



**COMBAT  
SOLDIERS  
RECOVERY  
FUND**

# KEEPING *in* TOUCH

Holiday/Winter 2016

[www.combatsoldiersrecoveryfund.org](http://www.combatsoldiersrecoveryfund.org)

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## TEN YEARS AND STILL GOING STRONG

Ten years ago as the war raged in Iraq and Afghanistan, my neighbor, who was a surgeon at Walter Reed, began telling me about the horrific price that young soldiers, Marines, sailors and pilots were paying as they waged war in those remote locations. The stories he told me about his military patients, who struggled to recover from mangled bodies and shredded spirits tugged at my heart. As we talked over a period of weeks I was shocked to discover that Uncle Sam was not doing everything to help these brave souls bear their burden. Many faced a long period of recovery and, even though housed in a U.S military medical facility, were forced to pay for many necessities, such as toiletries, on their own.

That gave me an idea. Why not give these kids money to help them buy what they need. After thinking it through and talking to some dear friends Stephanie Comella, Ray Sherbill and Kate Coopersmith, I decided to create Combat Soldiers Recovery Fund. The mission? Give wounded warriors \$300 with no strings attached. I realize it is a small token but it is a symbol of a deep feeling I had of wanting to do something tangible to touch these brave souls.

We got 501(c)3 status in 2006 and since then have distributed \$800,000.00 in checks to more than 2667 wounded military personnel. I want to continue to touch the lives of at least 300 wounded warriors striving every day to heal their physical and psychological wounds. That means we need to come up with \$100,000.



**Please send donations to:**

Combat Soldiers Recovery Fund  
3804 Williams Lane  
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

[www.combatsoldiersrecoveryfund.org](http://www.combatsoldiersrecoveryfund.org)

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# CELEBRATING TEN YEARS

THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
GENEROSITY!





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Meeting and talking with the wounded and their families has changed my life. Despite missing limbs and carrying terrible scars, these brave kids never complain, never ask for more and always say thank you when I give them a check. I never appreciated the long, painful, steep road that the wounded travel as they strive to recover the ability to walk or talk or sit up. Some of them are so mangled that they stay at Walter Reed for 4 years. It becomes their home out of necessity, not choice.

As I write this it is the eve of Thanksgiving. I am so grateful and humbled by your support. When you write a check you touch the life of a man or woman who paid a terrible price on behalf of our nation. They bear their suffering without asking for pity. They don't ask for handouts. But when they receive the gift they have a tangible reminder in hand that they are not forgotten.

We have kept the promise of Combat Soldiers Recovery Fund to spend all of the funds on the wounded warriors. All other costs are covered through sweat equity. I want to personally thank the board, Betty Imirie, and Erin Pinckney.

I am so grateful to those of you who have helped my dream for CSRF become true. You answered the call. You did not have to be coerced. I also am thankful that Comcast TV and F.H. Furr pitched in, created an ad presenting the CSRF case and continues to air the commercial.

I pray that the need for Combat Soldiers Recovery Fund ends. If our men and women are no longer in combat then the blood that now stains the halls of Walter Reed will become a distant memory. Until then, please continue with your generous support.

**The holiday season has arrived – a season of cheer and gift-giving. As we generously celebrate with our loved ones, please consider giving a holiday gift of thanks to a wounded soldier so that his or her family can enjoy the holidays as much as we will with our own families.**



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**WITH THE SUPPORT OF HUNDREDS OF CONTRIBUTORS, CSRF CONTINUES TO SAY THANK YOU TO MILITARY PERSONNEL WHO WENT FAR, FAR FROM HOME TO PROTECT OUR HOMELAND**

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