



# PURPLE HEART HOMES

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



FEATURED IN  
**Our State**  
CELEBRATING NORTH CAROLINA

*Pictured from left to right: Paul Cockherham, PHH; Jason Saine, NC State Representative; Donald Surratt, U.S. Army Veteran; Ted Alexander, Senator; John Galina, Co-Founder & CEO PHH*

READ AN EXCERPT ON PAGES 6 & 7

# The Story of Purple Heart Homes



started with John Gallina & the late Dale Beatty...

John Gallina and the late Dale Beatty joined the North Carolina National Guard in 1996. During their service to our nation, both Gallina and Beatty responded to calls from the Governor of North Carolina to help victims of Hurricane Fran and Hurricane Floyd. It was through those experiences that they gained their humanitarian passion and spirit.

In 2004 John and Dale's National Guard unit, the 30th BCT, was deployed to Iraq. Their unit was attached to the 1st Infantry Division near Bayji, Iraq. On November 15, 2004, they were on a dangerous mission to provide security for an engineer unit that was sweeping the area for mines.

SPC Gallina was driving with the late SGT Beatty and two other members of the unit. The vehicle struck two anti-tank mines that detonated, ripping through the armor in the floor leaving Beatty a double amputee below the knees and Gallina with severe back injuries, Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

Their journey together was one of friendship, service, courage and leadership. Their shared experiences created a strong sense of community, a deep passion to give back, and a desire to make a difference in the lives of Service-Connected Disabled Veterans.

As both men reintegrated into their communities, they were humbled by the number of people who would come up to them to thank them for their service and sacrifice. They were trained to never leave a Soldier behind on the battlefield, and as two combat wounded Iraq Veterans, they became committed to not leaving them behind at home as well.

Recognizing an unmet need, they decided to reach across the generational divide to provide housing solutions for qualified Service-Connected Disabled Veterans and co-founded Purple Heart Homes in 2008. The organization strives daily to give back and continues to grow their efforts. 2024 was a year of many highlights. We hope you'll enjoy learning about our mission, and we're hopeful that you'll connect with us to get involved supporting the many men and women who have served our great country.

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD DAVE STERNBERG

### **They Fought for Home. Now Let's Help Them Find Theirs.**

He stood in a jungle or desert a world away, thinking of the quiet hum of his front porch. She slept in a barracks, dreaming of rocking her baby in a nursery she hadn't seen yet. They left everything behind so we could keep everything we hold dear. Now they're home... but some have no home to come back to.

This is the quiet truth we don't hear enough: too many of our veterans, those who carried our flag into danger, return to lives where basic needs go unmet. Roofs leak. Bathrooms become inaccessible because of the wounds of war. Steps turn into mountains for those in wheelchairs. And for some, there's no door to walk through at all.

They didn't hesitate when our country called. At Purple Heart Homes, we believe no veteran should ever be left behind, not on the battlefield and not in their own neighborhood. We build. We repair. We restore dignity.

Beyond bricks and beams, what we really build is hope, hope for the veteran sleeping in a tool shed or tent, for the soldier who came home with scars you can't always see, or the veteran who recently experienced an amputation from Agent Orange exposure.

Because a home is more than four walls. It's where healing and dignity reign supreme. It's where a hero finds peace. It's where freedom, the very thing they fought for, finally feels real.

For a veteran who gave all they had, even a small act of kindness becomes monumental. Let's not let their service echo into silence.

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADER

### JOHN GALLINA

Chief Executive Officer & Co-Founder

Throughout my life, I've learned that in difficult times, unity makes us stronger. We live in a nation of generous people who give their time, talent, and treasures. Thanks to donors, volunteers, partners, and supporters, 2024 was a monumental year of success for Purple Heart Homes and the veterans, families, and communities we serve. Together, we are inspiring hope, restoring dignity, and extending freedom. The work we do is more than building houses—it is healing hearts, one home at a time.

From the Pacific to the Atlantic, we served veterans in cities, mountains, and prairies, providing housing for homeless veterans and ensuring elderly veterans could remain in their homes. One highlight was building a new home for a 72-year-old veteran whose roof was collapsing. This effort united over 50 local and national partners, serving a deserving veteran overlooked for years.

Stories like Donald Surratt's remind me why Dale and I founded Purple Heart Homes. As a contractor, I once told my wife I wanted to build homes for those who couldn't wave a check in my face. Veterans have already "paid in full" through their service and sacrifice, and your support ensures they receive the homes and dignity they deserve.

Our mission extends beyond veterans. After Hurricane Helene devastated the southeast, thousands of supporters joined us in collecting four semi-truck loads of supplies, 250,000 meals, and thousands of dollars for recovery. This was about more than veterans—it was about community, the very core of who we are.

Since the beginning, I have viewed Purple Heart Homes as more than a nonprofit. While we are a 501(c)(3), I see us as a social enterprise—bringing value not only to veterans but to society at large. By keeping veterans in their homes, we save taxpayer dollars, reduce reliance on nursing facilities, and strengthen communities.

We cannot do this work without you. Your financial gifts, volunteer time, and advocacy matter. With over 1,400 applications each year, every contribution counts. Freedom isn't free, and my hope is that more people step up to honor the sacrifice of those who served by taking action today. No gift is too small, and every effort helps us continue this mission.

[WWW.PHHUSA.ORG](http://WWW.PHHUSA.ORG)

Are you social? Lets connect!

    @purplehearthomes





# PURPLE HEART HOMES

## OUR PURPOSE

To build awareness, mobilize communities, and create safe housing solutions for our service-connected disabled Veterans of all eras.

## OUR VISION

All Veterans have a safe place to call home.

## OUR MISSION

To honor those who served by providing housing solutions and employment opportunities to qualified Veterans.

## CORE VALUES

- Compassion
- Integrity
- Commitment to Excellence
- Teamwork
- Respect

**We improve the lives of Veterans one home at a time.**

To learn more about Purple Heart Homes and how you can help, visit [www.phusa.org](http://www.phusa.org).







EXCERPTED FROM OUR STATE MAGAZINE  
BY JIMMY TOMLIN

# Our State

CELEBRATING NORTH CAROLINA

HEROES AMONG US

## THE HOUSE THAT LOVE BUILT

**U.S. ARMY VETERAN DONALD SURRETT SPENT DECADES SERVING HIS COUNTRY AND CARING FOR HIS FAMILY. WHEN SURRETT NEEDED CARE HIMSELF, PURPLE HEART HOMES HELPED HIM REBUILD HIS LIFE.**

One morning in late March, 72-year-old Donald Surratt stood outside his family's old homeplace in the Lincoln County community of Iron Station and watched a bulldozer reduce the place to rubble.

How could he not shed a few tears? He was standing on sacred ground. This modest, wood-frame house, purchased when Surratt was about 5 years old, had provided countless indelible memories.

It was the home where Surratt had experienced family. Where his dad taught him the things that fathers teach their sons.

It was where his mother pampered her son as only moms can do. And then, decades later, it was where the son returned the favor, pampering his elderly mother as she neared her death.

**SURVIVING IN COMBAT DEPENDS ON LOYALTY AMONG SOLDIERS.**

*At home, former National Guardsman John Gallina (left) continues serving fellow veterans like Surratt (right) through Purple Heart Homes.*

*Thanks to Purple Heart Homes, a brand-new house in Lincoln County sits on ground where Surratt's childhood memories are sown into the soil.*

It was where Surratt cared for his own son, Darrell, who battled muscular dystrophy his entire adult life. And it was where that son, bedridden at 51, died.

So many memories, good and bad, on this hallowed family land. So yes, Surratt wept as the old house came down.

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Two months later, John Gallina stands on that same land, right alongside Surratt, admiring the new house being built where the old one once stood.

“I’m just rejoicing in the goodness of God,” Surratt says. He’s a slender man with a large smile and an even larger faith. “This is just amazing.”

Gallina nods in agreement. He’s the cofounder of Purple Heart Homes, a national nonprofit based in Statesville that provides housing repairs, at no cost, to veterans of the U.S. military — vets like Donald Surratt.

Purple Heart Homes originally agreed to put a new roof on Surratt’s existing house, but when a contractor determined that removing the unstable roof would likely cause the whole thing to collapse, agency officials instead decided to demolish the unsafe structure and build Surratt a new house from the ground up.

“When you meet this veteran, Mr. Surratt, how can you not want to help him?” Gallina says. “You hear his story and what he’s experienced in his life, taking

care of his son, who had a disability and passed away in the very home that we tore down.”

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After his military service, Surratt worked his entire adult life before taking early retirement about a decade ago to care for his elderly mother and disabled son. His mother died in 2016; Darrell died in 2022.

“I was trying to get the house repaired while my son and my mom were here, but it was hard,” he says. “I was too busy taking care of them. I’m just thankful that they were comfortable before they passed.”

Once Purple Heart Homes got involved, the workers soon realized that the house was just too far gone.

“They said, ‘Donald, we’re just gonna build you a new home,’” Surratt recalls. “Man, that floored me. I said, ‘You’re gonna do what?!’ I couldn’t believe it.”

Surratt moved into the new home in October, on the same sacred ground that his family has occupied for so many decades.

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“When he stands alongside Donald Surratt in front of Surratt’s new home — when he sees the smile on Surratt’s face and hears the gratitude and humility in his voice — that’s where Gallina finds healing and peace.

That’s sacred ground, indeed.”



PHOTOGRAPH BY PURPLE HEART HOMES

# NOTABLE NUMBERS

Because of donors, like you, Purple Heart Homes has been able to help Veterans across the country get the help they need. Thank you for supporting our Veterans. This impact wouldn't be possible without you!

**FROM INCEPTION THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024,  
PURPLE HEART HOMES HAS MADE THE FOLLOWING  
LASTING IMPACT:**



Total Project  
Count

**1,461**



Total Veterans  
Served

**3,415**



Total Family &  
Community Impact

**7,710**





## IN THE AFTERMATH OF HURRICANE HELENE

### **PURPLE HEART HOMES MOBILIZES COMMUNITY SUPPORT TO AID VICTIMS ACROSS WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA**

In a remarkable display of community spirit and collaboration, Purple Heart Homes is proud to announce significant efforts in providing relief to victims of Hurricane Helene in the Fairview, Lansing, Hendersonville, Bryson City, Pond Mountain, Warrensville, Spruce Pine, and North Wilkesboro, North Carolina areas. With the invaluable support from sponsors, volunteers, and local organizations, we have been able to cook and serve countless meals to our neighbors, family, and friends to support those in need.

Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to RDC Shoes, who generously donated 400 pairs of new shoes to those affected. Additionally, we received a semi-truck full of donations from Down River Veterans in Michigan, a national partner donated Little Buddy heaters, and 7 Days for the Troops in Mississippi donated multiple truckloads of supplies. The tremendous contributions from the Kids Coalition Against Hunger, providing 250,000 shelf-stable meals, have also been instrumental in our efforts.

South River Baptist Church has served over 8,400 plates and delivered much needed supplies directly to those impacted by Hurricane Helene across Western North Carolina. The collective effort of our community volunteers, sponsors, and supporters embodies the spirit of compassion and resilience that defines Western North Carolina. Together, we are making a significant impact in the lives of those who need it most.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this initiative. Your kindness and generosity are helping to uplift our community during these challenging times. We would be amiss without acknowledging the support of these partners: South River Baptist Church, B&B Auto Glass & Mirror, Chick-fil-A of Statesville, City of Statesville, Country Boy Landscaping, Food Lion Feeds, Greater Statesville Chamber of Commerce, Eagle Rentals, Hot Shots Sports Bar & Grill, Iredell Sheriff Department, Ledbetter's Grill, Rescue Ranch, Smokin Southern, Town of Troutman, Troops Haul Junk, United Federal Credit Union, WAME, and WSIC.



## OUR VOLUNTEERS ROCK!

Volunteers help with projects as well as fundraisers and events. We are grateful for each and every moment of their time that they gift to us!

**553 VOLUNTEERS GAVE  
10,454 HOURS OF THEIR TIME  
TO HELP VETERANS IN NEED**

*To learn more about volunteering at Purple Heart Homes, visit [www.phhusa.org](http://www.phhusa.org) and get involved!*

**“We make a living by what we get.  
We make a life by what we give.”**

– Winston Churchill



# 2024 Purple Heart Homes Financials Including Chapters

## REVENUE AND EXPENSE STATEMENT

<b>SUPPORT</b>	<b>2024</b>
Contributions and Grants	\$9,866,458
Other Support	\$1,705,197
<b>Total Support</b>	<b>\$11,571,655</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>	
Program Service Revenue	\$851,490
Investment Income	(\$19)
Other Revenue	\$65,106
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$916,577</b>
<b>Total Support and Revenue</b>	<b>\$12,488,232</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Program Services:	
Veterans Assistance	\$6,309,547
Supporting Services:	
Management and General	\$927,614
Fundraising	\$1,913,597
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$9,150,728</b>

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>2024</b>
Cash & Equivalents	\$409,770
Accounts Receivable	\$15,008
Other Current Assets	\$3,748,320
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$4,173,098</b>
Fixed Assets	\$1,483,480
Other assets	\$1,955,178
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$7,611,756</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Accounts Payable	\$154,991
Credit Cards	\$60,779
Other Current Liabilities	\$123,779
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$339,549</b>
Long Term Liabilities	\$315,203
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$654,752</b>
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$6,957,004</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$7,611,756</b>

## 94 PROJECTS

were completed in 2024 because of people like you!

Thank you for letting our Veterans know they matter!

*\* Contributions and Grants include revenues generated by Chapter efforts net of regrants funds issued by PHH-HQ. Program Service, Management and General, Fundraising Expenses are inclusive of Chapter expenditures net of regrants funds issued by PHH-HQ.*





**PURPLE HEART HOMES**  
IMPROVING VETERANS' LIVES ONE HOME AT A TIME

755 Washington Ave.  
Statesville, NC 28677

Find us on social media or visit  
our website at [www.phhusa.org](http://www.phhusa.org).

Together we are making a real difference  
in the lives of service-connected disabled  
Veterans across the country.

    @purplehearthomes

Be sure to connect  
with us on social media!



## PURPLE HEART HOMES BOARD

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## EXECUTIVE TEAM

**John Gallina**, Chief Executive Officer & Co-Founder  
**Tim Mangum**, Chief Administrative Officer  
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**Paul Cockerham**, Chief Development Officer  
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**HOME OF  
THE FREE  
BECAUSE  
OF THE  
BRAVE**

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