

Fisher House

NEWSLETTER

January 2023



Charleston Fisher House Gets Its Own Red Guitar

The Charleston Fisher House recently received its very own red guitar. The Red Guitar Campaign was launched in 2017 when musicians Thom Shepherd and Coley McCabe visited a Fisher House in Hawaii. While they were there, Shepherd was asked to perform his hit song, "Riding with Private Malone," which is about a soldier who passed away while fighting in the Vietnam War. Shepherd didn't have a guitar with him, and the duo decided that every Fisher House should have one, in his signature red color.

After learning about the campaign, two locals, Steve and Tamara Bryant, worked with the Isle of Palms Exchange Club to bring the red guitar to the Charleston Fisher House. The red guitar has a clear message on its plaque, thanking veterans for their service. It was donated to the Fisher House during their Annual Christmas Party, where local musician Ricky Myatt performed.

As of December 2022, 38 guitars have been donated to Fisher Houses all over the country through the Red Guitar Campaign.



Did You Know?

Pineapples are a symbol of hospitality in Charleston, a tradition that goes back to the colonial days when returning sea captains would spear a pineapple outside their home. This was to let the captain's friends know he had returned safely, and that they could come over to hear his stories from the high seas.

Fisher House Fun Fact

The Fisher House Foundation manages a grant program that supports other charities and scholarship funds for military children, spouses, and children of fallen and disabled veterans.

Guest Testimony

The Fisher House has truly been a blessing to us. The people have been amazing, and the transition here has been quite smooth. The people are friendly and ready to help at the drop of a hat. I hope your stay is as pleasant as ours has been.

- Ms. Palmer

Meet the Friends of Fisher House Charleston Board Members



Joshua Strimple
President

Joshua Strimple, a Major and Military Intelligence Officer with the U.S. Army Reserve, was awarded the Defense Meritorious Service Medal for his service during Operation New Dawn in Iraq in 2010-11. While continuing to service in the Army Reserve, Joshua founded the Charleston Classic, a golf and tennis tournament that supports the national Wounded Warrior Project.



Chris Ward
Vice President

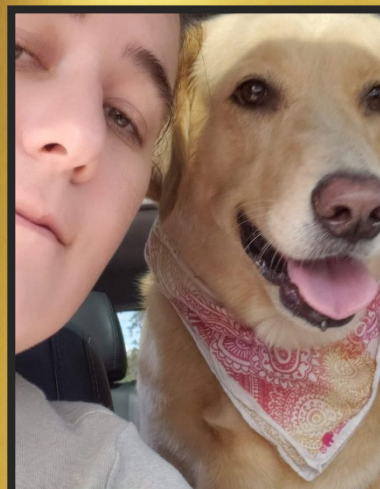
Chris Ward has served the Department of Defense (DOD) community for over 30 years. As an Information Professional in the U.S. Navy, she was responsible for deploying and securing mission ready networks across the fleet. Since her retirement in 2005, she has worked as a consultant to help match technology gaps within the DOD with industry solutions.

Honor Luncheon & Open House

On January 20th, the Fisher House will be hosting an Open House and Honor Luncheon to celebrate the 5-year Anniversary of the Charleston Fisher House starting at 12 pm. We will be giving tours of the beautiful Fisher House and answering any questions you have regarding referrals and services. This will be a catered event provided by the Friends of Fisher House Charleston. If you have not seen the Fisher House this is a good opportunity to see and experience all the great things our Fisher House team and VA is doing to support our veterans, service members and



Meet Our Team



Jamie has been working at the Fisher House since 2019, and says it is the most fulfilling job she has had since being in the military. She joined the military in 2000 as a Loadmaster after moving to South Carolina in 1995.

2022 Year In Review

RECEIVED

\$218,327



IN DONATIONS

763

VETERAN

1,174 HOURS
VOLUNTEERED

1,176

GUESTS ACCOMMODATED

34

ACTIVE-DUTY

63

MEALS  PREPARED

479
VOLUNTEERS



FAMILIES
SERVED

18
PROJECTS
COMPLETED 



What a year!



How Can I Help?



Friends of Fisher
House
Donation Link



Meal Train



Amazon
Wishlist



VA Donation
Link

DONATE

Items: Individually packaged food items/snacks and common household items such as toilet paper and cleaning supplies are always appreciated.

Monetary: Donations can be made online at <https://www.pay.gov/public/form/entry/101/50809435/> or at <https://friendsoffisherhousecharleston.org/donate.html>. Checks can be made payable to *Charleston Fisher House* or *Friends of Fisher House*.

VOLUNTEERING

Meal Train: We are always looking for volunteers to come and cook at the fisher house. You can register online at <https://mealtrain.com/986m8v>.

If you have any questions about donating or volunteering, please contact the Fisher House Managers at Erik.Zielinski@va.gov & Charity.Anderson@va.gov, or by calling 843-805-8200.

