

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE BCBA Starts Patriots Boxing Team A PTSD Wellness Program & Competition Squad

Copiague, NY Dec. 11, 2017

BCBA has begun its new boxing, training and conditioning program for Veterans suffering through the ravages of **PTSD**. Billed as **"The Patriots Boxing Team"**, the program provides a powerful **two punch combination** for helping Veterans.

"This will be our most influential program to date. The time we've spent working with veterans at **BCBA** has been some of the most rewarding work we've done. Our new center in Copiague permits us to keep providing great programs for veterans, while allowing us to still offer the low cost youth programs the community has come to expect from BCBA" states Ray Bettinelli, Director and Head Boxing Coach of BCBA.

PUNCH ONE is designed to assist Veterans suffering with **PTSD** by providing a non-contact, non-competitive boxing workout. **BCBA** firmly believes the best path to mental wellness is through physical fitness. Veterans receive their supervised **Get Fit Not Hit® Training Program** FREE of charge!

PUNCH TWO is their awareness campaign. Everyday, 22 Veterans commit suicide; many of whom are suffering through the pain of **PTSD**. **BCBA** asks Veterans not battling this condition, to volunteer their time to help BCBA train their fellow Soldiers. From this group of volunteers, **BCBA** has formed a 4 man, amateur boxing team (**The Patriots Boxing Team**). Coaches at **BCBA** volunteer their time to train, condition and transport the team through competition. The objective of **The Patriots Boxing Team** is to raise awareness and keep the focus on the ravages **PTSD** is having on our Veteran community. This competitive effort will culminate with appearances in Amateur Boxing Matches & Tournaments. This two punch approach will bring Veterans back together in brotherhood, solidarity and a renewed mission they can all get behind.

"I can't stress enough how important a program like this is to our Veteran community. As soldiers we are dedicated, passionate and patriotic but many of us feel lost, after our military service is over. Since I started training at BCBA, I feel focused again. And when Coach Ray asked me to be Team Captain I feel proud again, I now have a new mission worth fighting for", states Sgt. Vincent Muscato, Army Air Assault Retired.

A collection jar fundraising campaign for **The Patriots Boxing Team** has already begun. BCBA is asking local businesses to help by displaying one of their jars on their counters. All proceeds will be donated to their **PTSD Healing & Awareness** program for Veterans with participating locations getting a tax deductible credit for the funds their jars generate. Additional funding is also underway at www.HelpBCBA.org

Join the fight, help BCBA KO PTSD!

For additional information or press inquiries please contact Ray Bettinelli at 631.747.0409.





BCBA is an ALL VOLUNTEER nonprofit 501-C3 organization devoted to providing quality sports, fitness and Veteran Service programs to the community in which it operates. Since 2004, BCBA has been serving Long Island by providing a clean, safe and structured facility that offers well-rounded programs designed to give people the skills they'll need to become Champions in Life! Your support of BCBA and ALL of its programs is essential for it to continue doing the great work it does.



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