

SARAH VERARDO

Sarah Verardo is one of America's leading advocates for communities whose stories need to be told on a larger platform. Her unparalleled dedication to implement change and amplify the voices of those who need to be heard have made her a cornerstone of national and international organizations alike.

Sarah's devotion, experience, and drive serve her well as CEO of The Independence Fund. Under her leadership Sarah facilitated a partnership with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) working to combat Veteran suicide through reunions of some of the hardest hit units of the War on Terror. With her ongoing leadership of The Independence Fund, Sarah creates robust programs that to date have awarded more than 2,600 severely wounded heroes with all terrain track wheelchairs. Her connections with individual and corporate partners has enabled the fund to raise and distribute more than 100 Million Dollars in direct support. Sarah is also the Founder of Save Our Allies, a non government organization that does precision rescue and expeditionary medicine in war torn areas around the globe. Starting with a movement in Afghanistan that led to more than 17,000 American citizens, Afghan interpreters, orphans and vulnerable populations being rescued during the Taliban takeover and collapse of the country, the work continues in safe houses in the Middle East. With a robust understanding of battlefield medicine, Sarah led a charge to create field hospitals in Ukraine and facilitated government and private support for precision rescue and humanitarian aid.

Sarah also advises Administration officials and members of Congress and has been instrumental in shaping national policy that directly improves the lives of the Defense and Veteran communities. She regularly appears on cable news to commentate on the sacrifice of Veterans and Military families.

Sarah's commitment to service and change can be attributed to her husband, Army SGT. Michael Verardo, one of the most severely wounded heroes from the Global War on Terror. Twice wounded in Afghanistan, Michael has since endured 120 major surgeries and more than a decade of speech, visual, physical, cognitive, and occupational therapies. Michael requires full time care and assistance and is proudly loved and cared for by Sarah, their three young daughters, and an outstanding medical team.

Sarah is a savvy and engaging media personality, a master of development, and an expert in public affairs. Her unrivaled ability to transfer her experiences to Presidential Policy, government reform, and lead multiple multi-million dollars organizations is a reflection of her work ethic, commitment, and resilience.

