CHANGING LIVES...
TOGETHER

2018 ANNUAL REPORT
CHANGING LIVES TOGETHER

Operation Homefront serves America’s military families in their time of need because they have served all of us in our nation’s time of need. When military families are struggling to make ends meet, we are there to help them get through their short-term challenges so they do not become a series of financial crises that derail their hope for a brighter future. We are able to change their lives and help them become strong, stable, and secure thanks to the generous contributions of our corporate, foundation, and individual donors.

In this report, you will see the many ways we have teamed with our partners to deliver meaningful goodness to military families. You will read about our collaborative activities and inspiring campaigns designed to energize and engage consumers and employees. And, most importantly, you will hear from the families we serve who experience the impact we all make together as local and national communities.

One of our core values is gratitude. We simply could not provide the programs and services that our military families need, and help change their lives, without our donors. With our profound thanks, we dedicate this annual report to the many companies, foundations, and individuals who share our passion for supporting those who do so much for all of us—our military families.

I AM VERY THANKFUL TO OPERATION HOMEFRONT AND THEIR DONORS. OPERATION HOMEFRONT IS HELPING SET UP MY KIDS’ FUTURE FOR SUCCESS. I’M VERY THANKFUL FOR ALL THE SUPPORT.

-JOSE MORALES
U.S. Army Corporal (E-4), California National Guard

Perform with Excellence: Our troops and their families work tirelessly to protect the freedoms we enjoy daily and they deserve our very best efforts to support them. To do so, we must stay focused on our mission, be accountable and strive to exceed their expectations.

Respect Others: Recognizing the multiplicative power inherent in a diverse workforce, we place a priority on creating a collaborative, trust-based working environment that values dignity, teamwork, and each individual’s contribution to our collective mission.

VISION
To be the provider of choice for short-term critical assistance, long-term resiliency, and recurring support programs to military families.

2018 MAJOR PROGRAMMATIC MILESTONES

- Critical Financial Assistance: Fulfilled our 40,000th request and surpassed $25 million in financial support to military families needing help with unexpected financial challenges, such as rent/mortgage payments, home/car repairs, food, utilities and more

- Homes on the Homefront: Deeded our 500th home to a deserving military family, providing over $77 million in home equity

- Holiday Meals for Military: Served our 400,000th military family member a holiday meal

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Since joining the Operation Homefront family in 2015, I have had the privilege of working with an incredibly talented group of caring individuals who come to work each day knowing they will, by working together for the benefit of others, make a real difference in the lives of those who have done so much for all of us – America’s military families. I am extremely proud of all this amazing team has done and continues to do to help this special and deserving group of our fellow citizens overcome the financial challenges they face.

Delivering life-changing programs in a meaningful way takes a total team effort. Naturally, we rely heavily on our partners, donors and volunteers to help us provide Relief through our financial assistance and transitional housing programs, Resiliency through our permanent housing and caregiver programs, and Recurring Family Support through a variety of specialty programs designed to help military families during financially stressful periods throughout the year. I am proud to report our Critical Financial Assistance program has fulfilled more than 41,000 requests for assistance totaling over $25 million in financial aid, our Transitional Housing program has provided over 5,000 months of rent-free temporary housing to more than 500 families of wounded service members, saving them $5.7 million in rent and utility expenses; our Homes on the Homefront program has awarded mortgage-free homes to over 600 military families, and provided well over $7 million in deeded value; our Back-to-School Brigade has delivered nearly 350,000 backpacks to military kids, saving military families, and provided well over $7 million in school supplies expenses; and our Holiday Meals for Military program has served nearly 400,000 individual family members.

As I look to the future, I see the challenges facing military families will grow, and receive, in the mid- to high-90s, clearly show we are delivering on our effectiveness by ensuring the families we serve feel we are helping them.

As an "outcomes"-based organization, we measure our program effectiveness by ensuring the families we serve feel we are helping them.

Delivering our good work is not enough, our dedication to perpetually change how military families navigate their challenges must be relentless. As a result, our team continues to change our programs to those in need. This past year, our team: fulfilled more than 2,800 requests from military families providing over $2.5 million in financial assistance; graduated 86 families from our permanent housing program providing them with mortgage-free homes with a deeded value of nearly $13 million; helped over 50 military families through our Transitional Housing program saving them almost $500,000 in rent and utility costs; distributed almost 39,000 backpacks to military children; and provided over 14,000 meals serving nearly 60,000 military family members.

Impressive numbers for sure, but it is our ever-growing list of caring corporate, foundation, and individual donors that make all our good work possible. Like all associated with Operation Homefront, I am especially proud to be part of an organization where 92% of our expenditures go towards programs, and part of that is consistently recognized for superior performance by leading charity rating services.

Looking ahead, we cannot rest on our laurels. I, along with all our board members, believe that providing the financial stability our military families need, and so richly deserve, should continue to be recognized as a national priority – particularly during the critical initial phases of their journey to integrate back into their civilian communities. Our constituent testimonials clearly show the tremendous impact we are having, but there is so much more that we still need to do, as many military families find it difficult to ask for help even when they are struggling to make ends meet. We need to make all aware, the military families we seek to serve and the donors who bring our mission to life, that Operation Homefront is the "go-to" organization to resolve this national issue. A clear path lies ahead, and I am excited about where this amazing organization is headed in 2019 and beyond.

As I begin my first year as Chairman, I am proud to report 2018 was another incredible year for Operation Homefront. Our vital mission – to build strong, stable, and secure military families so they can thrive, not simply struggle to get by, in the challenges they have worked so hard to protect – remains a unifying force that drives all of us to do our very best for those who protect the freedoms we, as Americans, enjoy daily.

Using our core values – Do What’s Right, Gratitude, Perform With Excellence and Respect – to guide our individual and collective efforts, our dedicated staff members and volunteers work together to deliver a wide range of life-changing programs to those in need. This past year, our team:

- Fulfilled more than 41,000 requests from military families providing over $2.5 million in financial assistance;
- Graduated 86 families from our permanent housing program providing them with mortgage-free homes with a deeded value of nearly $13 million;
- Helped over 50 military families through our Transitional Housing program saving them almost $500,000 in rent and utility costs;
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Sincerely,

John I. Pray, Jr., President & CEO, Brigadier General, USAF (ret.)
Debe our impact since program inception

Relief

Fulfilled over 41,000 requests from military families across the U.S., providing more than $25 million in relief through our Critical Financial Assistance program.

Most common forms of assistance requested by military families were utilities (34%), rent/mortgage (23%), and food/groceries (15%).

Defrayed over 5,000 months of rent-free housing to 550 military families, saving them over $5.7 million in rent and utilities at our three Operation Homefront Villages in San Diego, CA; San Antonio, TX; and Gaithersburg, MD.

Launched Transitional Homes for Community Reintegration that defrayed $14,183 in mortgage costs to three families in just four months.

Deeded property value

Accepted 650 military families into the Homes on the Homefront permanent housing program.

Provided over $77 million in home equity to military families.

Helped nearly 3,800 Hearts of Valor caregivers through more than 60 support groups across the country.

Recurring family support

Distributed nearly 350,000 backpacks filled with supplies to military children through our Back-to-School Brigade, saving them $37 million in expenses.

Served over 95,000 military families through our Holiday Meals For Military program, impacting nearly 420,000 military family members.

Provided over 220,000 holiday toys to military children through our Holiday Toy Drive.

Honored over 8,000 military spouses at Homefront Celebrations, and awarded 21 attendees with academic scholarships to help them complete their education.
Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Matthew Marye and his wife, Justine, were anxious when Matthew had to leave the military for medical reasons. After 12 years of service and three deployments, they were uncertain how they would support themselves and their two young sons without a stable home environment. Facing their future was stressful until they learned they were accepted into our Transitional Homes for Community Reintegration program. The Marye family moved into a newly built, rent-free home in Winchester, VA in November 2018. While participating in the program, the family receives financial counseling to help build savings, reduce debt and improve credit. The family also becomes integrated into their new community and school system.

“They’re not just changing our lives, they’re changing our children’s lives. Because they have been through so much,” Justine said. The Maryes believe this program will give them the opportunity to live in the kind of welcoming community they need, while navigating their transition.

IN 2018, OPERATION HOMEFRONT RECEIVED A $4.2 MILLION grant from the A. James & Alice B. Clark Foundation to expand our efforts to provide housing for military families as they transition to civilian life. This generous investment helped launch the Transitional Homes for Community Reintegration program in August 2018. The funds also supported our Transitional Housing (Village) program, allowing us to increase capacity in the San Antonio, San Diego, and Gaithersburg locations.

“The A. James & Alice B. Clark Foundation is proud to invest in programs that open doors to new opportunities and foster veterans’ self-reliance. Operation Homefront’s transitional housing programs do just that – providing a home, support services, and a sense of community to veterans, their spouses, and their children.”

–Mike Monroe, Director, Veterans’ Programs, A. James & Alice B. Clark Foundation
Army veteran and single father Jonah Flores and his two youngest children were renting a house, but the family wanted a permanent home to provide them with stability. That opportunity came when Jonah was accepted into our Homes on the Homefront program.

“This is just something I’ve been praying for, an opportunity like this,” Jonah said. “It’s a huge burden lifted off my shoulders. It’s going to change the dynamic of my family.”

Jonah and his children moved into a rent-free Operation Homefront home in Fort Smith, Arkansas and began working with a financial counselor to build a savings, improve credit and reduce debt. Once Jonah graduates from the program, OH will deed him the property. Jonah – who served 12 years, deployed twice and exited as a staff sergeant – said feeling secure about housing enables him to focus on parenting. He is grateful for the positive change the program is making in their lives.
2018 RECURRING FAMILY SUPPORT

BACK-TO-SCHOOL BRIGADE
Back-to-School Brigade furnished 38,967 military children with backpacks and the supplies needed to succeed in school.
Outcome: 87% of those surveyed agreed the Back-to-School Brigade program helped them feel stronger, more stable, and more secure.

38,967 BACKPACKS PROVIDED

HOLYDAY PROGRAMS
Holiday Meals for Military fed 14,633 families — nearly 60,000 individual family members — providing them with all the ingredients needed to cook a traditional meal. Holiday Toy Drives distributed close to 2,000 toys to military children, making the joy of gift-giving easier on parents dealing with deployments, frequent relocations, and financial challenges.
Outcome: 94% of Holiday Toy Drive and 95% of Holiday Meals for Military survey respondents agreed these programs helped them feel stronger, more stable, and more secure.

14,633 FAMILIES SERVED

HOMEFRONT CELEBRATIONS
Homefront Celebrations treated 283 military spouses to a special evening out with dinner, prizes, entertainment, and peer support. One spouse at each quarterly celebration received a full-tuition scholarship from Southern New Hampshire University.
Outcome: 84% of participants surveyed agreed Homefront Celebrations helped them feel stronger, more stable, and more secure.

MILITARY CHILD OF THE YEAR®
At our tenth Military Child of the Year® Awards Gala in 2018, Operation Homefront presented awards to seven recipients:
- Innovation Award – Shelby Barber
- Air Force – Eve Glenn
- Army – Rebekah Paxton
- Coast Guard – Roark Corson
- Marine Corps – Joshua Frawley
- National Guard – Aaron Hall
- Navy – Isabelle Richards

STAR-SPANGLED BABIES®
Star-Spangled Babies® showered 561 military moms with the support and essential baby items they needed to welcome their newest family members.
Outcome: 94% of participants surveyed agreed Star-Spangled Babies® helped them feel stronger, more stable, and more secure.

OUR HOLIDAY MEALS FOR MILITARY PROGRAM IS ONE OF our most popular programs. Since 2009, Beam Suntory has stood alongside Operation Homefront, as a founding partner, donating over $3.5 million to support our mission. Since then, many corporations like San Antonio Shoes, Walmart, Chobani and Cracker Barrel have made significant contributions to our important work.

“To think that this all started with a chance encounter is incredible, and I’ve been humbled to be a part of this program’s continued growth. And I’m proud to say that Beam Suntory is committed to giving back to our communities, none more so than our brave service members and their families, and our decade-long partnership with Operation Homefront supports that important work.”
–Ken Ruff, Vice President National Accounts, Beam Suntory

WITH SIX CHILDREN, COLLETTE AND ANTHONY AUSTIN appreciate any help with holiday expenses. The family received groceries through our Holiday Meals for Military program, while stationed in Hawaii. In 2017, the Marine Corps medically retired Anthony, a sergeant, after 10 years of service and three deployments.

Collette fondly recalls the Holiday Meals for Military event, where their kids enjoyed activities and the adults had a good time talking. “It’s just so amazing how [Operation Homefront] helps us out when we really need it,” said Collette. “Holidays, especially because we have such a big family, are tough for us between gifts and everything else. Having that meal (when we really needed it) was awesome.”

Anthony and Collette Austin with their six children
In September 2018, we deeded Army veteran Justin Pecoraro and his family their McHenry, Illinois home, donated by JPMorgan Chase. It was the 500th deed we have awarded since 2012 through our Homes on the Homefront program (HOTH).

As part of the program, the family worked with financial counselors and caseworkers to pay off over $11,000 in debt, save nearly $4,000, and invest $2,000 into the house over two years. The Pecoraros graduated from the HOTH program more financially savvy, better adjusted to civilian life, and strongly connected to each other and their community.

Just as important as their financial gains, Justin, Ashley, and their daughters, Antania, 12; Anabella, 9; and Jianna, 7, have built relationships in their Chicago community through their church, veterans groups, sports leagues and dance classes. The family applied for their home because it is located near several members of their extended family, a built-in support network. And their home allowed them to resume a valuable family routine, eating dinner together at least four nights a week. Their previous home did not have room for a dining table.

Justin was a sergeant and infantry squad leader with nine years of service when he medically retired from the military in 2014 after multiple injuries during three Afghanistan deployments. He now works as a meter reader for the local utility company. He is also pursuing a business management bachelor’s degree through American Military University and expects to finish in 2019.

“This amazing opportunity wouldn’t be possible for us without you all,” Justin said of Chase and Operation Homefront. The program helped them move from feeling “plagued with uncertainty about our future,” he said, to growing “financially, mentally, and spiritually.” “We cannot express our gratitude just to have the chance to experience something as kind and rewarding as this.”

Yatika Hunt Myers, a disabled Army veteran who participated in two of our programs, felt proud to receive the deed to her Homes on the Homefront (HOTH) house in Gay, Georgia, in 2013. Owning a home gave her and her three children a solid foundation.

But when tragedy struck, and their home burned down, Yatika and the younger two children needed a place to stay. In the early morning hours of Christmas Day 2018, the family’s house, where they had lived for five years, was destroyed along with all their belongings.

Yatika needed a place close to her kids’ schools. She has a son in college, a daughter in sixth grade, and a son in fifth grade. Thankfully, Choice Hotels International, a new Operation Homefront partner, provided Yatika’s family with a free two-week stay at their Comfort Suites in Forest Park, Georgia, until her insurance company authorized a longer-term rental.

“Having a clean, safe place to stay after such a devastating loss was a huge relief, said Yatika, who served in the Army for three years (including an Iraq deployment) before medically discharging as an E-4 corporal in 2012. “That was the best… to know we had somewhere to lay our heads and I don’t have to inconvenience anyone.”

Yatika said the hotel staff made her family and her service dog feel comfortable. “They were awesome,” she said. Overall, her children have been coping fairly well in the aftermath of the fire.

“Thanks to our partners… always serving.

– YATIKA HUNT MYERS
### Assets

#### 2018 Totals | 2017 Totals
--- | ---
Current Assets: | 
- Cash, operating | $1,728,211 | $1,753,184
- Cash, escrow funds | $70,283 | $402,015
- Cash, security deposits | $52,000 | $79,500
- Total Cash | $1,850,494 | $2,234,699
- Investments, at fair value | $1,945,056 | $2,561,187
- Pledges receivable | $6,225,354 | $1,887,026
- Contributed houses inventory | $16,637,864 | $23,792,139
- Contributed goods inventory | $2,239,231 | $1,993,297
- Other inventory | — | $5,170
- Prepaid expenses | $406,989 | $213,660
- Other current assets | $1,665 | $10,660
- Property and equipment, net | $1,343,815 | $440,858
- Total Assets | $30,650,468 | $33,138,696

### Liabilities and Net Assets

#### 2018 Totals | 2017 Totals
--- | ---
Current Liabilities: | 
- Accounts payable | — | —
- Accrued expenses | — | —
- Accrued escrow accounts | — | —
- Debt | — | —
- Total Liabilities | $1,709,230 | $1,912,495
- Net Assets: | 
- Without donor restrictions | 
  - Undesignated | $2,886,582 | $888,061
  - Designated for THCR and transitional housing | — | —
  - Designated for permanent housing | — | —
  - Designated for Critical Financial Assistance | — | —
  - Designated for field operations | — | —
- Total Net Assets | $28,941,238 | $31,226,201
- Total Liabilities and Net Assets | $30,650,468 | $33,138,696

#### Revenue, Support, and Other:

| 2018 Totals | 2017 Totals |
--- | ---|
- Contributed houses | $6,093,888 | $6,261,323
- Contributed goods, services, and facilities | $17,749,559 | $16,907,643
- Contributions | $21,891,644 | $16,746,570
- Special events, net expenses of $378,258 | $105,019 | $131,767
- Investment earnings, net | $35,407 | $14,133
- Other revenues | $18,655 | $64,886
- Total Revenue, Support, and Other | $45,984,572 | $40,026,121

#### Expenses:

| 2018 Totals | 2017 Totals |
--- | ---|
- Program services | $43,800,360 | $44,968,790
- Management and general | $2,476,935 | $2,128,255
- Fundraising | $1,300,240 | $1,724,694
- Total Expenses | $48,579,535 | $50,821,739

### 2018 Program Expenses Totaling $43,800,360

#### Fields of Operations

- Transitional Housing | $1,752,522
- Field Operations | $3,294,181

#### Gifts of All Kinds

- Critical Assistance | $22,346,489
- Field Operations | $3,294,181

#### Other Revenue

- Individual Giving | $467,039
- Corporations | $802,129

92% of our expenditures go directly to programs.

We rely on the generosity of individuals, corporations and foundations. We receive no federal funding.
TOP DONORS

CHAIRMAN’S CIRCLE
$1,000,000 or More

...
TOP DONORS

Kevin Sheridan
Jodie Shilling
Daniel A. Sigler
SignaRama
Signature Advisors Group, LTD
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Tenable Inc.
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Linda Tendick, Inc.
The 500, LLC
The Bailey Foundation, Inc
The Bank of America Charitable Foundation, Inc.
The Boeing Company- EGC and Gift Match Program
The Carrying On Project
The Chad & Gina Smith Giving Fund
The Chai Fund
The Cleveland Foundation
The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee
The Dolores & Donald Burnett Foundation
The Dupont Hotel
The Hale Foundation
The Hess Collection Winery
The High Pointe Foundation
The Home Depot #3908
The John and Rachel Hargis Charitable Gift Fund
The Joseph & Bethany Bontrager Family Charitable Fund
The Marak Family Foundation
The McLaughlin Family Fund
The Mushroom Festival, Inc.
The Raffiani Family Foundation
The Reynolds Family Charitable Fund
The Riecker Charitable Foundation
The Rogers Foundation
The Sandra O’Lea Mollenauer Trust
The Scudder Family Foundation
The Thomas & Sarah Mac Mahon Family Charitable Foundation
Theodore and Doris Lee Family Foundation
The John & Rachel Hargis Charitable Fund
The Joseph & Bethany Bontrager Family Charitable Fund
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The Scudder Family Foundation
The Thomas & Sarah Mac Mahon Family Charitable Foundation
Theodore and Doris Lee Family Foundation
The John & Rachel Hargis Charitable Fund

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Robert Morris University
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Audrey Roberts
Mary Rodriguez
Roger and Susan Stone Family Foundation
Mark Rolfs
Edgar A. Romo
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Jose Rosado
Lissette Rosado
Helen M. Rosenblatt
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Rotary Club of San Diego
David Rovin
Roy E. Crummer Foundation
Christopher Runk
Robert W. Rust
Geraldine Ryan
Philip Ryan
Teresa L. Ryan
S. Freedom & Sons, Inc
S.A.M.E.
Saeks Family Foundation
Samsung Austin Semiconductor- Paying Agent
John M. Sanders
SAP
Joseph P. Saracco
SAS Global Corporation
Janine Sather
Susie Sayer
Janine Sather
Joseph P. Sarappo
SAP
Samsung 66 Matching Gifts Fund
Kimberly Satcher
Susan Satcher
Mark E. Schupp
Schoellerman Foundation
Robert Schneider
Schoellerman Foundation
Mark Schreiber
Mark E. Schupp
Todd Schwantes
David E. Schwien
Christina Scofield
James Scott
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Robert Shanahan
Owen Shaw
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Hambledon Shepperd

Piper, Inc.
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Cyndi Paez
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Justin Palmer
Rusty Palmer
Manual Panar
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Chris Parker
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Diane W. Parker
Don W. Parkinson
Priya Parashar
James Patrick
Lyndia Patterson
Paul J. Trendowicz Memorial Foundation, Inc.
John Paxton
Edward Pearson
John E. Peoples
Nicholas A. Peters
David Peterson
Glenn Peterson
Raymond Peterson
Petroleum Retailers & Auto Repair Assoc., Inc.
PetSmart
Daniel E. Pettit
Pfizer Foundation Matching Gifts Program

2018 Annual Report
2018 Annual Report
In November, Chobani announced a new flavor for a singular cause: raising $1 million for Operation Homefront. Hero Batch, “Red, White and Blueberry,” is Chobani’s first charitable “sku” and was developed by veterans at Chobani. In addition to the company’s contribution of $500,000, the product features a special opportunity to donate throughout 2019, which Chobani will match up to $250,000. Funds raised will deliver Holiday Meals for Military families, Critical Financial Assistance and other needed support nationwide.

The Driven Brands Charitable Foundation, representing brands such as Meineke and 1-800-Radiator & AC, selected Operation Homefront as its partner for their 2018 fundraising campaign. From November 5-November 13, participating Meineke locations donated $5 from every oil change to our Critical Financial Assistance program. Operation Homefront was also the beneficiary of the 20th Annual Meineke Tournament of Champions.

The SpartanNash Foundation partnered with Operation Homefront for its retail scan to raise funds and awareness for military families in eight states. From June 27–July 8, store guests at more than 150 stores including Family Fare, D&W, Family Fresh Markets and VG’s joined the Foundation in raising $155,000 to support Operation Homefront’s Critical Financial Assistance program.

In 2018, Victory Automotive Group announced the launch of a new initiative to support America’s military families: the “Victory 12,000” challenge. Between July 1 and Labor Day, the company’s 41 dealerships nationwide were challenged to sell a total of 12,000 vehicles. In 65 days, an incredible 11,496 vehicles were sold and Victory Automotive Group donated $250,000 to Operation Homefront.

Donors are listed by recognition category based on donations received in 2018, not inclusive of pledges or cumulative gifts.
For the second consecutive year, the Bob & Dolores Hope Foundation and in part, its Bob Hope Legacy, provided $50,000 to support Operation Homefront’s Holiday Meals for Military program, helping to serve event waitlists at 11 locations across the country and allowing us to support an additional 661 families (approximately 2,908 individual family members). This gift was in addition to the generous $250,000 grant Operation Homefront received to support critical financial assistance needs of military families in California, New York and Ohio in 2018.

During an on-field presentation in December at the Army–Navy Game in Philadelphia, Chevrolet announced their continuing support for the work that Operation Homefront does to build strong, stable, and secure military families. The Chevy Cares Fleet will provide our six regional offices and San Antonio headquarters with loaned Chevrolet Silverado trucks to assist with program delivery and operational needs throughout 2019.

In their third year of partnership with Operation Homefront, Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, Inc. surpassed $1,000,000 in cash and in-kind giving to Operation Homefront. From June 29-September 3, as a part of Operation Rocker, Cracker Barrel donated one of the brand’s iconic rocking chairs for every rocker purchased online and raised over 1,300 for military families. They also surprised 100 military moms-to-be with a rocking chair at a very special Star-Spangled Babies® shower in Colorado Springs, CO. In addition, Cracker Barrel provided 400 Heat n’ Serve Easter Meals To-Go to military families, donated over $50,000 in gift cards, and more.

In April 2018, The Procter & Gamble Company and Operation Homefront launched the “Start Strong, Stay Strong” campaign to create a network of support for military moms across the country. Joined by two-time U.S. Paralympic athlete, former U.S. Army officer, and mom, Melissa Stockwell, “Start Strong, Stay Strong” provides moms with resources they need to discover and engage with their new communities. Since our partnership with P&G began in 2016, the company has donated nearly $1.2 million in cash and in-kind to support military families.

In 2018, PulteGroup, Inc. announced its partnership with Operation Homefront, through their Built to Honor™ program. This partnership will enable Operation Homefront to award newly built, mortgage-free homes to military families. The first home was donated and awarded in Florida. In addition, through the generous investment of the A. James & Alice B. Clark Foundation, Operation Homefront was able to purchase three homes from PulteGroup, Inc. for our new Transitional Homes for Community Reintegration program. Homes were presented to military families in Florida, Texas, and Virginia.

In 2018, the Walmart Foundation announced a $250,000 grant for our Critical Financial Assistance program, including support for 2018 hurricane disaster relief. We also welcomed Uli Correa, Regional Vice President Store Operations for Walmart, to our Board of Directors. Additionally, Walmart stores in Georgia supported Operation Homefront’s Back-to-School Brigade program, asking customers to donate school supplies at the registers - supporting over 5,000 military families. Since 2006, Walmart Foundation and Walmart have donated over $7 million in support of our programs.

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AWARDS & RECOGNITION

CORNERSTONE AWARD
Operation Homefront’s Cornerstone Award recognizes individuals who have helped us transform how we deliver on our promise to military families. Previous Cornerstone Award recipients include Ed Delgado, President and CEO of Five Star Institute (2015); Kathy Cox, Walmart Foundation Senior Manager (2016); Ken Ruff, Vice President, National Accounts at Beam Suntory (2016); and Heather Prill, Senior Manager of National Partnerships for The Home Depot Foundation (2017). We are excited to profile our latest recipients:

Rusty Smallwood, Real Estate Owned (REO) Military Donation Team Manager for JPMorgan Chase, received the Operation Homefront Cornerstone Award in 2017. Under Rusty’s leadership for the past eight years, JPMorgan Chase’s REO donations have made the dream of home ownership possible for over 500 military families through our Homes on the Homefront program.

In 2018, Operation Homefront was proud to present the Cornerstone Award to Chelle Davis for her decade-long commitment to serving America’s military families as VP Communications at Dollar Tree. Chelle has served on our regional advisory board and has been a key steward for our Dollar Tree partnership, which has provided more than $130 million in cash and in-kind support to help us deliver our signature programs: Back-to-School Brigade and Holiday Toy Drive.

EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR
Ebony Strange, Director of Corporate Partnerships, was instrumental in leading her team toward our organizational, partner, and revenue goals. She acquired new donors such as Choice, CSX, and GNC; welcomed donors such as Outback Steakhouse back to the Operation Homefront family; and simultaneously stewarded key partners such as Dollar Tree, Carnival, and SAIC. Ebony’s creative and cross-collaborative efforts were evident in all that she did both internally and externally. A proud Navy spouse, her appreciation and dedication to her donors was apparent in each and every interaction, and her passion for the military families that we serve was paramount.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR
Mike del Rosario, Region 3: A former Army captain and current regional advisory board chair, Mike’s leadership has strengthened area partnerships while adding donations and dollars throughout the region. Mike led his Woodland, Pennsylvania Walmart associates in 2,160 volunteer hours as part of the Penn State Military Appreciation Game. The event helped serve nearly 5,000 veterans and military families. Through this effort, Mike secured a partnership for us with Penn State to invite a HOTH family to attend and receive honors on the field.