Creating bonds that cure.

Their lives are our mission.

The mission of Operation Healing Forces (OHF) is to serve the needs of our active-duty and recent-veteran wounded, ill, and injured Special Operations Forces (SOF) and their spouses by starting or continuing the process of mentally, physically and emotionally healing in preparation to return to the fight or transition successfully into civilian life.
What are Special Operations Forces?

Special Operations Forces (SOF) are known as the Rangers, Green Berets, Night Stalkers, Delta Force, SEALs, Air Force Special Tactics, and Marine Raiders, but there are other SOF that you rarely or may never hear mentioned. Each branch of the United States Armed Forces has its own Special Operations units. SOF are reportedly working in up to 76 countries on any given day, and they’re tasked with carrying out the military’s most secretive and specialized missions.

By The Numbers:
Special Operations Forces (SOF) make up approximately 3.5% of the U.S. Military.

Elite SOF Operators in the field are only about 8% of SOF.

At the end of 2016, more than 10,000 wounded, ill, and injured Special Operators were enrolled in the USSOCOM* Warrior Care Program.

*United States Special Operations Command

Increased deployments mean more stress on marriages, families and quality of life.

Special Operators are experiencing more brain injuries, PTS, suicides, cancer, depression, anxiety, and sleep disorders than ever before.
Our concept is simple:
Strengthen human bonds.

Through therapeutic retreats, our purpose is to enable these war-torn men and women to break through the silence to openly discuss their battlefield and personal hardships. A safe, protected environment allows our participants to let their guard down and share. Realizing they are not alone, participants discover it is appropriate — and not a stigma — to seek help, support and guidance when needed from fellow SOF professionals and their families.

The retreat environment combined with peer-to-peer counseling and recreational therapies enable sincere bonding between couples, with other spouses going through similar hardships, and among fellow SOF service members.

Retreat Participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**OHF Participants Survey Summary**

- **98%** of respondents believe their relationship with their partner improved following the retreat.
- **98%** reported they would be more likely to engage in similar recreational activities with their partner following the retreat.
- **96%** reported that the OHF retreat they attended aided in their personal recovery.
- **94%** reported that they did learn of new resources and benefits for themselves or their family.
- **90%** reported that they did develop new and meaningful relationships during the retreat.
- **85.42%** of respondents believe that their mental status and/or their partner's mental status improved following the retreat.
- **82%** reported improved or greatly improved communication with their support network.
- **72%** reported an increased level of confidence in their physical abilities following their participation in recreational activities during the retreat.

**96% reported OHF continues to have a positive impact on their relationships, mental health, confidence, and continued recovery.**
2016 Financials

Program Expenses $1,015,233.25
General & Administrative Expenses $87,864.00
Fundraising Expenses $130,904.61

Gary and Tony Markel have committed to covering all overhead expenses so we can continue to use 100% of all donated dollars towards program expenses.

Community Support

Total Raised in 2016:
$1,767,955.26

- OHF had over 2,000 volunteer hours in 2016.
- 12 Property Donations in 2016 have all invited us back in 2017.
- More than 40 businesses have donated meals and services for retreats.

Dear friends of Operation Healing Forces,

Our Nation continues to call on our most elite forces with a demand that has far exceeded the supply of our special operators. The result is repeated deployments with minimal ‘reset’ and refit time before their next combat overseas deployment, adding an unprecedented strain not only on the special operators but to their families as well. Consequently, our most mentally and physically tough elite have seen a sharp spike in suicides, divorce rates, and cancer after 15 years of war. Our freedom depends on these valiant men and women. Thank you for your tremendous support in 2016. Please continue to help Operation Healing Forces in its valuable and important mission even more in 2017 and beyond.

With warmest regards,
Gary Markel,
Chairman

Board Of Directors
Gary Markel, Chairman
James Attkisson, Treasurer
Tony Markel, Secretary
Ronald Campbell
James Chadwick
Robert McBride
Cynthia Schwarzkopf

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