



The Mason Family

Gary and Shay Mason and their four kids were facing the very real prospect of homelessness when they learned about the Operation Homefront Village in Gaithersburg, Md., one of three rentfree transitional housing communities for wounded warriors. At the time, they were staying at a hotel because their water-damaged condo was uninhabitable.

Gary medically retired from the Army as a captain in 2015 after 15 years, including one deployment to Iraq and two to Afghanistan. In addition to back and ankle injuries, he suffers from posttraumatic stress disorder. Shay, herself an Army veteran, serves as his primary caregiver.

All Village residents must attend support groups, workshops and financial counseling sessions to help ensure their success as they move forward. For Gary, that also means attending American University to pursue a degree in radio, television and video.

"Living at Operation Homefront's Village is an opportunity—a tremendous blessing and stress relief."

"We can save money, repair our credit, re-stabilize our children and focus on getting healthier as a family," said Gary.

OPERATION HOMEFRONT TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Operation Homefront's Transitional Housing (Villages) program provides rent-free, two and three bedroom apartments to wounded, ill and injured warriors and their families as they leave the military. Many of these families face the financial burdens associated with traveling back and forth to be with their loved one when they are far apart, as well as the challenges of their service member's recovery and rehabilitation processes.

The Villages are designed to enable families to heal together, while bridging what can be a lengthy gap between when military pay ends and veteran benefits begin, or when veterans' disability claims are reviewed and received.

Our Villages relieve the financial stress and provide a comprehensive package of individualized family support and financial planning services. Each participating family is provided with:

• Rent-free, utility-free, fully furnished apartment

One-on-one financial counseling

- Case management and customized transition plans
- Assistance with medical referrals
- Employment coaching and educational guidance
- Support network

The injured and their families experience a supportive environment among understanding peers, and most make impressive financial progress during their stay, leaving the Village debt free, or nearly so, with an emergency savings plan in place.

AT A GLANCE...

337 Number of months of rent-free housing provided in 2017	4,674 Number of months of rent-free housing provided since program inception
Total value of defrayed rental costs	\$425,166 in 2017 \$5.2 million since 2008
Average length of stay	8–18 months
People served in 2017	69 service members, 261 family members
Locations	Gaithersburg, MD; San Diego, CA; San Antonio, TX
Operation Homefront Village capacity	3 Villages, 30 apartments

WITH YOUR SUPPORT

With the support of the A. James and Alice B. Clark Foundation, The Home Depot Foundation, Genentech Foundation, ESPN and other donors and partners, Operation Homefront continues to provide transitional housing and comprehensive support services to wounded warriors and their families. The need continues. Find out how you can help us serve more at www.operationhomefront.org.

WHO WE ARE

Operation Homefront builds strong, stable, and secure military families so they can thrive in the communities they have worked so hard to protect.



Expenses

Program Services
Fundraising
Management and General

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