

[View this email in your browser](#)A photograph of a construction worker wearing a yellow hard hat and a grey t-shirt, standing in a construction site with wooden framing. The word "NEWSLETTER" is overlaid in large white letters on the bottom right of the image.

NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 11 (Sat): Service Project - Philadelphia

Join us this Saturday afternoon as we work with the Habitat Humanity Philadelphia team on the continued construction of 6 new homes in North Philadelphia. [Sign up here!](#)

March 11 (Sat): Service Project - Pittsburgh

Join for a few hours this Saturday morning as we work with the Produce to the People Food Bank to help distribute fresh produce to families in need. [Get registered here!](#)

April 1 (Sat): Run As One - [Sign up for](#) one of eight events in Pennsylvania! This is a free 5K run/walk bringing together those who empower our veteran community.

April 3 - 7 (Mon - Fri): Training - S212 - Shepherdstown, WV

An instructor-led chainsaw course that provides an introduction to the function, maintenance, and use of an engine powered chainsaw. [Join us by signing up here!](#)

April 8 (Sat): Service Project - Pittsburgh

This is joint service project with The Mission Continues where we will help renovate a library classroom at Center of Life, a community empowerment organization. [Get registered!](#)



Meet Our Central Pennsylvania District Coordinator

John "JC" Mendyka

JC joined the TRibe in December of 2015 after his brother told him about Team Rubicon. He originally started volunteering in Colorado while he was still on active duty. Upon retiring from a 20-year career, and four deployments, as an Army Telecommunications Specialist and Frequency Manager, he packed up his family and moved home to the great state of Pennsylvania.

When JC arrived in Pennsylvania, he wasn't sure how involved he planned to be with Team Rubicon. However, shortly after arriving, he found himself deployed and serving as the Logistics Section Chief on Op Country Roads. JC said his separation from the Army, "was harder than expected and he was experiencing some depression from not being in uniform anymore." When he arrived and put to work on Op Country Roads, he "realized his 'big green gang' had been replaced by his 'big grey gang,'" and he could start moving forward, focusing on the future.

Shortly after Op Country Roads demobilized, JC joined the leadership team as our Central Pennsylvania District Coordinator. He says the area is defined by their hunting roots, trout streams, farming and the famous Appalachian Trail. Keep an eye out for some upcoming events in the area that involve one or all of those things. And feel free to [reach out to JC](#) anytime to hear about what he has planned for the team!

EVENT SPOTLIGHT

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Have an idea for a training or event in our region? Got feedback for the team? [Contact your local leadership](#), and let us know!

PA State Engagement Manager: [Jenna Brandolini](#)

PA State Field Operations Manager: [Jonah Thompson](#)

Central PA District Coordinator: [JC Mendyka](#)

Philadelphia District Coordinator: [Colleen Ford](#)

Pittsburgh District Coordinator: [Katie Jones](#)

R3 Wellness Manager: [Michelle Ufner](#)

R3 Administrator: [Amanda Burke](#)



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