



"We offer a Hand Up, Not a Handout"

2020 ANNUAL PROGRESS / HIGHLIGHTS REPORT

Dedicated in honor of our many friends and donors. In other words, YOU!



Throughout the Coronavirus pandemic, The Veterans' Place has continued to serve our state's most vulnerable veterans safely, and with honor and compassion.

We greatly appreciate the generous support of our donors, sponsors, friends, volunteers, and community partners, without whom we could not do what we do.

**The Veterans' Place, Inc., 220 Vine Street, Northfield, VT 05663 Tel: (802) 485-TVPI (8874)
You can also find us online at vermontveteransplace.org and on Facebook.**

From the President: A Look Back at 2020

More than 14 months have passed since we began implementing Covid 19 protocol at the Veterans' Place, and I am pleased to report that thanks to 100% compliance among our staff and residents, we have not had a *single* positive test all in that time.

Naturally, some of our activities were affected, particularly regarding interactions with the local community; but in spite of the many constraints brought about by the pandemic, all things considered, we had a very successful year.

Indeed, I have excellent news to report. In September, our Grant Per Diem contract with the VA was approved for another two years, and once again we passed our annual VA site inspection with flying colors.

Also, thanks to your generosity, as well as the federal government's payroll protection program, we managed to finish the fiscal year in the black. This was no small accomplishment, given that the VA did not allow us to admit new residents during the months of [? to ?].

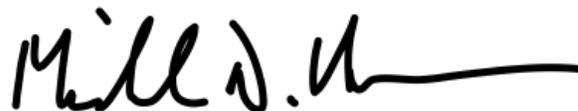
In other news, Karen Boyce, who has been the unswerving matriarch of the Veterans' Place since its doors opened in 2009, was

promoted to managing director. We also hired a housing manager, Rich Turner, and a new facility manager, Matt Dezan. Meanwhile, "chef" Pete has taken on additional duties assisting Matt. We also hired Michael Rama to revamp our website, with stunning results. Do check it out at www.vermontveteransplace.org. As of this writing, with all staff fully vaccinated, we are up and running at optimal strength and warp speed!

If you are reading this, you are a valued friend, loyal donor, dedicated volunteer, or committed community partner. This year's report is dedicated to *all* of you, with heartfelt gratitude for *everything* you have done—and are doing—to transform the lives of Vermont's homeless vets.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, our residents, and our staff, **THANK YOU!**

Yours in Service,



Michael J. Krause, Ph.D.
Colonel, United States Army, Retired
President, TVPI Board of Directors

Our Mission

The Veterans' Place, Inc. (TVPI) is dedicated to reducing Vermont's homeless veterans population by providing a secure and sober home in a compassionate communal setting, along with supportive services and programs, to homeless veterans for up to two years while they transition to independent, sustainable living.

TVPI works in conjunction with the Veterans Medical Facility in White River Junction, along with other Veterans' facilities and state agencies around Vermont, in a coordinated effort to offer affordable housing, nutritious meals, substance abuse treatment and mental health counseling, along with employment and volunteer placement assistance, among other supportive services.

“The Veterans’ Place Saved My Life!”

Testimonials from a few of our residents

Before arriving at Veterans’ Place in Northfield I was in rough shape. After one year of being here I now have my mental health back. I have been clean and sober for over a year. I have my driver’s license back! I have purchased a vehicle. I have saved money so that I can now get my own apartment. The staff at the Veterans’ Place has helped me out tremendously! I am truly grateful for their services and highly recommend any Veteran, whatever their issues may be, to reach out and contact the Veterans’ Place.
They saved my life!

**—Christopher Ardell,
current resident**

The Veterans’ Place is an excellent place to restart your life. This is my second stay here and it has always been a good experience. They are always pleasant and very, very helpful. If you are in a position where you need help they are right there to help you.

**—Albert Johnson,
current resident**

In 2017 I hit rock bottom, losing everything except my life. I immediately went to the VA for help. I am 6 ft. 2 and weigh 200lbs. I was admitted to the ER at the VA that day weighing 113 lbs. In the last three years since being with the VA I have always had a roof over my head and food in my stomach.

I came to Veterans’ Place on January 10, 2019, having completed a six-month program for substance abuse. I did my research and found that Veterans’ Place was one of the best transitional homes for vets in New England. My research paid off. I have accomplished so much since being here. After being a resident for six months I was offered the position of being in charge of quarters, where I look after the whole house and the residents when the rest of the staff have gone home for the day and on weekends.

When I came to the Veterans’ Place I was very scared and lonely. I learned very quickly that the reason The Veterans’

Place is so successful boils down to one word: Empathy. The director here shows more compassion than anyone I have ever met. Her name is Karen Boyce. I told her in a Christmas card I sent to her that it is quite an amazing feeling to meet someone that you know is going to HEAVEN, and I hope I will see her there one day. Karen Boyce restored my faith in humanity and God.

**—West McMillan, former
resident, current staffer**

Bob is an 82-year-old Korean War Veteran who has lived at The Veterans’ Place for eight years. He was born in the building when it was the town hospital. A man of few words, Bob says, “It’s a very nice place and everything is excellent!”



**—Robert Davis,
AKA “Walking Bob”**

**“Who kept the faith and fought the fight;
The glory theirs, the duty ours.”**

—Poet Wallace Bruce (1844-1914)

2020 Monetary Donations Honor Roll

It is our wish to acknowledge *each and every one* of our generous donors. However, despite our best efforts, omissions do occur. If you made a financial or in-kind gift in 2020 but your name does not appear below, we are truly sorry. *Do let us know!*

American Legion #63 / Northfield VT	George Smith Jr.
American Legion Dept of VT	George Hutchins
American Legion Post #10 SAL / Barre VT	Goldwing Road Riders Association Chap. K
American Legion Post #19 / Bristol VT	Gordon Perkinson and Christine Barnes
American Legion Post #27 / Middlebury VT	Helen Kinsman
American Legion Post #29 Auxiliary / Readsboro VT	James and Ruby Macintyre III
American Legion Post #36 / Ludlow VT	James and Tracy Raymond
American Legion Post #48 / Hartland VT	Janet Townsend
American Legion Post #50 / Bomoseen VT	Jean E Henry
American Legion Post #59 / Waterbury VT	Jeffery S Holmes Post #84 / WRJ
American Legion Post #9 / Randolph VT	Joachim and Anita Palm
American Legion Riders Post #7 / Hardwick VT	John and Gloria Patterson
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Betty Barclay	Joseph and Katherine Morvan
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Diane Martin	Mystic Star Phoenix Lodge #97
Donald and Marianne Davidson	National Life Group
Dr. Bruce and Mary Stuart	Norma Ryan
Edward and Angel Carbonneau	Northfield Savings Bank
Elizabeth Gilligan	Norwich University Legacy March
Errol Briggs	
Evangeline Parent	Paul Williamson
Fidelity Charitable	Peoples United Bank
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Frederick and Mary Bashara	Reba Hill
General Dynamics	Rick Smith
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Gerald and Jean Tucker	Robert McMullin

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 St. Thomas Council 7810 K of C / Underhill VT
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 VFW Auxiliary Post #7823 / Middlebury VT
 VFW Auxiliary Post #798 / Newport VT
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 VFW Post #9653 / Morrisville VT
 VFW Post 790 / East Barre VT
 VFW Post 790 Auxiliary / East Barre VT
 VT DAV
 William and Heidi Passalacqua
 Worcester United Methodist Church

Blue Star Mothers / Christmas bags
 Carrier Roasters / coffee
 David Blythe / televisions
 Donna and Patti Bowdy / clothes
 Doris Graves / food
 Eric Lozier / chicken for BBQ
 Glenn & Donna French / food and recliner
 Gordon Perkinson / tools
 Guy Martin / grill use
 Jean Crosby / food
 Jessica Jarvis / pies
 Jim Marsha / clothes & gift cards
 Karen Moynihan & Ellie's Market / corn
 Kenyon's / charcoal for BBQ
 Kim Whitcomb / personal items for house; food
 L Brown & Sons Printing / print/mail discount
 Laura Phillips / 23 pairs hand-knit mittens
 Maria Aronson / furniture
 Mark & Kim Depman / silverware & mugs
 Michael & Debbie Krause / furniture
 Montpelier Elks Lodge / gift cards
 Pearle Butler / baked goods
 Sam Smith / portable shelters
 Sambel's / food
 Sandra Doyle / gift cards
 Springfield Elks Lodge / gift cards
 Springfield VFW / gift bags
 Stephen Weston / tools
 Steve Dukette / vegetables & maple syrup
 Sweats For Vets / sweatshirts
 Teresa Doyle / magazine subscription
 Timmy Martin / grill use
 Todd Wright / clothing and books
 Tom Rogan / Dollar General gift cards
 Tunbridge Grange / personal hygiene products and Walmart gift cards
 United Veterans Motorcyclist of VT / hand sanitizer and Kleenex
 UU Church of Montpelier Ladies Group / gift cards
 VT Thunder / food and gift cards
 Wendy Finch / food

In-Kind Donations

(Please note, this is not a complete list)

American Legion Riders of Hardwick VT / room deodorizers
 Anne Redding / clothes
 Anonymous food donations throughout the year
 Barre Elks Lodge / new household items
 Betsy Stanford and Barb Watters / Christmas stockings for all the residents
 Beulah Chapter #15 / baked goods
 Blue Star Mothers / monthly dinners

Total Value of In-Kind Gifts: \$19,800

Our Board of Directors and Staff 2020



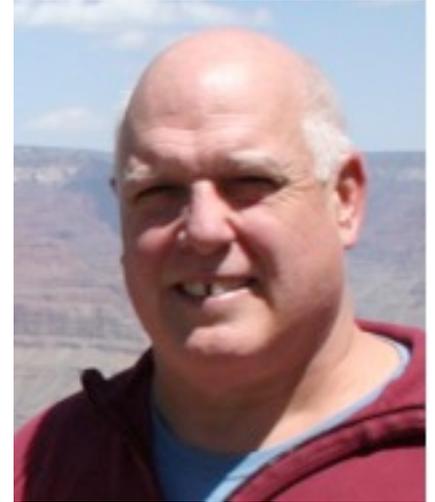
Michael J. Krause, President

A retired Army colonel, university instructor, and founder of a company that provides management services, security consultation, professional training and leadership development, Michael has been a Northfield resident since graduating from Norwich in 1964. He says, "I want to be able to help homeless veterans here in Vermont gain a vision for their future for as long as I am able to serve."



Diana Weggler, Secretary

A wife and mother of four grown children, Diana has been writing professionally since the early 1990s, most recently as the senior writer and editor for Norwich University. She joined TVPI's board so as to make a difference. "My only goal in life is to leverage my knowledge, skills, creativity, resources, and compassion to help others be happy and succeed."



Stephen Martin, Board Member

A 1972 graduate of Norwich University and longtime resident of Northfield, Steve entered public education as a Secondary Math teacher. He retired in 2012 after teaching in the Northfield School system for 35 years. Steve says, "I joined the Veterans' Place Board of Directors in hopes to share my teaching skills in organization and management."



MG Greg Knight, Vice President

Currently the Vermont National Guard adjutant general, Greg has enjoyed a long and distinguished career, with service in the US Coast Guard, as a Vermont police officer, and in the VT Air and Army National Guards, including deployment to Iraq. He joined the board because "many spend a lot of time talking about what should be done to support veterans—I believe doing is greater than talking."

Your picture here?



We are looking for good people to serve on our volunteer board of directors. If you are interested in a rewarding and worthwhile cause, please send a brief letter of interest to Karen Boyce, The Veterans' Place, 220 Vine Street, Northfield, VT 05663 or email kmhboyce@gmail.com.



Gordon Perkinson, Board Member

Raised in Virginia, Gordon served in the Coast Guard before attending college in Texas. Following a period of addiction and homelessness, he became a certified Drug and Alcohol Abuse Counselor. Sober for 43 years, he and his certified therapy Goldendoodle rescue, Sophie, visit the VA Hospital and the Veterans' Place regularly. "We speak to our veterans with the voice of experience, compassion and love."



Paul Capcara, Board Member

Currently the clinical director at Collaborative Solutions in Montpelier, Paul has spent his career working with disadvantaged populations. A former Peace Corps volunteer with degrees in both nursing and public health, he volunteers at the People’s Health and Wellness Clinic in Barre and on the board of SafeArt. “I am passionate about working with people who have experienced trauma, mental health challenges, or who are suffering.”



Richard Turner, Housing Specialist

Prior to joining the Veterans’ Place Staff in June 2020, Rich enjoyed long and productive careers with the Army and Air Force, in civil aviation, and as a forester and arborist. Educated at Norwich University, he holds a BA in Government/Political Science and an Associate of Science in Criminal Justice. His most recent job was as a Team Leader and Recovery Support Specialist at a Level III Recovery Residence.



Brian ‘Pete’ Clark, Dinner Chef and Assistant Facility Manager

Born and raised in Massachusetts, Pete was educated at Seekonk High School and Wentworth Institute in Boston. He joined the staff of the Veterans’ Place in 2018, bringing a wealth of experience to the job. In 2020 he was hired to take on additional responsibilities assisting Matt with improvements and maintenance of the Veterans’ Place. His diverse handyman skills are much appreciated.



Karen Boyce, Managing Director

Educated at Montpelier High School and VTC, Karen was a woodworker for 20 years. She joined the Veterans’ Place staff when it first opened its doors in 2009, serving as administrative manager and dinner cook. In 2020 she was promoted from finance and administrative manager to managing director. As the mother of two sons, both of whom served in the War on Terrorism, she is passionate about serving the veteran community.



Matt Dezan, Facility Manager

An Army enlisted combat veteran who grew up on a Vermont farm, Matt served several tours in Afghanistan, where he was in charge of a team responsible for explosive ordnance disposal (EOD). Trained and certified in crisis management, Matt is a wonderful addition to our staff, handling all the maintenance and repair projects. Matt lives in Brookfield with his wife and children.



West McMillan, CQ & Board Member

Born and raised on his family's tobacco estate South Carolina, West joined the Navy in 1991, serving during the first Gulf War. Honorably discharged in 1995, he attended Duke University, earning a bachelor's in Psychology and Sociology, and a master's in Clinical Psychology. West joined the staff in 2020 as Charge of Quarters and peer support. He makes sure everything is ship shape and calm seas.

Our Angels from HALO



Barbara Roderick is a licensed alcohol and drug counselor and employee of HALO Educational Systems. Formerly of Colorado, she arrived in Vermont in [2017], bringing a wealth of experience working with trauma victims and as a probation officer handling a large case-load of clients with mental health and addiction issues. Educated at Colorado State University, she holds a BS in Sociology/Criminology, along with many certifications related to complex trauma and addiction, as well as SOAR, a program designed to increase access to disability income through the Social Security Administration. Barb is blessed with two beautiful young women, both married to soldiers. “I have made the Veterans’ Place staff and residents my extended family.”



Elena Van Zandt graduated from Northfield JR/SR High School, is an Army ‘brat,’ and the passionate founder, owner, and managing director of HALO Educational Systems, a Behavioral Health Organization specializing in addiction. She is also a co-occurring therapist in Vermont and New Hampshire, helping in milieus representing government, military, business, education, and communities. Elena has always gravitated toward finding the wisdom and stories that each of us carries. Among her passions are a love of the outdoors and gardening. Part of the TVPI family for almost three years, Elena says; “I have been honored to be a small part of the Veterans’ Place residents’ journey toward stable, sober, and independent lives.”



Kathy Marshall is part of the case management team that helps our Veterans stay on track to achieve their goals. Prior to joining HALO, Kathy enjoyed a long business career as a horse trainer, later working as an elementary school teacher and with children with severe physical, emotional, and cognitive disabilities. Since that time, she has worked extensively with adults of all ages struggling with addiction, depression, anxiety, and past trauma. Her passions include cycling, guitar playing, and caring for her fur family. Kathy says, “Even in the most difficult times, there are opportunities to learn about one’s inner self and develop new perspectives that can lead to finding joy and fulfillment in life.”

Founded in 2009, HALO offers support across the full behavioral health continuum by providing a wide selection of services to improve the quality of life for all. They offer traditional/holistic modalities to assist those impacted by substance misuse, as well as mental and behavioral health disorders. Learn more at HALOEducationalSystems.com.

2020 Highlights

Despite Covid restrictions, we were able to participate in many fun and worthwhile activities!



In April, we celebrated Norman's 80th and "Walking" Bob's 81st birthdays with a drive-by community parade!



In September, residents visited the Veterans Cemetery in Randolph, Vt.



In June, Kevin and Alexis Collins donated this awesome sign!



In October, residents toured the VT National Guard military museum and library, and watched an F35 take off!



In November, the Granite City 5K Run/Walk raised \$13K for the Veterans' Place! Thank you Sons of the American Legion Squadron #10, Barre Elks Lodge #1535, & the Barre Partnership.



Our December gingerbread house raffle raised more than \$400! Thank you [Lenny Couture](#) and CVMA 26-2 for your very generous support!



In late June, we lost our beloved Sergeant Broccoli. May he R.I.P.

Keep up-to-date on all the latest happenings at the Veterans' Place by following our Facebook Page. And please be sure to "like" and "share" your favorite postings, so we can continue to spread the word.

Statement of Activities

Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents	130,846.08
Fixed Assets (net of depreciation)	837,788.72
Total Assets	968,634.80

Liabilities

Payroll Liabilities	1,452.98
SBA PPP Loan	47,299.00
Other Liabilities	12,004.93
Total Liabilities	60,756.91

Net Assets

Unrestricted Net Assets	899,326.49
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	8,551.40
Total Net Assets	907,877.89

Total Liabilities and Net Assets **968,634.80**

Summary of Financial Position 12/31/2020

Revenue

VA Grant Per Diem	253,964.80
Donations and In-Kind Gifts	148,986.80
Other Revenue	9,033.38
Total Revenue	411,984.98

Expenses

Operations	410,124.03
Administration	105,102.41
Fundraising	2,177.65
Total Expenses	517,404.09

Change in Net Assets **(105,419.11)**

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The Veterans' Place could not meet its operating expenses without the regular support of people like you. If you would like to make a gift at this time, please fill out this form, place it in an envelope with a check made payable to **The Veterans' Place, Inc.**, and mail it to **The Veterans' Place, 220 Vine St., Northfield, VT 05663**. You can also donate directly from our website: vermontveteransplace.org.

OUR VETERANS THANK YOU!

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Amount enclosed: \$_____ Contact me please, as I wish to make my gift monthly! (yes) (no)

Separate amount enclosed for _____ (#) Doll House Raffle Tickets (see below): \$_____

My donation is in memory/honor of (circle one) _____

FUNDRAISING NEWS - Spring/Summer Doll House Raffle!

The Veterans' Place is raffling off a stunningly beautiful dollhouse. Tickets are \$25 each (or 5 for \$100) and only 300 will be sold. Purchase tickets at the Veterans' Place or trans-video on the Depot Square Common, or, by mailing us a check using the form above, or, on our website www.vermontveteransplace.org using PayPal. *Be sure to include your address so that we can mail your tickets to you!* Raffle will take place once all 300 tickets have been sold. The winner will also receive a wide assortment of brand-new, ready to assemble, period-authentic furniture!

This handmade Victorian masterpiece is sure to become a treasured family heirloom.

Don't miss your chance to win your miniature dream house!

Spring/Summer 2021 Dollhouse Raffle



**This Victorian masterpiece was created by West McMillan, our very own Charge of Quarters. Thank you West!
See the house in all its glory in the window of Trans-Video, on The Common, Depot Square, Northfield.**

The Veterans' Place; Inc.
220 Vine Street
Northfield; VT 05663

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Thank you for your many years of support, which has resulted in our ongoing success. If you wish to become more involved in our efforts, please call The Veterans' Place at 802-485-8874, to speak to our director, Karen, to discuss how you might best be of service. In addition, we accept donations in memory of a loved one or a special hero. Please call to make arrangements, or simply take advantage of the handy gift form on page 10. Finally, a visit to The Veterans' Place by individuals and small groups is always appreciated, provided social distancing protocol is strictly adhered to. Please be sure to call ahead so that we may look forward to welcoming you!

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