

59 with a matching grant from the Honor Flight Network on October 13, 2013;

60 WHEREAS, the Utah Honor Flight Program's original goal was to allow the men and
61 women, who have served the nation in times of war, to have a first-hand opportunity to reflect
62 at their memorials and allow them to see what the nation has provided for those who made the
63 ultimate sacrifice;

64 WHEREAS, what was thought to be a one-time trip turned into a labor of love as
65 veterans who made the trip wanted to make sure other Utah veterans could share in the
66 amazing experience;

67 WHEREAS, Utah Honor Flight Program members quickly learned that what they were
68 providing by having these men and women visit at these sacred venues was healing, for the
69 individual, the family, and the communities in which these heroes served;

70 WHEREAS, since the first trip the Utah Honor Flight Program has raised nearly \$1.3
71 million to transport 1,300 World War II, Korean, and Vietnam veterans to their memorials in
72 Washington, D.C.;

73 WHEREAS, many veterans have never visited Washington, D.C., and could not make
74 this trip in their advanced years without the Honor Flight Program's support and resources;

75 WHEREAS, the Utah Honor Flight Program typically takes 50 veterans, ~~50 guardians~~
76 ~~who cover their own costs, and eight staff members]~~ eight staff members, and also 50 guardians
76a who cover their own costs ←~~50~~ on the trips;

77 WHEREAS, two of the staff members provide medical help when needed;

78 WHEREAS, the flights originate from Salt Lake City for many Utah veterans, and from
79 Las Vegas for Southern Utah veterans;

80 WHEREAS, the Utah Honor Flight Program utilizes commercial aircraft for the trips,
81 specifically Southwest Airlines because of the discounted ticket prices that it offers;

82 WHEREAS, the flights land at Baltimore/Washington Thurgood Marshall Airport
83 where the veterans are always greeted by a roaring sea of applause as they step off the Jetway;

84 WHEREAS, veterans, guardians, and staff members stay in nice hotels that provide
85 veterans healthy meals that meet their dietary needs;

86 WHEREAS, the entire second day of the trip is spent visiting war memorials
87 recognizing World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War;

88 WHEREAS, the group also receives a VIP tour of the National Archives;

89 WHEREAS, the day is completed with a visit to Arlington National Cemetery, where