

Supporting Veterans

Founded originally to serve the financial needs of Tinker Air Force Base personnel, Tinker Federal Credit Union (TFCU) has always found it a privilege to serve the US military, both active and retired. This year, they took that service a step further, partnering with Purple Heart Homes to help local disabled veterans in a very real and personal way.

First, they reached out to Purple Heart Homes, a non-profit organization looking for communities and sponsors to help build or renovate homes for disabled veterans. TFCU agreed to be part of a nationwide campaign in 2016 for the Oklahoma City area.

In 2016, TFCU raised over \$48,000 through fundraising and donations and has repaired or refurbished the homes of four local disabled veterans. They joined forces with local sponsors Evan's Building Concepts and Home Depot to help make these project goals a reality.



Picture: Vietnam veteran Earl Wright standing on his new ramp outside of his home in Lexington, Okla.

Our Veterans

So far in 2016, TFCU has worked with Purple Heart Homes to help three disabled veterans.



Earl D. Wright

Earl is a retired Marine living in Lexington, Okla. He served during the Vietnam War and was active from 1965 to 1969, when he was honorably discharged. TFCU and Purple Heart Homes installed a new wheelchair ramp at his home to make mobility easier for him.



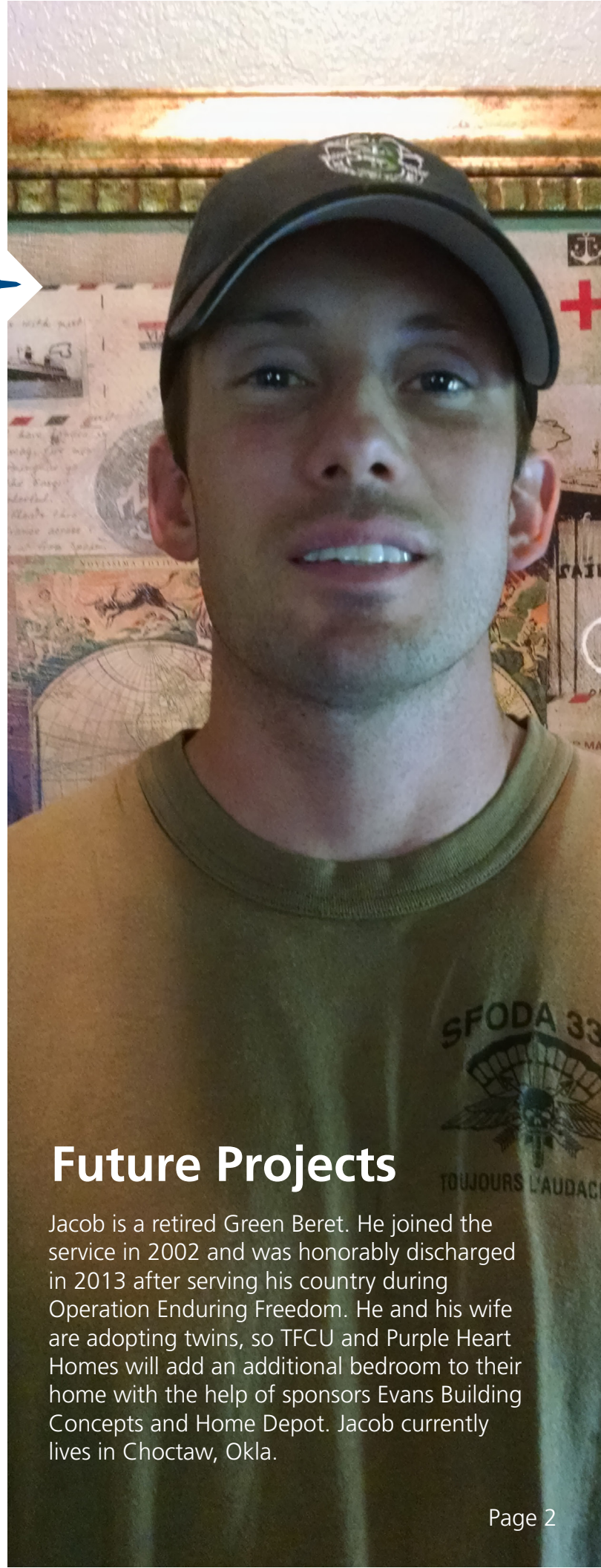
Charles D. Lawrence

Charles served in the Navy from 1969 to 1978 during the Vietnam War and was honorably discharged. TFCU and Purple Heart Homes widened his doorways so he can move comfortably from room to room in his wheelchair. He currently lives in Moore, Okla.



Gerald L. Ashley

Gerald was honorably discharged from the Marines after serving his country from 1963 to 1969, during the Vietnam War. TFCU and Purple Heart Homes lowered his kitchen drawers to make them handicapped accessible and widened his doors for his wheelchair. Gerald currently lives in Oklahoma City, Okla.



Future Projects

Jacob is a retired Green Beret. He joined the service in 2002 and was honorably discharged in 2013 after serving his country during Operation Enduring Freedom. He and his wife are adopting twins, so TFCU and Purple Heart Homes will add an additional bedroom to their home with the help of sponsors Evans Building Concepts and Home Depot. Jacob currently lives in Choctaw, Okla.



Our Partners



Purple Heart Homes

Founded by veterans for veterans, Purple Heart Homes is an organization committed to ensuring quality-of-life housing solutions for disabled American veterans of all eras. Together with the community, they work to better lives by serving those who have served this country.



Evans Building Concepts

Evans Building Concepts is a family-owned construction company based in Oklahoma City. They provide a variety of construction services and helped provide professional building services for the projects, such as roofing and electrical services.



Home Depot

Home Depot is a nationwide home improvement and supply store. They donated materials necessary for these projects.



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For more information, contact:
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TINKER FEDERAL CREDIT UNION LENDS A HAND TO VETERANS IN THE COMMUNITY

OKLAHOMA CITY – Tinker Federal Credit Union (TFCU) has partnered with Purple Heart Homes, an organization that works to remodel disabled veterans' homes to help make life easier for them.

The two organizations are in the planning stages now to help Jacob Anthony, a Green Beret who served during Operation Enduring Freedom and was medically discharged in 2013. They will work with contractors to build an additional room on to his home to accommodate the twins he and his wife are adopting.

Two local sponsors have also helped with the project. Evans Building Concepts and Home Depot are donating material and other services to help build the new room addition.

The credit union enlisted the aid of Veterans Corner in Norman, Okla., to find veterans who needed assistance. The Anthonys' home addition project is the fourth project TFCU will complete with Purple Heart Homes and their other sponsors.

In September of 2016, TFCU staff helped install a new ramp for Marine veteran Earl Wright and assisted with yard work. In October, they worked to expand a doorway and provide painting and landscaping services to Navy veteran Charles "David" Lawrence. Later that month, they helped install new cabinets and clean the property of Marine veteran Gerald Ashley.

For these projects, TFCU held a fundraiser event in July and raised funds within the credit union. Overall, the credit union raised \$48,000 for all projects. More projects will be selected in 2017 to complete.

Tinker Federal Credit Union is the largest credit union in Oklahoma, with \$3.5 billion in assets and over 342,000 members.

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Project Timeline

2015

TFCU approaches Purple Heart Homes about a partnership to help disabled veterans in the Oklahoma City community. TFCU agrees to be a part of a nationwide campaign in 2016.

July 2016

Four local veterans are selected for projects, with the help of staff at Veterans Corner in Norman, Okla.

July 29, 2016

TFCU hosts Wild West Casino Night fundraiser to help raise money for selected projects. The event raised \$25,110 dollars.

September 2016

TFCU hosts month-long fundraising efforts within their organization to raise additional funds. TFCU raises an additional \$23,000 dollars.

September 21, 2016

TFCU, Purple Heart Homes and sponsors install a new wheelchair ramp for Marine veteran Earl Wright.

October 20, 2016

TFCU, Purple Heart Homes and sponsors worked to expand doorways, as well as provide painting and landscaping services to the home of Charles "David" Lawrence, a Navy veteran.

October 31, 2016

TFCU, Purple Heart Homes and sponsors helped install new cabinets and clean the property of Marine veteran Gerald Ashley.

Early 2017

TFCU, Purple Heart Homes and sponsors are in planning stages to add an additional bedroom to the home of Green Beret veteran Jacob Anthony to accommodate the addition of twins whom he and his wife are adopting.

TFCU Project Committee

This committee was created to coordinate and develop proper procedures and guidelines for upcoming and future renovations for veterans.

David Willis

EVP, Chief Operations Officer

Lisa Martinez-Leeper

SVP, Operations

Matt Stratton

SVP, Marketing

Justin Hightower

AVP Mgr., Special Services

Starla Shatswell

Executive Assistant

Brian Coleman

AVP Mgr., Records Management

Suzie Collins

Sr. Administrative Assistant

TFCU and Purple Heart Homes in the Press



10/11/2016

"Volunteers install wheelchair ramp"

By Fred Zacher. Norman Transcript



08/09/2016

"Purple Heart Homes, state credit union leagues, and credit unions join forces to help military veterans with home renovations"

PR Newswire



07/29/2016

"Tinker Federal Credit Union renovates veterans homes"

By Lucille Sherman. NewsOK



08/10/2016

"Purple Heart Homes, state credit union leagues, and credit unions join forces to help military veterans with home renovations"

CU Insights

About TFCU

Tinker Federal Credit Union (TFCU) is the largest credit union in Oklahoma, with \$3.5 billion in assets and 342,000 members. TFCU was founded on March 20, 1946, by a small group of civilian employees working at Tinker Field, now Tinker Air Force Base. They added military personnel and have grown since then to serve a diverse group of people.

Contact

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