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Fisher House of Boston Executive Director Honored by Congressional Medal of Honor Society

[Boston, Massachusetts]: On 25 March 2023, National Medal of Honor Day, the Congressional Medal of Honor Society named Jennifer DeLuca, Executive Director of the Fisher House of Boston, the recipient of the Service Act Award at the 2023 Citizen Honors Awards held in Arlington, Virginia. Per the Congressional Medal of Honor Society, "the Citizen Honorees exemplify the values embodied in the Medal of Honor: courage, sacrifice, integrity, commitment, patriotism, and citizenship."

"The model that Jen uses is cutting edge, here in Boston we like to think of it as the mecca of medical care. Jen actually looked at and said 'you know, we really don't need a brick-and-mortar institution here. We need to be lean and ready to move, like the military," says **Major General Gary Keefe**, The Adjutant General, Massachusetts National Guard. "She truly has set a new standard of care for families here in Boston," added Dave Coker, President of the national Fisher House Foundation.

"Ordinary people do extraordinary things. There are inspiring acts of service, sacrifice, and heroism happening every day all over our country. Service and sacrifice don't require wearing a military uniform," says Medal of Honor Recipient and Congressional Medal of Honor Society President, Leroy Petry.

United States Senator (Massachusetts) **Elizabeth Warren** commented, "[Jennifer DeLuca's] work as Executive Director of the Fisher House Boston is an exemplary illustration of a life truly dedicated to public service. I am so happy to know that Massachusetts veteran and their families have [Jennifer DeLuca] as a strong advocate across every sector of our state. People like [Jennifer] are what makes Massachusetts so special."

Jennifer DeLuca's <u>Citation</u> Reads: "Jennifer DeLuca is known as a visionary who has used her understanding of the veteran community, as well as the private, public, and political sectors, to make a positive impact on the lives of veterans and their families. She has done so through various acts of kindness and spearheading the creation of unique programs for Fisher House of Boston, where she is the Executive Director. She embodies the Fisher House of Boston mission "to ease the burden of military veterans and their families during illness or injury" and goes above and beyond for our military and their families. Jennifer's service reflects favorably on her, her family, and people across the nation." https://youtu.be/iEf6Cvzq0Eg

About the Citizen Honors Awards: Launched in 2007, the Citizen Honors Awards program reflects the mission of Medal of Honor Recipients to show that the values associated with the Medal of Honor are relevant to all Americans. Each year a nationwide search is conducted to select five United States citizens and one organization to receive the Citizen Honors Awards. The awards were created to encourage others to recognize acts of heroism and selfless service. Nominations go through two rounds of judging, first by a panel of prominent citizens who create the top twenty list, followed by a panel of Medal of Honor Recipients whose actions have truly defined the words "courage" and "selfless service."

About The <u>Fisher House of Boston</u>: Fisher House of Boston eases the burden on military members (active, veteran, and retired) and their families during illness or injury by providing a home away from home; where families can stay comfortably at no cost to them while a loved one is receiving treatment inpatient, or 4+ days a week, at any of our world renowned Boston-area medical centers. (https://fisherhouseboston.org)