



Fisher House Foundation
“Because a Family’s Love is Good Medicine”
Key Messages

For more than 25 years, Fisher House has been dedicated to meeting the needs of our Nation’s wounded, injured and ill service members and their families.

- Since 1990, our impact on military families has been profound:
 - 75+ Fisher Houses operate around the world
 - 335,000 military and veteran families served
 - 8 million days of free lodging
 - \$407 million in savings to families
 - On any given night, more than 1000 families served

Our “homes away from home” offer welcoming and free temporary lodging so military and veterans’ families can remain together while their loves ones receive specialized medical care at military and VA medical centers around the world.

A long-term stay in a military hospital, often thousands of miles from home, can lead to unmanageable burdens and extensive expenses for family members needing to be a part of their loved one’s healing process. Since 1990, Fisher House has saved families \$407 million.

Other Fisher House Foundation programs include:

- Hero Miles: Provides airline tickets to wounded, injured and ill service members and their families in support of their continued recovery process. This is done with donated frequent flyer miles—even 1,000 miles makes a difference.
- Hotels for Heroes: Provides free hotel rooms to military and Veteran families whose loved one is being treated at a DoD or VA hospital when a Fisher House is either full or unavailable. This is done through donated hotel points.

Fisher House Foundation is nationally recognized as a premier non-profit with a **four star Charity Navigator** rating for 14 years straight and an **A+ from the Charity Watch**.

Fisher Houses are built to last decades and will continue to offer comfort and support to Veterans and military families for many years to come. It is the gift that keeps on giving.

On any given night, up to 1000+ families could be staying at a Fisher House.

The need continues to grow. Fisher Houses provide comfort and support for families of the 19-year-old combat injured from our current battles, and as well as the families of Veterans of past military campaigns. We were not there for our WWII, Korean and Vietnam Veterans when they returned war weary, but we are there for them now.

Fisher House is only successful because of the people who choose to respond to the call to support our military families. We cannot do this alone and we salute those who have helped us achieve this goal. The need has only grown and so our resolve to assist these families must grow as well.

Just as a veteran's medical care is guaranteed for life, so should the care for that veteran's family be guaranteed. It is our obligation, as an expression of our gratitude and appreciation of their service to our country, to see this through. Fisher House complements a medical "safety net" by assuring a family will always be able to be with their loved one while receiving medical care at VA Medical Centers across the country.

Wounds from combat are both visible and invisible, whether burns and amputations or from Post-Traumatic Stress and Traumatic Brain Injury. All these medical challenges will need the ongoing presence of a Veteran's family around them and require a Fisher House to support them in their time of need.

The Fisher House creates an instant community for its residents, united by their common mission of supporting a sick or injured loved one, but also provides each individual with a secure and private refuge after a long day at the hospital to rest and recharge. Families lean on each other for support.

There are over 2.5 million Veterans from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, there are over 23 million Veterans nationwide. These men and women, as well as their families, get support from DoD and VA hospitals around the country, Fisher House Foundation's goal is to build a Fisher House at every major Veterans hospital in the country. The war may be ending but not the need of our Veterans.

FAMILY QUOTES YOU CAN USE -

"These guys have been out of the country for eight or nine months and now they're back. They're supposed to focus on themselves, but they can't. They've got a family, so they're worried about them. But now, not only do they know where their family is, but they're in a wonderful place. And it's walking distance." *Dr. Dennis Hollins, Augusta VA Medical Center*

"It's definitely a home away from home. We all have our own rooms, but nine times out of 10, we end up in the family room together." *Julie Brooker*

“I don’t know what I would do without a Fisher House. I either wouldn’t be able to come, or we would have to stay in an expensive hotel. Fact is, this old Korean Vet just doesn’t have that kind of money.” *Joseph Krebs*

“There’s not one moment in Fisher House that hasn’t been extraordinary. I’ve been thinking about what it means to us and the people here – it’s a beacon of hope.” *Kate Davis*

“Volunteering for Fisher House feeds my heart. I feel like I am the one being given a gift.” *Nick Mavrick*

“I think Justin enjoys us all being here. We’ve been so close by. Every day we’re together. We can take breaks and shifts: it helps especially when appointments are nonstop. We even got to see him as a family walk.” *Jennifer Crabbe*

“We arrived at Dover around nine. Raw with emotion, we were driven to a special location on base, the Fisher House. In those terrible days we were not “normal” and needed to be surrounded by those who could both help and respect our privacy. Fisher House provided us this quiet service. I was allowed a respectful place to meet with and be guided through the hard business of death.” *Robert Stanton, father of a fallen Marine*

“Living there for a year was home away from home. I was never alone. You’re surrounded by love.” *Belinda Beatty*

“Forever friends are found and formed while staying at Fisher House. A hug can make a bad day all better.” *Anne Arnold*

“When I arrived at the Fisher House, I saw the light for the first time. I knew everything was going to be all right . . . When we were together as family, that’s when the real healing began.” *Griselle Mitchell*

“I soon learned the Fisher House was a place of healing, a place where I could get a good night’s sleep and then just walk across the street and be there for my daughter. I didn’t even have to cook; food just showed up. Bless God, it was one of the best things ever.” *Roxanne Brown*

“For the first time since Afghanistan, we sit on the couch in the evening and talk and laugh –like the old days. We feel like there is hope for the future and it doesn’t involve PTSD or TBI. Fisher House provided that hope and comfort for us.” *Macy, wife of a Navy sailor*

“I’ve seen a lot of charities do a lot of different things for the military, but only Fisher House has focus on the entire family as a unit. We were all able to be together throughout my healing process.” *Dale Beatty*

“I believe that every step Anson has taken was because Minie (his wife) was there to encourage and love him. Without a Fisher House, that never would have happened. I really don’t know where Anson would be today, quite frankly, if Minie had not been staying right across the street.” *Christian Curry, brother of Anson Curry who was severely wounded in Afghanistan*

“In your darkest hours, when you think you have nowhere to turn, Fisher House offers a glimmer of hope. It was like a hand reaching down and pulling you up. You knew it was going to be okay.” *Vickie Carter, mother of an Air Force airman who lost her leg.*

“The thought of going through this devastating time without the stay at the Fisher House is unbearable. I am 99 percent calmer and that is the greatest gift I could give my husband at this time in our lives.” *Mary Moore*

ZACHARY FISHER QUOTES -

“Remember us not for what we gave, but for the hardships we helped ease, and for the friendships we have helped to form.”

“For those of you serving in uniform today, I ask God’s blessing on you always. You represent our nation’s best, and we are proud of you!”

“There is a dignity and a majesty in the efforts of all our Armed Forces, and it is well for us to remember the noble deeds of those who have worn the uniform.”

“Elizabeth and I have dedicated our lives to serving the men and women in the military. We do this because it is you who have stood ready to defend our freedom.”

“Patriotism is the love of our country, but more so it is the love of things about our country that we do not want to see lost and that we want perpetuated.”

“I look back and I know that I have made a difference in someone’s life. I look forward and feel certain that we will be making meaningful changes in many lives.”

“Where there is military, there is a Fisher House. Where there is a Fisher House, there will always be caring, warmth, security, and compassion.”