



**H**omefront **E**nabling **R**elationships, **O**pportunities, and **E**mpowerment through **S**upport

## 2017 YEAR IN REVIEW REPORT

**Our most heartfelt thanks to our supporters who have made what we do *possible!* What your gifts have provided:**

**Emergency Financial Assistance** - Service members and their spouses apply for grants, not loans. We provide funding to prevent evictions, repossessions, and foreclosures, for home, auto, and major appliance repairs, and to restore or maintain utility services, paying vendors directly on behalf of our clients. In 2017, your funding helped to provide *substantial* financial assistance for 427 military families.

**Material Support** - We provide new clothing, food, household items, furniture, major appliances, holiday toys, back-to-school supplies, and baby items. In 2017, more than \$9 million in material aid was directed to individual military families in genuine need, to National Guard and Reserve units in Missouri and Illinois, and to the service member families associated with Ft. Leonard Wood, Whiteman Air Force Base, and Scott Air Force Base *and beyond!*

**Santa Express** - For the past five years we've delivered toys and other gifts for military children associated with Fort Leonard Wood, Whiteman Air Force Base, Scott Air Force Base, and provided toys for Guard and Reserve Units across the states of Missouri, Illinois, *and beyond.* In 2017 we served more than 100,000 military kids through this program.

**Food Pantries** - We have a unique and unprecedented arrangement with the Missouri and Illinois National Guard to place pantries in their armories. In 2017, more than 7000 military and veteran families received food assistance through our network of pantries.

**Case Management** – Through our award winning, custom designed case management system, we help Veterans receive all of the benefits to which they are entitled and seamlessly connect military families to a vast array of resources through 145 partner agencies. In 2017, 3317 military members, Veterans, and their families across the Nation received this sustaining, life changing support.

**While the above mentioned program fulfillments are very important, the most meaningful and effective support we provide involves the one-to-one caregiving for military members and their families.**

The H.E.R.O.E.S. Care Hometown Support Program provides a system of coordinated care for military families before, during, and after deployment. Specially trained caregivers are assigned to military family members who have dedicated access to emergency material and financial aid, confidential mental health care, and job training and placement services made available free of charge. Now 3077 volunteers in 619 locations in 25 states are part of this program. In 2017, 48 new locations were established and 340 new volunteers were trained to provide one-on-one care for military families struggling with the complex stressors associated with military service to prevent suicides, divorces, and child runaways.

**IMPORTANT UPDATE:** We are now 4 Star Rated by Charity Navigator, the highest rating they confer. Of the more than 40,000 recognized military support charities, only 26 military family support charities hold this distinction.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Over \$6 BILLION in company matching grants are not claimed by employees who give to charity. H.E.R.O.E.S. Care is approved for matching grants by companies like Boeing, Monsanto, Wells Fargo, Thrivent Financial and *many more.* To find out if your company has a matching gift program, visit our website at [www.heroescare.org](http://www.heroescare.org), click on the **Corporate Match** button on the top right, scroll down and click on the '**Would you like your employer to match?**' box, then use the drop down arrow to browse the alphabetical list of employers who do.

**YOUR TIME IS VALUABLE** and we LOVE our volunteers! To volunteer at our Fenton, Missouri location, at our events, or even remotely from your home or office, visit our website at [www.heroescare.org](http://www.heroescare.org), click on the **Join our mailing list** button on the right to register.

**QUESTIONS? COMMENTS? SUGGESTIONS?** We want to hear from you! Click on the **Contact Us** button at the top of our webpage and leave a message for the team.