

HEALING AND BREAKTHROUGH FOR VETERANS

ACCTS staff members Noel and Meryl Dawes helped lead a healing Welcome Home Initiative (WHI) retreat in April for sixteen female combat veterans. WHI retreats are intense, focused events for military veterans who may be suffering, in varying degrees, from trauma or post-traumatic stress.

“The retreat gave me time to be still and hear the voice of God.”

-- USMC Veteran, Desert Storm, 1990-91

“The team had a spirit of unity and love and that peace made the retreat a time of healing and breakthrough for many.”

-- USMC veteran, served in Desert Storm

“Everyone was very open and ready to receive whatever the Holy Spirit had in store for them,” Noel reports. “The group bonded quickly and the camaraderie between everyone, regardless of where they came from, was very good...Many burdens and much baggage was given to Jesus.”

One participant “eventually plucked up courage to share a little bit of her very difficult story with us. She’d served on active duty in the Middle East but was now homeless...a team member linked her up with an addiction resource at her church and another team member will visit her where she lives to offer more inner healing prayer...”

“Layers of abuse were removed and discarded as the women grasped that they could put Jesus between them and the trauma,” Noel concludes, “and that He takes the trauma onto Him, replacing it with grace, peace, mercy, blessing, and more. I believe every woman went home feeling some of His love for them in these ways.”