



# 3RD SPECIAL FORCES GROUP WARRIOR FUND

ENRICHING THE LIVES AND SUPPORTING THE NEEDS OF THE 3RD SPECIAL FORCES GROUP

## **A Note from the 3rd Special Forces Group Command Team:**

*In just the past year, the 3rd Group Warrior Fund has positively impacted every part of 3rd Special Forces Group Family, from the newest and youngest members to the former members who have served their nation admirably. The 3rd Group Warrior Funds awarded \$85,000 in scholarships to Family members of those who have served or are serving in 3rd Special Forces Group, allowing an opportunity for so many whose loved ones have already sacrificed so much for our great nation.*

*The Warrior Fund has sponsored key leadership engagement events such as orientation of the most recent Special Forces Qualification Course graduates and an internal deep dive review (PROMOTE session) of all aspects of 3rd Group, to support critical engagements between all members of the Group and its senior leaders.*

*The Warrior Fund has also helped 3rd Group Families in their hardest of times, providing much needed and appreciated support for Memorial Services, a Memorial Day event honoring all of 3rd Group's Fallen, and events to remember those that have made the ultimate sacrifice such as the 24 workouts in 24 hours event and the unit's monthly Remembrance PT events.*

*Soldiers transitioning out of uniform were supported during this daunting time and provided the skills and confidence to navigate their civilian career upon separation from active-duty support to our nation.*

*Here are some specific examples of the 3rd Group Warrior Fund providing critical assistance to service members and their families, as well as supporting events where traditional payment methods under the Army systems were not possible. In their own words:*

### **Mailing Address:**

ATTN: 3rd SFG (A) Warrior Fund  
PO Box 1653 | Southern Pines, NC 28388  
910.725.2447  
[www.3rdgroupwarriorfund.org](http://www.3rdgroupwarriorfund.org)

### **Mail in Donations:**

ATTN: 3rd SFG (A) Warrior Fund  
PO Box 2345 | Fayetteville, NC 28302  
910.483.4449 ext. 107  
[www.cumberlandcf.org](http://www.cumberlandcf.org)



# 3RD SPECIAL FORCES GROUP WARRIOR FUND

ENRICHING THE LIVES AND SUPPORTING THE NEEDS OF THE 3RD SPECIAL FORCES GROUP

## 3rd Special Forces Group Warrior Fund 2021 Direct Impact Statements

*“The Warrior Fund stepped in to provide support to a family when their one-week-old daughter tragically passed away due to a heart complication. The Warrior Fund supported by covering expenses related to family travel, lodging, gas, and incidentals during this time of grieving.”*

*“The Warrior Fund provided direct travel support above and beyond conventional travel options for an active-duty soldier as he attended out of state specialized medical treatment. Unfortunately, this warrior lost his battle this past spring, but the generosity from the 3rd SFG (A) Warrior Fund allowed for him to spend as much quality time with his wife and daughters before he passed. This would have not been possible without the overwhelming generosity from the Warrior Fund and its donors”*

*“The 3rd SFG (A) Warrior Fund provided funds for a breakfast meal for Soldiers and Families participating in the Annual Robbie Miller Run, commemorating the life and legacy of SSG Robbie Miller, SFODA 3312, Medal of Honor Recipient. We were able to bring together former members of the Group and Battalion and unite them with current members of the organization to honor the legacy and heroism of Robbie. Additionally, this served as the first Battalion sized event following our most recent deployment to Afghanistan, providing an opportunity for fellowship with teammates from all five companies and their families. “*

*“We conducted a Leadership Professional Development Seminar, bringing leaders from across the Battalion together to create and formalize the Battalion’s mentorship program to inspire and coach Soldiers, NCOs, and Officers throughout the unit. All ranks and military occupational specialties were included, generating buy-in on the Bushmen Battalion’s Identity Statement, Values, and Culture. The 3rd SFG (A) Warrior Fund’s financial support for meals allowed the event to be held off-site from Fort Bragg, while providing senior mentors to guide the discussions and efforts. The process developed during the offsite is now formalized as part of the Battalion’s Standard Operating Procedure and used to mentor and develop our most junior Soldiers and empower leaders at all levels.”*

*“Our Battalion hosted the First Ever MAC-V SOG Heritage Event with the support from the 3rd SFG (A) Warrior Fund. They were able to bring in 30 Members of the Elite Special Forces Unit, MAC-V SOG, who conducted cross border operations into Laos and Cambodia along the infamous Ho Chi Minh Trail. The funding set the conditions to honor those heroes that came before us and continue the Battalion’s Leadership Professional Development program by drawing on lessons learned from Green Berets executing hi risk operations deep in enemy territory over 50 years ago. This tremendous event brought two generations of Green Berets together, providing common ground with our Green Berets experiencing many similarities in Afghanistan and Africa to those of Vietnam. It concluded with a traditional Montagnard Rice Wine Ceremony. As partners of the MAC-V SOG Green Berets, Montagnards fought alongside the Green Berets. The ceremony demonstrated the power of indigenous relationships forged by the Green Berets, that still hold strong 50 years later. “*

*“One of our Soldier’s baby boy had to undergo emergency brain surgery to control a brain bleed. To ensure the child was no longer at risk, the family traveled to see Boston Children’s Pediatric Vascular Neurosurgery team and conduct a high-risk procedure in the fall of 2021. The Warrior Fund covered all out-of-pocket expenses to include lodging, gas, and incidentals, avoiding additional financial hardship on the family while they faced a family medical emergency. Thankfully, the procedure went well, and the family has expressed their utmost thanks and appreciation for the timely support of the Warrior Fund when their family needed it most.”*



# 3RD SPECIAL FORCES GROUP WARRIOR FUND

ENRICHING THE LIVES AND SUPPORTING THE NEEDS OF THE 3RD SPECIAL FORCES GROUP

## 3rd Special Forces Group Warrior Fund 2021 Direct Impact Statements

*“The 3rd SFG(A) Warrior Fund provided the resources to the unit to conduct a BBQ cookout at the Rick Herrema Foundation’s “Rick’s Place,” supporting the first family readiness group and in person morale function since the onset of COVID mitigation protocols. The cookout allowed an entire Battalion to welcome home a recently redeployed Troop as well as integrate all the new families to the unit. Soldiers and their families were able to meet and bond over friendly competition resulting from the Ninja Warrior Obstacle Course at the event site as well as a shared meal made only possible through the 3rd SFG(A) Warrior Fund.”*

*“April 23, 2021, marked the ten-year anniversary of one of our fallen teammates who was killed in action in Afghanistan, MSG Benjamin Bitner. During his years of service, Ben inspired many people all over the world. To honor Ben, we petitioned for a street naming after him, Bitner Way, and the Bitner Memorial. Over a hundred gathered to celebrate Ben’s spirit and life on the 10th anniversary of his death, including his wife, son, and fellow teammates. The Warrior Fund provided funds to assist in the cost of the memorial stone, street sign, and lunch to serve to the crowd who came to honor him. It was a joyful and loving time and brought together many to remember one of the finest men to live. God bless you guys. Thank you.”*

*“Following the sudden death of a young Captain, the Warrior Fund immediately jumped into action to support any needs of this family. The Warrior Fund helped to honor his memory and service through the purchase of keepsake boxes for his twin boys that was presented during the unit’s memorial. Additionally, the Warrior Fund facilitated a van rental for the family during the week of the funeral. This seemingly small token of support enabled the family to travel and grieve together as they endured the tragic death of a husband, father, son, and friend. The consistent and reliable support that the Warrior Fund supports has been instrumental to the soldiers and families of 3rd Group, especially, in times of tragedy and hardship.”*

*“The Warrior Fund provided an enormous care package filled with candy to give the guys a reminder of home, as well as items to decorate our large office bringing the Christmas Spirit to our workspaces, both sight and smell. We are in a sensitive area but have included some photos that will not violate security requirements. We even kept the inflatable Santa in the office. The decorations sent brought up the spirit and currently have us as the #1 decorated office in the building. There is some resentment amongst the other offices. We get asked almost daily “where did you get all of that.?” We gladly explain the culture at 3rd SFG, and the Warrior Fund carries a large load for the Group. This is very, very interesting to a few of the guys interested in pursuing Special Forces.”*

*“The 3rd Group Warrior Fund was instrumental in the support provided to the entirety of the family members as they traveled to and from the Funeral Service and the Unit Memorial. The Warrior Fund was able to support 10 family members travel and fully fund the celebration of life which allowed the family the ability to pay their final respects to a beloved husband, father, son, and friend. Without the detailed coordination from the 3rd Group Warrior Fund team, the remembrance of one of our own would not have been possible.”*

*“I am humbled to be able to try and express in words how much the 3rd SFG Warrior Fund has done for me and my family. I asked the Warrior Fund for Transition Assistance during a very confusing and emotionally difficult time. The entire team embraced me and put all their efforts towards making my transition as smooth as possible. This action was literally life changing for me. The result was a seamless transition with an incredible job and a happy and newfound family relationship. I am forever grateful for the amazing team within the 3rd SFG Warrior Fund, without their assistance, still to this day, I would be lost. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. “*