Bob's Discount Furniture made a donation to the Veterans Rally Point, a program of Easterseals Capital Region & Eastern Connecticut (Easterseals CR&EC), in November 2018. "This is just going to change everything," said Lori Marriott, Sr. Director, Military Services and Philanthropy. "It's just going to make it feel like a home away from home for them and that way they're going to be able to let down their walls and feel comfortable when they're here at Veteran's Rally Point."

The donation included not only furniture for veterans and their families, but also for the center itself, including two Dakota Loveseats from their <u>sofa collection</u>, for administrative offices. One seat will go in the Women's Veteran Initiative office, where it will hopefully allow visitors to feel more comfortable when visiting the center for services. See highlights from the furniture delivery and meet some of the Easterseals Veterans Rally Point staff on the <u>Bob's Discount Furniture</u> YouTube Channel.

For over 70 years (100 years nationally), Easterseals CR&EC has served the community with excellence and passion. In 2016, the idea for the Veterans Rally Point center was born, after leaders of the non-profit identified a need for veterans' services in the Norwich community and throughout the state. At the time of its proposal and planning stages for the center, Sen. Richard Blumenthal, (D-Conn), said that it would be "...a model for the rest of the state and for the whole country."

Since receiving a \$2.5 million donation from the state of Connecticut to begin construction on the center expansion, the center has acted as a refuge of sorts for local veterans and military members. It provides free on-site services that include employment & financial stability, educational & job skills training, VA benefits consultation, and emergency financial assistance. The 18,000 sq. ft. expansion will house mental health and vocational rehab offices, a gym, maker space, lounge area, and also a food pantry and clothing for visitors to utilize. It is the hope of the staff that the addition of new furniture will make the center feel more like home to its visitors.

Along with the furniture that was donated to the Rally Point Center, Bob's Discount Furniture donated a brand new child's bed and <u>signature mattress</u>, to Chris, a veteran, single father and member of Veterans Rally Point. He said that the addition of the bed will make his house feel more like a home for him and his young son.

Specializing in honest, built-in prices for high quality items, Bob's Discount Furniture offers pieces for the entire home. Along with their selection of top-quality furniture offerings, reviews of Bob's Discount Furniture on Trustpilot illustrate how their commitment to customer service has garnered a devoted following of satisfied furniture buyers.

With an A+ rating given to Bob's Discount Furniture by the Better Business Bureau, the company holds a special place in the state's business sector as a charitable namesake, thanks

to the countless Bob's outreach donations, initiatives, and non-profit organizations they've supported. Bob's business side lives in conjunction with Bob's Discount Furniture Charitable Foundation and Outreach program, Bob's Cares, which has been providing monthly donations to individuals and organizations for more than 25 years. The donation of furniture to Veterans Rally Point included a Dakota Sofa with two accent chairs, an Ashton Accent Chair and Gatsby Dining Table with four chairs. Veterans Rally Point was just one of the many places the foundation has been able to positively impact.

"You wouldn't imagine the impact that a couple of furniture pieces would have on a facility like this, but the connection that we're able to make with veterans, because they're at ease, because they're comfortable, changes the entire dynamic of our transaction with them," said Josh Salazar, Sr. Director, Military Services and Philanthropy. "Furniture is seemingly non-significant, but when you realize that people live their lives in your furniture, it really does change how we are able to impact their lives."