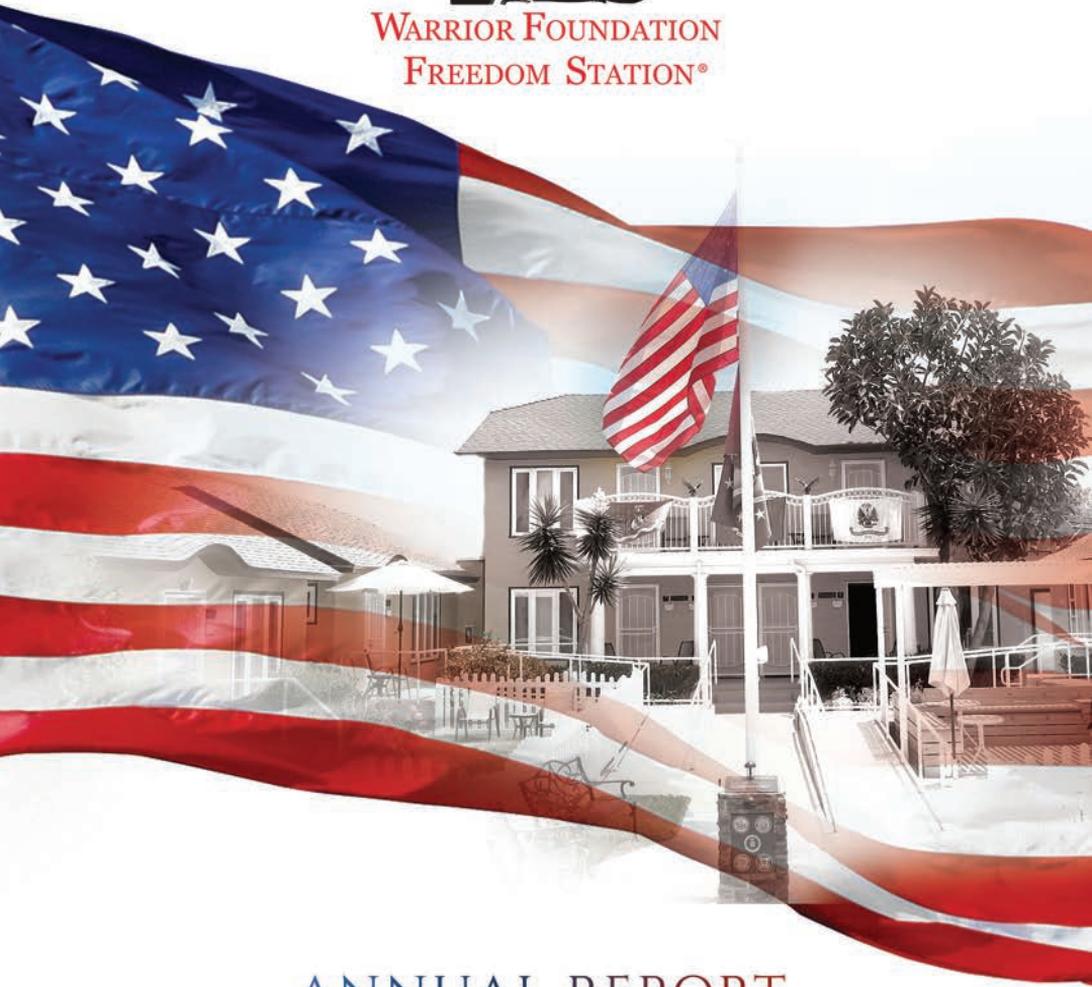




WARRIOR FOUNDATION
FREEDOM STATION®



ANNUAL REPORT
2017

WWW.WARRIORFOUNDATION.ORG

TABLE OF CONTENTS

4 About Us

5 President's Message

7 The Heroes We Serve

9 Our Programs

Quality-of-Life Items

Support Services

Transitional Housing: Freedom Station

Looking Ahead: Freedom Station II

22 Financial Highlights

26 Success Stories

30 Our Supporters

31 Board of Directors

PRIDE, PASSION
and PATRIOTISM



ABOUT US

Founded in 2004, Warrior Foundation-Freedom Station aims to be the leading force in assisting, honoring and supporting the military men and women who have bravely served and sacrificed for our country. We are committed to supporting our warriors with quality-of-life items, support services and transitional housing designed to assist them and their families during recovery. Warrior Foundation-Freedom Station is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization proudly operated by an all-volunteer staff.

PRIDE, PASSION
and PATRIOTISM

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Since our inception in 2004, Warrior Foundation-Freedom Station has carried out our work on behalf of America's injured warriors with pride, passion and patriotism. Those are three words that we truly take to heart to every day: pride in the measurable difference we are making in veterans' lives, passion for the process of helping our heroes realize they are just as whole and valuable as they were before their injuries, and patriotism for the greatest nation in the world and those who fight to preserve our precious freedoms.



2017 has been another incredible year filled with memorable accomplishments. Each day, we are privileged to witness the incredible individual journey of each warrior that is served by our foundation. I cannot put into words how it feels to help a Marine purchase his first suit for a job interview, watch a sailor lace up modified service boots that accommodate his lower limb injuries, or cheer on the Wolfpack wheelchair basketball team as they play with a spirit and grit unrivaled by any other athletes in the world.

Perhaps the most powerful journeys we witness are those of our Freedom Station residents, as they make the transition from military service to civilian life. It is incredible to watch the transformation that happens when they live independently, yet remain incredibly supported by their peers and the WFFS team. The challenges and uncertainties of the past slowly give way to a newfound confidence and excitement about the future. My immense gratitude goes to our hardworking board of directors, volunteers and supporters for their incredible contributions. Together, we will continue to show our warriors the same incredible love and devotion that they gave to us with their service and sacrifice.

Sincerely,
Sandy Lehmkuhler
Founder and President
Warrior Foundation-Freedom Station



THE HEROES WE SERVE

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

- The seriously injured returning home from war with immediate medical and emotional needs;
- Those suffering from post-traumatic stress (PTS) or traumatic brain injury (TBI);
- Physical and occupational therapy patients who are recovering and/or receiving care at military medical facilities;
- Transitioning warriors who are medically retiring and transitioning to civilian life.



OUR PROGRAMS: QUALITY-OF-LIFE ITEMS

Warrior Foundation-Freedom Station serves the needs of injured warriors via our three primary program areas: quality-of-life items, support services and transitional housing.

Quality-of-Life Items

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

- Ultra light wheelchairs
- Hiking boots and service boots for warriors with lower limb injuries and ExoSymbiont leg braces
- Modified combat boots with built-in zippers to accommodate prosthetic limbs
- iPads with specialized applications for those with PTS and TBI
- High quality pillows, pillow cases, blankets and bath towels for the hospital
- Pallets of bottled water and food items

In Appreciation for All that You Have Done
The Warrior Foundation - Freedom Station
is Honoring Active Duty Personnel by
Flying You Home for the Holidays!
God Bless Our Troops and Those Who Love Them

Available Only While Attached to Wounded Warrior Battalion West, or Medical Transition Company as an ill or injured warrior (Staff not included).
 Please Note: Once Approved by Your Command, The Armed Services YMCA will help you book your flight. This ticket is being provided as a gift from Warrior Foundation Freedom Station and all of our donors.
 Good 11/2016 through 4/2017



OUR PROGRAMS: SUPPORT SERVICES

We provide numerous support services that positively impact the lives of warriors and their families, including:

- **Recreational Activities** – outings such as fishing trips, golf, biking and baseball games 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 all-military wheelchair basketball team in the United States. The Wolfpack is comprised of active duty and veteran service members who have sustained an amputation, spinal cord injury or other orthopedic or neurological disorder.
- **Career Support** – educational and career guidance includes assistance with college selection, scholarship applications, internships, job opportunities and résumé assistance.
- **Vocational Projects** – vocational projects help injured warriors prove they're still capable, from motorcycle and automotive builds to videography programs.
- **Home for the Holidays** – WFFS annually purchases hundreds of plane tickets to fly injured warriors home for Christmas.
- **Travel Support** – we provide airfare, hotel rooms and rental cars for the visiting families of seriously injured warriors.



Blessed
08-16-15

1219

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING: FREEDOM STATION

The Missing Link: Freedom Station

When Freedom Station opened its doors in 2011, it became the first transitional housing facility of its kind in the San Diego region - a place for healing, personal growth and preparation for the transition to civilian life.

Each of the charming cottages and apartments is fully furnished, move-in ready and stocked with basic household necessities. The idea was to shift warriors from a “barracks mentality” to independent living. The central courtyard and interconnected spaces offer warriors the sense of camaraderie that is so crucial during the transition period. They recover among their peers, share war stories, and know they are supported by others experiencing the same transition.

How does Freedom Station differ from other military housing and transitional facilities?

We are proud of our approach in providing a hand up, not a handout. Many military housing facilities are free and do not charge their residents any rent – an unrealistic preparation for real-world living. Freedom Station residents pay reduced rent so they can learn how to save, budget and become financially responsible.

Most military housing facilities also work with service members after they have already been discharged from the military. Freedom Station moves warriors in *before* they leave the service, giving them the necessary time to acclimate.











LOOKING AHEAD: FREEDOM STATION II

The Need Remains: Bringing Freedom Station II to Life

As evidenced by dozens of Freedom Station success stories, the existence of a supportive transitional environment for ill and injured warriors can make the difference as they begin a new journey outside the service. Today, San Diego remains home to one of the largest military populations in the world.

Warrior Foundation-Freedom Station has made it our goal to open a second Freedom Station location by 2019, as part of our continuing mission to help San Diego's warriors successfully transition from military service to civilian life. We are currently in the process of identifying and visiting potential properties that offer a similar layout to Freedom Station, including connected open spaces and cottage-style individual units. Like the existing model, the location will be selected to facilitate access to Naval Medical Center San Diego, one of the nation's largest military hospitals and leading centers for amputee care.





FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS: STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

At December 31, 2017
(With Comparative Totals for 2016)

	2017	2016
ASSETS		
Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$2,569,145	\$1,816,797
Donations receivable	50,573	16,957
Investments	4,107,336	3,379,276
Other assets	52,688	63,189
Property and equipment, net	1,989,358	1,926,028
TOTAL ASSETS	\$8,769,100	\$7,202,247
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$12,829	\$24,166
Accrued expenses and other	9,689	12,941
Mortgage note payable	1,010,501	1,060,124
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,033,019	1,097,231
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted:		
Undesignated	\$6,580,659	\$4,966,651
Board designated	1,014,386	1,063,365
	7,595,045	6,030,016
Temporarily restricted	141,036	75,000
Total net assets	7,736,081	6,105,016
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$8,769,100	\$7,202,247

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS:

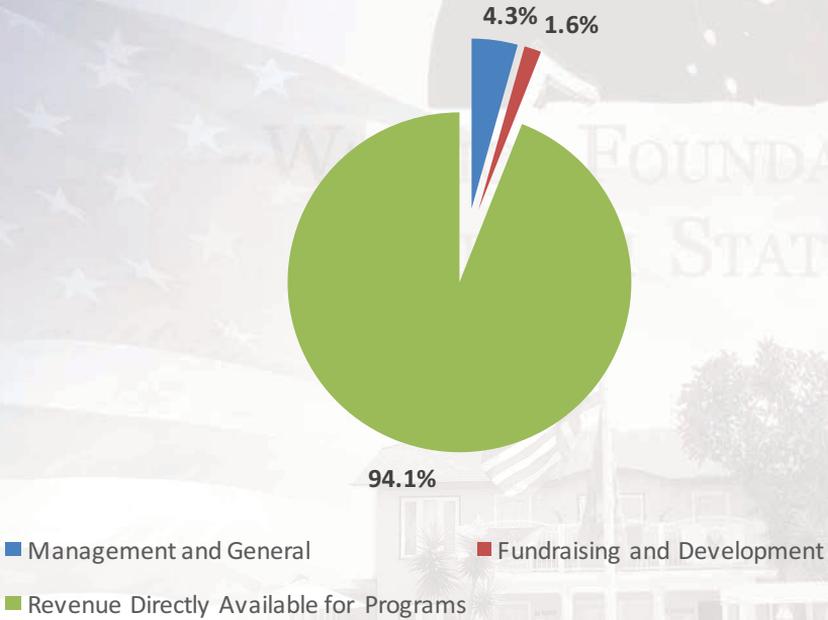
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES & CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

For the year ended December 31, 2017
(With Comparative Totals for 2016)

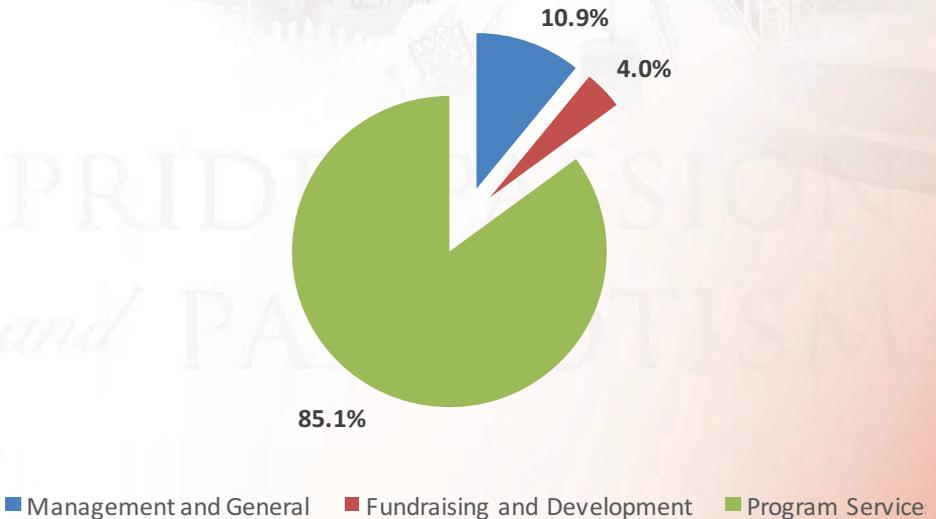
	2017			2016
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total	Total
Revenues:				
Net support from special events	\$160,347	\$-	\$160,347	\$417,376
Contributions and grants	1,933,952	223,842	2,157,794	1,051,175
Donated services	108,000	-	108,000	126,000
Interest and dividend income	119,552	-	119,552	105,630
Net realized and unrealized gain on investments, net	54,132	-	54,132	74,368
Rental income	96,900	-	96,900	97,500
Other income	15,035	-	15,035	76,030
Net assets released from use restrictions	157,806	(157,806)	-	0
Total revenues	2,645,724	66,036	2,711,760	1,948,079
Expenses:				
Program services	\$919,895	\$-	\$919,895	\$1,001,801
Management and general	117,369	-	117,369	92,575
Fundraising and development	43,431	-	43,431	52,092
Total expenses	1,080,695	-	1,080,695	1,146,468
Change in net assets	1,565,029	66,036	1,631,065	801,611
Net assets, beginning of year	6,030,016	75,000	6,105,016	5,303,405
Net assets, end of year	\$7,595,045	\$141,036	\$7,736,081	6,105,016

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS:

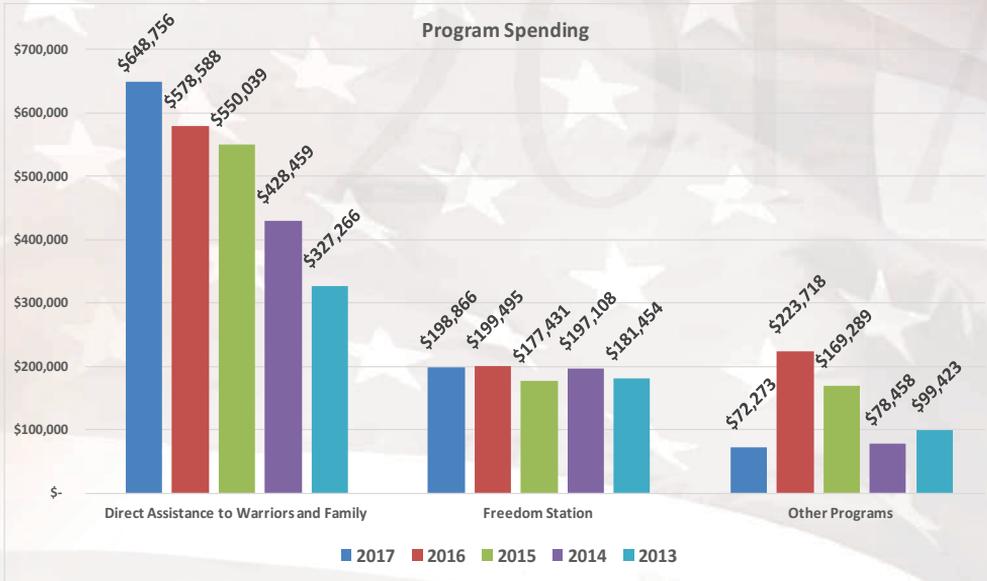
2017 Management and General/ Fundraising and Development Expenses as % of Revenue



2017 Statement of Expenses



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS: PROGRAM SPENDING



	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Direct Assistance to Warriors and Family	\$648,756	\$578,588	\$550,039	\$428,459	\$327,266
Freedom Station	\$198,866	\$199,495	\$177,431	\$197,108	\$181,454
Other Programs	\$72,273	\$223,718	\$169,289	\$78,458	\$99,423
Total Program Services Expenses	\$919,895	\$1,001,801	\$896,759	\$704,025	\$608,144
Management General & Fundraising Expenses	\$160,800	\$144,667	\$133,970	\$109,416	\$112,626
Total Expenses	\$1,080,695	\$1,146,468	\$1,030,729	\$813,441	\$720,770

SUCCESS STORIES

“Warrior Foundation-Freedom Station has given me the opportunity to start over after military service and begin my next chapter as a civilian. When I had to move to San Diego for a job opportunity, WFFS was there to provide assistance and a place to live to settle into the San Diego community. As part of the Wolfpack wheelchair basketball team, WFFS has given us the opportunity to travel and be part of a team that understands my disabilities without judgment.”

CHIEF PETTY OFFICER HECTOR VARELA
U.S. Navy (ret.)



SUCCESS STORIES

“Warrior Foundation has been a source of positivity and support since I was a patient at Naval Medical Center San Diego for injuries from my tour in Iraq. Warrior Foundation volunteers decorated the hospital rooms and barracks during the holiday time, making the holidays more meaningful. As I recovered from my injuries, Warrior Foundation sent me home for Christmas to visit my family. When I recovered and continued in the Marine Corps, Warrior Foundation adapted boots for my prosthetic, allowing me to wear my uniform. When I was medically retired from the Marine Corps, Warrior Foundation was willing to help me adapt the uniforms and equipment I needed for my future career.

Freedom Station gave me a safe place to reestablish my life. Knowing that there is a basic connection with the other residents of Freedom Station, through our service and injuries, gives me the ability to relax in a way I couldn't in an apartment in the city. Warrior Foundation helped me to grow past my injuries and Freedom Station is allowing me a safe place to return to the civilian world. I am thankful for Warrior Foundation-Freedom Station and their volunteers.”

CHRISTOPHER LAWRENCE

U.S. Marine Corps (ret.)



SUCCESS STORIES

“I have been in my IDEO brace for about two years now, and it still has a huge impact on my life, allowing me to stay on active duty and pass my physical fitness tests. Every new doctor I get asks, ‘Are you sure you want to stay in?’ I reply yes - I’m not done yet and my injury’s not going to stop me, so they approve my use of the brace. I’ve showed them I can work just as hard or harder than my peers, even with a significant injury.

I am currently in the Middle East serving a 12-month tour, and the captain of medical was absolutely shocked to see me out here with my brace and leg. I told him I’ll prove I can do the job if he lets me stay, so he did - I have not and will not let him down. Before this tour, I was in San Diego for a few years undergoing two reconstructive surgeries and the best therapy at Naval Medical Center San Diego’s C5 unit. As for the Warrior Foundation and Dian Self, two words: absolutely amazing! When I finally received my brace, I was welcomed by the Warrior Foundation with open arms.

I was able to hike again thanks to the boots and hiking gear they bought for all the IDEO patients; we would go hiking every Thursday thanks to Warrior Foundation. And they are still blessing me with care packages while I’m out here in the Middle East. I would just like to thank everyone that has helped and impacted my life in this ongoing process, and I’ll still keep pushing to not let you guys down.”

PETTY OFFICER CHRIS LUNA

U.S. Navy



SUCCESS STORIES

“I encountered a major snag when my car’s engine blew while driving. I knew it was bad, but I wasn’t expecting it to be terrible. When the shop got back to me with what the cost was going to be, I thought it would take me forever to get it out of the shop. I was surprised when Warrior Foundation-Freedom Station reached out to me, asked what the balance, and took care of it the SAME DAY! The amount of stress they took off of me cannot be put into words. They are truly the real heroes and definitely do not get enough recognition for what they do! I thank everyone who works with and donates to this AMAZING organization profoundly! You ALL are the reason the Warrior Foundation can help so many veterans daily!”

ZACH BLAIR

U.S. Marine Corps (ret.)



THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

- Bay Equity Home Loans
- BB&T Insurance Services
- Betz Concrete Inc.
- Bill Howe Plumbing
- Blue Angels Foundation
- Bridgepoint Education
- Camp Pendleton Armed Services YMCA
- Center for Car Donations
- Coca-Cola
- Corvus Business Solutions, LLC
- Cox Communications
- Creative Plastic Printing & Die Cutting
- E&S Construction
- Enterprise Car Rental
- Furnishing Hope
- Gary Sinise Foundation
- Hauff Sports
- Home Depot
- Jack in the Box
- Jeff Gray, DDS
- Jim Bates Watercolors
- Jos. A. Bank
- Julian Post 468 Sons of the American Legion
- Keith Vance, CPA
- KFMB Radio
- Lake Elsinore Bass Club
- Latus Motors Harley-Davidson of Eugene
- McCarthy Building Companies, Inc.
- Mor Furniture for Less
- MSE Landscape
- Newman Windows
- Orange County HOG Chapter
- Orange County Harley-Davidson
- Over the Hill Gang
- Pearson Dental
- PB Printing
- Poway Weapons and Gear
- Rapid Transmission
- Reno Contracting
- Rotary Club of Coronado
- R.J. Belle
- San Diego Parrot Head Club
- San Diego Quilt Association
- San Diego Toyota Dealers Association
- Southern California Purchasing Council
- Southern California Trades Association
- STM Bags
- Studio Diner
- Tee It Up for the Troops, Inc.
- The Frank M. and Gertrude R. Doyle Foundation
- The Marine Group Boat Works
- Walters Management
- Wells Fargo
- Zodiac

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

Sandy Lehmkuhler	President and Co-Founder
Mike Seymour	Vice President
Judy Sexton	COO
Tom Janecek	Treasurer
Martha Self	Secretary
Jim Bedinger	Board Member and Co-Founder
Craig Blanke	Board Member
Ed Hanson	Board Member
Duncan H. Hunter	Honorary Board Member
Sharron LaHaye	Board Member
Brian Lehmkuhler	Board Member
Juliana Mercer	Board Member and Special Events Chair
Sandy Moul	Board Member and Communications Chair
Guy Riddle	Board Member
Dian Self	Board Member
Mike Slater	Honorary Board Member
Rocky Sheng	Board Member
Mark Stuart	Board Member
Vic Tambone	Board Member
Larry West	Board Member
Shawn Cheney	Military Liaison, Naval Medical Center San Diego

A very special thank you to Dian Self for capturing the work of Warrior Foundation-Freedom Station and supplying the majority of photographs in the annual report.



WARRIOR FOUNDATION
FREEDOM STATION®



WARRIOR FOUNDATION
FREEDOM STATION®

1223 ½ 28th Street, Suite A
San Diego, CA 92102

WWW.WARRIORFOUNDATION.ORG

PRIDE, PASSION
and PATRIOTISM