

ANNUAL REPORT

2023 ELEVATING OUR EXCELLENCE

HOMES FOR THE BRAVE

Applied Behavioral Rehabilitation Institute, Inc.



OUR PROGRAMS:



Homes for the Brave

Homes for the Brave (HFTB), which opened in 2002, provides 42 beds of transitional living for Veteran and non-Veteran men experiencing homelessness with 37 spaces designated for Veterans. It is the largest Veteran program of its kind in the state of Connecticut.



Madaras House (Female Soldiers: Forgotten Heroes)

The PFC Nicholas A. Madaras Home, which opened in 2011, provides transitional housing for up to 14 Veteran women experiencing homelessness and their young children. It is Connecticut's first and only program exclusively for this population.



HFTB West Haven

HFTB West Haven is a transitional housing program that opened in 2022. It consists of two houses, serving up to 15 Veteran men who are experiencing homelessness.



Waldorf House

Waldorf House provides permanent supportive housing with case management services for nine Veterans and non-Veterans who were formerly homeless. Residents pay 27% of their gross income for rent, including utilities.



Tony Cinquanta Veterans Service Center

The Tony Cinquanta Veterans Service Center at HFTB opened in 2010. It caters to Veterans experiencing housing instability or those who are at risk of becoming homeless. Individuals can seek help with immediate basic needs. Staff also makes referrals to housing and other supportive services. Services include case management, life-skills workshops, meetings with federal legislative staffers, peer support sessions, and therapy dog visits.



Training for Success Vocational & Educational Program

The Training for Success Vocational & Educational Program offers employment services. Staff work one-on-one with clients on resume writing, job searches, and interview preparation. They connect Veterans with available educational benefits and help provide funding for job training. HFTB's vocational program also offers job prep workshops and computer skills classes to all Veterans.



Clinical Program

The Homes for the Brave Clinical Program addresses the gap in services for mental health and substance treatment needs of Veterans and their family members in our area. Clinical programming includes access to recovery-oriented therapy and wellness programming offering telehealth and in-person sessions with licensed clinicians.



Dear Friends,

In 2023, Homes for the Brave embraced significant opportunities to expand while steadfastly maintaining our commitment to delivering excellent services to the Veterans we are honored to support.

In collaboration with the Veterans Support Foundation, we opened two houses in West Haven, CT in 2022, and they have seen extraordinarily high occupancy levels. These properties have been impeccably cared for, and thanks to the generous contribution from Love, Tito's on June 2, 2023, we were able to establish flower and produce gardens at our Union Avenue site. Gardens at Bassett Court will soon follow, and the resulting bounty of fresh produce has significantly enriched the stay for our Veterans. We have had produce gardens in Bridgeport for several years, and we look forward to reopening them in 2024 after our construction is completed.

The Tony Cinquanta Veterans Service Center, situated in our downtown Bridgeport Annex, has expanded its reach, assisting over 151 Veterans and their family members benefiting from our services at this location. In addition to providing the expertise of our Outreach Case Manager, Therapist and Lead Vocational Specialist, we have established valuable partnerships with organizations such as the University of Bridgeport's Fones School of Dental Hygiene, enabling us to deliver essential programming and services to those in need within our community. We have also been able to open the space to community support groups, such as Alcoholics Anonymous and hope to develop more partnerships to serve Veterans and their family members. Furthermore, over 20 Veterans who were facing housing instability found their way to Homes for the Brave through our Annex, ultimately coming to our housing programs.

Finally, on June 9, 2023, we held a Groundbreaking Ceremony at our headquarters on Park Avenue in Bridgeport. This marked the expansion of our namesake facility to include a new wing, twelve private suites, and a much-needed elevator. Individuals, families, businesses, and organizations can be a part of this initiative and demonstrate their support for our Veterans by purchasing a brick or naming a bench, an area on our grounds, or a room within our facility.

As we look back on this year, we must express gratitude to our outstanding Board of Directors for their guidance and to our remarkable team of dedicated professionals for their focus on and commitment to serve our Veterans.

We also express our gratitude to you for your unwavering support, as it continues to empower us to provide comprehensive and wholistic services to both Veterans AND their families.

Very Truly Yours,

Johnny Vazzano Chairman, <u>Board of Directors</u> Vincent Santilli CEO/Executive Director

Vinent Santille



Success Story: Daniel, U.S. Army Veteran

Homes for the Brave provided amazing care and impacted my life in so many ways. They are a light that is guaranteed to shine through the darkest tunnel in your life. I'm incredibly grateful for the help they provided. I now have a place of my own and a fantastic job. I will never forget the amazing care that I received during my stay. I'm so grateful.

THOSE WE SERVE

July 2022 – June 2023

TOTAL NUMBER SERVED

386*

93% VETERANS

* Enrollments

GENDER



17% [†]

† Transgender/gender non-conforming clients are included in these numbers.

OUR PROGRAMS

100

SERVED AT HOMES FOR THE BRAVE

32

SERVED AT WEST HAVEN

151

SERVED IN OUR SERVICE CENTER**

**Includes follow-up case management

SERVED AT
MADARAS
HOUSE

8

SERVED AT WALDORF HOUSE

51

SERVED IN OUR VOCATIONAL PROGRAM

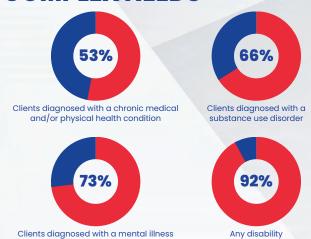
15

SERVED IN OUR CLINICAL PROGRAM

AGE

2%	UNDER 18
2%	18 – 25
10%	26-35
15%	36-45
29%	46 – 59
42%	60+

SERVING THOSE WITH COMPLEX NEEDS



RACE / ETHNICITY

BLACK (NON-HISP)	41%
HISPANIC (ANY RACE)	11%
WHITE (NON-HISP)	47%
OTHER	1%

HFTB Milestones



Opened Homes for the Brave. First client accepted August 2002

2002





Training for Success Vocational and Educational Program established Waldorf Supportive Housing Program opens



2010
Tony Cinquanta
Veterans
Service
Center opens





BREAKING GROUND



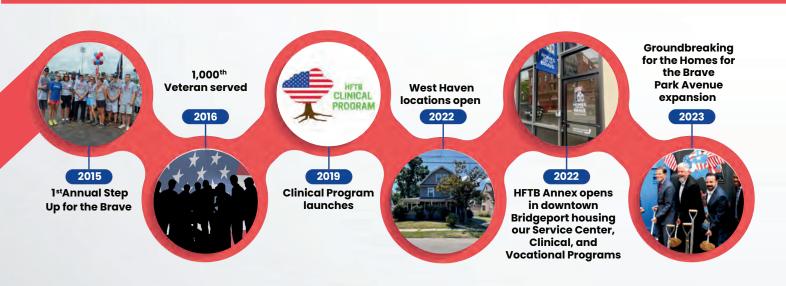






Continuing our remarkable journey of growth, on June 9 we celebrated the groundbreaking of our \$3.5M Park Avenue headquarters renovation. A new elevator will improve accessibility, and twelve private suites will offer enhanced privacy, comfort, and personal space for residents, to further foster an environment conducive to healing and growth. These vital enhancements will enable us to further the support and resources offered to the courageous individuals who have selflessly served our nation.

We thank the US Department of Veterans Affairs and the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, as well as the CT Department of Economic and Community Development for helping to make this expansion possible.



■ REVENUE FY2023

Federal Grants	\$1,947,340
rederar Orants	
State Grants	\$261,941
Special Events	\$454,383
(less direct costs)	(\$128,355)
Contributions & Small Grants	\$499,059
Client Fees	\$81,960
Other Income	\$18,832
In-Kind Revenue	\$287,069
Total Revenue	\$3,422,229

■ EXPENSES FY2023

Programs & Services	\$2,575,475
Management & General	\$361,922
Fundraising Expenses	\$262,786
Total Expenses	\$3,200,183

ASSETS

Total Assets \$4,207,266

Note: approval of the fiscal year 2023 financial data was pending an official vote by the Board of Directors at the time of printing.

DONOR SPOTLIGHT





"I am deeply impressed by Homes for the Brave and the exceptional caliber of programs and services they offer to our honorable Veterans. These brave individuals have selflessly served our nation, and it is our duty to ensure they receive nothing but the finest. This is why Burns Construction Co. takes great pride in standing as a staunch supporter of Homes for the Brave."

- Ken Burns Sr.

WE THANK OUR ANNUAL SPONSORS

PLATINUM







GOLD _















RED, WHITE, & BLUE



SILVER







BRONZE











2023 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Individual



At Homes for the Brave, we're extremely grateful for dedicated volunteers like Sofia Chaves, a senior at St. Joseph High School. We're thrilled to announce Sofia as the HFTB Volunteer of the Year for her two years of unwavering commitment, providing supplies and sandwiches to our Veterans. Sofia's kindness and selflessness have inspired hope in our community. Join us in celebrating her well-deserved accolade and the power of volunteerism for positive change.



Success Story: Johana, U.S. Navy Veteran

Homes for the Brave services helped me get back on my feet. Once you enter the program you realize that everyone is there to help you to successfully get back into society. Homes for the Brave employees genuinely care. This is a program that works.

Board of Directors

Johnny Vazzano, Chairman Paul Mayer, Vice Chairman

(Air Force Veteran)

Randy Abrams, Treasurer

(US Army Veteran)

Anna DiDomenico, Secretary

Jim Cannon, Immediate Past Chair

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Orlando Carroll

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Al Paolozzi

Dr. Dwayne Smith

Don St. Louis

(US Army Veteran)

Juliet Taylor

(US Army Veteran)

Emeritus Board Members

James Boland

(Marine Corps Veteran)

Anthony Cinquanta

(US Army Veteran)

Upcoming Events

8th Annual for Veterans **by Veterans Comedy Night** April 5, 2024

20th Annual Golf Classic

10th Annual Step Up for the Brave

5th Annual Veteran's Kick-a-Thon

8th Annual Mini Golf Tournament November 2024

Homes for the Brave Applied Behavioral Rehabilitation Institute, Inc. (ABRI)

Doing business as Homes for the Brave, we are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit agency based in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Our staff works with each individual we serve to help find safe and affordable housing, secure income through employment and/or benefits, and support them in maintaining mental and physical health. To date, we have served over 1,600 individuals.

MISSION

With an emphasis on Veterans, we provide the housing and services necessary to help homeless individuals return to a productive and meaningful life.

Vision

Our vision is to provide a model to enable homeless men, women and their families, especially those who have served our country, to attain safe, affordable housing, meaningful life activity, and a livable income so that they may return to a productive and meaningful life.

Values

We believe: 1. It is essential to serve others with honesty, integrity, empathy, and patience; 2. Every individual deserves to be treated with respect and dignity; 3. By providing a non-judgmental environment and access to a comprehensive array of services, we demonstrate our commitment to putting those we serve first; 4. Hard work and responsibility lead to independence; 5. Innovation is essential to developing creative solutions that are responsive to the evolving needs of our residents.

2023 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Organization



A decade ago, Trumbull Helps was born through the efforts of Jeff and Patty Kunkel. Today, it boasts an ever-expanding membership that extends far beyond the Trumbull community. Their unwavering mission? To be the helping hand for those in need. Throughout the years, Trumbull Helps has consistently lent their support to Homes for the Brave in many ways, including organizing vital supply drives and preparing hearty meals for our Veterans. The depth of their commitment to our Veterans fills us with immense gratitude, leading us to proudly bestow upon them the title of HFTB Volunteer Organization of the Year.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

MAKE A GIFT

Visit **HomesForTheBrave.org/Donate** or scan the QR code below. Check with your employer about matching gifts.

DONATE GOODS

Our wish list includes the items that our Veterans need most urgently, from bedding to clothing to toiletries and food.

HomesForTheBrave.org/WishList

VOLUNTEER

Volunteer to prepare and serve meals, host supply drives, share your expertise, or become an ambassador.

HomesForTheBrave.org/Volunteer

HIRE A VETERAN

Hire an employee who has a proven capacity to excel: the American Veteran. **HomesForTheBrave.org/HireAVet**

DONATE YOUR VEHICLE

Donating your vehicle is free, easy and tax deductible. **HomesForTheBrave.org/Cars**

INCLUDE HFTB IN YOUR WILL

Change the lives of Veterans for years to come.

HomesForTheBrave.org/Donate

Thank you for your generosity. During fiscal year July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023, you supported housing and meals, mental health and substance use treatment, vocational and life skills training and so much more. Thank you for creating positive change in our community, your commitment strengthens our clients' foundations as they work to achieve their goals. To see a full list of donors, please visit: **HomesForTheBrave.org/Annual Report**.

- 203-338-0669
- HomesForTheBrave.org
- 655 Park Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06604





THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

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\$5,000 - \$9,999

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\$2,500 - \$4,999

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