

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



Because every Veteran deserves a proper 'welcome home.'



WELCOME HOME
A COMMUNITY FOR VETERANS

Honoring Veterans — Restoring Lives

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COLUMBIA, MO 65201
(573) 443-8001
WELCOMEVETERANS.ORG





WELCOME HOME

A COMMUNITY FOR VETERANS

MISSION

Welcome Home works to *honor* Veterans
and *restore* lives.

VISION

To *end* Veteran homelessness.

VALUES

Serve with *Compassion*. Serve with *Honor*.
Serve with *Excellence*.

A LETTER FROM WELCOME HOME'S 2022 BOARD PRESIDENT

As we look back on what the year of 2021 meant to Welcome Home, it isn't difficult at all to recognize the **pure abundance of blessings** bestowed on this great organization. However, we also recognize those blessings do not come easy and they are certainly not taken for granted. We know **it is only with the total unwavering support of this community and our top-notch team**, that Welcome Home continues to thrive and our mission becomes ever more solid!

The health and well-being of our nation's Veterans always has been, and always will be, the number one priority of Welcome Home. With the lingering of a few challenges brought on by the world-wide Covid-19 pandemic, our staff remained vigilant in maintaining the safest environments for those precious Veterans we care for. That meant continuing to think outside the box with how we operated during yet another year of allowing very limited on-site volunteers. It meant going over and over plans for fundraising events to be absolutely certain we took the utmost safety precautions so that we could **relentlessly pursue the mission in a way that would keep our community safe**, as well. With all of that said, we are very proud to report that Welcome Home served 342 Veterans and their family members in 2021 through our programs and wrap-around services! 91% of Veterans transitioned to or maintained independent housing within 30 days of enrollment in one of our key programs – Permanent Housing Program! 75% of underemployed or unemployed Veterans who enrolled in our VETS Work program gained employment, too! These are real numbers. **These are real people**. These are real results, and this is real proof of the life changing difference Welcome Home is making on the shoulders of our passionate team and this truly special community!

While we are tremendously excited and proud of all we are able to accomplish, and at the risk of a slightly somber tone, I'd like to take a moment to express *why* Welcome Home's mission is so important - to honor Veterans and restore lives. *Why* we are so passionate about taking care of our nation's Veterans. There is a reason why the rate of homelessness among our nation's Veterans is so high. They are called to duty to protect US. **They don't even know us, but are willing to put their lives on the line to fight for us**. Many of us can't comprehend the toll their sacrifices take on their lives, their families, their bodies, and their minds. Freedom isn't free. I recently ran across a poem by Michael Anderson titled "Where Broken Soldiers Go" and paraphrasing it, Anderson says our nation calls these soldiers to duty and they unite as one. Sent off to war, celebrating victories, mourning great loss. "Freedom is paid at a terrible cost." Tragically, that cost is too often the lives of our brave soldiers, but second only to loss of life is the tragic loss of physical and mental abilities. Anderson goes on to say, "With devastating effects, that leave permanent scars. Shattered lives of men, what a devastating blow! Is there a place where broken soldiers go?" Well, I am here to tell you there absolutely is a place – and that place is Welcome Home. That place is Welcome Home, because Welcome Home works! **That place is Welcome Home because we refuse to leave these heroes behind**. That place is Welcome Home because of you, and your unwavering support!

We're approaching the halfway mark of 2022 already, and we couldn't be more excited to be planning the celebration of our 30-year anniversary this year! 30 years since our founders bought the first shelter for our Veterans to call 'home' while getting back on their feet. That's a lot of lives restored, and we feel that our momentum is growing at a faster pace now than ever before. **We've had 30 years of tremendous blessings and we're not about to let up now.**

So, to those of you who supported Welcome Home in 2021 in any way – whether it is through volunteering, financial contributions, hosting fundraising events or helping raise awareness – **we are immeasurably grateful to you and would be honored by your continued support.**

All the best,

Jenny Lorenz-Rudkin

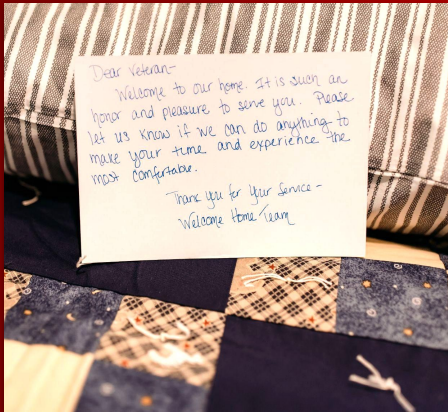
Jenny Lorenz-Rudkin

**First female Board President in Welcome Home's history*

"We've had 30 years of tremendous blessings and we're not about to let up now."

KEY PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

All support and wrap-around services are customized to meet the needs and goals of each individual Veteran, including intensive case management, advocacy, and an opportunity to build a greater quality of life.



Emergency & Transitional Shelter

32 private rooms (34 beds) for literally homeless Veterans & families, including a separate corridor for our female Veterans.



Permanent Housing

Supportive services to at-risk Veterans to help secure or sustain permanent, affordable housing options.



VETS Work

Job readiness training and direct support to help unemployed or underemployed Veterans find and keep meaningful employment.

If you know of a Veteran in need of assistance, please call 573-443-8001 or email at info@welcomeveterans.org.

2021

IMPACT & OUTCOMES

more than just stats



100%

Veterans served
with Honor,
Compassion, &
Excellence

75%

Veterans
enrolled in VETS
Work secured
employment

45

Number of
Veterans served
in VETS Work

342

Veterans and family
members served through a
combination of Welcome
Home programs and
services

10,212

Bed nights
provided

30,660

Balanced meals
served

60%

Homeless Veterans
transitioned from
shelter to
independent,
permanent housing

100 DAYS

Number of days
enrolled before
successfully
transitioning

91%

Permanent Housing
Veteran participants
transitioned to
independent,
permanent housing

28 DAYS

Number of days
enrolled before
successfully
transitioning

Impact:

OPEN LETTER FROM A FEMALE NAVY VETERAN

“As a female Veteran currently participating in the Welcome Home Veterans shelter, I would like to **thank each of you for the remarkable sensitivity and support you have shown** towards female Veterans who are enrolled in this shelter’s program. I am sure you are aware of the constant, toxic harassment almost every woman who has served was forced to endure during her time in the military, some so toxic it caused PTSD issues. Thank you **for creating a safer space for us**, within our own hallway, thus reducing some of the stressful factors in our current situation. To my knowledge, this facility is the only one that **addresses the needs of homeless female Veterans in such an amazing manner.**

Now, when I enter the female Veterans hallway, I notice a more peaceful, less stressful environment, and the women seem more open and relaxed. Previous to having this safer women’s space, female Veterans tended to be more hypervigilant about our sense of safe personal space. You have created a valuable place for female Veterans, free of the triggers that increase our stress. By doing this, **you have empowered our ability to change our circumstances, and overcome the challenging factors that led to our current homeless status.** I wanted each of you to know that the kindness and assistance you have shown towards the needs of female Veterans has not gone without notice. I believe I speak for all female Veterans in residence when I say **‘thank you’ for being the unique and amazing group of staff members that created a safer, more empowering, and more healing space for female homeless Veterans.**”

“L” is on such a positive, impressive path and we know she'll go on to do great things when she transitions out of the shelter. “L” and her journey are WHY we do what we do, every single day.

Impact: CELEBRATING A SPECIAL MOMENT WITH A VETERAN & HIS BRIDE

It is not too often Welcome Home has the honor and privilege to celebrate a couple's wedding anniversary while they're guests in our shelter. Last year was an exception, and **what a wonderful moment it was celebrating "J" and "W's" 61st wedding anniversary!** Complete with a cake, card signed by our team, and thoughtful words shared, this is a day we won't soon forget!

This precious couple was at Welcome Home because **their house was severely damaged in a flood early 2021 and they were displaced.** The house was uninhabitable, and they were exploring alternative housing, including exploring if it was at all possible to repair the damage. They were very sweet and so thankful to not be street homeless after experiencing one of the most devastating moments in their life. After a few short weeks, we were able to **celebrate this special couple again, when we helped move them into their new permanent, supportive housing.** Their story is one of the most impactful from the year and we wanted to share with YOU, as these moments would not be possible without **your generosity and hearts for the mission.**



Congratulations to the beautiful couple that we were so humbled to serve and celebrate!

2021 WELCOME HOME BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

JOSEPH BLANTON

Board President
Compass Health
USA, Veteran

JENNY LORENZ-RUDKIN

Board Vice President
RE/MAX Boone Realty -
Honor Homes

TANNER SUTTON, CPA

Board Treasurer
Premiere Industries, LLC

DR. DALE FITCH

Board Secretary
University of Missouri -
School of Social Work

DIRECTORS

DAN BECKETT

Board Member
Smith Lewis LLC
USMC, Veteran

ROSS BRIDGES

Board Member
Vessell Bridges
Murphy Law
USMC, Veteran

ROBERT CANINE

Board Member
Veteran Advocate
USA, Retired

TERY DONELSON

Board Member
Columbia College
USAF, Retired

JAMES CHAPMAN

Board Member
Veterans United

TERRY ROBERTS

Board Member
Veterans United
USMC, Veteran

VERNETTE SMITH

Board Member
Restoration Eye Care

DR. BRAD STAGG

Board Member
First Christian Church

MARCUS GLOVER

Board Member
Dollar General Corp.
USAF, Veteran

JASON GRUENDER

Board Member
Liberty Family
Medicine

"Thank you to those who gave selflessly of their time, talent, and treasures last year. We are deeply grateful to our Board of Directors for all they do to help fulfill the mission."

-Megan Sievers, Executive Director

2021 EXPENSES



Programs & Services

81%

\$1,603,987

Management

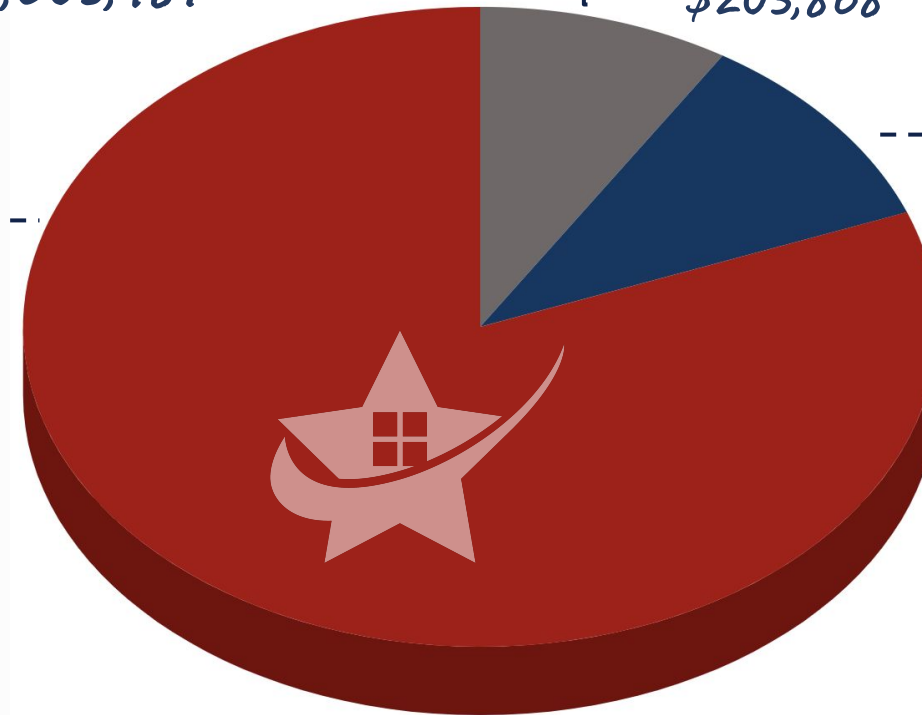
10%

\$203,868

Fundraising

9%

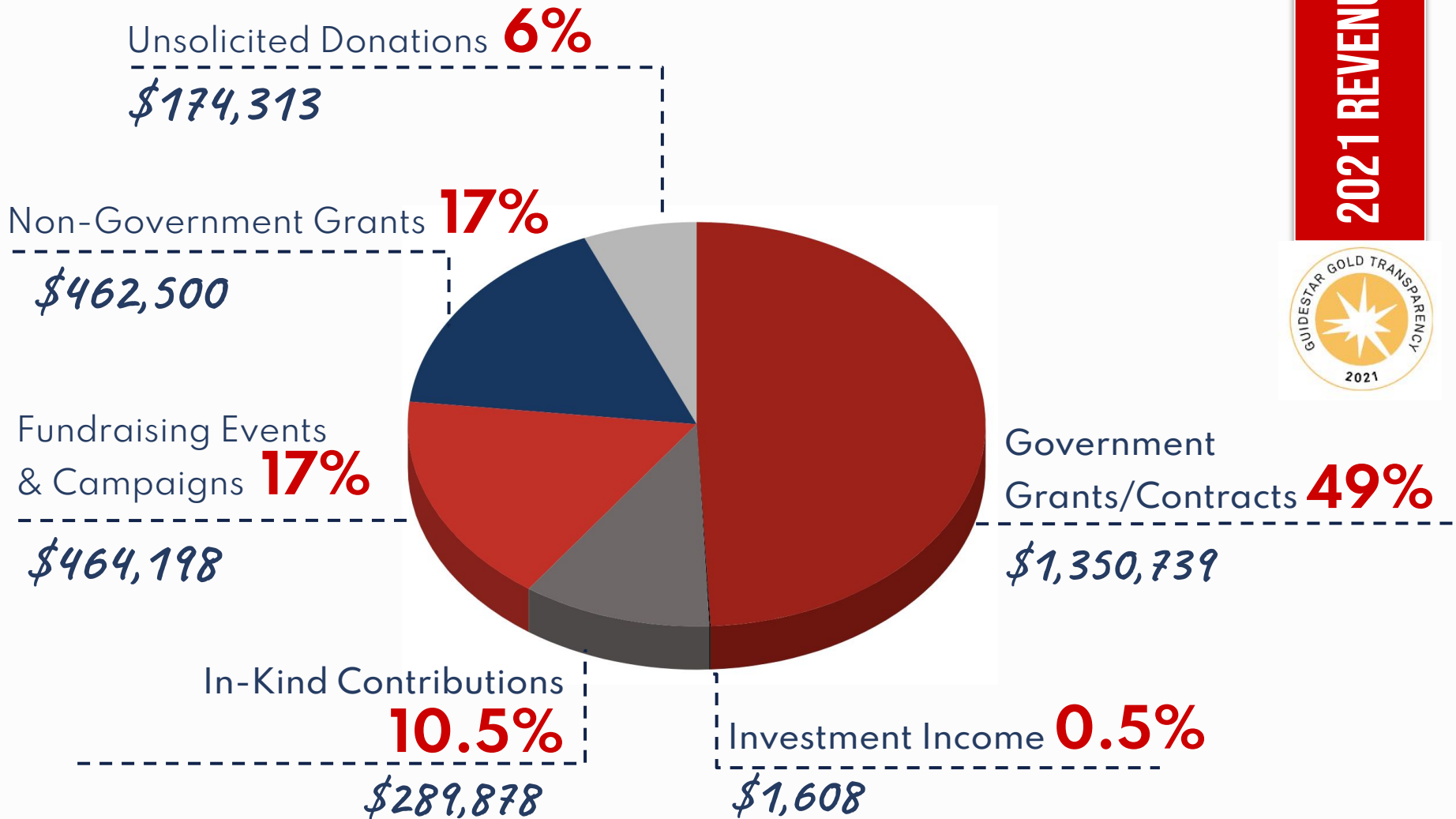
\$176,585



Total: **\$1,984,440**

**Financials are independently audited and a snapshot is shared for the purpose of our annual report.
For comprehensive financial review (Form 990 and Audit), please visit our website.*

2021 REVENUE



Total: \$2,743,236

**Financials are independently audited and a snapshot is shared for the purpose of our annual report.
For comprehensive financial review (Form 990 and Audit), please visit our website.*



A HUGE AND HUMBLER **THANK YOU** TO OUR AMAZING 'COMMUNITY FOR VETERANS' - THIS MISSION IS NOT POSSIBLE WITHOUT ALL OF YOU!



The background of the entire image is a close-up, slightly blurred view of numerous American flags. The red and white stripes and blue fields with white stars are prominent, creating a patriotic and textured backdrop. The flags are arranged in a way that they appear to be waving or layered, with some in sharp focus and others blurred in the foreground and background.

WE SALUTE YOU

On behalf of Welcome Home's Board of Directors, employees, and Veterans we serve, a very special thank you to the following individuals and businesses for their philanthropic efforts and generosity in helping fulfill our critical mission...

SERGEANT MAJOR

MISSION INVESTMENT: \$20,000+

Veterans United Foundation

Columbia Orthopaedic Group:

Dr. Peter and Donna Buchert
Dr. Joshua and Keira Hamann
Dr. John and Heidi Miles
Dr. Thomas and Nicole Aleto
Dr. Alan and Megan Anz
Dr. Bus and Janna Tarbox
Drs. Todd and Kristin Oliver
Dr. Patrick and Karen Smith
Dr. Kurt Bormann
Dr. James and Jill Newton
Dr. Matthew and Camarie Jones

University of Missouri Sigma Nu
Fraternity

Dufresne Spencer Group, LLC
(Ashley HomeStore)

Fraternal Order of Eagles MO State
Auxiliary

Mortgage Connect & Carla Kennedy

MASTER SERGEANT

MISSION INVESTMENT: \$10,000 - \$19,999

DataVerify

Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 562

Threshold of Hope

Disabled American Veterans
Charitable Service Trust

Mr. Cooper

Boone Electric Community Trust

Equifax

Aaron Tremblay & Mallory Kolinski

Dawson and Shelly Rolwing Family

Terry and Kerri Roberts Family

The Giving Branch

Priority Title & Escrow, LLC

Agents National Title Ins. Co

Disabled Veterans National
Foundation

Thank you!

SERGEANT

MISSION INVESTMENT: \$5,000-\$9,999

MFA Oil Company
Flat Branch Home Loans
Dunafon Enterprises, Inc.
Wolters Kluwer
Orscheln Industries Foundation, Inc.
Orange Coast Lender Services
American Legion Post 5
Ross and Natalie Bridges Family
Columbia Board of Realtors, Inc.
Band of Brothers
Marjorie Tarkow Family

CORPORAL

MISSION INVESTMENT: \$2,501-\$4,999

Capital Railroad Contracting, Inc.
Select Realty Group
St. Thomas More Newman Center
Combined Federal Campaign
Robert and Krystal Canine Family
Williams-Keepers, LLC
Fraternal Order of Eagles #4286
Opteon/Apex Appraisal Service, Inc.
American Legion St. Clair Post 347
Judy and Larry Morris Family
CoreLogic Mortgage Solutions
Focus on Health Chiropractic
Optimized CFO & Controller Services, LLC
Patrick Cox Family
Fidelity National Title
Gene and Deb Koepke Family
Marilyn Rauland Kidder Foundation
Roger and Jenny Rudkin Family
Tiger Storage

Thank you!

SPECIALIST

MISSION INVESTMENT: \$1,000-\$2,500

Diamond Pet Foods
Robert “Bob” Papa Family
American Outdoor Brands
Neighbors Bank
The Compliance Group
Ronald Sprouse Family
Brenda Freeland Family
CoreLogic CREDCO
Bruce and Elaine Taylor Family
Kelly Dundulis Family
WFG Lender Services, LLC
Scott Tipton Family
Trent Briney Family
David and Dana Baker Family
Deuce Pub and Pit
TIG Advisors
Spencer C. Duncan Make it
Count Foundation

David (Mike) Randerson Family
Travis and Amanda Miller Family
John Niemann Family
Naomi Scott Family
Timothy Tobin Family
Charles and Sally Abromovich Family
Dustin and Cassie March Family
Steve and Carolyn Cheavens Family
Jason Pavlik Family
Heather Rapp Family
Skyline Cafe
William Boston Family
Tery and Samantha Donelson Family
James Chapman Family
Reclaimed Custom Furniture
Chuck and Rhonda Basye Family
Midwest Infidels
MO State Employee Charitable
Campaign

Coil Construction
John and Elaine Thompson Family
Total Lending Concepts
Plato's Closet
Vessell Bridges Murphy Law Offices
Pro Pumping and Hydrojetting, LLC
McCarty Properties
Lewis Wagner Family
New Breed Motorcycle Club
The Crossing Church
Arthur Kopta Family
Cetera Advisors, LLC
Columbia Rock Bridge Lions Club
Don Ripetto Family
Convergence Consulting
Craft Beverage Consultants
Restoration Eye Care

Thank you!

PRIVATE

MISSION INVESTMENT: \$500-\$999

Tom Schwarz Family
Joy North Family
Garrett Holzum Family
Chris Thornton Family
Joe Garwood Family
JES Holdings, LLC
Jason Zerrer Family
Cheryl Kendrick Family
Melissa Cottle Family
Jessica Vomund Family
43Tc
Eric Schultz Family
Nclusion, Inc.
Davon Argo Family
The First Christian Church of Columbia
CrossFit Aggregate
Heather Corke Family
Melissa Faurot Family
Eric Hermann Family
New Beginnings Christian Center
Tim Burnam Family
Roger and Julie Sievers Family
American Family Insurance Greg Kolb Agency, Inc.

Vince & Amy Bentinganan Family
Andrea Matlock Family
Tom Slayton Family
Dj Monaghan Family
Janet Bezler Family
Devon and Alicia Casady Family
Kilgore's Pharmacy
Valdis Hartman Family
Rosemary Jacobson Family
Liberty Family Medicine
Kayla Durnil Family
Prime-Dirt Midwest Inc.
William and Mary Ann Niemann Family
Jane MacLellan Family
Jessica Winfrey Family
Carol McCoy Family
John Fabick Tractor Company
Achieve Balance Chiropractic
Lynelle Troyke Family
Eastin and John Meyer Family

Austin and Kathy Berry Family
Elizabeth Hale Family
Bill and Carol Paten Family
Roger Allbee Family
Cottone and Co. LLC
Chapman Heating & Air Conditioning
Karen Martin Family
David H. Frech Family
Shane Graver Family
New Horizons Church - Hallsville
EquipmentShare
Cathy Rupard and Stan Fredrick Family
Casey Niemann Family
Michael and Kathryn Kane Family
John and Margaret Preus Family
The Independent Order of Foresters
Foresters Financial
Hams Prairie Christian Church
Daniel Beckett Family

Thank you!

The following businesses, organizations, and individuals have been paramount in their partnerships with Welcome Home and our mission; to honor Veterans and restore their lives. We are beyond grateful.

ESSENTIAL AFFILIATIONS

Harry S. Truman Memorial Veterans' Hospital &
Health Care for Homeless Veterans

The Food Bank for Central & Northeast Missouri

National Coalition for Homeless Veterans

Phoenix Programs & Supportive Services for
Veterans and Families

Missouri Housing Development Commission

U.S. Department of HUD

Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program
Department of Labor

Patriots of Valor

H.E.R.O.E.S. CARE

When The Yellow Ribbon Fades

American Rural Family Health Project

Shoes from the Heart

Columbia Discount Furniture & Bedding

PROPERTY OWNERS & MANAGERS

Patriot Place/Columbia Housing Authority

Linda Deatz

HouseMart Realty,
Jason, Charlotte, and Meredith Corrado

Hanover Village

Darren Patterson

Roland Management

Millard Thomas

HONORABLE
Mentions

Do you have affordable housing for a deserving Veteran, or goods/services you'd like to contribute? We'd love to partner with you! Give us a call!

573.443.8001



GET INVOLVED

Volunteer

- ★ Pull “KP” Duty (prepare and serve a meal at the shelter)
- ★ Landscaping and Beautification
- ★ Inventory and Organizing
- ★ Participate in the Team Building Art Project for Veteran Rooms

Fundraise

- ★ Dress Down Days at Work
- ★ Neighborhood Raffles
- ★ “Crush It” for Veterans
- ★ Community Yard Sales
- ★ Facebook Fundraisers
- ★ Trivia or Bingo Nights
- ★ End Veteran Homeless Giving Envelope
- ★ BBQ or Cookouts
- ★ Motorcycle Rides

Make a Monetary Gift

- ★ Sponsor a Room for Veterans
- ★ Become a VETS Work Champion
- ★ Make a General Donation
- ★ Sponsor or attend a Fundraising Event

Contact us at info@welcomeveterans.org
or visit
www.WelcomeVeterans.org/get-involved



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Join the mission & stay in the know at
WELCOMEVETERANS.ORG

Success is not final. Failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts.

-WINSTON CHURCHILL