

Homes for Our Troops **2012 ANNUAL REPORT**



866-7-TR00PS • www.homesforourtroops.org

A Letter From Our President

Timothy P. McHale, Major General USA, Ret. President of Homes for Our Troops

Dear Friends,

It's my pleasure to share with you the successes we've achieved on behalf of Homes for Our Troops in 2012. During the past year, we brought together people from all corners of the country to share, learn, and act on behalf of our nation's severely injured heroes. Throughout the year, Homes for Our Troops started 47 new homes across the USA, hosting community build events for each veteran to start the family's reintegration into their chosen community and to provide opportunities for tangible support through volunteerism. We welcomed some 30 new veterans into the Homes for Our Troops family and by the end of the year were able to give the American Dream of homeownership to 20 more deserving military families. Perhaps one of our more incredible highlights in 2012 came through our Homes for the Holidays campaign. Over eight days in December, we awarded seven Veterans throughout the country with their own, brand new specially adapted home. This could only have been accomplished with unwavering commitment to the mission by our Board of Directors, the professionalism of the staff, the dedication of the volunteers, and the continued support of donors!

We have also taken a step in serving our Gold Star Families with the inception of our Home Award Program. We are working with such organizations as JP Morgan Chase and Bank of America to offer existing homes to medically retired veterans or dependants of those killed in action while serving this country. While only in its infancy, we are planning to incorporate this program among the offerings by Homes for Our Troops.

Accountability, transparency, and quantifiable results – these are the attributes Charity Navigator, America's premier charity evaluator, uses to rate all charities. Homes for Our Troops has achieved the coveted Four Star Rating for factors such as low overhead and sound and responsible fiscal management. This marks the third consecutive year HFOT has received the highest rating by Charity Navigator; we are among a modest 10 percent of all charities to achieve this honor. With more than 1,600 veterans having sustained severe, life-altering injuries since serving this country post-9/11, our work is far from over. Our brief history as an organization has been marked by some quiet, but significant successes. We've increased our internal capacity and the quality of the program through learning and continuous improvement under the solid leadership of General (USA Ret) Dick Cody; we've strengthened our board of directors; and have gained several strategic partnerships with companies like BAE Systems, Veterans United Home Loans, Kohler and Armstrong. Just as valuable are the collective efforts of our individual fundraisers across the country, who have given their time, talent, and ultimately treasure to advance the mission of this organization, and the building partnerships established with builders that share our commitment to quality and craftsmanship, enabling construction of quality homes by skilled craftsmen whose pride in workmanship shows through in each and every home delivered to our severely veterans. Despite the successes, we have much work to do. Our services and expertise in the field are in high demand, and thanks to our strong supporters, we have the capacity to respond. We are optimistic because this is a solvable problem, there is a finite number of veterans in need right now and we are committed to serving each and every veteran that needs our help. I invite you to read our annual report for additional accomplishments and a snapshot of the continued health of our organization.

Please take satisfaction and pride in knowing that you are helping your country and advancing this important mission with us.

Sincerely,



Timothy P. McHale
Major General USA, Ret.
President, Homes for Our Troops



THE URGENT NEED

Many Veterans are returning home from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan with life-altering injuries sustained while defending our country overseas. The injuries include the loss of one or more limbs, varying levels of paralysis and traumatic brain injury. Some Veterans also return with blindness, deafness, or with severe burns. These men and women must now relearn skills often taken for granted, like walking, getting dressed, eating and talking. They may be confined to a wheelchair for the rest of their lives or may need to utilize a wheelchair when they are unable to walk on their prosthetics. Their homes are no longer a place of comfort, but rather room after room filled with barriers that make the simplest tasks difficult, if not impossible. *These American Heroes need specially adapted homes that will allow them to regain their independence and help them and their families rebuild their lives. It's the least we can do.*



WHAT IS A SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOME?

Our specialized homes go beyond ADA compliance. They feature single-level, open floor plans, roll-in showers, roll-under cook tops and sinks and other standard accessibility items. Depending on the severity of the veteran's injury, the homes may also include specialized items including lift systems, keyless door entry and voice activation controls.

KEY FACT: An eligible veteran or service member may receive a Veterans Administration Specially Adapted Housing Grant up to a maximum amount of \$64,960. Homes for Our Troops' assistance covers all costs over and above this grant and the home is provided at NO COST to the veteran.



WE ARE HOMES FOR OUR TROOPS, a national non-profit, non-partisan 501(c)(3) organization

BUILDING HOMES, REBUILDING LIVES

Homes for Our Troops builds specially adapted homes for service members who have been severely injured in combat operations since September 11, 2001. All specially adapted homes are built at NO COST to the veteran thanks to donations from thousands of individuals, foundation grants, corporate sponsors, professional tradespeople, and generous support from countless volunteers.



At the start of every build project, we work to rally the community and create support for the build through phone calls, emails and radio campaigns. Sometimes the effort takes off with an already supportive community surrounding the veteran. Other times it is just a matter of getting the word out about our veteran and informing people of our mission. We are continually surprised and delighted by the outpouring of support for our veterans who have sacrificed so much for our good. Driven by patriotism, pride and gratitude, individuals sign up and the team emerges for project kick-off.

GROUNDBREAKING This is where it all begins – the Groundbreaking Ceremony is our introduction into your new community. Homes for Our Troops works together with key individuals for a celebration that will enable our veterans and others to put shovel to dirt and prepare to get the building underway. It also serves as an informational opportunity for area residents to learn more about the veteran, Homes for Our Troops, and how they can get involved.

VOLUNTEER DAY In the months that follow the Groundbreaking, the Building Partner and their licensed professionals complete the construction phase. Once the Building Partner gives the OK, the Volunteer Day is scheduled. This is the day when volunteers from all walks of life come together and add the finishing touches to the home. Floors are cleaned, windows are washed and landscaping is put in place. Excitement is evident in everyone present.

KEY CEREMONY The American flag is proudly raised to its rightful position flying above the veteran's home. We have come together to give our veteran the American dream when the veteran is given the key to a new specially adapted home.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

REVENUES

Homes for Our Troops receives support from individuals, companies, organizations and foundations across the country who want to show our military men and women that we honor their sacrifice. Our supporters want to insure that, if our troops come home injured, they have a home designed to accommodate and overcome the barriers they face every day due to their disabilities.

This support includes the monetary donations we need to buy land, pay for home construction materials and services we do not get donated and run the organization. Since our inception in 2004, 80% of our revenues have been from monetary donations.

We also receive a significant amount of in-kind donations of home construction materials and professional labor that allows us to stretch our monetary donations further to assist more severely injured veterans. These donations come from home construction companies in local communities and from HFOT's national corporate sponsors. We have received over \$17 million of in-kind donations since 2004.

EXPENSES

Homes for Our Troops strives to keep its overhead low in order to direct as much of your donations as possible to building homes. Since our inception in 2004, our costs for administration and fundraising have averaged only 9.6% of revenues.

Homes for Our Troops

FINANCIAL STATEMENT EXCERPTS

Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2012

REVENUES

Contributions	14,133,000
Donated Materials and Services	2,309,000
Investment Income	490,000
Total Revenues	16,932,000

EXPENSES

Programs	11,317,000
General and Administrative	951,000
Fundraising	890,000
Total Expenses	13,158,000

Change in Net Assets	3,774,000
Net Assets, start of year	19,536,000
Net Assets, end of year	23,310,000

Complete copy of certified public accountant's report for Homes for Our Troops is available on request and on our website.



TRIED AND TRUE

What does it mean to be a 4-Star Charity?

In a letter to Homes for Our Troops, Charity Navigator President and CEO, Ken Berger states, “receiving four out of a possible four stars indicates that your organization adheres to good governance and other best practices that minimize the chance of unethical activities and consistently executes its mission in a fiscally responsible way. Only 10% of the charities we rate have received at least three consecutive 4-star evaluations, indicating that Homes for Our Troops outperforms most other charities in America. This ‘exceptional’ designation from Charity Navigator differentiates Homes for Our Troops from its peers and demonstrates to the public it is worthy of their trust.”

HIGH MARKS from Charity Rating Agencies

Charity Navigator has awarded HFOT its highest rating of 4 stars for four straight years. A letter from Charity Navigator to HFOT stated that only 10% of charities receive a 4-star rating for 3 consecutive years, indicating the HFOT outperforms most charities in America.



CharityWatch awarded us an A rating and included us in their list Top-Rated Military & Veterans Charities. Only 8 of the 46 Military & Veterans charities they reviewed earned this Top-Rated listing.



The BBB Wise Giving Alliance reviews a charity based using 20 criteria covering on governance, effectiveness, finance and fundraising. Homes for Our Troops meets all 20 criteria.

HFOT IMPACT NUMBERS

★ As of February 2013, Homes for Our Troops has completed **125** specially adapted homes

★ At the beginning of 2013, **35** more Veterans' home projects were underway

★ Over **50,000** volunteer opportunities have been created since our inception in 2004

CAPTURED MOMENTS OF 2012

Dozens of Build Brigades, Groundbreakings, Volunteer Days and Key Ceremonies were held throughout the year, with thousands of people joining in to volunteer their time to show their support for our mission and for our veterans.



Cpt Patrick (PJ) Glavey, US Marine Corps
Brighton, Colorado

Build Brigade: July 2012
Volunteer Day: September 2012
Key Ceremony: December 2012



"Thanks to Homes for Our Troops, I will have the opportunity to live alongside my family... assisting them in daily life rather than being a burden. This is such an amazing opportunity given the terrible incident that occurred to me. Thank you so much, I am eternally grateful."

- Cpt Patrick (PJ) Glavey



SFC Sean Gittens, US Army
Appling, GA

Build Brigade: January 2012
Volunteer Day: May 2012
Key Ceremony: August 2012



"Thank you for all that you do to support our men and women who risk their lives for our freedom. The assistance of receiving a specially adapted home from Homes for Our Troops will eliminate many of our daily challenges and give Sean the freedom to have access to his entire home... he will be able to interact more with our family."

-Sharon Gittens



SSG Earl Granville, US Army
Scott Township, PA

Build Brigade: June 2012
Volunteer Day: August 2012
Key Ceremony: December 2012

"A specially adapted house will help my family and me by making my day to day living so much easier and will help get more of my independence back. Thank you for your time and effort, and for helping our wounded veterans and giving them so much."

- SSG Earl Granville





2012 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



General Richard A. Cody
US Army (Ret)
Board Chairman



Jennifer Freitas
Board Treasurer



Paul E. Keane
Board Director



SMA Kenneth O. Preston
US Army (Ret)
President and Board Director



Joseph G. San Miguel,
Ph.D., CPA
Board Director



Linda K. Sherman
Board Director

Major General Timothy P. McHale
US Army(Ret)
Board Director

General Robert W. RisCassi
US Army (Ret)
Board Director

| SENIOR MANAGEMENT



Dawn Teixeira
Executive Director



Tom Benoit
CFO



Chris Rodelle
COO

BUILDING HOMES, REBUILDING LIVES

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