



Team Savannah for Veterans

GIVING VETERANS A HAND UP, NOT A HAND OUT

A Look Back at 2019

2019 was a great year. Take a look at what Team Savannah for Veterans accomplished in 2019. We'll take a look at how we've used donations this year to help local veterans, how we've spread awareness of our organization, and hear from our administration.

Past Year Overview

2019 has been a great year for us. We have been able to grow as a non-profit, we have helped multiple veterans, and we have grown our family. We have made multiple connections with other organizations, businesses, and individuals that can benefit not only us, but veterans in our area. We have a great understanding that we can help our veterans not by focusing on what our charity can do, but what all the local organizations can do. We know that we can't do everything ourselves, so if we make these connections, we can guide veterans in need to the right place.

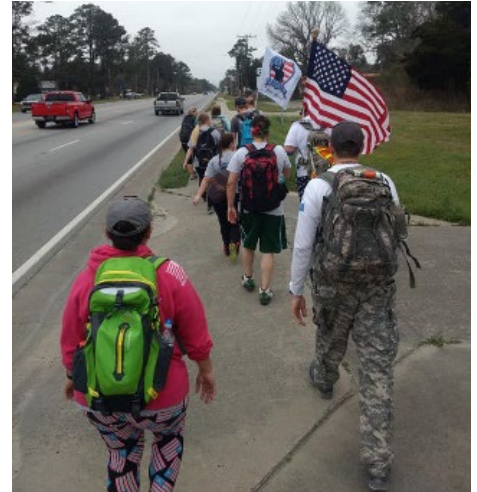
Some of the growth of our family this year includes the veterans that we have helped. We have some amazing individuals that we were fortunate enough to help. For example, a WWII veteran that served in the 5th Ranger Battalion, jumped into France on D-Day and fought in Germany. This man was grateful for what we did for him and for having us around. In our last project for the year, we not only made friends with the veteran, but also made close relationships with his wife and grandson.

Outside of the veterans that we have helped directly, we have also worked

towards expanding our reach in the veteran community. Holding events such as the Coffee and Chat gives veterans the ability to come out and meet us in a relaxed environment. In their mind they may need help, but they don't know us. Breaking that ice and giving more veterans the ability to meet us will lead to the comfort for the veteran to express how they feel.

Being a non-profit organization, we depend on donations to be able to continue assisting our local veterans. Majority of our donations have come from events such as the Skidaway Marathon detail, Facebook, and festivals around our area. This year Wal-Mart provided us with two grants as well to help boost our funds.

We encourage you to take the time and to look over the review of the year to see how we have helped veterans in the area. We also go into how we have raised funds as well as how we spent the funds raised. You will also hear the plan for the up and coming year. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out.



Team Savannah traveling down highway 80 in Bloomingdale to spread awareness of who we are.



Team members gathering on the newly built ramp with Vietnam era veteran, Aksel. Read more about Aksel's story below.



DONORS, THANK YOU!!!

To all the donors that have donated their hard-earned money, we want to thank you. Every one of you have worked hard for the money that you have. You kindly chose to give that money to veterans in need. It is our promise to you to ensure that those funds are properly used, benefiting those less fortunate veterans in our area.

What Has The Team Been Doing?

This past year, the team has been busy, doing what we can to help our veterans. Starting out the year with a yard sale, we met a local veteran that just moved to the local area. Bringing very little with him and low on funds, we assisted him with some of the basic furnishings for his new place. At no costs to us or the veteran, we utilized items that were donated to us for the yard sale to provide him more of a comfortable place to stay.

Our next veteran came up to us and discussed the issue of him and his wife were about to be homeless. Living in an extended stay at the time, and the wife dealing with dialysis treatment, they were out of funds. With a new job on the horizon, we provided the both of them a place to stay.

Reaching out to us, a Richmond Hill native and veteran asked us for some temporary assistance. Attempting to move back to the area, the veteran and his two daughters found themselves in a bad situation. Living in a hotel, they found their funds running

out rapidly. Having the pregnant mother back in Kansas, we suggested that we send him back to Kansas to help minimize his costs. At no cost to the veteran, we temporarily provided some housing and then sent him back to Kansas to be able to get back on his feet.

A 93 year old WWII veteran doing the yard-work around his own home, found himself needing assistance. Team Savannah, other organizations, and other veterans teamed up to tackle the large amount of property, cleaning up over-grown areas and disposing of the truckloads of yard-waste.

A local OIF and OEF veteran and her family found themselves in a bad situation after evacuating for a hurricane. Not able to pay for groceries, Team Savannah stepped up and provided this veteran and her family with gift cards to Kroger to be able to provide food for them to be able to survive temporarily. Expecting a new job on the horizon, we stuck with this veteran to ensure that

they were able to stay afloat.

A survivalists veteran living in a camper found himself in a serious situation. Due to medical bills, he found himself behind on his lot rent and utilities. When the landlord cut off his power and water, he went into survival mode. We provided this veteran with essential items to maintain his survival, again, at no cost to the organization. We plan to continue to follow up with this veteran.

Towards the end of the year, a Vietnam era veteran found himself in a bad situation. He was experiencing difficulties getting in and out of his home due to medical issues. To help alleviate these issues, Team Savannah built this veteran an ADA compliant ramp.

Lastly, the team decided to host the Veteran Holiday Adoption again. Only having one family applying for this, we verified their information and provided Christmas to one child, making it easier on the Veteran during these financially difficult times and providing decent gifts to the children.



Our Veteran that we assisted and his two daughters experiencing Savannah prior to heading back to Kansas.

Keeping Costs to a Minimum

As a non-profit organization, we rely solely on our donors to be able to continue helping local veterans. We understand that a lot of individuals that donate when they are barely making it themselves. To ensure that we utilize our donations appropriately, we are always looking at ways to keep expenses down. Whether that is Chili being donated for us to compete/sell or essential items such as canopies or tables being borrowed from members to use for our events. We strive to keep our costs low not only because we want to spend our donations appropriately, but we also understand that we can help more veterans if we spend our money more carefully. In 2019, our only costs were to operate a website, legal fees and non-profit filing fees. For the year of 2019 we had a total of only \$705 in administrative spending.

Moving Forward into the Year Ahead

As we continue to grow, it is our duty to continue to help those in need. As a small organization, we must understand that we may not be able to help every individual, but we must do what we can. Moving forward, we plan to continue to grow. We need to capture more people that will volunteer their time. We are also looking into more ways to indirectly help out veterans. Whether that is through simple events such as Coffee and Chat, or if we should host paintball tournaments or even barbeques. To encourage more participation, we are planning out our meetings for the entire year very early. Our goal next year is to gain more active members while being able to assist more veterans in need.

2019 BASIC FINANCIAL STANDINGS

This year the Team was able to raise a total of \$7,028 within 2019. This income includes donations, interest from our bank accounts, funds raised from events, and grants. To support the veterans in the local area, we spent \$7,154 towards multiple projects. As with every charity, there are administrative costs. These costs are required and keep us operating as an official non-profit organization. These are yearly filing fees, website fees, and legal fees. This year's administrative fees are \$705. In comparison for the year, we were able to bring in \$7,028 and there was \$7,154 that we spent on projects directly helping veterans. For this year, every dollar that was raised, we used that money to help a veteran in need. Rollover balances from years past helped us with what little extra we needed for the projects as well as the expenses.

Financial Overview

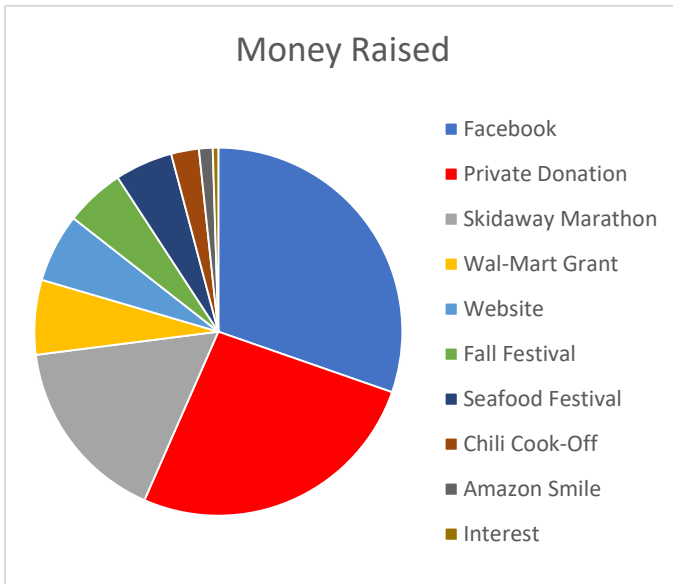
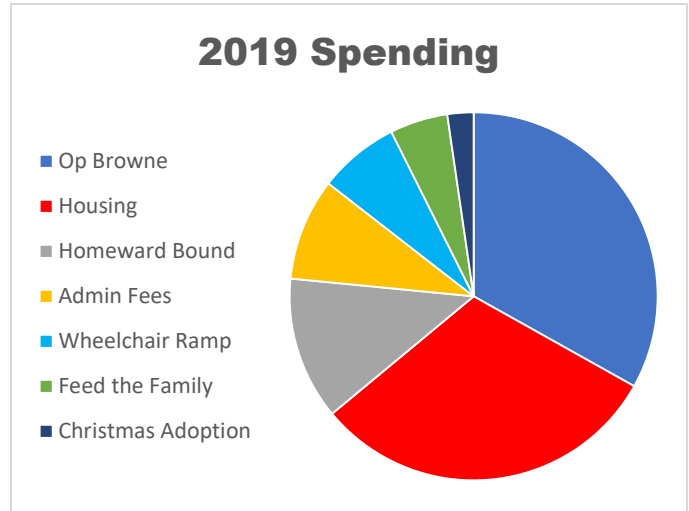
Type	Amount
Admin	-\$705.00
Bank Fees	\$44.43
Donation	\$5,421.88
Event	\$1,061.55
Grant	\$500.00
Program	-\$7,153.95

2019 Financial Overview

How we spent donations:

When looking at a charity to donate to, knowing where they spend their money is crucial. This year we had a total of \$7,154 that went to the different veterans that we helped this year. To cover essential items to operate as a non-profit, we only spent \$705 in administrative fees including website fees, required tax filing fees, and legal advisory fees. Operation Browne is providing financial assistance to a veteran that was struggling to pay rent, slowly falling behind. The housing project was for a veteran that was extremely close to being homeless due to his wife's medical condition and other factors. Having already been evicted, we assisted by providing the means to stay in an extended stay until him and his wife could get back on their feet. Operation Homeward Bound was a veteran and his two daughters that were attempting to get reestablished in the local area. After being pushed out of where he was staying and very little money, we provided the means for this veteran and his daughters to get back to Kansas, where the pregnant mother/wife was already established.

The Wheelchair Ramp project was a great project for us. We utilized funds to purchase materials to build an ADA compliant ramp so that this veteran can access his home easier due to medical conditions making it difficult. The next project we worked was to help feed a local veteran family. A veteran came to us discussing her need for assistance. Her and her family had left the area due to hurricane evacuations and when they came back, they had very little food left. Having just enough to travel to safety, and already being behind on a couple bills, we provided this family with gift cards to Kroger to help cover grocery expenses. Our last project for the year was our annual holiday adoption. This year we had only one family that requested assistance, so after the proper vetting, we provided the family with Christmas gifts for one child.



How we raised our funds:

In 2019, we utilized multiple means to help us raise funds. From attending different festivals and events, social media fundraisers, and grants. Our biggest means of raising funds is through the Facebook platform. The birthday fundraisers and other types of fundraisers held through Facebook are extremely easy to do and allows anyone the chance to perform their own fundraiser for any organization that they wish. The best benefit of it is that there are no fees for charitable organizations like Team Savannah for Veterans. They also participate in Giving Tuesday where they match donations to charitable organizations.

Attending festivals like the Springfield Fall Festival and the Seafood Festival not only gives us the chance to talk to people one on one, but we also get to raise funds through opportunity to win, donations, and other means. One of the best donors that we have had is Endurance Race Services. This company hosts marathons and other active events to help raise funds for local charities. Thanks to this company, they have helped us raise thousands of dollars to help local vets.

As a non-profit, we have been able to apply for grants to help us achieve our goals. One grant that was approved for us is through Wal-Mart. They provided us with \$500 to help change the veteran community. Although we have to pay \$23 a month to have a website, it provides us the means for us to share our information about who we are and what we do. Having this website also allotted us to raise an additional \$459, covering the costs of having the website. Lastly, another way that we are able to get funds is through Amazon Smile. By sharing links and educating individuals on what Amazon can do for our organization, we were able to raise \$91.

To help local veterans, it's not always about funds. We have been able to help multiple veterans through many different avenues outside of financial aid. We have donors such as Fia Rua, The Local on 17, and Bubba's Bistro that have welcomed hungry veterans in for a meal when we give them a call. We have also had individuals that have donated items from their home so that we can host yard sales. These items may not always be sold in our yard sales as we have used items to give to veterans directly so they can furnish their home. One veteran in specific moved from Texas to Savannah with very little. After reaching out, we were able to furnish most of his home with dishes, silverware, and furniture. We have also helped multiple veterans over time with yard work. Having volunteers come over to the veteran's home to help them clean their property is generally at no cost to the organization, as the volunteers bring their own tools and volunteer their time.