

STATE OF INDIANA

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IDVA selects At Ease Orchard as 2025 Non-Profit Partner *Non-profit serves Indiana Veterans through agriculture*

INDIANAPOLIS – The Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs (IDVA) announced today the selection of At Ease Orchard to serve as the agency's Non-Profit Partner (NPP) in 2025. The program partners IDVA with an Indiana non-profit dedicated to enhancing the lives of Indiana's Veterans.

At Ease Orchard was founded by Army veteran Joe Ricker and is dedicated to empowering veterans and their families through sustainable agriculture and beekeeping. Located in northeastern Hancock County, the organization offers hands-on training, educational resources, and a supportive community to help veterans find purpose and healing in farming. Their programs, such as the VetFarm Network and Beekeeping for Heroes, aim to improve social connections, strengthen physical health, and reduce symptoms of depression and PTSD among participants.

Together, IDVA and At Ease Orchard will plan the annual IDVA golf outing as well as other community events throughout the year to raise funds for At Ease Orchard's mission; raise awareness of state and federal benefits available to veterans; and foster community, camaraderie, and connection.

"IDVA is proud to partner with At Ease Orchard, whose innovative approach to agriculture and veteran support creates meaningful opportunities for veterans and their families," said Joseph DeVito, IDVA Outreach Director.

"Our mission is to ensure Indiana becomes a model state for veterans by providing the resources and community connections they need to succeed in every aspect of their lives."

More information about At Ease Orchard can be found on IDVA's homepage or by [clicking here](#).

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About the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs

The Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs (IDVA) is a state agency dedicated to its mission: to Support, Serve, and Advocate for the Indiana Veteran Community. For more information about IDVA and its services, visit in.gov/dva.