

Team Savannah for Veterans

A Look Back at 2020



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General Overview of 2020

An overview of how we have worked through a difficult year.

Events and Projects

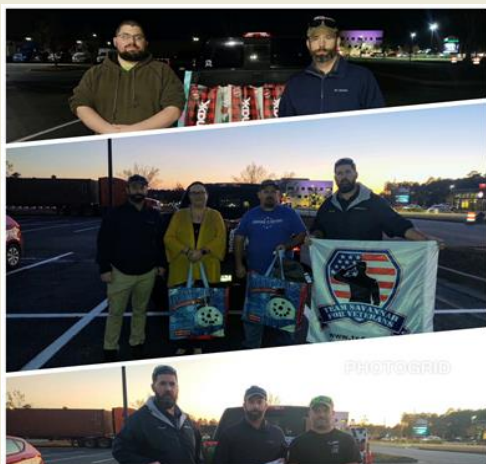
Discussion about the events and the projects we conducted to help Veterans.

Financial Overview

A visual representation of how we utilized and gained donations for the year.



2020 - A Year to Remember



This year was definitely one for the books. We started the year strong, having events rolling, helping Veterans, and working on our goals for the year. As we were getting to work for the year, the coronavirus slowed us down extremely; limiting our public gatherings made it very difficult to conduct our non-profit business. These restrictions prevented us from meeting our volunteers and new individuals at public events.

Regardless of the roadblocks that we faced; we continued our mission to help local Veterans. Moving to digital meetings and improving our social media enabled us to continue our operations. We utilized on-line donations to provide local Veterans with the essential items they needed while maintaining our social distancing.

General Overview



2020 has been a great year and a bad year at the same time. We all know the effects that the coronavirus has played on everyone. The key to remember is that it has affected everyone, meaning that more Veterans required assistance this year. Veterans faced the potential of losing their job, more isolation due to limited public gatherings, and the usual issues that may arise. As an organization, we focused on what we could do to battle those challenges.

We gathered our volunteers to build a ramp for a Vietnam Veteran and his son starting off the year. Throughout the year, we handled numerous situations from an individual facing dark times, providing a better Christmas for a few different families, and assisting with families with lost loved ones. In the end, we can say that we have indeed helped our veterans in need in many ways.

Our biggest issue in 2020 is the inability to participate in public events such as parades and festivals. These are some of the best ways we meet new individuals, spread the word about our organization, and raise funds for any events or projects that we have. However, losing these public events has helped us focus on our social media a bit more than we had in previous years.

We have learned so many things this year that we can utilize in our operations. We look forward to continuing to grow from these lessons and the many more to come. Developing stronger bonds with our donors and members will help our local Veterans immensely.



Words from the President:

We are living in unprecedented and challenging times. Unfortunately, we cannot determine what 2021 will hold for us, but you can guarantee that Team Savannah for Veterans will continue to impact our local Veterans positively. The team was able to assist **twelve** military Veterans in the local area during these tough times. The team members have worked tirelessly behind the scenes to continue our dedication to supporting Veterans in our community. Team members worked many hours during their "off" time from work and family.

We have lofty goals for 2021 to continue to help more and reach more. We are planning events to get out more in the community this year while we adhere to all safety guidelines.

I want to thank all our donors such as Home Depot, Walmart, Endurance Race Services, VWF Post 660, individual donors, and our anonymous donors. A special thank you to our team members and other volunteers that put boots on the ground and got dirty with us; without you, we accomplish nothing.

Chris O'Malley

Events & Projects

We have had quite a few projects this year. At the start of the year, the team worked alongside multiple other organizations to clean up a local Veteran's home lost to a house fire. Unfortunately, not everything was able to be replaced. This Veteran had also lost his wife. We feel that with everyone that was there, we built multiple bonds so that this Veteran did not feel alone. Not only did we assist with cleaning the property, but we also collected essential items for the new home.

Our next project was a continuance to Operation Charlie. Bringing a large number of volunteers out, we tore down a twenty-year-old wheelchair ramp and built a brand-new ramp that will last for many years to come. Another Veteran that needed help with repairing his home required the materials to complete those repairs. We were able to provide him with those materials.



A Veteran family had reached out to us about the loss of their Veteran family member that had passed away with very little life insurance. Team Savannah for Veterans helped the family alleviate the additional stress of losing a loved one. Local Veteran, Fred, asked us for some help cleaning up his yard. After going through multiple surgeries on his spine and still recovering from the latest, he could not do anything other than what he could get done on his riding lawnmower. We were able to get multiple volunteers out to get the yard back into good condition. We ended up coming out a second time to help clean and organize the shed, making it easier for Fred to navigate and use.

The team received communication about a Veteran experiencing some dark times, and we stepped in to guide this individual to the needed support. It was not just about getting this individual to the required service but also about caring for his items and pet while getting the support, making the transition back easier. Another smaller project for us was a lady who asked for some minor assistance paying for her rent. She was not asking to pay for everything but considering that she had a car that needed to repair and some other items to take care of, we chose to pay for an entire month's rent so she would have the finances to cover other issues impacting her.

Two more Veterans that we helped were living in the same campground in their campers. They had shelter and the items they immediately needed. However, with the help of VFW Post 660, we were able to provide them with food and even supplied one veteran with a donated wheelchair to increase his mobility. For the third year in a row, we continued with our holiday adoption. This year, we assisted with three families, getting gifts for 13 children! Providing these gifts to these families provided the children with a Christmas that they may not have been able to have and let the families focus their finances on items they needed.

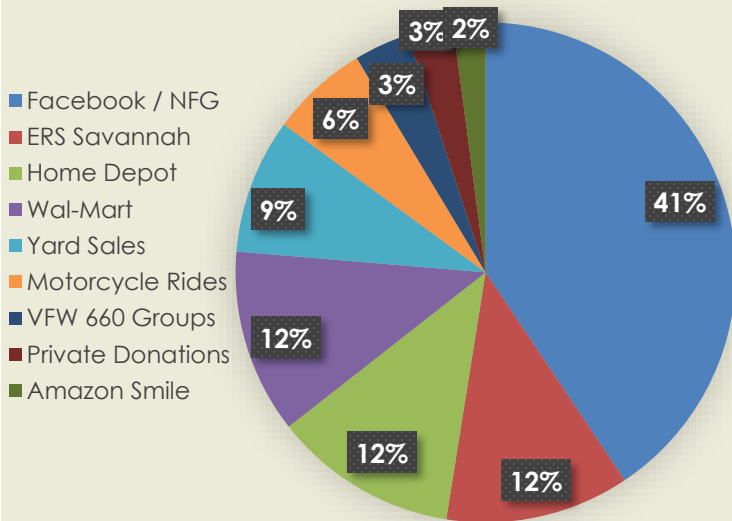
One of the smallest projects, but most significant to our hearts, was the Veteran pinning ceremonies held at a couple of local hospices. TS4V teamed up with Redrum MC, VFW Riders, CVMA, and many more motorcycle organizations to provide a loud and patriotic display to the hospice patients. Once we got there, we pinned the Veterans for Veteran's Day to show that we will never forget their service. This project was vital as these patients had been in the hospice with minimal contact due to COVID-19. Words from the staff were that all the patients were pleased about the event. This experience has provided us with the idea to continue this project in the years to come.

Financials

2020 Financial Overview

The team had a respectable year considering all this year's challenges. We raised over \$8,000 and spent almost \$6,000 on all the Veterans that reached out to us. We were able to help nearly every Veteran that reached out to us. The Board tirelessly ensured that all donations were spent appropriately and continued to vet applications to ensure that contributions are not misused. TS4V is an all-volunteer organization with many items used which are not tracked financially to help Veterans. From all the members who helped us build Charlie's ramp or clean up Fred's yard to the donated items given to Mr. Heurd after losing everything in a house fire. Our administration puts in the utmost effort to keep the organization rolling successfully, even though they do not receive any financial compensation. Cutting our administrative costs down to **4.9%** (\$294) is very successful, and we will continue to ensure the maximum amount of the donations can go directly to helping Veterans. We want to thank all our donors and organizations that we have partnered with to care for our Veterans. Without all of you, we would not be as successful as we have been.

2020 Fundraising



2020 Showed us a large variety of ways to raise funds. Our most significant source was through Facebook fundraisers, at 41% of our income. We received one Home Depot Grant of \$1,000 and two Wal-Mart grants of \$500 each. Our involvement with the Skidaway Marathon with Endurance Race Services provided us with a \$1,000 donation. Two separate yard sales provided us with \$734. Combining the VFW Riders Spades run as well as our Hospice Run raised almost \$530. VFW Post 660, their Auxiliary, and the VFW Riders provided us with \$100 donations each. Using Amazon Smile, where users do not have to pay anything additional or do any other steps than using the program, raised us \$175. With these and some other smaller donations, we were able to raise a total of **\$8745**.

2020 Spending

As seen in the 2020 Spending chart, we show how we utilized donations this year—the most significant project being the Holiday Adoption. As with any organization, we have our administrative costs. These are the costs that we work very diligently to keep to a minimum. A minuscule 5% of our spending goes to these costs. \$23 a month goes to keeping our website functioning and then \$30 for the yearly required filing fees. We had a total of **\$5,957.67** in total program expenses. Program expenses cover the amount of money put towards projects, not including the amount of physical labor or physical items given to Veterans that did not cost the organization.

