From the president

It’s been another great year for Hope For The Warriors™ and we are excited to share the news of our growth and outreach with each of you—our dedicated supporters. Because of the support from a loving nation, we have been able to extend our outreach into new locations and programs. It was a year of firsts. 2009 saw the start of our Family Support program, as well as a number of inaugural events. From a Clay Shoot in Texas to a golf weekend hosted by The Villages in Florida, our presence was felt across the country. Our Team Hope For The Warriors™ had a number of firsts as well: first kayaking and sailing teammates, first marathon run overseas and our first presence at events. From a Clay Shoot in Texas to a golf weekend hosted by The Villages in Florida, our presence was felt across the country. Our Team Hope For The Warriors™ had a number of firsts as well: first kayaking and sailing teammates, first marathon run overseas and our first partnership with the renowned ING New York Marathon. We also celebrated our first year with the National Combined Federal Campaign Fund. Corporate sponsorship also continued to grow, thus allowing us to reach more families and service members from all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Despite this explosive growth, we pride ourselves on retaining the same personal, close relationships with those we serve. The dedication of our employees, volunteers and Board of Directors continues to ensure that your donations go directly back to those that have sacrificed in defense of our country’s freedoms. I encourage you to read through the pages here to be inspired and motivated by the men and women we serve.

2010 will prove challenging for the US. We need your continued support to honor the commitments of the US military in both Iraq and Afghanistan. Join us to ensure that the sacrifices that are being made daily and willingly to protect our safety and our way of life are honored and never forgotten.

With deepest gratitude,

Robin Kelleher

Thanks! For Your Support

All of our donors make a difference in the lives of many of America’s heroes. We extend special recognition to our 2009 top corporate donors:

- Actus Lend Lease/Atlantic Marine Corps Communities
- Altria Group, Inc.
- Atlantic Coast Foods Inc.
- Crown Ford
- The Chance Phelps Foundation
- Disabled American Veterans
- Home Box Office, Inc.
- Lathrop Co.
- Lockheed Martin
- Marine Corps League 260
- Marine Federal Credit Union
- McCormick Foundation
- Michael Stapleton Associates
- New Water Street Corp.
- Oceaneering
- Plaza Construction Corp
- Runzheimer International LTD
- Stevenson Management Co.
- Tee It Up for the Troops
- Textron Inc.
U.S. Army Sergeant (Ret) Shane Parsons lost both legs and suffered severe head trauma while serving in Iraq in 2006, but on Thursday, November 5th he came home to his newly renovated house in Fostoria, Ohio. Hope For The Warriors™ spearheaded the nearly $150,000 project and was thrilled to be able to welcome this hero home. It was our pleasure to be able to give Shane and his family this gift on behalf of a grateful nation.

Thanks to the many grateful Americans who stepped up to restore the house on Union Street and a big thank you to the following major contributors: Plaza Construction Co. and Turner Construction Co., both of New York City, and The Lathrop Company of Maumee, OH along with Vocon Design, Inc. of Cleveland, OH. A special thanks goes to Mayor John Davoli of Fostoria and the many folks in his town that rallied to assist their hometown hero.

Hope For The Warriors™ was contacted in the Fall of 2007 when Shane’s mom, Cindy Parsons, a single mother, left her home and job to be at her son’s side through multiple surgeries. While at her son's bedside, the Parson’s Ohio home suffered a water leak; devastating black mold destroyed the home and everything inside. Now the newly renovated and remodeled home--with its special adaptations for Shane and an in-house Ohio State-themed workout room that any Buckeye fan would envy--allows for continued rehabilitation.

Parsons was wounded in Iraq on September 30, 2006 when his humvee rolled over a roadside bomb. He died twice before reaching the Combat Support Hospital. He was treated and transferred to Germany, and then later to Walter Reed Hospital. Sgt. Parsons lost both legs and suffered severe head trauma. He recently medically retired from the Army after spending the last two years in rehabilitation at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, TX.

A WISH granted…

- SGT Kofi Antwi, USA, travel to Ghana to see family
- SSgt Joshua Krueger, USMC, set of golf clubs
- SSgt Shawn Horsley, USMC furniture and appliances for new home
- Cpl Christopher Gray, USMC, drum set
- LTC Marc Hoffmeister, USA, sponsorship of Mt. Denali climb
- SGT Kenneth Katter, USA, kitchen remodel
- Cpl Jeremy Lyons, USMC, golf clubs
- SGT Eric Horton, USA, assistance with home down payment
- SGT Adam Burke, USA–National Guard, therapeutic massage chair
- SPC Joseph Paulk, USA, airfare to San Diego for Super Bowl
- Jose Luis Pequeno, USMC, washer and dryer
- SGT Shane Nault, USA, detached garage
- SGT Chad Rozanski, USA, go cart with hand controls
- SPC Joel Morera, USA, furniture and baby items
- SGT Sean DeBevoise, USMC, furniture
- SGT Daniel Galvan (KIA), USA, flew parents to Hawaii to attend memorial
- SGT Sterling Dunn, USA, honeymoon in Italy
- SPC Kevin Hardin, USA, vacation in Florida
- MAJ Jason Waggoner, USA, riding mower
- SSG Timothy Gustafson, USA, bathroom re-model
- SSG Carlos Rivera-Medina, USA, in-ground pool
- SPC Mario Lopez, USA, in-ground pool
- PV2 Cheryl Walker, USA, backyard fence
- SPC Marcus Ferando, USA, adjustable Tempurpedic bed
- Cpl Maxwell Leverich, USMC, camping equipment
- Cpl Jason Harmon, USMC, Jeep parts to re-build Jeep (hobby)
152 Immediate Needs met

The recovery process and transition to life beyond recovery can take an unexpected financial toll on a wounded service member and their family. Travel, lengthy stays at bedside, loss of income and new needs can create stressful financial burdens. Hope For The Warriors™ works daily with wounded service members from all branches of the military as well as families of KIAs to help alleviate this added stress. By helping to assist the wounded service member and their family meet their immediate needs, this allows more time to focus on recovery.

The following immediate needs case allowed us to assist two service members in need of assistance. After graduating from a two-month intense PTSD program, a Marine and a soldier were both going to be homeless as they waited for their increase in VA benefits. Their group psychologist referred them to Hope for the Warriors™ for assistance. We were able to support them in their search for a home by providing them with first and last month’s rent, plus utilities. They soon had the security of a home plus they were able to be there for one another thus providing the on-going emotional support both service members needed.

Texas Clay Shoot a Huge Success!

Team Trident, a private recruiting firm based in Houston, TX hosted their First Annual Wounded Warrior Sporting Clay Benefit on Saturday, May 30, 2009. The event raised over $52,000 with proceeds going to Hope For The Warriors™.

Over three hundred participants, to include fourteen wounded service members turned out for the event that was held on the Rio Brazos Hunting Preserve in Simonton TX, just a thirty minute drive from Houston. The 2nd Annual Wounded Warriors Sporting Clay Benefit is scheduled for Saturday May 22, 2010 at the Rio Brazos’ Hunting Preserve.

Volunteers Rock!!

1,120

The number of hours that by choice our staff members gave back to H4W by working weekends, after business hours, or on days off. This is just what we tracked on timesheets though most of us exceed expectations and work far beyond.

10,000+

The number of hours that H4W volunteers have donated in our offices and at events around the country, thus proving that America truly still stands ready to embrace its heroes. Thank you to each and every person that joined us in our mission of Hope Beyond Recovery!

The Warrior House™ program

44 families stayed for a total of 310 days

Hope For The Warriors™ continues to maintain Warrior Houses I and II aboard Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville, NC, offering a place for our injured heroes and their families to stay in a fully furnished, adaptive environment. Families often welcome the home-like setting during times of transition, while many of our warriors and their families have stayed while attending reunions and events aboard the base. In one such memorable event, LCpl Colin Smith, a medically retired Marine severely injured in Iraq, returned to Camp Lejeune for the first time to complete our 2009 Run For The Warriors™. In the living room of our Warrior House, he was able to greet friends from his unit, including a special visit from the Navy Corpsman who saved his life. For more on this story, click on www.hopeforthewarriors.org/clejeune4w.html

LCpl Colin Smith, USMC Ret., stayed at the Warrior House with his father Bob Smith when he came to Camp Lejeune to visit his unit and complete the Run For The Warriors™ (above).
H4W Events – The South

- January 29 – Jim McMahon’s Swang “N” Super Bowl Bash, Lakewood, FL. 12 wounded service members from across the country joined McMahon for a star-studded event at the Lakewood Ranch Golf and Country Club during Super Bowl Weekend. The festivities included a Pairings Party, 18 holes of golf on the championship course and an awards luncheon.

- April 30 - Marine Federal Golf Tournament, Jacksonville, NC. The 15th Annual Marine Federal Golf Tournament raised $43,500 for Hope For The Warriors™ programs. 176 golfers, to include wounded service members from the Wounded Warrior Battalion East, hit the links at the Jacksonville Country Club.


- May 30 - Team Trident Clay Shooting Event, Houston, TX. See box page 3.

- July 18 – Hope and Morale Trip, Texas Rangers Game, Houston, TX. See pg. 6.

- Sept. 9-11 - 9/11 Hope Ride®, Coastal North Carolina. See box at right.

- Oct. 2 - 3rd Annual Oorah vs. Hooah This Time It’s For Reel Fishing Battle, Wilmington, NC. 38 combat wounded Marines and Soldiers participated in the 3rd Annual Oorah vs. Hooah This Time It’s For Reel Fishing Battle. The Marines walked away the winner with 43 fish, breaking the tie from the two previous fishing battles. PPD Inc., Wilmington, N.C., was the presenting sponsor.

- Oct. 10 - 4th Annual Hope For The Warriors Poker Run, Jacksonville, NC. Hope For The Warriors™ hosted their 4th Annual Poker Run with a route that included stops in Jacksonville, Sneads Ferry, Surf City, and Wilmington. Riders made their way back to New River Harley Davidson where there was food, entertainment, and several raffles.


- Oct. 25 – Marine Corps Marathon, Team Hope For The Warriors™

- Nov. 7 - Soup For Troops, Wilmington, NC Dine Wilmington Online hosted their 3rd Annual Soup for the Troops™ at the Mayfaire Shopping Center. Proceeds from the $2.00 donation per soup sample benefitted Hope For The Warriors™. Local wounded warriors acted as contest judges. Mayfaire Town Center, The Port City Executive, and Encore were event sponsors.

The 1st Annual 9/11 Hope Ride®—a three-day adaptive cycling event—debuted along the coast of eastern North Carolina, honoring those who died on September 11, 2001, while paying tribute to those who defended our country in the aftermath of the tragedy.

Twenty-seven combat wounded service members from across the United States and all branches of the U.S. Armed Services took part in the Hope Ride, travelling 30-40 miles a day with stops to take part in a variety of 9/11 ceremonies.

In one of the weekend’s highlights, wounded service member Steve Trigg, U.S. Air Force was presented with a hand cycle donated by Paul Semmler, LtCol, USAF, (Ret) and his wife Sally.

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Watch for Team Little Guy in 2010!

In conjunction with the North Carolina Credit Union League, Team Little Guy kicked off a giant fundraising effort in September determined to raise $100,000 by June 30, 2010 for Hope For The Warriors™. This team of runners and bicyclists will be participating in athletic events throughout the Carolinas over the next few months with the final event being the “Ride for the Warriors” in June 2010. The ride will begin at Fort Bragg, NC and will continue over the next several days to all five major military installations in North Carolina and visit credit unions on the way. Their journey will end at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune with a check presentation to Hope For The Warriors™.

The Villages welcomes heroes for golf event

Thousands of Villagers turned out on Nov. 15th at the Lake Sumter Town Square, FL to pay tribute to 18 wounded warriors from across the country. The Sunday evening Salute at the Square celebration was part of the 1st Annual Hope Fore The Warriors Golf Classic® – a two-day event that honored wounded warriors and their service to the nation.

Other weekend activities included an 18-hole scramble at the Palmer Legends Country Club and a Celebrities Pairings Party at the Colony Cottage on Saturday night. Representatives from PING fitted the warriors for custom clubs, donated courtesy of PING and The Villages Custom Club Shop.

This inaugural event was a tremendous success thanks to the efforts of many, especially Ken Crecy, Director of The Golf and Country Club Division in The Villages. Plans are already in the making for the 2010 Hope Fore The Warriors Golf Classic®.
H4W Events – North

- March 17 – **High Street Grill’s Long Beard Contest**, Mount Holly, NJ
- May 21 – **Haskell Family Golf Tournament**, Lido, NY
- May 21 – 25 – **Hope and Morale Fleet Week**, NY
- May 22 – **Skyline Salute**, New York, NY
- July 11 – **Grand Rapids Warthog Poker Run**, Grand Rapids, MI
- Aug. 30 – **Long Beach Waterfront Warrior Weekend**, Long Beach, NY
- Sept. 11 – **Farrell’s Grand Opening/Fundraiser**, West Islip, NY
- Sept. - **UFCW Region 1 NEPAC Dinner**, Atlantic City, NJ
- Sept. 21 – **Firefighter Stephen Sillers Tunnel to Tower Run**, NY
- Oct. 10 – **Hennessey’s Bar and Grill Grand Opening/Fundraiser**, Huntington, NY
- Oct. 28 – **Night of Hope Fundraiser**, NY
- Nov. 1 – **ING New York City Marathon**, NY
- Nov. 5 - 9 – **Veteran’s Day Weekend Hope and Morale Trip**, NY
- Nov. 7 – **Rutgers Run For The Warriors™**, New Brunswick, NJ
- Nov. 8 – **Long Island Run For The Warriors™**, Babylon, NY
- Nov. 14 – **Operation Pull For Hope fundraiser**, Long Island City, NY
- Nov. 21 - **The Sons of Italy Constantino Brumidi Lodge # 2211 Fundraiser**, Deer Park, NY

H4W Hosts 13 Heroes for Vet’s Day Weekend in New York City

Thirteen wounded service members traveled to NYC for five days in celebration of Veterans Day, 2009. Trip highlights included a tour of the USS New York and the USS Intrepid, along with tours of the World Trade Center Tribute Center and Top of the Rock. They also visited Rescue 2 Brooklyn FDNY and were special guests at the NYPD USMC Association Marine Corps Birthday Celebration. NY Times best-selling author Vince Flynn hosted them for a “Welcome to NY” breakfast. On Friday they attended the 2009 World Series Champions New York Yankee Ticker Tape parade. Additionally, the wounded warriors also participated in the 2nd Annual Rutgers Run For The Warriors™ and the 2nd Annual Long Island Run For The Warriors™.

Give the Gift of HOPE

Your donation can make a difference in the life of a Hero!

Donations are tax deductible and may be made online at [https://www.hopeforthewarriors.org/onlineDonate.cfm](https://www.hopeforthewarriors.org/onlineDonate.cfm), or mailed to: Hope For The Warriors · PMB 48 · 1335 Suite E, Western Blvd. · Jacksonville, NC  28546

Hope For The Warriors™ is a civilian organization with 501 (c)(3) non-profit status, is not a government agency and is solely supported by the generosity of individual, corporations, and foundations in support and appreciation of those who have sacrificed in the name of freedom. Federal Tax Id #20-5182295. Hope For The Warriors™ is a recipient of the Combined Federal Campaign #27800. For more information visit [www.hopeforthewarriors.org](http://www.hopeforthewarriors.org) or call 877-2HOPE4W (877-246-7349).
Nation’s wounded receive a “Skyline Salute” in NYC

On Friday May 22, hundreds of grateful Americans gathered on Manhattan’s Elevated Acre to celebrate our nation’s wounded as Hope For The Warriors™ hosted a “Skyline Salute”—a joint event to celebrate Fleet Week and H4W’s Spring Above and Beyond graduation. On the weekend set aside to remember those who sacrificed for this country, Old Glory waved proudly across the crowd and gave a salute all her own.

The Elevated Acre, located at 55 Water Street, downtown Manhattan, provided the perfect setting for the celebration with spectacular views of the East River from the Brooklyn Bridge to Governors Island. American pride filled every inch of The Acre as the sounds from the Rockin’ Blue Band stirred the night air. Guests enjoyed a relaxing meal and as the sounds from the Rockin’ Blue Band stirred the night air. Guests enjoyed a relaxing meal and later participated in a spectacular silent auction. The NYPD made a crowd-pleasing appearance by helicopter. Flying overhead, they paused momentarily as if offering personal thanks and gratitude to the service members.

The event raised over $50,000.00 with proceeds from ticket sales and a silent auction benefitting various Hope For The Warriors™ programs. Hope For The Warriors™ recognizes sponsors of the event, Michael Stapleton Associates along with Plaza Construction, Chatham Imports, Big Blue Beer, Rockin’ Blue Band and a very special visit by Larry Trembley, and the Marine Tribute Bike.

Above and Beyond Professional Development Program

The Above and Beyond program assists wounded service members as they transition into the next phase of their career by providing them with the professional tools and one-on-one guidance to move beyond recovery and into a life of new prospects. The program focuses on the individual, providing guidance on career directions or further educational options.

Above and Beyond graduate David Booth, USA, explains how he benefitted from the program: "From my experience with the Above and Beyond program it has helped me to focus on my weak areas and help me set goals for success when I leave the military. The military was all I knew and I was concerned with not succeeding in the civilian sector. This program has given me the tools and mind set to set me up for success and help me plan for the future."

This professional development course is held in New York City at the Headquarters of Michael Stapleton and Associates, the corporate sponsor of the Above and Beyond Program.

Hope and Morale program

H4W’s Hope and Morale program has grown significantly as we seek to provide a break from the rigors of rehab and recovery for injured heroes. From nights out a game to golf outings and weekend trips to New York, this program has received an enthusiastic response from participants around the country. Read the details of one such outing below:

On July 18, Rangers Ball Park was more than a baseball field. It was a field of dreams for nineteen wounded service members transported by the FDNY VFW Post 12033. Upon arrival, the service members and their families were showered with Texas Rangers’ souvenirs and given a guided tour of the state-of-the-art facility. Coaches, managers and players of the Texas Rangers Ball Club greeted the honored guests, shaking hands and signing autographs.

As the opening ceremonies began, the wounded service members and their families, along with Hope For The Warriors™ staff and the FDNY volunteers, were escorted behind home plate and introduced to the entire stadium. The crowd rose to their feet as gratitude poured from their big Texan hearts. The baseball diamond seemed to sparkle.

“The day spent at Rangers Ball Park was a dream come true for these service members,” stated Robin Kelleher, Hope For The Warriors™ President and CEO. “The Texas Rangers Ball Club was simply amazing and we are so very appreciative of their generosity. Events like these restore hope and help these service members move forward, making a significant impact on their road to recovery.”
Spouse Scholarships

Hope For The Warriors™ presents bi-annual spouse scholarships that recognize spouses and caregivers of U.S. combat wounded as well as spouses of the fallen, post September 11, 2001. Each scholarship is in the amount of $5,000. Four awards are given - The Shannon Maxwell Award, The Bonnie Amos Award, The Karin Dickerson Award and The Robin Kelleher - New Beginnings Award, the last of which is awarded specifically to the spouse of a KIA.

“The purpose of the scholarships is to recognize and reward exceptional spouses and caregivers for their strength and resolve despite adversity and to aid in their continued education at a college or trade school as they assume critical roles in the financial well being of their loved ones,” states Kathi Delay, Hope For The Warriors™ Scholarship Director.

New in 2009: Family Support Programs

Hope For The Warriors™ recognizes the tireless devotion that families play through the recovery process. From financial and emotional support to long-term care, family members step in to provide whatever is needed, often with little thought for their personal needs. Over time, this selfless care giving can take a toll on the caregiver. This program offers encouragement and rewards for those devoted care givers who give of themselves in extended care of their loved one.

Funds were spent for childcare that supported family retreats. At these retreats guided by Chaplains at Brooke Army Medical Center, wounded warriors and their spouse had the opportunity to work on individual and family needs as well as their needs as a couple which are directly affected by the combat related injury and the life changes it brings.

Monies were also spent on essential needs for families as well as furniture and computers for caregivers whose children were severely injured and they are still at bedside caring for their needs.

2009 Scholarship Winners

The Robin Kelleher
New Beginnings Scholarship
Joyce Lindsey - Spring
Artis Henderson - Fall

The Shannon Maxwell Scholarship
Meaghan Long - Spring
Janice Gustafson - Fall

The Bonnie Amos Honorary Scholarship
Andrea Filipkowski - Spring
Jessica Hoffman - Fall

The Karin Dickerson Honorary Scholarship
Keyris Tamez - Spring
Christy Burkart - Fall

H4W goes national on the CFC! - #27800

Hope For The Warriors™ became a national non-profit in the Combined Federal Campaign Fund, the U.S. government’s fund-raising program. Designated “Best in America” by the Independent Charities of America, H4W rolled out a new ad campaign (below) and video, with staffers attending events across the country.

Who is this man and why is he smiling? He is A.J., a member of Team Hope For The Warriors™ and an Iraq war hero, and he’s smiling because he is completing the 2009 Bataan Memorial Death March. If a 26.2 mile grueling hike doesn’t sound like your idea of fun, keep in mind what it means to A.J. He is walking, and competing, and honoring, and, most importantly, achieving again despite setbacks from injuries received in Iraq. A.J. is smiling because he knows there is hope beyond recovery. That’s what Hope For The Warriors™ is all about.
Team Hope For The Warriors™ Scorecard

213 Team Members + 33 Races = $429,000 raised
(Bonus: First-ever Kayak and Sail Team Members in 2009!)

Atlanta 13.1 • Army Ten Miler • Beat the Heat 5K • Bermuda One-Two Yacht Race
Boston’s Run to Remember ½ Marathon • Colorada Relay • Columbus Half Marathon
Dismal Swamp Stomp Half Marathon • Eagleman 70.3 Triathlon • Everglades Challenge (Kayak)
Las Vegas Rock N’ Roll Marathon and ½ Marathon • Leatherneck 5K PAX NAS
Marine Corps Historic Half • Marine Corps Marathon • Naha Marathon - Japan • National Marathon Navesink 15K Challenge • ING New York Marathon • Northern Neck River Ride - 100 mi.
Northface Challenge • OBX Gateway Bank Marathon and ½ Marathon • Philadelphia Distance Run Philadelphia
Marathon Philadelphia ING Half Marathon
Phoenix Rock N’ Roll Marathon • Pittsburgh Marathon
San Antonio Rock ‘N Roll Marathon
San Diego Marathon • South Riding Triathlon
Virginia Beach Rock ‘N Roll Half Marathon
Walt Disney World Goofy Challenge
Yuengling Shamrock Marathon

Join The Team!

As a member of Team Hope For The Warriors™ you can run (or walk or bike or kayak or sail or ski…) the event of your choice and set your own fundraising goal. Funds help support our mission of Hope Beyond Recovery for all injured service members.

Your registration fee of $25 includes:
- Team race shirt and bag
- * Fundraising Tools
- * Team blog
- * Training tips


Run For The Warriors™ again wins Event of the Year

For the third year in a row, the Run For The Warriors™ won Onslow County, North Carolina’s Tourism Board’s Event of the Year Award. The Fourth Annual Run For The Warriors™ was a fantastic success with more than 2,200 athletes coming out to participate in our 10K, 5K and 1 mile events. Thanks to participants and our sponsors, Hope For The Warriors™ raised more than $107,000 in cash donations, plus an additional $45,000 of in-kind donations such as food and resources. It was a fabulous day, marked by sunshine and personal success stories.

Funds raised by Team Hope For The Warriors™ help to fund our injured heroes to compete in athletic events around the country. H4W sponsored Chris Ayres, Zack Briseno and Matt Bradford (above with Rudy Giuliani), along with 5 other injured heroes, to compete in The Firefighter Stephen Siller Tunnel To Towers Run in New York City. Bradford, a blind, double amputee, went on to complete the Marine Corps Marathon several weeks later.