

**OUR MISSION**



Warrior Bonfire Program provides opportunities that improve the lives of enemy combat-wounded veterans—Purple Heart recipients—on their lifelong journey of recovery and healing. We create activity-based, small group retreats that foster healing, build support communities, and transform lives.



*We strive to build support communities, foster healing and improve the lives of those we serve*



**PAIN SHARED IS PAIN DIVIDED;  
JOY SHARED IS JOY MULTIPLIED**

## HISTORY

In 2012, the vision of the Warrior Bonfire Program began to form in the mind of our founder, Dan Fordice. He often looked-for ways to serve and help his fellow veterans who suffered from injuries both physical and mental. Dan served for 13 years with the U.S. Army and the Mississippi National Guard. It is his passion to find resources and connections to relieve obstacles for veterans. Dan was speaking with SFC (RET. USA) Charles Gregory Williams, who sustained a Traumatic Brain Injury when a Rocket Propelled Grenade struck and exploded 50-Cal ammunition box two feet from his head. He was later medically retired from those wounds. Greg commented that he could spend a full day with a PhD certified counselor and not come close to the therapeutic value of sitting around a bonfire with five or six guys. Dan quickly responded, "We will provide the bonfire!". In January of 2013, the organization' held its first Bonfire Retreat at Valley Park, MS with the second retreat coming to Grand County, CO the next month. The Bonfire has been burning ever since. Since then the Warrior Bonfire Program has held sixty-seven Bonfire Retreats and forty-one other events in eighteen states providing over 488 opportunities to Purple Heart Recipients and 38 spouses across the nation.

*"After that trip, I can honestly say that suicide is off the table. I learned from the others that were there, that have invisible wounds like me, that I AM worth it, my service did count, that it's ok to use the resources available. Not abuse them but to use them to make my life better so that I can help others through the experience I have been through."* – Kellie, Purple Heart Warrior

## IMPACT IN 2021

**\$607,318** MONETARY DONATIONS  
**\$323,445** IN-KIND DONATIONS  
**\$930,763** TOTAL DONATIONS

 **22**  
**BONFIRES**

 **6,107**  
**VOLUNTEER HOURS**  
WORTH \$175,000

### OPPORTUNITIES

 **121** VETERANS  
 **26** SPOUSES

**92%**  
OF PARTICIPANTS SAY  
THE BONFIRE HAD A  
POSITIVE IMPACT ON  
THEIR LIVES

### LARGE FUNDRAISERS

- Fore Our Heroes Golf Tournament, Highlands Ranch, CO
- Diamonds & Dog Tags Jackson, MS

### SMALL FUNDRAISERS

- VetStock, Centennial, CO
- Base-to-Base March, Colorado & North Carolina
- DUT Games, Lone Tree, CO

 **93%**  
**PROGRAM EXPENSES TO TOTAL EXPENSES**

 **2**  
**CAMPFIRES**