

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING VILLAGES



Shanice Dansby turned to the military because she was ready for a new perspective on life.

"I'm originally from the San Francisco Bay area, and although I loved it, I felt stuck and wanted a new perspective outside of California."

Her dad was a retired chief in the Navy and encouraged her to enlist, which she did in 2010. She deployed twice, once to the Middle East and another to Mediterranean.

Shanice thought the Navy would be her career, but she medically retired in 2019. A veteran told her about Operation Homefront's Transitional Housing - Villages, and she applied to live at the village in Gaithersburg, Maryland.

She was stationed in Hawaii at the time with her two children but wanted another a change. Shanice and her boys, Quinton, 6, and Emerson, 2, moved into their Village apartment in May 2020. At the Village, Shanice received financial counseling and the support needed to transition to civilian life. She was able to graduate from the program in about seven months.

"If I looked back a year ago and hadn't done this I would not be where I am today," she said. "I wanted to give the space to another a veteran who needed it."

Since completing the program, Shanice and her sons settled in North Carolina, and she plans to attend nursing school.

OVERVIEW

Operation Homefront's Transitional Housing - Villages provides rent-free, two- and three-bedroom apartments to wounded, ill, and injured warriors and their families as they leave the military.

Transitional Housing - Villages is designed to enable families to heal together, while bridging what can be a lengthy gap between military pay ending and veteran benefits beginning, or when veterans' disability claims are finalized and disability payments begin.

Transitional Housing - Villages relieves the financial stress and provides a comprehensive package of individualized family support and financial planning services. Each participating family is provided with:

- Rent-free, utility-free, fully furnished apartment
- Assistance with medical referrals
- Case management and customized transition plans
- Employment coaching and educational guidance
- One-on-one financial counseling
- Support network

Families experience a supportive environment among understanding peers, and most make impressive financial progress during their stay, leaving the program debt-free, or nearly so, with an emergency savings plan in place.

AT A GLANCE

Locations	Gaithersburg, MD; San Diego, CA; San Antonio, TX
Capacity	30 apartments
Who is eligible	Wounded, ill, and injured veterans and their families as they transition out of the military
Average length of stay	8–18 months

RESULTS

193
FAMILY MEMBERS
SERVED
IN 2021

6,000+
MONTHS OF RENT-
FREE HOUSING
PROVIDED SINCE 2008

\$468K
RENT & UTILITY
EXPENSES SAVED
IN 2021

\$7.1M+
RENT & UTILITY
EXPENSES SAVED
SINCE 2008

WITH YOUR SUPPORT

With the support of the **A. James & Alice B. Clark Foundation**, **The Coca-Cola Foundation**, **DAV Charitable Service Trust**, **The Home Depot Foundation**, **Texas Veterans Commission**, **Veterans United Foundation**, and other donors and partners, Operation Homefront continues to provide transitional housing and comprehensive support services to wounded warriors and their families. The need continues.

Find out how you can help at OperationHomefront.org.

PROGRAM EFFICIENCY

88%

of Operation Homefront's expenditures go directly to programs supporting military families.

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