses nationwide, as well as a veterans-only course at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, FL. An upcoming course to be held at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, TX will be directed at training and certifying Wounded Warriors from all branches of the U.S. services. We are hoping to make this the first of many engagements with Fort Sam Houston.

DRI-Certified Veterans in Their Own Words



"I completed 32 years of military service this past year in 2017. Although I have a Master's degree, my training never resulted in accredited experience or certification that I could use in the private sector. I was given an opportunity to apply for a military scholarship and I was lucky enough to be selected. During my DRI training, I heard that the DRI certification would be very well-recognized in private industry and it would serve me well. It did just that! A couple of months before retirement, I began by applying for several jobs both public and private. I passed the initial phase and was asked for an interview. I brought my training and experience in a folder and on top I put the DRI certification. I thought the interview went well but was not over confident. A few days after the interview, I was offered the job. I asked what was the turning point? I was advised my DRI certification set me apart from the others. I can honestly say DRI gave me an opportunity of a lifetime. Thank you DRI for my continued success!"

—Duane C. Bygum Jr.



"When I look at Corporate America and I look at the military, we're all focused on achieving our objectives and goals. The big difference is profit or not-for-profit, but the teamwork that I see on both sides, I think, you can leverage those experiences that you had in the military and bring that to corporate and also learn from what corporate is doing and bring that back to the military. I think that the more we share and integrate it's beneficial to everybody. Doing the Disaster Recovery Institute [course] for me is an opportunity to cross that bridge."

—Leslie Babich, C-130 Pilot, U.S. Air Force

DRI Veterans Outreach Program
is proudly supported by a generous donation from

Thank You to Our Veterans Outreach Program Sponsors

We are very grateful to the sponsors of our Veterans Outreach Program: **Continuity Logic LLC** and **Deloitte & Touche LLC**. Their support enables the program to continue to expand its reach and offer scholarships to more and more deserving veterans.



"A lot of times in the military, we don't know how our skills and how our experience translate. This is practical application of that – of actually transferring it. It gives us more opportunity. It gives us more flexibility. It frankly makes us more marketable as well. It opens a lot of doors that I was previously unaware of. This gives me the tools and the certification that allow different organizations to validate my experiences."

—Tristan Rizzi, Special Warfare, U.S. Navy

Supporting Veterans in Need

During the DRI2017 conference in Las Vegas, NV, we presented Veterans Village with a \$2,000 donation, as part of our initiative to give back to the communities in which DRI International holds its annual conference. Veterans Village is a transitional and permanent housing residence for United States Veterans and is operated 24/7 by SHARE, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Veterans Village is dedicated to the creation of an environment that is home to United States Veterans. This is a unique and innovative approach to holistic and comprehensive housing with 24/7/365 crisis intervention center intensive support services. Public and private collaborative partnerships have been created to provide supplies and services to residents including housing, medical and mental health services, employment training, referrals and placements, food pantry/nutrition programs and transportation to the VA Hospital and primary care clinics.



"It is an opportunity to take the skills that I already have and translate that into something for the business community. This broadens the possibility of getting another job, a decent job, when I get out. And that's always a concern. When you retire, you don't know exactly what the future holds, but this does open up some more doors."

—Armin Kirk Windmueller, Special Forces, U.S. Army

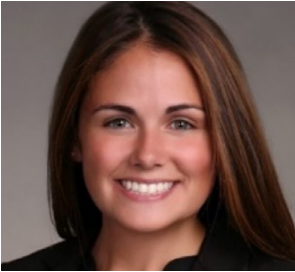
At DRI2018, in Nashville, TN, we continued our tradition of giving back with a \$2,500 donation to Operation Stand Down Tennessee. This non-profit organization focuses on helping all veterans and their families by engaging, equipping, and empowering them. Its wide range of services includes employment assistance, VA benefits assistance, networking, housing, and much more.





Meet the WBCM Charter Committee

The WBCM is led by the Charter Committee, made up of respected business continuity professionals representing a range of industries within the field. Here they are in their own words:



“I believe strongly in the need for mentorship, and am passionate about giving back to the community through volunteer work. Mentorship is

so important to allow professionals to learn and share with each other, in a two-way exchange. I can see the benefits of a two-way collaboration between strong women in the industry, and my goal is to be a champion of mentorship in business continuity. I would like to promote volunteer work within WBCM. Volunteering can be a benefit to an individual, and also a long-term investment in the industry.”

—Alexandria Brennan, WBCM Vice Chair, Development Committee/Business Continuity Analyst, State Street Bank



“I believe this Committee has the real potential to further encourage women to advance in formal leadership roles. Often I’ve seen women

succeed by using their ability to influence unofficially (through collaboration and networking), and there is strength in that ability, especially in this role. I’d like to encourage that, while also helping more women feel comfortable with moving into acknowledged leadership roles in order to officially influence as well.”

—Diane Doering, WBCM Chairperson/Manager of Risk and Compliance, Dead River Company



“There aren’t as many women in business continuity, though it is growing. I hope to help women be taken more seriously, and get credit for the work

they do. I would like to provide mentorship and subject matter development to those who are just starting out in the field.”

—Marsha Buehler, WBCM Membership Committee, WBCM Communications Committee/Global Business Continuity Manager, Mayer Brown



Women in Business Continuity Management

The DRI Foundation’s Women in Business Continuity Management (WBCM) community provides female business continuity, crisis management, disaster recovery, risk management and other related professionals with learning and networking opportunities. It also has an equal and much deeper purpose – a forum for women supporting women!

Led by the WBCM Charter Committee (see page 19-20), a passionate and forward-thinking group of resilience professionals, the WBCM initiative has grown by leaps and bounds since its inception in 2016. Among their achievements:

Mentorship

According to the 2017 DRI Foundation WBCM white paper, 45% of respondents identified the lack of a mentor as one of the biggest challenges to entering the field. 45% have never had a professional mentor, and 53% have never been mentors. Connecting mentors with mentees is a WBCM goal. To that end, a mentorship program was established in 2018 and the first mentor/mentee matches are underway.

Knowledge Sharing

WBCM hosted lively panel discussions that featured original research at both the DRI2017 and DRI2018 conferences. The DRI2018 panel featured discussion of the recent Women in BCM Committee white paper, live attendee polling, and shared experiences from women in the field. Held the previous evening, the WBCM cocktail reception offered lively discussion and networking focused on the WBCM Committee’s mission. Each event drew more than 100 attendees.

Additionally, WBCM launched a quarterly e-newsletter in 2018, featuring profiles of women in the field, recommended reading, tips, and more.

International Expansion

With an eye toward expansion outside the U.S., the first WBCM chapter was announced in Brazil in May of 2018. Launched at the DRI Day event, hosted by Daryus, the WBCM presentation generated much interest and was warmly received. The recent announcement of a joint DRI-BCI (Business Continuity Institute) research initiative will greatly expand the outreach efforts.



“One of the key skills in business continuity planning is effective relationship building. My hope is that WBCM provides a forum for women in

our profession to build relationships with each other, so we can empathize and support one another both personally and professionally. The end goal, for me, would be a community where I’d feel equally comfortable calling a fellow WBCM member to ask about a supply chain question as I would to ask for tips to juggle work life with home life. My vision of success would be a platform where we can feel 100% comfortable having candid conversations about the obstacles we face across our various career stages and, regardless of those challenges, celebrate our achievements – both the big and small wins.”

—**Mitzi Harlor, WBCM Outreach Committee/Senior Business Continuity Manager, Marriott International**



“I would like women to know that business continuity is a real job, with opportunity for real success and there are now formal education paths to this career. My hope

for Women in Business Continuity Management is that we encourage women to gain the skills and knowledge necessary for success, with a focus on formal education paths through undergraduate and master’s degrees in the field, as well as certifications.”

—**Lynn Meadows, WBCM Development Committee/IT&S Business Continuity, Hospital Corporations of America**



“My hope is that WBCM provides a voice for strong women leaders in the field, and will help develop new leaders. My focus on this committee

is on creating a space for those who identify as women to share their knowledge and learn from each other, and encouraging them to do so. My vision of success would be if more women shared their hard-won lessons by writing articles, hosting training sessions, and presenting at professional conferences. We’re 40% of the industry, let’s get our messaging up to that level too.”

—**Leah Sawyer, WBCM Communications Committee/Business Continuity Manager, Staples Inc.**



The DRI Foundation Women in Business Continuity Management Committee is an active and energetic presence at DRI’s annual conference. Panel discussions and networking events enable women in the field to connect in meaningful ways.

College Scholarships

DRI Foundation Scholarships

The DRI Foundation Scholarship program, which is made possible through donations from DRI International and DRI Canada, has expanded to two annual awards since its initial inception in 2015. Starting in 2016, we awarded scholarships of \$5,000 to a high school senior and a college student enrolled in a four-year undergraduate program for the upcoming fall semester, and whose parent or legal guardian is a DRI Certified Professional in good standing, in the U.S. or Canada.

2017 Winners

Michael Tatum, Jr. received the 2017 DRI Foundation scholarship for undergraduates. Applicants were judged based on a list of submission criteria, including academics, extracurricular activities, volunteerism, and an essay on preparedness. A student with a computer engineering major and computer science minor at The Georgia Institute of Technology, his achievements include membership in the Electrical and Computer Engineering Honors Society Eta Kappa Nu, volunteering with Youth Life Foundation of Richmond, mentoring children in robotics competitions with STEAMSport, and helping with homeless outreach through his church.



2017 undergraduate scholarship winner Michael Tatum, Jr. is a computer engineering major at the Georgia Institute of Technology.



2017 high school graduate scholarship winner R.J. Wilson attends the University of Louisville Speed Scientific School of Engineering.

Essay Excerpt: Michael Tatum

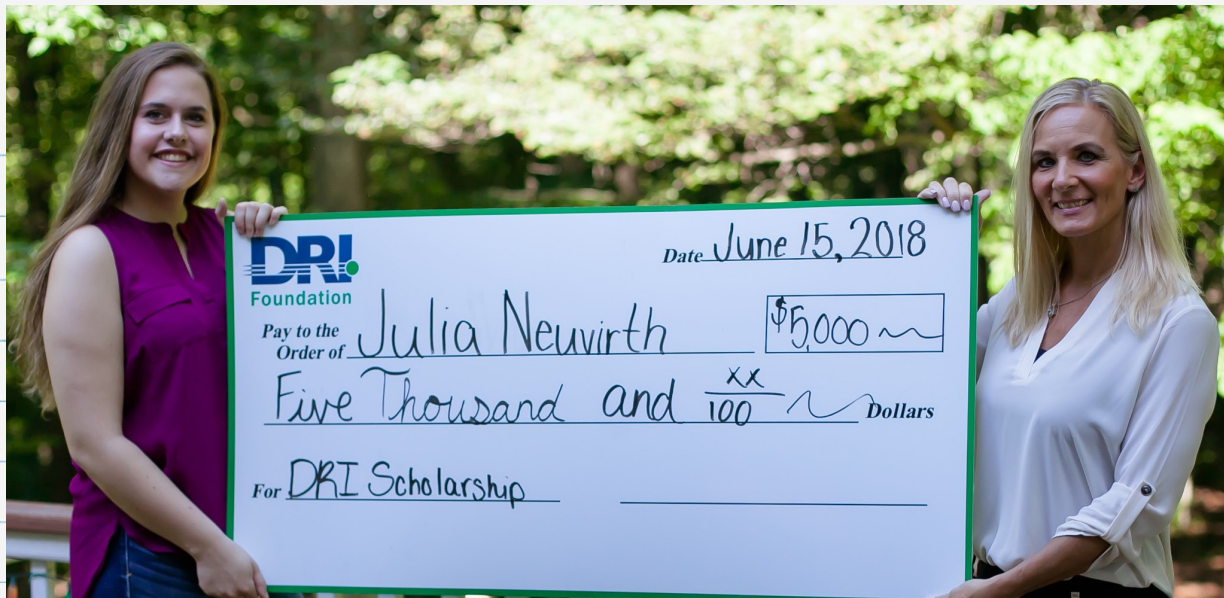
"The solution to protecting students is not found in hiring more police officers or taking away students' independence on campus, but in equipping students with the resources to get security when they need it most. Over two years ago, a team of Georgia Tech Freshman and I were assigned to define and solve a problem that we deemed one of the world's greatest challenges. Inspired by my father who has dedicated the last seventeen years of his life preparing international companies for disasters, I suggested we pursue improving emergency response efficiency across the United States. As we began to define our problem space, we chose to focus specifically on emergency response in college campuses, communities plagued by alcohol and drug-related violence and abuse as well as the then recent school shootings at Indiana State University and Florida State University. As the technically savvy students of Georgia Tech, our minds quickly veered to how we could solve the safety issues using current and emerging technologies. We understood safety was the priority, but students also want to maintain their independence. Some law enforcement professionals, politicians, and school administrators might prefer every student wear an ankle monitor to keep them out of trouble, sacrificing

students' independence for their safety. My team knew there was a way to have both."

R.J. Wilson received the 2017 DRI Foundation scholarship for high school seniors. Applicants were judged based on a list of submission criteria, including academics, extracurricular activities, volunteerism, and an essay on preparedness. He was named "most outstanding high school senior" of DuPont Manual High School by the mayor of Louisville, KY, where he graduated with a 3.86 GPA. In addition to his many volunteer activities, R.J. is also an inventor. When he saw coaches having a hard time gauging the heat index on the tennis court (a number needed to decide if it's safe to play), R.J. created an app to do it for them. In addition to solving the coaches' problem and keeping students safe, that app won the science fair.

Essay Excerpt: R.J. Wilson

"I think one of the best ways that anyone could be prepared for any shape or form of natural disaster would be to practice what to do in the event that such an event occurs. Being aware of where all supplies, communication devices, and resources are at any given moment is an excellent way to make a community more prepared to



2018 undergraduate scholarship winner Julia Neuvirth is an education and social studies dual major attending Alma College. Photo courtesy of LexieCornettPhotography.

face the forthcoming events. Practice trials and simulations would give the most realistic depiction of disasters so that when actual disasters occur, minimal chaos occurs due to the preparations and precautions measures that were taken in advance. Like Malcom X said, "... Tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today." What better way is there to be prepared for an event to occur than to simulate the event on a frequent basis? To be ready at any time is the most successful way to conduct this because unlike regularly scheduled timelines, disasters can occur at any time. The members of a community must be best prepared for anything to occur and having practice simulations permits this ideology to occur."

2018 Winners

Julia Neuvirth was the winner of the 2018 DRI Foundation scholarship for undergraduates. Applicants were judged based on a list of submissions criteria, including academics, extracurricular activities, volunteerism, and an essay on preparedness. Attending Alma College in Alma, MI, with a dual major in Elementary Education and Social Studies, she is a recipient of the Alma College President's Cup, and a member of the Phi Sigma Sigma sorority, the school's chapter of

Kappa Delta Pi Education Honorary, the Education Club, and the college choir. She has volunteered with Five Points of Hope fundraising for Michigan residents diagnosed with cancer, Big Brother Big Sister where she mentored high school freshmen, Phi Sigma Sigma Sigma's school and college readiness programs, and as a tutor for Political Science 101.

Essay Excerpt: Julia Neuvirth

"Owners of data repositories for any of the various types of confidential data should be held more accountable for their security measures. Many of the recent data security breaches are the result of systems that were left unpatched even though vulnerabilities in operating systems or software had been identified. The government must do a better job of getting this information out to the people responsible for protecting confidential data and should mandate some oversight to proactively hold them accountable for data security. More effort must be expended into educating not only the large businesses but the mid-size and smaller business as well. This could be in the form of more comprehensive informational web pages or through sponsorship of educational material included in routine communications from



2018 high school graduate scholarship winner Megan Niu will attend the University of Waterloo where she will study computer science.

the governments and utilities such as with tax and utility statements. The level of confidential data at risk should determine the level of employee training, security investment and degree of implementation required."

Megan Niu received the 2018 DRI Foundation scholarship for high school seniors. Applicants were judged based on a list of submissions criteria, including academics, extracurricular activities, volunteerism, and an essay on preparedness. She graduated Marc Garneau Collegiate Institute in Toronto with a 4.0 and is enrolled at the University of Waterloo. Among her academic achievements, she attended lectures and labs at the Institute of Quantum Computing and the Physics Olympiad, was a French horn finalist at the Ontario Provincial Music Festival and Toronto Kiwanis Music Festival, and was a 1st place finisher in the Educational Computing Organization of Ontario Programming Contest. She has been a volunteer with the Markham Mayor's Youth Council, Toronto Youth Symphonic Winds, Ontario Provincial Honour Band, the Freshmen Pine Crest Retreat to Lake Muskoka, and TOPS Night, a high school program specializing in math and science.

Essay Excerpt: Megan Niu

"To the population of Toronto, April 23, 2018 was the first day spring. We had spent the week previous recovering from an unexpected ice storm. In the calm of that day, a van mounted the curb and drove through a block of pedestrians along Yonge Street. The van stopped a few metres from my house and in its wake, it left 10 dead and another 14 injured. My city initially met the tragedy with confusion and sorrow. But in the days that followed, the community was sensible and accommodating. People waited patiently for the police to finish their investigation of Yonge Street. There was no complaint when an entire block was still closed the next day. I saw very little speculation surrounding the motivations of the driver. This all pointed to the three responses that proved to be helpful following the disaster. First, individuals must be ready to cooperate with the authorities. Secondly, it is at this time that the public collectively acknowledges the value in being prepared. Finally, individuals must avoid the site of disaster, if at all possible."



Our Volunteer Program

Volunteerism

Each year, we offer DRI Certified Professionals opportunities to volunteer with DRI Foundation partner organizations during DRI's annual conference. For DRI2017's Volunteer Day in Las Vegas, 22 volunteers at Veterans Village painted the outside railings of apartment units for United States veterans, and 29 volunteers at Three Square food bank packed 1,200 bags of fresh produce for the Meals on Wheels program for homebound seniors, totaling 720 pounds of fresh produce for families who are food insecure and hungry in the community.

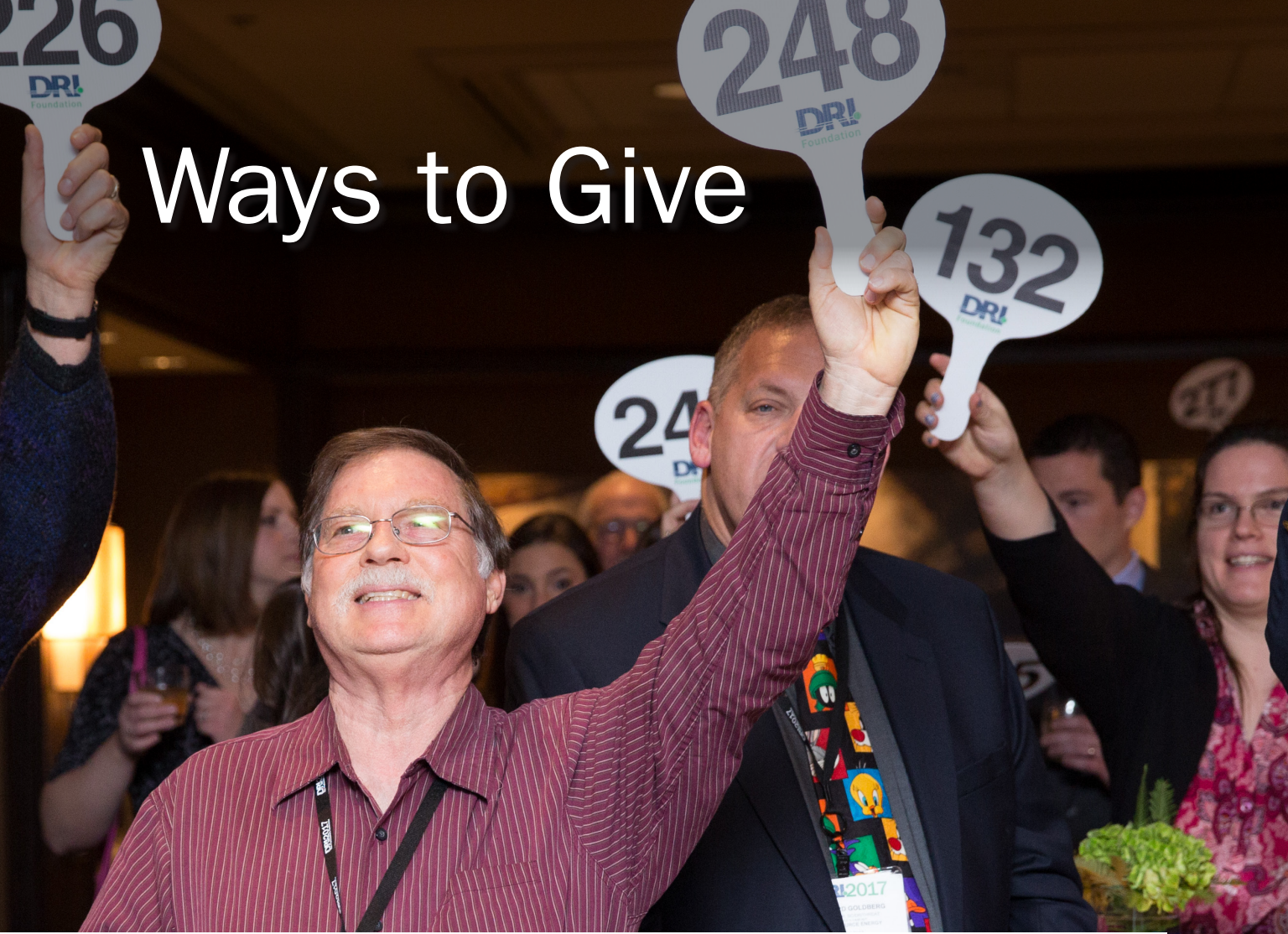
At Volunteer Day during DRI2018 in Nashville, TN, we mobilized 23 volunteers at Operation Stand Down Tennessee where we refurbished a veterans' storefront and re-stocked their thrift store. We also had 24 volunteers at Second Harvest Food Bank of Middle Tennessee, where we sorted and packed 9,440 pounds of food (roughly 4 tons), which will be turned into 7,866 meals to feed the hungry.



Supporting Veterans

In February 2017 at the DRI2017 Awards of Excellence Gala, the Veterans Outreach Program Committee announced the very first six recipients of the Veterans Outreach Scholarship. Following the scholarship announcements, the gala auction raised an additional \$20,000 to fund future recipients. We also donated \$2,000 to Las Vegas' Veterans Village.

In 2018, in addition to Volunteer Day assistance, we made a \$2,000 donation to Operation Stand Down Tennessee. This non-profit organization focuses on helping all veterans and their families by engaging, equipping, and empowering them. Its wide range of services includes employment assistance, VA benefits assistance, networking, housing, and much more. The 2018 gala auction raised additional funds to support future recipients.



Ways to Give

Help Us Build Community Resilience

There are many ways to support the DRI Foundation's vision of resilient communities worldwide. Visit thedrifoundation.org to:

Donate

- Make a monetary donation via our website or mail
- Honor someone with a gift
- Find out if your employer participates in Double the Donation Matching Gifts

Get Involved

- Partnership and affiliates: Inquire about joining us, email AnneMarie Staley at astaley@drif.org.
- Volunteer: Want to volunteer? Email Michele Ostler mostler@drif.org.
- Ask for volunteers: Need our volunteers to help out at your nonprofit? Email Michele Ostler mostler@drif.org.

[Make a donation](#)

Have a question or an idea?

Talk to us: (646) 619-3599 or getinvolved@drif.org





Our Generous Supporters

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Photo courtesy of Tehcho Por Mi Pais/ International Community Foundation.

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Construction begins to rebuild the Jones Beupiere Primary school in the village of La Plaine, Dominica.

Photo courtesy of Dominica Ministry of Education.



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