

The Carolinas' Torch of Hope Benefiting Hope for the Warriors™

The North and South Carolina chapters of Beta Sigma Phi voted to accept Hope for the Warriors™ (H4TW) as a state service project. It is only fitting as the Carolinas are considered two of the most military friendly states in the nation. South Carolina is home to six active military installations and North Carolina is home to the third largest concentration of military personnel in the nation.

The two main reasons for supporting this particular organization are that only 8 cents of every dollar is used for administrative expenses and the awe-inspiring courage of these service members and their families. Many viewed the movie "Taking Chance," starring Kevin Bacon. This true story depicts the journey of highly decorated PFC Chance Phelps from Dover, Delaware to his hometown and place of rest in Wyoming. Hope For The Warriors™ proudly works with Chance's mother, Gretchen Mack, as an H4TW Ambassador of Hope, and Chance's father, John Phelps.

Hope For The Warriors™ website tells the inspirational story of LCpl Colin Smith from Minneapolis who was shot in the head by a sniper. He has extremely limited movement on the right side of his body and his speech was affected. Colin's father, Bob, contacted Hope For The Warriors™ in fall of 2006 with a request for assistance in purchasing a home that would provide a safe and adaptive haven for Colin to continue down his amazing path of re-

covery. Hope For The Warriors™ provided the Smiths with a grant toward a new home. Colin and his Dad were at Camp Lejeune for the annual Run for the Warriors this past May, as Colin wanted to meet the corpsman that literally saved his life. Colin is the epitome of a hero and the spirit of American pride. His family stands behind him with admiration, love and the utmost respect for the choices and the sacrifices he has made. They are truly role models to all families.

Hope For The Warriors™ is a civilian-run, nonprofit organization that began in 2006 after Shannon Maxwell, co-founder, nearly lost her husband, Lt. Col. Tim Maxwell, to a mortar attack in Iraq. Lt. Col. Maxwell was left with a traumatic brain injury, and Shannon saw that there was a need for advocacy and support for wounded service members and their families.

Through the generosity of Beta Sigma Phi chapters and individuals, Carolinas' Torch of Hope, so far, has raised more than \$2,700. Hope for the Warriors™ has also been proposed as a Beta Sigma Phi Endowment Fund Project.

All money raised through the Carolinas' Torch of Hope campaign goes to Hope for the Warriors™. Donations can be made safely online through the website <http://www.active.com/donate/torchofhope>. Please visit www.hopeforthewarriors.org and learn more about this outstanding organization.