



2021 WINTER EDITION

PURPLE HEART HOMES

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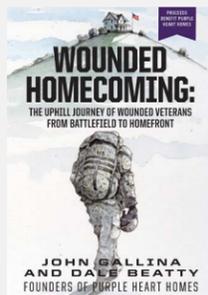
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CO-FOUNDER'S CORNER



John Gallina
Chief Executive Officer & Co-Founder

Have you ever asked yourself "What if I had joined the military?" or said "I wish I had joined the service." Ronald Regan is credited with saying, "Some people spend an entire lifetime wondering if they made a difference in this world. The Marines don't have that problem." I would contest that the same is true for every branch of service. There is a certain amount of pride in wearing the uniform of the United States Military that never goes away. I don't know of any Veteran who ask themselves, "what if I had never joined the military?"

Over the years, I have had many volunteers come up to me and say, "I never served in the military. This is now my way of serving, helping those who did serve." You can feel positive about your impact in this world by helping a Veteran in need with their housing. I believe that the American Dream is still very much alive; a point of focus for those who wear the cloth of our Nation. By supporting the men and women who have served in the military, you are helping them achieve their dreams of having a safe place to call home. A home that is accessible and provides the freedom of movement to come and go as they please. A healthy, affordable, and secure place to raise a family, free from mold, obstacles, and worry.

To think that one has served in the greatest military the world has seen, liberated oppressed people around the globe, provided hope to millions, been lifted in praise, and hailed as a hero, only to be left alone and suffering without a home as a safe refuge is disgraceful. Once upon a time, post WWII communities welcomed home their warriors with open arms, overwhelming gratitude, and support. Now, it seems that they return to a community with passive acknowledgment and minimal support. While still better than the times of our Vietnam Veterans, it is nowhere near what we should be doing. I say this not of the tens of thousands of supporters that have and continue to contribute time, talents, and treasures to PHH's mission, but of the greater community at-large.

We once were a Nation that prided ourselves in caring for our neighbor. I feel that culture has shifted - we now are becoming more secluded and separated from those living around us. We are losing the ability to empathize with people struggling around us; apathy is setting in. We must bond together in order to preserve our nation, and the freedoms we cherish and enjoy. George Washington is credited with saying, "The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional to how they perceive the Veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their Nation."

Our Constitution and Declaration of Independence are not to be viewed in isolation from one another. They are two distinct documents with joint meaning which brings mutual value to the individual.

The Constitution of the United States brings in the thought of the who, the why, and the how:

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

While the Declaration of Independence speaks more to the why, what for, and for who:

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

...

And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

Our Nation was formed by the people and for the people in order that the people can pursue happiness in life. It is my belief that those who fight for and serve our Nation should be supported by the people in achieving these ideals. Thank you to all those who have made this possible in support of Purple Heart Homes' mission this year. We have been able to assist over 150 Veterans and their families, thanks to your generosity. Together, we can assist many more service-connected disabled Veterans and their families.

Please consider how you can support the mission of Purple Heart Homes in providing safe and accessible housing for the fighting men and women of America. We can all live up to Emmeline Pankhurst's motto of "deeds, not words..." and together, we can make a difference.



NEW YEAR, NEW BRANDING!

Hearts of Honor had a refresh, and you are getting a first look!

Launching on December 31st, Hearts of Honor members will receive exclusive access to Purple Heart Homes events, e-store specials, and organizational news. There will be a campaign launch surrounding the re-branding, and we're excited to show you what's in store for 2022.

Not a member?

Hearts of Honor is a monthly giving club comprised of donors who make a contribution of \$10 a month or more. This helps to ensure the long term success of Purple Heart Homes and allows us to serve more Veterans each year.

Your membership gives you the opportunity to become a part of the Purple Heart Homes family of supporters and make a tangible difference in the lives of our service-connected disabled and aging Veterans.

EVENTS

Fall 2021 was a busy season for Purple Heart Homes!

In October, we hosted our annual Fall Golf Classic, Take That Hill, and co-hosted the Sporting Clays Challenge with Patriot Military Family Foundation. Quickly, October moved into November.

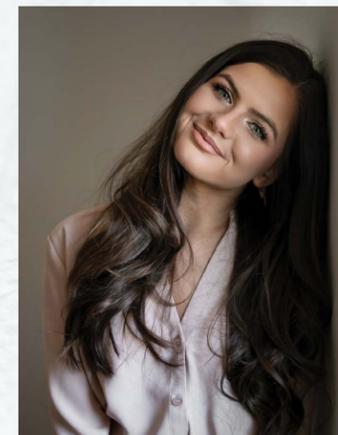
Surrounding Veterans Day on November 11th, Purple Heart Homes partnered with various organizations to accomplish one goal: improving Veterans' lives.

Lake Norman Chrysler Dodge Jeep and Ram sponsored a tiny home build! We had the privilege of temporarily placing the tiny home on their Carolina Customs site to educate individuals on Purple Heart Homes and our Veterans Home Opportunity Program. Leading up to Veterans Day, LKNCDJR hosted a community gathering comprised of music, food trucks, and tiny home tours. Because of their generosity, a Veteran will now have a safe place to call home!

Soon after, Fox Sports sponsored a ramp build for Mr. Jason Thompson, a deserving Veteran with an incredible story! The Fox Sports Nascar Race Hub met Purple Heart Homes onsite, and we spent the day in fellowship, building Mr. Thompson's ramp. As we began the work, Mr. Thompson's wife came outside and offered to assist on the project for her husband. Side-by-side, we completed the ramp build and watched the family move down the ramp for the very first time.

Lastly, Purple Heart Homes and Lowe's Home Improvement partnered together to provide a flag pole, HVAC, deck, and ramp for Richard's Coffee Shop. The coffee shop, located in Mooresville, NC, is a safe haven for local Veterans. Richard's Coffee Shop houses a living military museum, and it provides a sense of community for all who enter its doors. Whether you're met with a warm "hello" from Gary or served a hot cup of joe from faithful volunteers, there is always a seat at the table. On November 18th, Lowe's employees, Purple Heart Homes, and special guests from the Carolina Panthers and NFL served coffee to the Veterans and celebrated the impact we can have when we come together for a common goal.

Thank you to all who attended, sponsored, volunteered or supported an event in 2021. It was truly a special year, and we could not have done it without you!



For more information about events at Purple Heart Homes, please contact:

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THE CONSTRUCTION ZONE

with **MATT STEVENSON**
Program Services Director



Greetings from the Purple Heart Homes Construction Team! It is my hope that wherever you may be, that all is well with you and your family during this Holiday Season.

As this year comes to a close, we at Purple Heart Homes have much for which we are thankful. Although this year has presented several challenges, PHH has been quite successful in the continued effort to press forward in assisting service-connected disabled Veterans and their families with their housing insecurities. PHH could not have assisted these Veterans without your desire to assist others.

In retrospect, I would like to highlight several successes in 2021:

1. In July of this year, PHH celebrated its national partnership with The Home Depot Foundation and Owens Corning with our 750th completed project for Mr. D. Adams of Charlotte, NC. I am confident that sometime during the summer of 2022, everyone will be able to celebrate with PHH our 1,000th Veteran served!
2. The continued growth of our relationships with PHH donors such as The Home Depot Foundation, Bank of America, Lowe's, who wish to give back to Veterans in their communities. In June of this year, the Lowe's "Home Team" program in partnership with the NFL and Christian McCaffrey of the Carolina Panthers, assisted PHH in the remodel of a Korean War Veteran's home in Concord, NC that needed a new roof, ADA bathroom, ramp, and flooring because the home was infested with termites.
3. On November 10th, PHH partnered with the Nascar Race Hub for a Veteran ramp build in Gastonia, NC. Fox Sports and their volunteers such as "retired" NASCAR drivers Todd Bodine and David Regan, assisted in building the ramp for Marine Veteran Mr. Jason Thompson, on the Marine Corps 246th birthday, no less!
4. The PHH Construction Team continues to seek partnerships with other national non-profit organizations for Veteran projects. The Veteran must also meet these organizations' eligibility criteria. In 2021, PHH collaborated with the Independence Fund, the Patriot Military Family Foundation, the Gary Sinise Foundation, the Semper Fi & America's Fund, Habitat for Humanity, and Restore Homes. In this economic environment, we simply cannot do this work alone!

As of this writing, in 2021, PHH has assisted a total of 149 Veterans. Our Team has 33 ongoing funded projects, and we are currently assessing an additional 67 requested projects for funding purposes. We are on pace to meet or exceed our personal best of serving 170 Veterans in 2020!

Finally, if you seek an organization to support financially that is dedicated to the mission of providing sustainable housing solutions for disabled Veterans, then we are here. Please consider joining our Hearts of Honor Club, become a financial or material donor, or a Volunteer.

Together, WE CAN improve Veterans lives one home at a time!



Purple Heart Homes and Reboot Combat Recovery

A community outreach partnership

with **BRAD BORDERS**
Vice President of Community Outreach

You've seen the statistics on Veteran suicides and you might wonder what can be done. Well, there are things that help Veterans, who've experienced trauma, come out of the darkness of self-destruction. About 7 years ago I was introduced to a trauma recovery course for combat Veterans called Reboot Combat Recovery. We gathered a team here in Statesville, NC and started the class. Now, nearly 5 years later, we have seen over 100 Veterans find hope and healing. They overcame trauma together, as it's never done in isolation.

This fall we started holding this course in our conference room at Purple Heart Homes and PHH is the sponsor for this effort. We had 7 combat Veterans join in for 12 weeks, meeting each Tuesday night. The course is designed to reconnect Veterans to a community and to their faith in God. It culminates in "story night" where each Veteran tells their story in 4 parts:

1. Who was I before the military?
2. What happened while I served?
3. Who am I now?
4. Where am I going from here?

It's a powerful night and a process that helps heal the wounds, especially in the company of trusted friends.

Then, we hold a graduation gathering centered around a fellowship meal. Each graduate is celebrated and shown appreciation.

All of this is possible because Veterans feel safe and welcomed at Purple Heart Homes. It allows me to remember that our mission is not necessarily about the house in which the Veteran lives, but about the well-being of the Veteran and the families that live in the house.



with **Paul Cockerham**
Chief Development Officer



BANK OF AMERICA

When Purple Heart Homes (PHH) was founded in 2008, the primary focus was on what is now called the Veteran Aging in Place Program (VAIP). This program is for a Veteran who owns his or her home, but has critical home repairs that address health, safety, or accessibility issues. While this is still our primary effort, the Veteran Home Opportunity Program (VHOP) is another component to PHH that has been crucial in assisting Veterans to become homeowners.

Since its development in 2013, VHOP has thrived, in large part, due to PHH's partnership with Bank of America (BoA) and their Property Donation Program. Through this program, Bank of America donates bank owned properties to Purple Heart Homes that meet certain criteria. Purple Heart Homes then tries to match a Veteran who has applied to our Home Ownership Program with a home in our inventory.

Once a match is made and the application process is completed, PHH will assess the needs of the Veteran and remodel the home to accommodate those needs. When the work on the home is complete and the Certificate of Occupancy is granted, PHH gets a final appraisal of the home. Then, Purple Heart Homes assists the qualified Veteran in obtaining a mortgage for 50% of the final appraised value of the home – the remaining 50% equity in the home is held by Purple Heart Homes for five years in a non-interest, non-payment bearing second mortgage. After the five-year period, if the Veteran has met some metrics, (e.g. made payments on time, kept homeowner insurance coverage up to date, etc.) then the related equity is released by PHH to the Veteran.

This program would not be possible without Bank of America and it continues to be a great resource to assist Veterans with their housing needs.

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"For more than 100-years, Bank of America has proudly supported our military and I am very fortunate to be a part of an organization that is so deeply committed to helping those who have served our country. Our partnership with Purple Heart Homes furthers our commitment to the military and helps create meaningful impact for service members and their families across the nation. Building on that commitment, we are helping to revitalize communities, provide affordable homes and support the housing needs of military Veterans or others who have served and sacrificed. Together, we have successfully donated more than 100 properties and completed over 20 volunteer events, giving Bank of America associates across the nation the opportunity to give back. We look forward to our continued partnership," says Erica Delaney-Lenihan, Bank of America, Property Donation and Events.

We would like to thank Bank of America and especially Erica, Carolyn, and their team for supporting Purple Heart Homes in the early years of the organization and for the continued support. Through its contributions, BoA has helped PHH to grow to the organization it is today – with a staff of 32, we've completed projects in 42 states; have chapters in 10 states; and have assisted over 850 Veterans with their housing needs. Bank of America has been a source of support for the last 9 years, helping to drive our growth. We wouldn't be where we are today without them.

Thank you, Bank of America!





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