



AIDING WOUNDED SERVICE MEMBERS,  
THEIR FAMILIES AND THE FAMILIES  
OF THE FATALLY WOUNDED

# FREEDOM IS NOT FREE



## THE CAUSE

**FREEDOM IS NOT FREE** is a mission driven organization. Regardless of partisan or political views, we aim to increase awareness and funds to address the needs of our wounded service-men and women and their families who sacrifice daily for our freedom.

Since its establishment in 2005, **FREEDOM IS NOT FREE** has raised funds and labored to raise public awareness with the aim of easing our heroes' and their families' burdens. The ways in which we have been privileged to assist include:

- Covering travel expenses for families of fallen heroes
- Providing logistical assistance and funding for the renovation of the brain trauma center at Camp Pendleton, CA
- Purchasing "burn-beds" for roadside bomb victims
- Refurbishing the Wounded Warrior Barracks at Camp Pendleton, CA
- Coordinating the venue and accommodations for a surviving spouse conference
- Allocating funds for the purchase of equipment needed to modify clothing for burn victims
- Contributing to the cost of home modifications for the wounded
- Helping with payments for day to day living costs for wounded servicemembers facing extreme financial hardship

**FREEDOM IS NOT FREE's** unique Purple Heart Board is responsible for deciding how funds are allocated. Comprised of active duty and veteran Purple Heart recipients and their survivors - "those who have been there," - their role is to facilitate the best possible allocation of funds to serve the mission.

**FREEDOM IS NOT FREE** is a non-partisan, non-profit 501(C)3, organization (EIN/Tax ID# 47-0951987). All administrative expenses are paid for by members of The Patriot Advisory Board, the advisory body to **FREEDOM IS NOT FREE's** management, thereby ensuring that 100% of donations go to support programs and grants. Members of The Patriot Advisory Board assist in the promotion of **FREEDOM IS NOT FREE** programs, initiatives and fund raising activities.

**FREEDOM IS NOT FREE** programs and grants are made possible solely by the generosity of donors. **FREEDOM IS NOT FREE** receives no federal, state or government funding.

**WWW.FREEDOMISNOTFREE.COM**

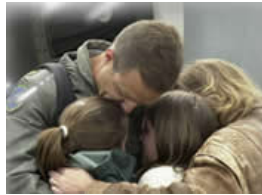
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# GRANT RECIPIENTS



## WHO WE'VE HELPED

### SGT WILKINS

Sergeant Wilkins was recovering from shrapnel wounds incurred in combat, receiving pay from the military while his wife was working part-time to assist with their finances and helping with his recovery process. Tragically, Roger's wife was killed by a drunk driver. He was also medically discharged from the military and added to a list of veterans waiting at least three months for benefits, leaving him with no income and the burden of suffering from both his injuries and the loss of his wife. **FREEDOM IS NOT FREE** granted funds to help make his house, utility and car payments for three months.

### SGT AVERY

A critical injury during his tour of duty left US Army Sergeant Avery dealing with the long term effects of extensive lung damage, hearing loss, uncontrolled blood pressure, and day and night terrors. SGT Avery, a single man receiving only a weekly unemployment check, was unable to meet the most basic living expenses. **FREEDOM IS NOT FREE** provided funds to cover back rent, heating gas, electricity, and other unpaid bills.

### CPL ERNESTO

The three siblings of critically wounded US Army Corporal Ernesto were flown to Walter Reed to inform him, in person, of the death of their parents in a fatal car accident. The **FREEDOM IS NOT FREE** grant paid for travel and hotel expenses.

### SGT BARCLAY

An IED explosion in Iraq severed a major artery in Sergeant Barclay's right leg. After nearly bleeding to death, medics were able to repair the artery, requiring numerous blood transfusions. She has shrapnel in her right arm and torso and will soon undergo surgery to prevent it from traveling to her vital organs and causing further threat to her life. Susan's husband of six years abandoned her and their two small children, emptying their savings and leaving months of bills unpaid. **FREEDOM IS NOT FREE** assisted SGT Barclay with outstanding payments, preventing foreclosure of her home, repossession of her vehicle, the cut-off of utilities and the loss of childcare.

### SSG KEIL

US Army Staff Sergeant Keil was married 45 days before leaving for his second tour in Iraq. While riding on the back of a tank he was shot in the neck by a sniper. The bullet penetrated his spine causing severe spinal damage and leaving Matt a quadriplegic. He will need rehab for most of the rest of his life and will likely never be able to work again. His wife has had to take significant time off work to be with him during his treatment, causing the couple to struggle financially. **FREEDOM IS NOT FREE** provided funds to help the couple cover the cost of basic daily living expenses.

### SMC LCpl JESSE AND Cpl TYLER

USMC Lance Corporal Jesse and Corporal Tyler, childhood friends, joined the USMC together as part of the Buddy Program. While out on patrol together, both were severely wounded. LCpl Jesse suffered a major injury resulting in a leg amputation and Cpl Tyler suffered severe facial burns and lost an arm. Following extended hospital stays and in-house rehabilitation programs, the two Marines were sent home to continue out-patient rehabilitation. Both struggled to meet daily financial obligations so **FREEDOM IS NOT FREE** awarded monthly stipends to assist with basic living expenses.

### SGT DAVID

US Army Sergeant David was killed in action while serving a tour of duty in Iraq. His father served alongside him with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne. **FREEDOM IS NOT FREE** extended a grant to cover travel expenses SGT David's paternal grandparents to attend the funeral in Fort Campbell, KY. **FREEDOM IS NOT FREE** also paid the families' utilities for the period they were together for the funeral.

### SGT TERRY

US Army Sergeant Terry was flown to Germany after being injured in Iraq. When **FREEDOM IS NOT FREE** provided a grant for his wife and four children to his bedside, it was unclear whether SGT Terry would survive. The grant covered travel, hotel and food costs.



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# OUR HISTORY



## WHY WE ARE HERE

The U.S. led invasion of Iraq and the military efforts in Afghanistan to uproot the terrorist infrastructure made headlines from the start. By 2005, however, casualty reports were barely making page six news. The American public had settled back into the mundane routine of daily life. In Iraq and Afghanistan, however, injuries and fatalities were mounting daily.

It was precisely this disparity that motivated David Dominguez, a San Diego entrepreneur, to establish [FREEDOM IS NOT FREE](#). The name he chose for the non-profit gave expression to his sentiment that the brave men and women serving in the military, and their families, were shouldering the price, all too often the ultimate price, for the freedoms that we all enjoy.

David enlisted long-time friend and Vietnam veteran Carl Frank. Together they began to frame the [FREEDOM IS NOT FREE](#) philosophy, ultimately formulating the mission statement under which the organization has labored since its establishment:

**"AIDING WOUNDED TROOPS, THEIR FAMILIES  
AND THE FAMILIES OF THE FATALLY WOUNDED"**

The mission epitomizes the founders' belief that the injury or loss of a hero has a far broader effect, on others beyond the specific individual. They wanted to create a safe environment where supporters would feel confident that their donations were actually going to help those most in need.

Dominguez and Frank established an intentionally lean organization with emphasis on financial checks and balances. They deliberated at great length on the importance of a transparent model for the allocation of funds to the most deserving recipients. This requisite led to the establishment of the Purple Heart Board. They assembled a group of carefully selected, highly committed veteran and active duty Purple Heart recipients and their relatives to serve as "gatekeepers". The Board, made up of "those who have been there", determines how the funds raised by [FREEDOM IS NOT FREE](#) are allocated in order to respond to the innumerable number of requests received.

The [FREEDOM IS NOT FREE](#) Patriot Advisory Board was established in a similar vein. Its primary role is to serve as an advisory body and assist in the promotion of [FREEDOM IS NOT FREE](#) programs and fund raising initiatives. The Patriot Advisory Board is comprised of a diverse group of individuals with complementary personal and professional backgrounds, skill-sets and experience. They all share the passion for the "mission" and the will to make a difference. They offer unbiased feedback, new ideas and an invaluable knowledge-base that contributes to [FREEDOM IS NOT FREE's](#) operations.



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# HOW YOU CAN HELP



## OUR FOCUS

### American Heroes Circle General Fund

The *American Heroes Circle* is [FREEDOM IS NOT FREE's](#) premier donor society. It was established as the General Fund from which the Purple Heart Board distributes grants to individuals and other non-profit organizations based upon need, urgency and significance to the mission. The Circle offers like-minded philanthropists the opportunity to band together in support of our wounded heroes and their families. With a broad range of contribution levels, starting at just \$100, the *American Heroes Circle* is the place for donors to join a community of shared appreciation, respect and admiration for our brave men and women in uniform and the sacrifices they and their families make for us each and every day.

### The Purple Heart Emergency Fund

The *Purple Heart Emergency Fund* was established to provide a rapid financial response to immediate and urgent needs, including funds to cover such expenses as utilities, rent or mortgage payments, automobile payments and even food. Your contribution to this fund enables [FREEDOM IS NOT FREE](#) to assist families in a way that affords them the time and space needed to care for their loved ones, mourn a tragic loss and make necessary arrangements for future needs.

### Emergency Travel Fund

A young man serving his country has been seriously wounded, but his fiancé does not qualify for Department of Defense travel benefits so she can be at his side when he needs her the most. The [FREEDOM IS NOT FREE](#) *Emergency Travel Fund* was established to provide non-conforming "relatives" (a fiancé, best friend, grandparent or significant other) with the financial assistance they need to get to their loved ones' side quickly and easily, preventing limitations and restrictions from keeping loved ones together during critical moments.

### Homes for Our Heroes

[FREEDOM IS NOT FREE](#) is currently partnering with other non-profits, civic organizations and private enterprise to provide wounded veterans with specially adapted homes and remodeling services thereby providing timely and functional solutions. Join other supporters in making the lives of our wounded heroes and their loving family members and caregivers more comfortable and manageable.

### Mentorship Program

*Discharged Service Member Mentorship Program* - The [FREEDOM IS NOT FREE](#) mentorship program is intended to guide our heroes and assist them in making healthy, productive and constructive choices regarding their future. The program pairs wounded service members with business and educational mentors from the community at large. Together, they work to answer questions that arise and overcome issues and obstacles.

*Mentor and Pal Program* - The children of our fatally wounded service members suffer not only from the devastating loss of a parent, but also from the absence of a significant contributor to their growth, development and education. [FREEDOM IS NOT FREE](#) is developing networks to offer support to these children through academic tutoring partnerships, Big Brother / Big Sister associations and YMCA Program direction and assistance.

### Sports Education and Life Enrichment Youth Camps

The needs of our heroes' children are similar to those of all children. The [FREEDOM IS NOT FREE](#) Sports, Education and Life Enrichment Youth Camp program is being developed with specialists and first rate sports and fitness experts. Its aim is to provide the children of fallen or wounded service-members with a unique and fun experience with their peers while addressing their special circumstances and needs. The team of professionals will offer constructive support in a healthy and safe environment. The camps will incorporate the services of professional athletes and coaches as well as mental health professionals, to teach sports skills and techniques while offering targeted educational content, open forum discussions and youth development activities geared to the children's' unique needs.