Pride, Passion & Patriotism

WARRIOR FOUNDATION FREEDOM STATION®
Serving Military Heroes in Transition

ANNUAL REPORT 2014
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**Mission Statement**

Warrior Foundation~Freedom Station aims to be the leading force in assisting, honoring and supporting the military men and women who have so bravely served and sacrificed for our country. We are committed to supporting our warriors in a variety of ways, providing quality-of-life items, numerous support services and transitional housing designed to assist them and their families during recovery.

Warrior Foundation~Freedom Station assists four main groups of warriors: the seriously injured just returning home from war; those suffering from post-traumatic stress or traumatic brain injury; those undergoing physical or occupational therapy, and warriors who have been medically retired and remain in our community. To serve this last group in particular, Warrior Foundation~Freedom Station pioneered a new approach and opened Freedom Station - a unique recovery transition center and housing facility that provides injured warriors with the acclimation time, guidance and resources to successfully make the transition from military service to civilian life.
Warrior Foundation~Freedom Station has always been driven by the core values of pride, passion and patriotism. For the last decade, they have been at the heart and soul of everything we do for our injured warriors.

As Americans, we are unbelievably proud of our men and women in uniform. Those who volunteer to put themselves in harm’s way to serve our country represent a special breed indeed. Our nation is a worldwide symbol for freedom thanks to the courage and contributions of our Armed Forces, from Airmen and Coast Guard to Marines, Sailors and Soldiers. When our warriors return home injured, we welcome them with open arms, a shoulder to lean on and an outstretched hand – a reminder that their sacrifices will never be forgotten.

As they recover from injuries and adapt to new prosthetic arms and legs, veterans are often told the last thing they ever wanted to hear: that they can no longer be in the military as a result of their injuries. This is an extremely difficult time, fraught with fear, loss and uncertainty as to “what’s next.” It is at this critical juncture that a bridge must be built to ease the transition to civilian life, and that is exactly what Warrior Foundation~Freedom Station aims to do.

For over a decade, we have played an effective role in both physical and emotional recovery through our three program areas: quality of life items, support services and transitional housing. Whether we’re buying ultra light wheelchairs, delivering supplies to local military hospitals, arranging therapeutic outings, flying injured warriors home for Christmas, or moving a new resident into Freedom Station, one thing remains constant – we are determined to show our warriors the love, care and compassion that they have earned. No matter what struggles lay ahead, our warriors are never broken or defeated – they are still whole, and they are still heroes.

From our inception in 2004 and continuing through to this day, we are proud to be an all-volunteer organization. No one takes a salary so the maximum amount of dollars goes directly to our warriors. This fact reveals the selflessness and compassion of a dedicated team of people who willingly give of their time and talent every day for a cause steeped in meaning.

To all our volunteers, donors and supporters, we thank you for your pride, passion and patriotism. May God bless you and protect our great nation.

Sincerely,

Sandy Lehmkuhler
Founder & President
Warrior Foundation~Freedom Station
The Heroes We Serve

Warrior Foundation-Freedom Station assists four main groups of warriors:

• **The Seriously Injured**
  Our first group of warriors are the seriously injured who are returning home from war zones via medical evacuation (medevac) with immediate medical and emotional needs.

• **PTS and TBI**
  Our second group of warriors has suffered from exposure to improvised explosive device (IED) blasts, and they are now coping with the resulting post-traumatic stress and/or traumatic brain injury.

• **Physical and Occupational Therapy Patients**
  Our third group of warriors has been undergoing physical and/or occupational therapy for two to four years or longer at military medical facilities.

• **Medically Retired Warriors**
  Our fourth group represents warriors who have been medically retired and remain in our community. We want to keep these great citizens in the San Diego area, where we can continue to support them as they transition back to civilian life. Freedom Station residents are either active duty or recently medically retired military personnel who have sustained injuries in Iraq or Afghanistan and currently receive medical treatment at local medical facilities.
Warrior Foundation~Freedom Station in Action

Warrior Foundation~Freedom Station serves the needs of injured warriors via our three primary programs:

**Quality of Life Items**

We provide a wide variety of supplies that improve quality of life and provided added comfort to injured service members during recovery, including:

* Ultra light wheelchairs
* Modified combat boots with built-in zippers to accommodate prosthetic limbs
* iPads with specialized programs and applications for those with traumatic brain injury
* Electric razors that facilitate shaving for amputees
* Special sunglasses for those who sustain detached retina injuries and sensitivity to light after IED blasts
* High quality pillows, pillow cases, blankets and bath towels for the hospital
* Pallets of bottled water and food items
Support Services
We provide numerous support services that positively impact the lives of warriors and their families. Highlights of our services program include:

* **Emergency Response** - We provide airfare, hotel rooms and rental cars for families of seriously injured warriors who are returning home from war zones. We handle these financial and logistical needs so families can simply focus on their warrior’s recovery.

* **Home for the Holidays** – Every year, we purchase hundreds of plane tickets to fly injured warriors home for Christmas. For a warrior who has been confined to a hospital, there is no greater source of joy than to wake up in his or her own bed on Christmas morning.

* **Recreational Activities** – We organize recreational outings, such as fishing trips, golf and baseball games, that get warriors out of the hospital and provide them with the camaraderie of being among fellow service members.

* **Therapeutic Programs** – We provide funding for the Wolfpack, the only wheelchair basketball team in the United States comprised of active duty and veteran service members who have sustained an amputation, spinal cord injury or other orthopedic or neurological disorder. The program originated at Naval Medical Center San Diego.

* **Career Support** – We provide educational and career guidance that prepares warriors for the civilian world. From choosing colleges and job opportunities to résumé assistance and suit shopping, we give our warriors the best chance for future success.

* **Vocational Projects** – We fund vocational projects that help injured warriors prove they’re still capable of doing what they love to do.
Transitional Housing

In 2011, Warrior Foundation pioneered a new approach and opened Freedom Station, a transitional housing complex located near Naval Medical Center San Diego. Freedom Station creates a transitional period for acclimating to civilian life and also serves as a “training ground” for challenges ranging from new careers and college entry to monthly budgeting and home buying.
A train station is where people go to begin a journey, or change direction. Freedom Station is a place where injured warriors make the critical transition from military service to civilian life.

The day that a Marine, soldier or sailor is told he can no longer be in the military as a result of his or her injuries is a very hard day. This particular group of warriors often enter a period fraught with fear, uncertainty and self-doubt as they await their medical retirement. It is during this critical transition that many veterans fall through the cracks and are at risk of homelessness or joblessness.

“While they may not be in a war zone anymore, our injured servicemen and women face new challenges when they return home – the often untold story of coping with injuries, rehabilitation and a transition to civilian life. Freedom Station is a recovery transition center that serves as the “missing link” to proactively combat veteran homelessness and joblessness.”

- Sandy Lehmkuhler
Founder
Warrior Foundation-Freedom Station
The Missing Link: Freedom Station

Freedom Station is a 12-unit housing complex and recovery transition center that provides warriors with a supportive environment for acclimating to civilian life and also serves as a “training ground” for challenges ranging from new careers and college entry to monthly budgeting and home buying. Warriors feel the camaraderie that is so crucial during the transition period as they recover among their peers, and know they are supported by others who understand firsthand the harsh realities of war.

Each unit is fully furnished and move-in ready, stocked with everything from basic cleaning supplies to place settings on each dining table. Prior to opening the facility, a significant amount of capital was invested into making necessary modifications, such as installing wheelchair-accessible ramps and converting several of the apartments to be ADA-compliant.
What Makes Freedom Station Unique?

While other military housing and transitional facilities exist in the country, there are two key ways in which Freedom Station differs, which have ultimately led to our success.

1) Timing the Transition: Most military housing facilities work with service members after they have already been discharged from the military and are already having trouble. Freedom Station understands that the transition needs to take place before a military member leaves the service, giving them the necessary time to acclimate. Residents are allowed to move in to Freedom Station approximately four months before they are scheduled to receive their DD214 (Department of Defense Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty). They will typically stay at Freedom Station for up to seven months after receiving their DD214 discharge papers, resulting in an average stay of 11 months.

2) A hand up, not a handout: Freedom Station prepares residents for real-world civilian challenges. One of the most vital is having monthly expenses and taking care of those responsibilities. In addition to paying rent, they have utilities to manage, groceries and more. Many military housing facilities are free and do not charge their residents any rent – an unrealistic preparation for real-world living. Although Freedom Station pays the lease on the property every month, residents pay a small amount of rent and are taught how to save and begin to move on.
Success Stories – Journey to a New Life

Journey to a New Life.

Freedom Station measures the success of our program by our residents’ ability to demonstrate a successful transition from military to civilian life and engagement in society as self-sufficient, productive and contributing citizens. Several of the key factors used to measure a resident’s success are: finding and maintaining employment; enrolling in college or a vocational school; establishing and maintaining healthy relationships; and finding long-term independent housing after leaving Freedom Station.

100% of our residents have gone on to become productive civilian members of society who make us proud each and every day. Freedom Station ‘graduates’ have been accepted to higher education institutions, established fulfilling careers with top businesses, gotten married and started families. As evidenced by these success stories, the existence of a supportive transitional environment for our military men and women can make all the difference as they begin a new journey outside the service.

“Warrior Foundation-Freedom Station means a lot to me, and I am blessed and honored to be part of this great organization. Every Christmas, they left a goody bag by my bed to let me know that I was not forgotten. When it came time to transition, I learned about Freedom Station. The wonderful people at WFFS moved me in, and little did I know how big of a blessing it would be. The board members, volunteers and everyone involved go above and beyond to help service members and make sure we are taken care of. From decorating the barracks for Christmas and flying warriors home for the holidays, to supporting the Wolfpack wheelchair basketball team at Naval Medical Center San Diego, Warrior Foundation has touched the lives of as many injured warriors as they can. I know that I cannot begin to express how grateful I am to all who make this possible. Thank you for helping me in my time of need and enabling me to begin my transition one day at a time.”

- Hospital Corpsman Junior Rodriguez, USN (ret.)
“Thank you for the fishing trip! It was a blast. I needed to be out on the water more than I knew. It was so therapeutic and revitalizing. Everyone was really cool, the crew was awesome, and the cook was amazing. Thank you for all you do!”
- Chad Lee Hosch, U.S. Army (ret.)

“When I was told that I was not fit for active duty anymore, I wasn’t sure what I was going to do. There was always the option to return home to Los Angeles, but what good would that be if I didn’t have a solid support system? The staff and volunteers have been the bedrock of my transition. They will set aside the things they’re doing at the moment to make sure the warriors are taken care of. Not only does Warrior Foundation help direct me down the right path during my transition, they also provide a great environment for me to pursue my degree and my passion to surf. Knowing that I have amazing people on my side makes a world of difference!”
- Sgt. Bronson Mak, USMC (ret.)

“What I want people to learn from my experience is how special we are as a nation - where our warriors can go out and defend our country, our way of living and our freedom - and if they are so unfortunate as to suffer various injuries as I and many Marines, soldiers, sailors and Airmen have, that we’re not coming home to an empty hand. We have groups like Warrior Foundation-Freedom Station that are ready to be there, to meet guys on that dark path, to act as lamplighters, to help share that burden and that load. It’s been such a tremendous outpouring of support coming back from the get go that has really encouraged me and enabled me to climb Mount Kilimanjaro a year and a half after injury. I became the first bomb tech in the Dept. of Defense that lost both legs to return to work. All these things have been nurtured and encouraged and fueled by the support of the community and groups like Warrior Foundation-Freedom Station. They just have our back and show that great things are still possible.”
- Sgt. Mark Zambon, USMC (ret.)

“My journey in the military was an amazing experience filled with both victories and hardships. When you serve, you understand the risks you signed up for, but you can never prepare yourself for how much injuries will change your life. Through it all, Warrior Foundation-Freedom Station has been like a second family to me. The daunting process of recovering and transitioning to civilian life was so much easier thanks to the existence of a place like Freedom Station. This model and this philosophy works – it has helped me and countless fellow warriors to transition in a positive way, with a caring and compassionate support system that is always there.”
- Sgt. Povas Miknaitis, USMC (ret.)
Warrior Foundation~Freedom Station relies predominantly on the generosity of corporate and individual donors to fund our mission objectives. To protect these objectives for the near term, the foundation endeavors to maintain a conservative financial position and to keep liquid assets on hand of approximate value to satisfy our mortgage obligation(s) and one year of operating expenses. This helps protect our warriors’ interests even in times of economic downturn.

### Financial Highlights – Year Ended December 31, 2014 & 2013

**Statement of Financial Position**

At December 31, 2014
(With Comparative Totals for 2013)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$2,397,786</td>
<td>$1,942,647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations and receivables</td>
<td>$24,929</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>1,437,051</td>
<td>184,164</td>
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<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted investments</td>
<td>60,775</td>
<td>892,468</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other assets</td>
<td>68,953</td>
<td>57,548</td>
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<tr>
<td>Property and equipment, net</td>
<td>1,902,870</td>
<td>1,931,325</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,892,364</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,008,152</strong></td>
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</table>

**LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities:</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
<td>$21,140</td>
<td>$8,505</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accrued expenses and other</td>
<td>10,128</td>
<td>7,465</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mortgage note payable</td>
<td>1,154,071</td>
<td>1,198,626</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,185,339</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,214,596</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>$4,646,250</td>
<td>$2,901,088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted</td>
<td>60,775</td>
<td>892,468</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,892,364</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,008,152</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets**

For the year ended December 31, 2014
(With Comparative Totals for 2013)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenues:</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net support from special events</td>
<td>$260,409</td>
<td>–</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>1,228,719</td>
<td>2,789,226*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donated services</td>
<td>105,750</td>
<td>105,750</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest and dividend income</td>
<td>65,303</td>
<td>65,303</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net realized and unrealized (losses) gains on investments</td>
<td>(17,423)</td>
<td>(17,423)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental income</td>
<td>89,219</td>
<td>89,219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (loss) income</td>
<td>(5,067)</td>
<td>(5,067)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets released from use restrictions</td>
<td>831,693</td>
<td>(831,693)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total revenues</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,558,603</strong></td>
<td><strong>(831,693)</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses:</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program services</td>
<td>$704,025</td>
<td>$704,025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and general</td>
<td>63,466</td>
<td>63,466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising and development</td>
<td>45,950</td>
<td>45,950</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>813,441</strong></td>
<td><strong>813,441</strong></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Change in net assets</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net assets, beginning of year</td>
<td>$2,901,088</td>
<td>$892,468</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total net assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,646,250</strong></td>
<td><strong>$60,775</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Net assets, end of year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net assets, end of year</td>
<td>$4,707,025</td>
<td>$3,793,556</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Contributions in 2013 include a one-time donation of assets from San Diego Council, Navy League of the United States of $1,682,337.
Financial Highlights

Program spending increased 16% in 2014 over 2013.

Less than 4% of revenue was spent on Management/General and Fundraising Development expenses.

Fiscal Year 2014 Program Spending = $704,025
Thank You to Our Supporters!

* American Shooting Center
* Bay Equity Home Loans
* BB&T Insurance Services
* Bill Howe
* Blue Angels Foundation
* Bridgepoint Education
* Camp Pendleton Armed Services YMCA
* Capital Edge Consulting
* Coldwell Banker
* Corvus Business Solutions, LLC
* Cox Communications
* Creative Plastic Printing & Die Cutting
* Ed Hanson’s Muffler Service
* Evolution Home Theatre
* Flippin’ Pizza
* Furnishing Hope
* Gary Sinise Foundation
* Hauff Sports
* Hawthorne Cat
* Home Depot
* International Gun Supply
* Jack in the Box
* Jeff Gray, DDS
* Jim Bates Watercolors
* Jos. A. Bank
* KFMB Radio
* La Mesa RV
* Lennar Charitable Housing Foundation
* Mintz Levin
* Mor Furniture for Less
* Newman Windows
* North Coast Medical
* Orange County HOG Chapter
* Over the Hill Gang
* PCL Construction
* Pearson Dental
* PKF
* Postal Annex
* Rapid Transmission
* Rebuilding Together
* Reno Contracting
* San Diego Panteras Club, Inc.
* San Diego Toyota Dealers Association
* Southern California Trades Association
* Studio Diner
* Tee It Up for the Troops, Inc.
* The Frank M. and Gertrude R. Doyle Foundation
* The Marine Group Boat Works
* Turner Construction Company
* Unicorn Jewelry
* Viejas Casino & Resort
* VinDiego
* Walters Management
* Watermark Home Loans
* Wyle Aerospace
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sandy Lehmkuhler</td>
<td>Co-Founder, President and Board Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commander Jim Bedinger</td>
<td>Co-Founder and Board Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craig Blanke</td>
<td>Board Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ed Hanson</td>
<td>Board Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congressman Duncan Hunter Sr.</td>
<td>Honorary Board Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharron LaHaye</td>
<td>Board Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Lehmkuhler</td>
<td>Board Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ken Lowe</td>
<td>Treasurer and Board Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evelyn McCormick</td>
<td>Secretary and Board Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juliana Mercer</td>
<td>Board Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joan Mitchell</td>
<td>Board Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandy Moul</td>
<td>Communications Chair and Board Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guy Riddle</td>
<td>Board Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glenna Schmidt</td>
<td>Vice President and Board Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judy Sexton</td>
<td>COO and Board Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rocky Sheng</td>
<td>Board Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Slater</td>
<td>Honorary Board Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victor Tambone</td>
<td>East Coast Representative and Board Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shawn Cheney</td>
<td>Honorary Military Liaison, Wounded Warrior Detachment, Naval Medical Center San Diego</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>