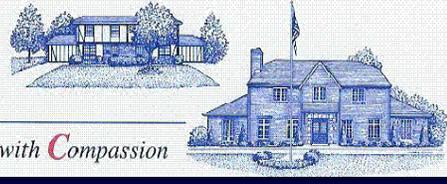




**Fisher/Nightingale Houses**

*Touching Lives with Compassion*



*The Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc. is a private organization dedicated to supporting the Fisher Houses (compassionate care facilities) at Wright-Patterson AFB and the future Fisher House at the Dayton VA Medical Center.  
It is not part of the Department of Defense or any of its components (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard) or the Department of Veterans Affairs and it has no governmental status.*

# Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc.

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## 2016 Annual Report



*Fisher House I (opened in May 1994)*



*Fisher House II (opened in April 2011)*

***Providing an opportunity for military families to stay together and support each other when a loved one is undergoing medical treatment.  
The Fisher Houses provide physical and emotional support to our servicemen and servicewomen and their families.***



Partner Agency





FISHER-NIGHTINGALE  
HOUSES

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*Registered with the Better Business Bureau of Dayton/Miami Valley, Inc.  
Charitable Advisory Service*

*Federal Tax Exempt ID number: 31-1313382*

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# Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc.

February 22, 2017

Dear Friends,

With the opening of the Nightingale House at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in May 1990, compassionate care housing in the Department of Defense was born. Later that year, Zach and Elizabeth Fisher started a dream that, as of January 2017, includes a network of 71 Fisher Houses world-wide, with more under construction, pending construction or identified with a recognized need. Fisher House I opened at Wright-Patterson AFB in May 1994. The Nightingale House was demolished in February 2011 and replaced by Fisher House II in April 2011.

Wright-Patterson's two Fisher Houses are extremely proud to be part of the support provided to our military men and women and their families by the Fisher House Foundation. With a total of 21 bedrooms, the two Wright-Patterson AFB Fisher Houses offer 7,665 nights of lodging each year at no cost to the guests, saving them over \$1.1M in local hotel costs alone annually.

The Wright-Patt Fisher Houses provide an opportunity for military families to stay together and support each other when a loved one is undergoing medical treatment, providing physical and emotional support to our servicemen and servicewomen and their families. In 2016, these two Houses served 1,041 families of all ranks, branches of the armed forces and all components, including active duty, Guard, Reserve, retired and Veterans. They have assisted more than twenty thousand families in nearly 27 years of existence.

In July 2015, a local family sent their representative on a tour of our Fisher Houses and later that afternoon wrote a letter to the President of the Fisher House Foundation stating they would donate \$1.075M towards the construction of a Fisher House at the Dayton VA Medical Center. The Foundation agreed and a committee of local leaders stepped up to meet the challenge from the family to raise \$500,000 towards an initial operations and sustainment fund. The committee has worked hard to reach that challenge – and continues to do so. Groundbreaking is tentatively being planned for the summer of 2017 with an opening targeted for 12 to 15 months later. The FNHI Board previously voted to take the new Fisher House at the Dayton VA under its auspices and support it in the same manner as we do the two Wright-Patt Fisher Houses.

Ken Fisher, Chairman and CEO of the Fisher House Foundation, has stated “Fisher Houses work not because of the bricks and mortar of the buildings, but because of the staff and volunteers who are the lifeblood of our organization and its many initiatives. The doctors, nurses and other healthcare professionals all help care for our military and Veterans, and thus help us carry out and continue our mission. Like most of you, I believe that helping our wounded, injured and ill service members and Veterans isn't charity, but rather this nation's solemn duty. It is an investment in healing and recovery that can give families the opportunity to rebuild their lives. In these very tough situations, they don't quit on themselves. Neither should we. When staff members and volunteers at Fisher Houses say, ‘thank you for your service,’ it is followed up by something far more tangible: resolve. A resolution to not just SAY something, but to DO something to make their lives a little easier, a little safer, a little happier.”

More important than any statistic are the expressions of gratitude the House staff and volunteers hear from families who have stayed in the Houses. They would not have known how to cope with the crisis in their family – financially, emotionally and physically – had they not been able to stay at a Fisher House and receive the support that comes from the dedicated managers, staff and volunteers.

I continue to be very humbled to serve as the Executive Director of the Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc. I know that I am part of an organization that makes a difference every day in the lives of our wounded, injured and ill service members, Veterans and their families.

We fully know and genuinely appreciate that our organization has been able to do what we do because of the generous support of people, organizations and companies, both on- and off-Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. We truly appreciate all of the support our organization receives. We will continue to be good stewards of your donations and our organization's support of the Fisher House guests will not diminish.

With great gratitude,



CHRISTOPHER P. Z. STANLEY  
Senior Master Sergeant, USAF (Retired)  
Executive Director

## The Beautiful Faces of Hope: How the Fisher Houses provide guests with so much more than just a place to stay



*Alicia McChord stays at the Fisher House when her grandmother receives medical attention at the Wright-Patterson Medical Center. Ms. McChord enjoys taking advantage of the house's kitchen, where she cooks for herself and other house guests.  
(Courtesy photo)*

Hope could be the single most important service that the Fisher Houses provide. These two compassionate care houses, located on Wright-Patterson Air Force Base adjacent to the Wright-Patterson Medical Center, provide an affordable, on-base refuge close to the medical center for patients and their families.

The Wright-Patterson Medical Center draws patients from around the world. It is the largest medical center in the Air Force and offers many specialty clinics.

The Fisher Houses are a haven after long days at the hospital and a place to rest and regain strength for the next day's challenges. Families can spend time alone in their rooms, or share conversation and meals with people in similar circumstances in the warm atmosphere of our kitchen and dining room.

The House managers and volunteers reduce the feeling of isolation by helping guests get settled and letting each family know they are never alone.

Captain Gretchen Lizza, whose son was fighting leukemia, saw the need for a home-away-from-home at Wright-Patterson and helped establish the Nightingale House, the first compassionate care house in the Department of Defense, opening in May 1990.

In May 1994, Zachary Fisher, a construction industry giant, and his wife Elizabeth donated a Fisher House to Wright-Patterson. They wanted to give something back to the men and women serving their country.

Today, there are 71 Fisher Houses at 51 locations (24 military installations, 26 VA medical centers and 1 in the United Kingdom for the British families) serving our armed forces, with ribbon cuttings planned in 2017, more pending construction and even more in the recognized need phase.

*In 2016, the Wright-Patterson Houses served 1,041 Air Force, Army, Navy and Marines (active duty, retired, Guard and Reserve), Veterans and their families.*



Together Wright-Patterson's Fisher Houses have served thousands of families. The average length of stay is 11 days. Some guests stay for only a day or two while others stay for months. We've even had guests stay up to a year or more. The Houses are completely full almost every week.

As soon as visitors cross the welcome mat and enter the front door, homelike comforts abound.

The Houses are professionally furnished and decorated. There are nine bedrooms in

Fisher House I and twelve bedrooms in Fisher House II. Both have common living rooms, dining rooms, laundry rooms, and fully equipped kitchens.

All utilities are provided, including private phone lines and laptops in each room. This allows guests direct communication with the hospital and their families.

Until September 30, 2006, rooms cost a nominal \$10 a night which helped cover some of the operational expenses. However, on October 1, the Fisher House Foundation began paying the \$10 a night room fee, so guests no longer pay to stay in any Fisher Houses. The Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc. does the fundraising to support day-to-day operations and support for the guests.

The Fisher Nightingale Houses Inc. is a private non-profit 501(c)3 charitable organization, registered in the state of Ohio. Our mission is to raise funds to support compassionate care lodging for patients and their families receiving critical medical treatment at the Wright-Patterson Medical Center. The Board, along with the dedicated managers, volunteers and our generous Miami Valley partners ensure the continued success of these Houses and the Fisher's vision.

Even after Zachary's death in 1999, the Fisher Foundation continues to work under the leadership of his nephews and grandnephews.

**"My thoughts of life have always been to do something in life that will outlast life. I was fortunate to find something that fulfills that goal completely."**

**-- Zachary Fisher**

## House Guest Comments

“Fisher House is the place I go for security and comfort. I sleep good here, and I feel safe to cry here. I get close to the Lord here. Fisher House makes my life easier in taking care of my needs so I can be there for my folks. Without this help I don’t think I could be with my parents. Please pass this blessing along as I have received so much for my family and I hope that maybe we will have support for the Fisher Houses so others can be helped too.” ***Deborah H.***

“We have been here for 14 days and have enjoyed every minute of our time here. We have really enjoyed the hospitality of the whole staff. Our lives have been so stressed from everything we are going through, but the Fisher House is a wonderful place that has made us feel secure and welcome. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.” ***Tommy and Arlene J.***

“What a blessing the Fisher House is! When stress and anxiety descend on me, it is such a comfort to be greeted here by friendly, caring people. The Fisher’s saw a great need and filled it so that difficult times might be made as pleasant as possible. Our hearts are grateful to them for this living monument to their thoughtfulness and gracious generosity.” ***Harriett S.***

“I just wanted to drop you a line and say how much I’ve appreciated all your care and support to my parents over this past year and many preceding years. It’s been a difficult time dealing with both their illnesses in 2014, and Fisher House has been such a great option for their stays during their treatments and hospitalizations. You have all made Fisher Houses at Wright-Patt a warm and welcoming home, so much more than just a place to spend the night? Your genuine concern and thoughtfulness make it the next best thing to being home with family.” ***Lindsay D.***

“We have been retired from the U. S. Army for 25 years and haven’t lived near a base since we moved back home to wild, wonderful West Virginia. It has been our pleasure to meet all of the great people who run the Fisher House. Julie, Ida and all of the volunteers have treated us great. We have also met some wonderful guests and patients here and wish everyone the best of luck and happiness. Thanks to the Fishers, we have enjoyed our visit to Ohio and will always remember our second home, for seven weeks!!” ***Jack and Mary F.***

“I have flown here from Fort Campbell, Kentucky, to have spinal surgery. I will only stay here at the Fisher House for two nights, but I can tell this is a wonderful sanctuary for the mind and soul. This great place really reduces the anxiety of everything. I will stay in the hospital for three days before my return to Kentucky. Soldiers do not seem to be appreciated most places they travel. Coming here to this place makes 19½ years in the Army feel worth it. Thank you and God Bless.” ***Michael R.***

“It’s hard to put in to words what being here has meant to us. It’s our Fisher ‘Home’ not ‘The Fisher House’. All of you and many of the other guests have become like family. We have been able to share our experiences (good and bad) with you all and know that we are not alone. Everything was so new and scary for us at first, but right away we felt at home here. As much as we may have thought we wanted to be at home in Wisconsin, I know now this is where we were supposed to have been. It means so much to us to have had your support and friendship during our stay; it has made a huge difference. I don’t want to think about what it would have been like if the Fisher House (all of you included) was not here for us – and so many others. Sometimes we forget about the reasons we are here and are just going on living our lives and sometimes the reasons are so in our face it’s hard to breathe...hard to see anything else. It’s then that we’d see your smiles or you would share a story or a place to visit that you’d think we would be interested in and things would seem ‘normal’ again. That is what it is all about; finding “normal” in the midst of all this craziness. Thank you with all of our hearts.” ***Dan and Mary J.***

## MOM'S ROAD TO RECOVERY



*Jim, Judy & Martha Crist*

Mom paused at the door and listened momentarily. Then she stole quietly from the room with dad and me at her side. She walked around the dining room tables and up and down the hallway trying to regain her strength following surgery. She'd enter the living room, sit on the couch and spin the small wooden tops. This she said helped her keep her sanity. If we heard someone coming down the steps or in a door, she'd scurry back to our room. Following the operation, she didn't want to see anyone.

I'm not sure how Dad and I talked her into eating dinner prepared by the Jr. Red Cross that Wednesday night. Mom sat at a table where she could be in a corner. I fixed her plate and brought it to her. After dinner, the Fisher House volunteers started handing out cards and tokens for Bingo. I begged Mom to stay. Maybe she thought remaining was easier than retreating through all the people. Whatever the case, she agreed to play. Dottie called numbers. Myron handed out little, wrapped gifts. Marilyn engaged guests in conversation. Frank teased at every opportunity. I soon

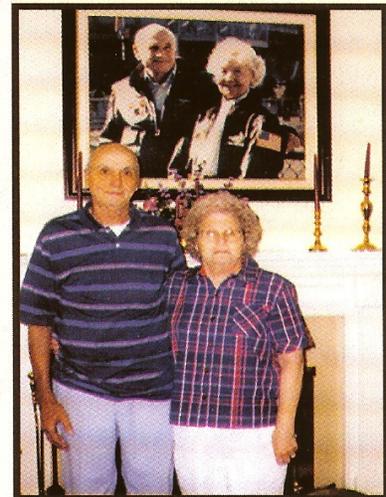
began to banter back. Before long, most were joking around. Mom actually smiled and laughed. It was her first interaction with people other than doctors, nurses, and family since her surgery.

Mom's battle with cancer has been our most arduous journey. Each step of the way is accompanied with its own hurdles to overcome. However, the Fisher House at Wright-Patterson AFB has been incredible. It has played a key role in Mom's road to recovery. Fisher House contains nine spacious bedrooms, a large living room, a Thanksgiving-sized dining room, and a well-stocked kitchen. The house is furnished with simple and functional elegance. It is surrounded by a manicured yard complete with a gazebo and squirrels to feed. Yet, the outstanding feature of the Fisher House is the concerned staff and compassionate volunteers. These people create a homey atmosphere. In less than a year my parents and I have spent nearly one hundred nights there. The way they reached out to Mom and us is tremendous. These people helped her interact with others again. Julie and Pat make reservations for our next trip

each time we leave and offer hugs for the road. We are most grateful for the gifts of friendship and hope we find each time we enter the doors. While the hospital treated Mom's body, Fisher House staff and volunteers have nourished her spirit and encouraged us all.

Fisher House has been a place for us to stay during Mom's surgery, treatments, and follow-up appointments. It is so conveniently located just a couple of blocks from the hospital. Mom is in remission now, and we feel a depth of gratitude that we can never repay to the Fisher House. All the staff and volunteers of Wright-Pat Fisher House open their hearts to the guests and become involved with their lives. It is a safe haven, a warm, inviting place of comfort and compassion. Fisher House is really the staff and volunteers who offer themselves unselfishly to hurting people. Fisher House is so much more than a house – it's our second home.

*Judy Crist,  
Athens, OH*



*Jim and Martha Crist at Wright-Pat FH*

*Note: The following articles were written by Frank Beeson, Publisher with Brown Publishing Company. They appeared in local papers as part of an advertising campaign in support of the capital campaign to build the new Fisher House on Wright-Patterson Air Force Base – but they are still relevant today.*

## **Dan Albright**

*Age: 74*

*Home: Colorado Springs, CO*

*Occupation: Retired, 43 years in Hospitality Industry; USAF 1955-59*

*Tongue Cancer, Treated at Anschutz Hospital, Denver; Radiation Tooth Decay, Treated at the Veterans Administration Hospital, Dayton; Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy treatments conducted at Wright-Patterson AFB Medical Center.*

### **His Story:**

It's a 1,200-mile one-way trip from Dayton to Colorado Springs, CO. But when Dan Albright found out that the radiation and chemo-therapy treatments he had received for tongue cancer had caused radiation tooth decay, travel distance was no obstacle.

In June 2007, Dan was diagnosed with cancer, located on the back of his tongue. In order to contain the spreading of the disease, this 43-year veteran of the hospitality industry underwent six chemo and 33 radiation treatments. The treatments were successful.

"I have now been cancer-free for 11 months," the former USAF enlistee proudly stated.

But the required treatments created what is commonly known as radiation tooth decay. "Now I just consider that stage in my life as a minor setback," Albright said, while loading his van, preparing for his trip back home.

"I have Dr. (Ingrid) Valdez (on-staff dentist at the Denver Veteran's Administration Hospital) to thank for first discovering the severity of the tooth decay and then setting up the program to be transferred here to Dayton ... the VA and the Hyperbaric Center, here at the base. She made it all possible," he said.

"I had no idea what to expect when I first arrived, but the people here (Fisher and Nightingale House Compassionate Care Facilities), the people at the VA, and the people at the Hyperbaric unit here at Wright-Patt have been ... well ... let's just say WELL beyond what I had ever anticipated," Albright said.

For seven weeks this man underwent a number of reconstructive tooth and jaw surgeries, which was accelerated due to the treatments he received at the WPAFB Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy.

HBOT helps promote the healing process for bone and tissue damage. "The therapy forces more oxygen in the tissue, encouraging the formation of new blood vessels. The chamber creates characteristics similar to being 45 feet below sea level. Breathing 100% oxygen under pressure; equaling nearly 30 lbs. per square inch; the affect causes the oxygen to diffuse in the blood plasma. The pressurized environment helps to reduce swelling and pain, while providing the body with up to 20 times its normal supply of oxygen to help repair tissue damage," according to published reports.

Patients are placed in an oxygen tank (the facility at WPAFB can hold up to 18 individuals during one session) and go through a process of three "dives" simulating the below sea level pressures.

“It would have taken me two-to-three times longer for the healing process, had I not had gone through the therapy,” he added.

Albright was faced with staying by himself at the VA Housing Facility, but the Fisher-Nightingale Houses at WPAFB provided a facility for him and his wife, Margo.

“I feel very blessed,” Albright said. ... “Not only that they discovered the decay before infection occurred and possibly losing my jaw bone; but especially because they found this unbelievable facility where we were able to stay,” he triumphantly stated, motioning with his hands, sitting in the dining room at the Fisher House.

“There’s so much more to the healing process; it goes beyond the physical ... And when your mental well-being is also cared for ... well, let me just say that my wife and I now consider this facility our second home,” he said in a quieted tone.

“When we first walked into the Fisher House, our mouths dropped open,” Albright said of his welcome to Dayton, WPAFB, and the compassionate care facility.

“Being in the hospitality business for most of my life, I know what to look for and understand the challenges of maintaining an operation like this. Let me tell you, this place is immaculate,” he added.

“You could not have a more relaxing place, unless it was your own home,” the Colorado Springs resident said of the center. He and his wife recalled that after a full day of surgery they “returned ‘home’ to find a throw (cover) at their door,” welcoming them back from the VA. “You wonder about something that you might need and the next thing you know ... it’s there, in your room,” his wife, Margo added.

“People bringing in meals; volunteering to help out; and a staff that bends over backwards, just to make certain you are healing emotionally and physically. I even told Margo how wonderful it would have been to have had a staff like this,” the retired hotel manager said. “When you’re going through surgery and treatment ... the illness is tough ... but this facility and the people make you feel a thousand times better than you probably really feel,” Albright said.

The seven-week ‘residents’ of the Fisher-Nightingale House repeated what so many have voiced; that few realize the existence and the importance of the compassionate care facility.

“It needs to be shouted from the rooftops. We need a facility like this at every military installation ... worldwide,” Albright said.

## **Eldon Milligan**

*Age: 66*

*Home: Sanford, MI*

*Occupation: Retired US Navy, 28 years, Master Chief Petty Officer*

*Kidney Transplant Patient @ Miami Valley Hospital, Dayton, OH*

### **His Story:**

On April 18, 2008 Eldon Milligan received a kidney transplant which required that he spend ten days in the hospital and then remain in the area as a precautionary measure as well as for follow-up treatment. After a brief two-day recuperation stay at the Fisher House Compassionate Care Facility on Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Milligan was rushed back to Miami Valley Hospital (MVH) due to post-surgery complications where he spent an additional 12 days.

Local rest and recuperation was then required after the second emergency procedure; Milligan returned to the Fisher House, joining one of two daughters, for what would be a three-to-four week stay.

Plans for the kidney transplant procedure began nearly two years earlier when Milligan asked to be put on the kidney recipient waiting list at MVH. He reported that the Dayton hospital seemed like a wise choice, since his one daughter lived in the area. He had planned to stay at his daughter and son-in-law's home during the procedures. Unfortunately, the couple was faced with a job relocation to Chillicothe and Milligan was faced with possibly selecting another hospital and starting back at the bottom of a kidney donation-recipient request list.

"It could have been another two years," the Michigan resident said, if he were to select another medical facility. "So I started calling around ... I knew I wouldn't be able to afford a motel for that long of a stay ... Wright-Patt happened to be one of the first places I called."

With tears rolling down the cheeks of this veteran's humbled face, he looked the interviewer square in the eye and slowly pronounced, "So you see, the surgeons did a tremendous job, of which I am grateful ... but this house, and the many people associated with this house ... they actually saved my life."

He went on to say that until he received initial calls, he had never heard of a compassionate care facility nor did he know that like facilities exist on a number of military bases throughout the world.

"Look at the sign (in front of the Fisher House at WPAFB) ... it talks about compassion. This is THE most compassionate place I know," he said, now attempting to control obvious emotional feelings. "Since I have retired, I have never been so proud to be a veteran, as I am today. This place and the people have made me feel SO proud."

By this time, Milligan, his second daughter, who "relieved" her sister midway through the medical and recuperation ordeal, and the interviewer were all displaying tears of joy and gratitude.

"There's something about it (Fisher, Nightingale Houses); when you first walk through the door ... that gives you a feeling of compassion and caring," Laura Bowen, Oklahoma resident and daughter of Milligan said.

The recent kidney transplant recipient went on to praise the staff and volunteers and remarked how "accommodating" everyone had been, while still respecting his privacy.

"If you've ever sat in your house saying ... 'Gee, I wish I could do something for the military and the people that defend our country' ... this is the perfect way," the retired Naval noncommissioned officer stated.

"There are many stories, just like mine ... And maybe there are some that can tell it better than me, but every person should know how this place can actually save lives."

## **Julie Hoppe**

*Home: Hillsboro, OH*

*Occupation: Interior Designer.*

*Husband served in USAF 20 years, retired as Major*

*Breast Cancer Survivor*

### **Her Story:**

One year ago, last summer, Julie Hoppe "knew something just wasn't right. It hurt like I had a deep bruise, but I hadn't done anything to injure myself."

Weeks later... “thanks to Joan in mammography and Dr. Quinn, who both went beyond their call of duty,” according to Julie ... after several biopsies and a performed lumpectomy, Hoppe would be told that she had cancer ... invasive carcinoma.

“I think every woman, in the back of her mind, is concerned about the possibility of breast cancer,” the mother of three grown sons said. “Then when you hear the words ... well, you begin to think and say to yourself that life will no longer be the same,” she added, her voice cracking just a bit as she attempted to control her emotion.

Julie was correct; life would no longer be the same for her.

In January of this year she underwent double mastectomy and then reconstructive surgery at Miami Valley Hospital. And she would meet Dr. David J. Hoopes, who would soon become her “hero,” not only because of his medical assistance, but also in his guidance and concern for her emotional well-being, introducing Julie to the Fisher Nightingale Houses at Wright-Patt. Hoopes, a captain in the Medical Corps, USAF serves as Assistant Professor of Radiology and Radiological Sciences, Uniformed Services, University of the Health Sciences at Wright Patterson Medical Center.

“I have stayed here 60-to-80 days over the past year,” the thankful woman said, holding her hands out to embrace and acknowledge the Fisher House, as she sat in the facility’s family/living room area. “And it was Dr. Hoopes that first told me about this beautiful facility for patients and for their families while in treatment,” Julie added.

“No one could have prepared me for the compassion and the gentleness that Karen (Healea, house manager) and Barbara (Howe, assistant manager) and the entire staff and volunteers...for that matter ... give to all of their guests,” a humbled woman recounted.

“It was if they were taking on your emotions, trying to ease my burden, giving me strength to carry on,” Julie said. “I call them God’s little angels,” she said of the staff and volunteers. “As of today, I have only a one percent chance of recurring breast cancer.”

For the weeks and months after surgery this woman would have been faced with an early-morning “wake-up call” at 2 a.m. allowing her to drive from her hometown area of Hillsboro-Chillicothe in order to meet five-day-a-week radiation treatment in the Dayton area. Julie was also diagnosed with Lymphoma.

Becoming a temporary “resident” of the Fisher House gave Julie the opportunity to rest in the confines of her “second home” in preparation for the next day’s treatment.

“I’m reminded of the story in the bible about an ill man everyone passed by on their daily business, but the Good Samaritan stopped and took immediate care and paid for his room and board. The Fisher House staff is filled with such compassion ...even in this busy world we live in,” she added, doing her best to hold back the emotion that filled her voice inflection.

“I cannot say enough about this place. In a period of less than a year, I went from ... (long pauses and signs of heartfelt emotions interrupted her train of thought) ... to where I am today; I’m home at the Fisher House,” Julie said. “And this facility would not be five-star if it wasn’t for the volunteers.”

Hoppe, knowing that WPAFB is now on the “waiting list” for the addition of another Fisher House and in the throes of a capital campaign, was eager to tell of her obstacles that have turned into opportunities.

“There are very few people that know these facilities are located all over the world, providing compassionate care for individuals like me. We need to encourage more people to get involved, whether it’s through volunteerism and ... or financial support,” she added.

According to this cancer survivor, one out of every three women will develop some type of breast cancer during their lives.

“I just want everyone to know the signs of early detection and then to know there are people and facilities like this (Fisher House) to help get you through the tough times. This is my family, and every day I remind myself of how fortunate I have been,” the survivor stated in a grateful, yet victorious tone.

## **Linda and Kirk K. Links**

*Parents of former Marine Corporal, Beau Links, Reservist,, Lima Company, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 25<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment, Columbus, OH*

*Home: Huber Heights, OH*

*Occupation: Kirk – Retired Lt Colonel USAF (26 years)*

*Parents of three boys: Beau, Justin, Lance*

*Beau Links, critically injured while deployed in Iraq in 2005, spent one week in the hospital at Landstuhl Army Base, Germany, before transferring state side to Bethesda, MD. A patient at Bethesda National Naval Medical Hospital for more than a month, Links was transferred to the Dayton Miami Valley Hospital for rehabilitation and then was later put under the care of the Wright-Patterson AFB Physical Therapy Clinic.*

### **Their Story:**

It was Mother’s Day, May 8, 2005; Beau and his fellow Lima Company corpsmen were assigned to search homes in New Ubaydi, Iraq, looking for insurgents held up in the vacated homes. As Links entered the dwelling he was met with open fire and an enemy grenade, which severely ripped into his left leg.

Instinctively, with serious gun and shrapnel wounds to his neck, shoulder, arm, and leg, Links drug himself to an adjacent unoccupied room and placed himself in a defense posture, not knowing if the insurgents or his corpsmen would be the first to enter.

Placing themselves in harm’s way, LCPL Crum, LCPL Hewitt and LCPL Leary entered the building, drug Links out of the dwelling and immediately began life-saving first aid on the wounded Marine. The three corpsmen, ranging in ages from 19-21, convinced Beau that he would live and that everything would soon be okay, shouting encouragement as they secured the area.

Weeks later, while undergoing every other day surgery in Bethesda, Beau would whisper to his father, “that day was the best day in my life ... I didn’t know what was behind that door when I went in, but MY corps ... they knew what they would be faced with ... and yet they still came in to save me,” Kirk recalled, as his eyes welled with tears.

The call that parents of military troops pray against, came the day after Mother’s Day; they were told that Beau had sustained critical injuries and it was questionable whether or not he would live through the ordeal.

Medical Evacuation units airlifted Beau to an Army Base Hospital in Germany, where it took more than one week to stabilize the Marine. On that Friday the Links were told that it appeared Beau would live, but extensive surgery would be required; he would be flown back to the states and would find the Bethesda National Naval Hospital as his respite.

Upon their arrival at Bethesda, following a silence-soaked 10-hour drive to Washington, Linda noted that the first night they found an off-base hotel to stay, but that she, her husband, and Beau’s

girlfriend, now wife Courtney, “really didn’t know what to expect as we drove from Dayton to the east coast.”

“When we got there (at Bethesda), we had nowhere to go,” Kirk said. “I don’t think the Marines were prepared for the number of troop casualties and injuries coming from Iraq.”

The next night, and for 34 nights that followed, the Bethesda Fisher House became their refuge. Like so many other military families, the Links found that the compassionate care facility, which was within walking distance from the hospital, became their home away from home. It was a place to rejuvenate and prepare for their son’s on-going medical challenges and successes.

“Everyone needs to go to the fifth floor at Bethesda,” Kirk said of the military hospital’s critical care unit. “I would not wish a Fisher House stay on anyone, but if it’s needed ... Thank God there are Fisher Houses,” the retired USAF Lt. Colonel said.

The compassion shared at Fisher Houses throughout the world was ideally characterized as Kirk retold a memory at the Bethesda center: “I was in the kitchen of the Fisher House when the manager came through with a couple and was describing the features of the house to them. He introduced me to them and they asked if my son was injured and how he was doing,” Kirk recalled.

“After a brief response, I asked about their son. “Our son did not make it,” responded the father of the fallen soldier.

“I fell back against the counter and cried so hard that the parents hugged ME, telling me it would be alright. They had lost their son and they were consoling me. I have never experienced so much compassion as from anyone as I saw first-hand at the Fisher House,” Kirk said.

“To a person, they (the Fisher House staff) seemed to have a sense of when to talk to me and when to leave me alone. Sometimes I just needed my space, and other times I needed to release,” he said.

“Fisher House was a God-send to us,” Linda said. “We were able to be at Beau’s side every time he opened his eyes. Kirk would stay at the hospital during the night; we would go during the day. Without the Fisher House we wouldn’t have been able to be there when Beau needed us most.

“While someone is taking care of YOUR kid, it’s reassuring to know that someone is taking care of you,” the mother of three boys added.

The house, just 400 yards from the hospital, “gave us a base to operate,” she said. “We would have slept on a couch ... in a car ... it didn’t matter; but they made room for us and told us to stay as long as was needed.”

Today, Beau is a senior at Wright State University; following March graduation, he plans to enter medical school and has aspirations of re-joining the armed services in the medical profession, “to pay his country back for saving his life,” his father related.

After months of rehabilitation ... at Miami Valley Hospital and through the Physical Therapy Clinic at WPAFB, Beau is able to run and frequently bikes. Although there was a great deal of nerve damage to repair, he will now be able to lead a productive and “repaying life”... even after being told he may never walk again.

Beau, his wife, and his parents credit his fellow corpsmen, the many medical staffs (from the medical evacuation to surgery and to rehabilitation), and the caring confines; the “safe haven” of the Fisher House, for his miraculous recovery.

Kirk is the fitness director for the three centers at Wright-Patt; and Linda now volunteers her time, assisting at the WPAFB Fisher Houses. Beau is the youngest of the three sons.

Justin, the oldest, served two years in the U.S. Navy and is now a Captain in the 101st Airborne Division of the U.S. Army. Lance is a science teacher at Lebanon High School.

In 2005 the Columbus-based Lima Company became one of the most devastated troops in the Iraqi conflict with 23 fallen warriors and more than 50 critically injured. Their heroic stories are often retold.

# Tom Taylor

*Age: 57*

*Home: Cleveland, OH*

*Occupation: Retired USAF Defense Contractor, Military Rank at Discharge: E6*

*Colon Cancer Survivor*

*Treatment @ USAF Medical Center, Wright-Patterson AFB*

## **His Story:**

On April 29, 2007 Tom Taylor lost his wife to lung cancer; one year to the day later, April 29, 2008, Tom's mother passed away, also a victim of lung cancer.

Taylor received word of his mother's death while he was staying at the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base Fisher House as he was receiving treatment for colon cancer.

"This place has made such a difference in my life," Taylor said, while sitting outside of the compassionate care facility, located a few blocks away from the base hospital facility. "Listen ... do you hear those birds chirping in that tree? I can now appreciate them even more," he said in a quiet, yet sincere tone.

His "home away from home," it was Taylor's fifth time staying at the house which offers free lodging and meals for individuals and or family during extended hospital stays for treatment or surgery.

"It's tough to stay with friends when you're going through cancer treatment ... it's different when you're staying with others that are experiencing some of the same type challenges. When we're here, we can share.

"At some point during the day ... we might meet in the kitchen or in the living room ... we come together and share; it's that binding that's spiritual ... actually medicinal," he said.

Before Tom's wife lost her battle to cancer she offered him her "prayer beads," according to the retiree, suggesting that the beads would give him comfort at times of need. After she passed, Tom offered the beads to his mother, repeating the same words as his wife. When his mother was discovered, passing one year later, she was found grasping those same prayer beads.

"I really believe my wife came down to get my mother," he said, his voice cracking with emotion.

Taylor has undergone two separate surgeries during his battle, both at the Wright-Patterson AFB Hospital. Initially, doctors removed part of his colon. After allowing the area to heal, a second surgery was required to re-connect the colon pathway.

Because the Cleveland-area resident has displayed positive response to continuing cancer treatment and to both surgeries, he has now been given a high probability of survival.

"Many of our families, especially retirees, simply cannot afford to stay in a hotel during these extended treatments; this house ... the staff, the volunteers, and the others facing like circumstances ... well, let's just say they are all caring. I've been a part of it and I can see what this place does for families," he added, carrying long pauses in his delivery.

Although Taylor worked in this area for 13 years as a defense contractor, he wasn't aware that such a facility existed. "We need to do a better job of letting people know about this very caring place," he stated with sincere compassion. "If telling of my events and feelings allows just one more person to understand the importance of this facility today, and for the future, then my story is worth telling ... worth repeating," he said, as an ever so slight grin appeared upon his face. "I am so thankful."

# History

## The Fisher's Vision

Acknowledged by the Armed Forces as the nation's most dedicated patriot, Zachary Fisher considered himself to be the luckiest man alive. He had two rewarding careers, one in the investment building sector of New York's real estate industry, the other as a private citizen serving his country. Born in Brooklyn, New York, young Zachary left high school at age 16 to help in the family construction business. He laid bricks until a serious building accident nearly cost him his left leg. When Japan attacked Pearl Harbor in December 1941, he was rejected by the military due to his injury.

Over the years, Zachary's family business skyrocketed along with his devotion to his country. Fisher Construction is one of the industry's leaders, contributing some of the most prestigious corporate office buildings to the New York skyline. After 50 successful years as a real estate developer, Zachary Fisher embarked on a new career that would ultimately touch the lives of thousands of Americans. Zachary wanted to give something back to those who gave their lives to preserve his freedom and that feeling stayed with him his entire life. Zachary's future wife, Elizabeth, was also passionate about serving the armed forces from her time spent traveling overseas during World War II as an entertainer with the USO.

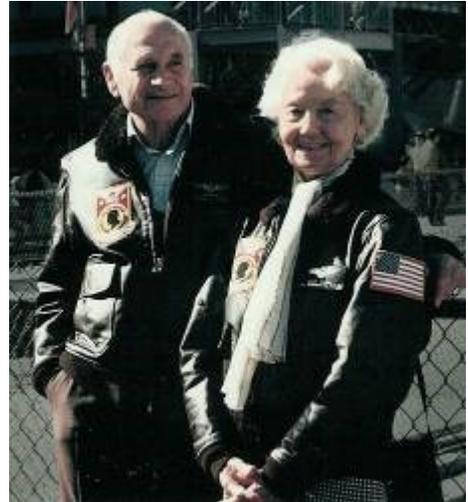
Their marriage in 1943 was the beginning of a love story – two extraordinary people, their love for each other and for their country. They began searching for ways to support military families around the world.

In 1983, the Fishers established the "Zachary and Elizabeth M. Fisher Armed Forces Foundation" to provide financial assistance to military families in need. That need arose when they stepped in with a gift of \$10,000 to each of the families of 241 casualties from the Marine Barracks bombing in Beirut in 1983 and again when a military aircraft crashed in Gander Newfoundland, killing 248 "Screaming Eagle" soldiers in 1985. They then stepped in with a gift of \$25,000 to each family when 47 crewmen were killed in a 1989 turret explosion aboard the USS Iowa. In their letter of condolence, they explained that while nothing could compensate for the loss of their loved ones, they hoped there was some comfort in knowing that two strangers cared enough about their grief to send a token of their remorse.

The Fishers' generosity has been extraordinary. Besides enormous financial assistance, college scholarships and the building of New York's Intrepid Sea-Air-Space Museum, the Fishers continued to ask what more they could do for the military family. Then, Pauline Trost, wife of former Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Carlisle Trost, suggested the idea for comfortable, affordable family housing near military hospitals. The Fisher's knew this need fit perfectly with their objectives. The Houses became a tangible way of finally expressing their gratitude to the men and women in uniform.

"Where there is a military, there will always be a Fisher House. Where there is a Fisher House, there will always be love and caring, warmth and compassion," said Zachary.

In 1998, Zachary Fisher received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest award the country can bestow on a civilian. In 1999, Public Law 106-161 conferred "honorary veteran" status on philanthropist Zachary Fisher, making him only the second individual so recognized (Bob Hope being the first).





*Captain (retired) Gretchen Lizza and family*

## A Dream is Born: The Nightingale House

The first compassionate care house in the Department of Defense was the dream of a scientist at the Armstrong Aerospace Medical Research Lab at Wright-Patterson on a humanitarian assignment.

Captain Gretchen Lizza thought of the idea for the Nightingale House when her son, Tony, was diagnosed with leukemia. In the months of initial therapy, Gretchen met many families with similar circumstances. They were in shock, emotionally overwhelmed and facing long hospital stays for their loved ones. They also had the added burden of not having an affordable place to stay.

Gretchen saw the need for a home-away-from-home. She took her idea to Colonel Dennis P. Tewel, Commander of the 2750<sup>th</sup> Air Base Wing, and convinced him of the need. Her idea for an on-base version of the Ronald McDonald House was taken all the way to the Pentagon. After months of work, authority was obtained for an existing duplex on base to be redesigned and remodeled and in May 1990 the house was ready to become a home for visiting families.

The house needed a name that conveyed its special purpose. "Nightingale," a name synonymous with tender, loving care, and the nickname for the C-9 medical evacuation transport plane, was the perfect fit. So the dream of the Nightingale House became a reality.

With the opening of Fisher House II in April 2011, the Nightingale was returned to the military and demolished.

Even though the Fisher Houses are located on federal installations or at major Veterans Affairs Medical Centers, they, like Ronald McDonald Houses, have no corporate or government underwriting and must rely on private donations for operating expenses. But unlike the Ronald McDonald Houses, which are limited to families of critically ill children, the Fisher Houses accept families of patients of all ages.

Guests come from all branches of the military, active duty, retired and reserves. They have come from as far away as overseas and as close as here in the Miami Valley.

Captain Lizza's motto for the Nightingale House was quite simple, "If all hands that reach could touch." To her that meant by reaching out and touching someone, you can make a difference in their life. We are all thankful that she took that time, in the midst of her personal tragedy, to reach out and touch so many families in need.

Even after the Lizza's retired from the Air Force in 1993 they continued to stay in contact with the House managers and volunteers. In August of 1996, her son Tony lost his battle with leukemia. Today, Gretchen and Carl are keeping Tony's memory and legacy alive through "Tony's Gang," a non-profit organization founded to support children with serious illness and their families ([www.tonysgang.com](http://www.tonysgang.com)).

The Lizza's hope to educate people about the needs and challenges of families facing a serious illness. They want to train those who want to help but don't know how to act or what to do. Finally, they hope to foster what they call a "kid-to-kid" network of support. They felt that Tony lived longer than many of his peer group in part because of the support he had.

The national headquarters of Tony's Gang opened in Philadelphia in support of Children's Hospital. The Lizza's took their tragedy and built something positive and lasting from it. In their eyes, it gives added meaning to their son's life.

# Fisher House Volunteers

One of the major keys to the success of the Wright-Patterson Fisher Houses is its volunteer program. The one full-time manager and two part-time managers could not possibly conduct the day-to-day operations of the Houses while supporting the guests in the way that they need.

That's where the Fisher Houses volunteers provide an invaluable service! They assist them in getting settled into their rooms, talk with them and console them. No matter what the guests need, the volunteers are there to support them in every way possible.

In 2016, the Fisher Houses volunteers provided 579.5 hours of service to the House guests. In addition, popcorn volunteers provided 1,256.5 and group volunteers provided another 1,449 hours. Utilizing the Independent Sector latest estimated value of volunteer time of \$23.56 an hour, that's a \$77,395 savings!

## 2016 Volunteers

Lori Bellan  
Kim Cecil  
Suzanne Crooks  
Stephanie Delgado  
Marilyn Ertle  
Barbara Farlow  
Patty Johnson  
Larry Kinsler

Jerry Miko  
Susan Nunez  
Pete Johnson  
Cathy Paschall  
Mary Lou Petersen  
Loeta Raper  
Dede Richardson

## Volunteer Recognition

### 2016 Volunteers of the Quarter

**January thru March**

**April thru June**

**July thru September**

**October thru December**

Suzanne Crooks

Cathy Paschall

Excelitas Technologies

Dede Richardson

Lori Bellan

## Volunteer of the Year and Air Force Fisher House Volunteer of the Year

Dede Richardson

# The Broxson Award

## 2016 Recipient:

1<sup>st</sup> Lt Brittney N. Rufus, Clinical Nurse, Multi Service Unit

## History and Significance

The Broxson Award was created to recognize the individual on the Wright-Patterson Medical Center staff who most significantly touched the lives of families residing at the Fisher Houses with compassion and support.

The award is named after Colonel (Dr.) Emmett Broxson, Director of the Pediatrics Specialty Clinic, Wright-Patterson Medical Center from 1988 to 1996 and was established by the founder of the Nightingale House, Captain Gretchen Lizza.

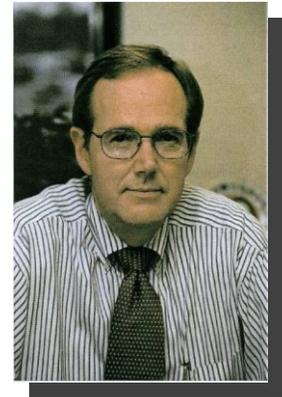
The Broxson Award is the most prestigious recognition given by the Houses in honor of the families we serve. Our families vote and choose the recipient each year. The award is meant to distinguish that medical servant who, like Dr. Broxson, epitomizes virtue and strength.

Dr. Emmet Broxson's dedication and gentle ways endeared him to the families whose children he treated during his service in the U. S. Air Force.

Diagnosis and care of children who battle catastrophic diseases – diseases without cure – is by far the most difficult area of medicine. Physicians and their staff who attend to these children tirelessly search for answers.

Dr. Broxson distinguished himself through his consummate love of children and daily demonstration of a faith in wisdom that transcends understanding. This is why the award is named for Dr. Broxson.

The Broxson Award celebrates the humility and strength of Dr. Broxson. The award was first presented to him and now identifies others who exhibit dedication to their practice and compassion for others.



## Past Broxson Award recipients

<b>2015</b>	Lt Colonel (Dr.) John W. Powell 1st Lt Neal J. Alexander 1st Lt Leslie A. Whiting Amber N. Van Hoose	Orthopaedic Surgeon Pediatric Nurse, Pediatric Flight Clinical Nurse, MIU Clinical Nurse, Cancer Care Center
<b>2014</b>	Major (Dr.) Michael Palmer	Orthopaedic Surgeon
<b>2013</b>	Major (Dr.) Elizabeth P. Tran	Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon
<b>2012</b>	Major (Dr.) Stefanie K. Horne	Staff Otolaryngologist (Ear, Nose and Throat)
<b>2011</b>	Major (Dr.) William K. Skinner	Radiation Oncology
<b>2010</b>	Major (Dr.) Jorge Arzola	Staff Urologist and Chief of Surgical Specialties
<b>2009</b>	2d Lieutenant Jessica Roberts	In-Patient Surgery Recovery Unit
<b>2008</b>	Colonel (Dr.) Leo D. Hurley	Director of Ophthalmology and Refractive Surgery
<b>2007</b>	Lt Colonel (Dr.) Ronald Hale	Radiation/Oncology
<b>2006</b>	Kay Baumgardner	Warfighter Laser Surgery Center
<b>2005</b>	Major (Dr.) Eric Trueblood	Internal Medicine Clinic B
<b>2004</b>		Warfighter Laser Surgery Center
<b>2003</b>	Major (Dr.) William Decker	Radiation/Oncology
<b>2002</b>	Noni Heinrich	Pre-Admissions
<b>2001</b>	Major (Dr.) David M. Powell	Chief, Hematology/Oncology Center
<b>2000</b>		Hyperbaric Chamber Team
<b>1999</b>	Lt Colonel (Dr.) Sandra Herrington	Radiology
<b>1998</b>	Major (Dr.) Kelvin B. Raybon	Oncology
<b>1997</b>	Captain Anita Herrera	Nurse, 3 West
<b>1996</b>	Major (Dr.) Patrick W. Townsend	Radiology
<b>1995</b>	Major (Dr.) Frederick J. Barton	Radiology
<b>1994</b>	Major (Dr.) Jeffrey Carlson	Radiology
<b>1993</b>	Lt Colonel (Dr.) Emmett Broxson	Pediatric Specialty Clinic

## **EMMETT BROXSON AWARD**

### **Medical professional recognized for compassion, humor**

*By Amy Rollins  
Skywrighter Staff*

An annual award meant to honor an individual who has significantly touched the lives of patients and families the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base's Fisher Houses with outstanding compassion and support has gone to a clinical nurse.

First Lt. Brittney Rufus, a clinical nurse in the inpatient medical/surgical department at the Wright-Patterson Medical Center, received the award December 9<sup>th</sup> during the holiday party for the Fisher Houses. The award was presented by Colonel Shari Silverman, 88<sup>th</sup> Medical Group commander. She was assisted by Karen Healea, Wright-Patterson Fisher House manager. Several senior members of the wing were present, including Colonel Bradley McDonald, 88<sup>th</sup> Air Base Wing and installation commander, and retired colonels and generals.

Rufus' father flew in from Brookhaven, Mississippi, to be with his daughter, and her boyfriend was elated to get on base for the first time so he could see a bit of military culture. She has been a nurse for five years and stationed at Wright-Patterson AFB for three. The Emmett Broxson Award is named after Dr. Emmett Broxson who served as the director of the Pediatric Specialty Clinic at WPMC from 1988 to 1996. The award honoring Broxson is the most prestigious recognition given by the houses in honor of the families served.

"The Broxson Award recognizes an individual, selected by the Fisher House guests, who epitomize caring and compassion," Silverman said. "This year's winner is no exception. Lt. Brittney Rufus, a clinical nurse on the medical center's inpatient medical/surgical unit, was nominated not only for her excellent nursing skills but for her compassion and sense of humor. Lt. Rufus' interaction with Fisher House guests is typical of the care provided by our nursing staff as a whole. We, indeed, are fortunate to have a nurse of Lt. Rufus' caliber taking care of our patients."

"I am the daughter of a nurse and the sister of a nurse," Rufus said. "Being a nurse is my life, and I love it. I've worked in the medical/surgical unit as well as a few days in the emergency room and intensive care unit. I enjoy doing anything that will help broaden my horizon."

Her older sister is a psychiatric nurse practitioner, and her younger sister is just starting her master's degree in nursing. Rufus noted that she grew up spending a lot of time in hospitals while her mother worked and is very comfortable in that environment.

"My father would bring us before a shift change and we would sit at the nurses' station. Before I could really write, I could read nursing shorthand. My mom used to leave all her notes about our chores in nursing shorthand for us to read," she said.

Rufus' family places an emphasis on serving others with compassion. With their small town only an hour and 10 minutes from New Orleans, they jumped to help clear trees and debris after Hurricane Katrina hit. Rufus recalls that she and her father even split wood to leave with elderly people so they would have something to burn and keep warm.

Rufus' small-town upbringing exposed her to rich food prepared in non-healthy ways and showed her the need for more resources and health information in the community. Her philosophy is to help one person at a time, then one city, then one state and then the nation so people are taking better care of themselves.

"When I go back home, I talk to young women about their health and then elderly folks to explain their medications to them, to ensure they have what they need to remain healthy," she said.

She borrows from her father's sense of humor to entertain patients.

“Sometimes laughter is the best medicine. It makes you feel good when you can laugh,” Rufus noted.

It feels good to win the Broxson Award and be recognized for her work, Rufus said, but “seeing someone feel better is the best reward. I look forward to coming to work because I know the patients will make me happy. I’ve learned everybody has a story to tell.”

First Lt. Walter Donoghue, inpatient/surgical unit charge nurse, said, “Lt. Rufus is a superior nurse who can handle anything you throw at her. She has a take-charge attitude and is very willing to work hard.”



*First Lt. Brittney Rufus, clinical nurse, inpatient medical/surgical unit, Wright-Patterson Medical Center, prepares IV fluids for a patient. Rufus is the 2016 winner of the Emmett Broxson Award, nominated by patients and their families at Wright-Patterson Air Force Bases’ Fisher Houses. (Skywrighter photo/Amy Rollins)*

### **About the Fisher Houses**

The Wright-Patterson Fisher Houses are compassionate care facilities for servicemen and servicewomen, and their families, location on Wright-Patterson AFB within walking distance of the hospital. The houses provide a comfortable place to stay, serving patients and families from all branches of the military receiving active medical treatment at the medical center. The Houses provide a home-away-from-home for families in need. Twenty-one rooms are available.

# The Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc.

## Executive Board

The first volunteer Board was formed shortly after opening the Nightingale House. It provided financial support and insured the future of the founders' dream for an affordable on base home-away-from-home for military families in medical crisis. In 1990 these dedicated founders, led by Captain Gretchen Lizza, established and became the first members of the Nightingale House Support Association, a private, nonprofit charitable organization. This Board assisted in fundraising, staffing the house with volunteers and made all financial decisions.

After Zachary and Elizabeth Fisher's generous donation of the Fisher House in 1994, the Board has had a couple of name changes and today is known as the Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc.

The Board's sole mission is to raise funds to support compassionate care lodging for patients

and their families receiving critical medical treatment at the Wright-Patterson Medical Center. The Fisher Houses are owned, managed and supported financially by the Air Force and the Department of Defense. The Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc. donates funds to the Air Force and DoD each month to cover all costs associated with the day-to-day operations of the Houses. The organization also donates additional funds, services, and items (large and small) to the Air Force and DoD specifically in support of the Fisher Houses at Wright-Patterson AFB.

The partnership between the Board, the House managers, the volunteers and the Air Force has been essential to the success of the Wright-Patterson Fisher Houses. Together, we have accomplished great things – together, we are making a difference!

## 2016 Executive Board Members

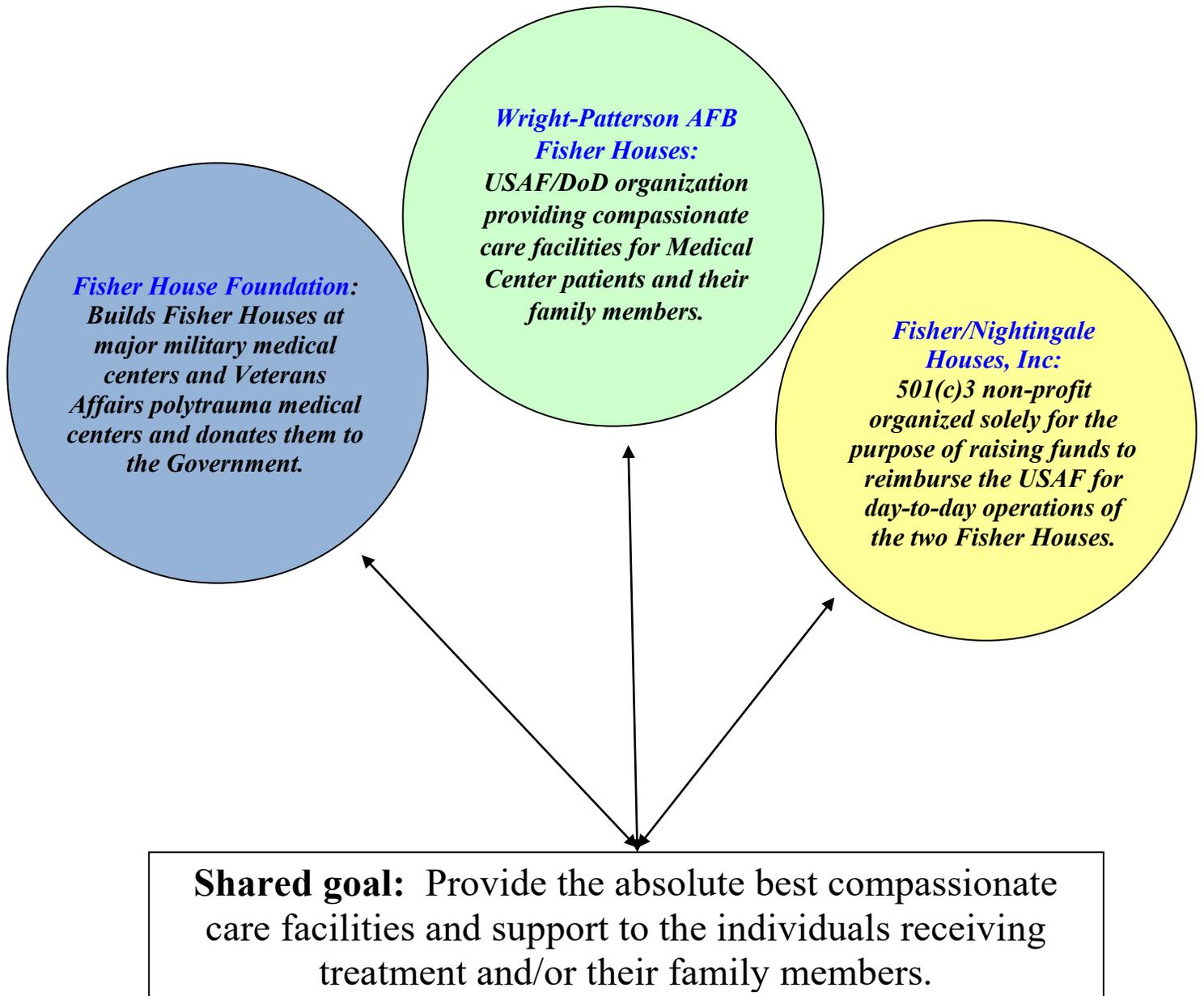
(as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016)

Janice Beckett  
Linda Skinner  
Dawn Ivy  
Jean Newby  
Sharon Curp  
Marie Vanover  
Joani Reynolds  
Technical Sergeant Jason Mann  
Technical Sergeant Christopher Revier  
Master Sergeant Brandy Prude  
Master Sergeant Thomas M. Rayniak, Jr.  
Margaret Ritter  
Kari Tucker  
Colonel Shari Silverman  
Krista McDonald  
Dan Druzbacky

President  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Legal Counsel  
Media Relations  
Community Development Committee Chair  
AF Sergeants Association Representative  
AF Sergeants Association Representative  
First Sergeants Association Representative  
First Sergeants Association Representative  
Miami Valley Military Affairs Representative  
Officers' Spouses' Club Representative  
88<sup>th</sup> Air Base Wing Liaison  
Wright-Patt Advisor  
Director, Compassionate Care

***The Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc. is a member of the Dayton/Miami Valley Better Business Bureau, the Fairborn Chamber of Commerce, the Dayton Chamber of Commerce, the Beavercreek Chamber of Commerce and the Huber Heights Chamber of Commerce. It is also a United Way Partner Agency.***

# The Fisher House Foundation, Fisher Houses and Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc. Relationship



# The Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc.

## Membership Program

The Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc. established a membership program in January 2002. Membership is open to all individuals, corporations, proprietorships, partnerships and organizations interested in promoting of the objectives and purposes of the Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc.

There are three levels of membership in the Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc. Each level is defined by the annual donation made, whether financial, donation-in-kind or volunteer time. If an individual or organization makes both financial and time donations, the level of membership is the highest level for which qualification requirements are met. The levels are:

<b>Member</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25 hours of service to the Houses</li> <li>• A financial contribution of \$50 to \$250</li> <li>• A donation-in-kind valued at \$50 to \$250</li> </ul>
<b>Friend</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50 hours of service to the Houses</li> <li>• A financial contribution of \$251 to \$500</li> <li>• A donation-in-kind valued at \$251 to \$500</li> </ul>
<b>Patron</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100 hours of service to the Houses</li> <li>• A financial contribution of \$501 or more</li> <li>• A donation-in-kind valued at \$501 or more</li> </ul>

Memberships are effective the first day of the month following receipt of the donation or volunteer time.

All members receive a membership card (with an expiration date), are welcome to attend Board meetings as observers, and are able to vote in annual elections of Board members (proxy votes are not permitted). All members are also invited to fundraising events hosted by the Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc.

The first 1,000 members at the Friend and Patron level are considered to be Charter Members. Charter members stay on the permanent roles but must renew their membership annually in order to retain their membership benefits. As of 31 December 2011, there were 1,000 Charter members.

### Membership Program Status

<u>Active Members</u>	<u>Active Friends</u>	<u>Active Patrons</u>	<u>Raised</u>
601 as of 31 Dec 16	114 as of 31 Dec 16	320 as of 31 Dec 16	\$6,017,428.23
408 as of 31 Dec 15	101 as of 31 Dec 15	250 as of 31 Dec 15	\$5,176,446.42
490 as of 31 Dec 14	113 as of 31 Dec 14	208 as of 31 Dec 14	\$4,537,723.14
395 as of 31 Dec 13	76 as of 31 Dec 13	176 as of 31 Dec 13	\$4,064,933.00
521 as of 31 Dec 12	105 as of 31 Dec 12	188 as of 31 Dec 12	\$3,707,671.37
495 as of 31 Dec 11	113 as of 31 Dec 11	188 as of 31 Dec 11	\$3,299,919.39
544 as of 31 Dec 10	115 as of 31 Dec 10	229 as of 31 Dec 10	\$2,918,284.63
576 as of 31 Dec 09	104 as of 31 Dec 09	251 as of 31 Dec 09	\$2,342,487.84
560 as of 31 Dec 08	102 as of 31 Dec 08	262 as of 31 Dec 08	\$1,720,236.38
487 as of 31 Dec 07	75 as of 31 Dec 07	195 as of 31 Dec 07	\$1,085,381.01
332 as of 31 Dec 06	56 as of 31 Dec 06	129 as of 31 Dec 06	\$674,780.67
296 as of 31 Dec 05	54 as of 31 Dec 05	116 as of 31 Dec 05	\$418,990.35
283 as of 31 Dec 04	36 as of 31 Dec 04	83 as of 31 Dec 04	\$253,369.34
196 as of 31 Dec 03	21 as of 31 Dec 03	55 as of 31 Dec 03	\$111,260.37
120 as of 31 Dec 02	16 as of 31 Dec 02	35 as of 31 Dec 02	\$38,604.13

# The Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc.

## Major Fund-Raisers - 2016

**“An All-American Evening...The Ultimate Tailgate”** More than 320 tickets were sold for this successful event of fun, food, auctions, and entertainment at the National Museum of the United States Air Force. Attendees participated in a silent auction of art, jewelry, event tickets, sporting items and much more with Master of Ceremonies Jim Bucher; an exciting, fast-paced live auction by Clark County Sheriff Gene Kelly; music by Dan Edwards; a gourmet meal by the Club and Banquet Center; and wine tasting. This year’s event raised **\$87,820.46** (after expenses) for the benefit of the Wright-Patterson Fisher Houses (and has raised \$869,374 (after expenses) since it started in September 2004).

**Popcorn Operation** In July 2004, the Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc., assumed responsibility for the popcorn operation conducted in the Medical Center and continued it in 2016. A small group of volunteers pop popcorn four or five days a week for donations; they totaled 1,256.5 volunteer hours in 2016. This activity raised **\$22,646.98** (after expenses) for the benefit of the Wright-Patterson Fisher Houses. This year, through the many volunteer hours expended since July 2004, the gross amount raised by this successful fundraiser took us near \$250,000 in popcorn income – that’s a lot of popcorn!

The Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc. also participates in the Combined Federal Campaign, the United Way of Greater Dayton and the Combined Charitable Campaign.

The Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc. was fortunate to connect/partner with several organizations who conducted fundraisers in 2016 to benefit the day-to-day operations of the two Fisher Houses.

- 87<sup>th</sup> Aerial Port Squadron Association
- 100+ Women Who Care
- Air Force Sergeant Association Chapter 751 – St. Patrick’s Day event
- American Legion Riders 389, Beverly OH
- American Legion Riders, Greater Greene County Chapter
- AMVETS Post 51, Thornville OH
- Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association
- Dayton Area Perianesthesia Nurses Association
- Elements IV Interiors
- First Baptist Church – Classics Ministry
- First Friday at Austin Landing
- Fisher House Foundation – Team Fisher House in the Air Force Marathon
- Megacity Hockey Club – Dulahan concert
- Miami Valley Military Affairs Association
- National Defense Industrial Association
- Ohio Perianesthesia Nurses Association
- Ohio State Auxiliary, Fraternal Order of Eagles
- Radiance Technologies
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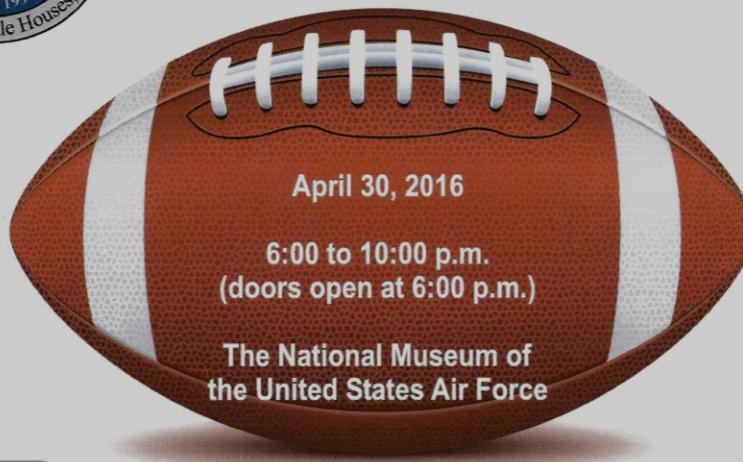
# 2016 "An All-American Evening...The Ultimate Tailgate"

**13th Annual  
"An All-American Evening"  
to benefit the  
Wright-Patterson Air Force  
Base and future Dayton VA  
Medical Center Fisher Houses**

**Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc.**  
in partnership with the  
Air Force Association Wright Memorial Chapter  
and the Miami Valley Military Affairs Association  
presents



## The Ultimate Tailgate



*Open Seating*  
*Silent and Live Auctions*  
*Entertainment*

*Attire*  
*Favorite team,*  
*Patriotic,*  
*Business*  
*Casual*



All-you-can eat  
gourmet buffet

**WINE TASTING**  
Plus free beer,  
soda, water

**TICKETS**

\$85 per person  
*(\$35 of each ticket is tax deductible)*

For tickets, contact Chris Stanley  
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Admit One

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# The Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc.

## Financial Status – 2015

In August 2016, the Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc. received the final evaluation of the 2015 financial reports audited by Flagel, Huber, Flagel & Co.

- Program expenses for 2015 were identified as \$241,397 (or 89.7% of total expenses).
  - The Better Business Bureau (BBB) standard is that the organization must obligate at least 65% of its expenses to the Program expense area.
- Fund-raising expenses for 2015 were identified as \$7,963 (or 3.0% of total expenses) and Administrative expenses for 2015 were identified as \$19,637 (or 7.3% of total expenses) for a total expense of \$27,600 (or 10.3% of total expenses).
  - The BBB standard is that the organization must obligate no more than 35% of its expenses to Fund-raising and Administrative expense areas.

As a percentage of income, fund-raising and administration expenses were 4.7%.

Income for 2015 was identified as \$586,907 (unrestricted). Total operating expenses for 2015 were \$268,997, reflecting a total surplus in 2015 of \$317,910 (ending net assets of the Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc. were \$1,608,329).

**Note:** *The complete 2015 Audit and 2015 IRS Form 990 are available for review on the Fisher/ Nightingale Houses, Inc. website ([www.fnhi.org](http://www.fnhi.org)).*

## Financial Status – 2016

The preliminary/unaudited figures for 2016 indicate operational support income of \$730,166 plus income into The Dayton Foundation account for the new Fisher House at the Dayton VA Medical Center of \$236,289 and another \$181,757 direct to the organization but designated for the Dayton VA Medical Center account.

For 2016, there were total expenses of \$180,275. Therefore, there was a \$368,134 operational support surplus recognized by the Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc.

The organization regularly purchased items in support of the Fisher House guests such as Visa cards for the House Managers to use to support the house operations and gift cards for the House Managers to sponsor meals in the Houses for the guests. The organization also proffered gifts directly to the U.S. Government for the operations of the Houses.

**Note:** *Final/audited figures will be provided once the formal audit is concluded in the Fall of 2017.*

*It was once said of Zachary Fisher, "If you were to describe Zachary Fisher's impact on this country, it would be much like describing how wind works in nature. You do not actually see wind, but you see the effects of wind and feel wind upon your face. Like a strong steady wind of compassion, Zachary's effects can be seen and indeed felt by the thousands of service members and their families during what for many is the time of their greatest challenge and difficulty."*

*Our supporters are also like the wind – you can see and feel the effects of their efforts.*

*Thank You!*

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- \*\* African Safari Wildlife Park
- \*\*\* Air Force Association, Great Lakes Division
- \*\*\* Air Force Association, Wright Memorial Chapter 212
- \*\* Air Force Life Cycle Management Center/HIAM
- Air Force Life Cycle Management Center/HIBB *(IMO James A. Hobbs, Jr.)*
- \* Air Force Museum Foundation
- \*\* Air Force Research Laboratory/RYS
- Air Force Sergeant's Association
- \*\*\* Chapter 751 *(IHO General (Retired) Janet Wolfenbarger)*
- \* Aldora Chapter #262, Order of the Eastern Star, Xenia OH
- \*\*\* Allied Wine
- \*\*\* Allison Transmission
- \* Alpha Delta Kappa-Gamma
- \* Always Ballroom Dance Studio
- American Legion Auxiliary Unit 140, Greenville OH

- \* American Legion Auxiliary Unit 526, Fairborn OH
- \* American Legion Auxiliary Unit 715, Fort Jennings OH
- \* American Legion Auxiliary Unit 763, Beavercreek OH
- \*\*\* American Legion Department of Ohio Charities, Inc.
- \* American Legion Post 20, Bremen OH
- \*\*\* American Legion Post 65, Richmond IN
- \*\*\* American Legion Post 68, Wooster OH
- \*\*\* American Legion Post 88, Ashland OH
- \* American Legion Post 92, Utica OH
- \*\* American Legion Post 95, Xenia OH
- \*\*\* American Legion Post 140, Greenville OH
- \* American Legion Post 149, Holly MI
- \*\*\* American Legion Post 164, Grove City OH
- \* American Legion John Tague Post 188, New Lexington OH
- \*\*\* American Legion Post 210 Riders, Celina OH
- \*\*\* American Legion Post 210, Celina OH
- \* American Legion Post 257, Loudonville OH
- \* American Legion Post 345, Fort Recovery OH
- \*\*\* American Legion Post 526, Fairborn OH
- \* American Legion Post 578, Quaker City OH
- \*\*\* American Legion Post 763, Beavercreek OH
- \*\*\* American Legion Riders Post 368, Prospect OH
- \*\*\* American Legion Riders Post 389, Beverly OH
- \*\*\* American Legion Riders, Greater Greene County Chapter, Beavercreek OH
- \*\* American Metalworks
- \*\*\* American Society of Military Comptrollers and Kearney & Company
- \*\*\* AMVETS District 1
- \* AMVETS Post 333, Wapakoneta OH
- \* AMVETS Post 777, Upper Sandusky OH
- \*\*\* AMVETS Riders, Department of Ohio
- \*\*\* Aptima, Inc.
- \*\*\* Arabic Club Foundation
- \*\*\* Arky's Bookstore
- \*\*\* Armed Forces Financial Network
- \*\* Arthur Murray Dance Studio
- \*\*\* Austin Landing Community Authority
- \*\*\* Auxiliary to the VFW, Department of Ohio
- Banklick Christian Church
- \*\*\* Beau Townsend Ford Lincoln
- \* Beavercreek Chamber of Commerce
- \*\* Beavercreek Lowes
- \*\* Beck Law Office
- \*\*\* Belle Center United Presbyterian Church
- \*\* Belton Foods
- Berns Garden Center
- \*\* Bladecutter's, Inc.
- \* Blue Star Moms
- \*\*\* Boeing
- \*\* Boston Fisher House
- \* BRIM
- \* Broadway Tattoo
- \* Brothers Drake Meadery
- \*\* BRTRC Federal Solutions, Inc.
- Bruning's Wine Cellar
- \*\*\* Buckeye Lake AMVETS Post 51, Inc.
- \*\*\* Burris and Company CPA's
- \*\*\* CACI Keystone Decision Support System Team (*IHO Shawn Rothery*)
- \*\* Carl's Body Shop
- \*\* Cassano's Inc.
- \*\*\* CBD Advisors
- \*\*\* CDO Technologies, Inc.
- Center of Science and Industry (COSI)
- \* Chaos Room Interactive Games
- \* Cheesecake Factory
- \*\*\* Chuy's Restaurant
- \* Cincinnati Bengals
- \* Cincinnati Reds
- Cincinnati Reds Hall of Fame and Museum

- \*\*\* Cincinnati VA Fisher House
- \* Cinemark, Dayton South
- \* City of Centerville
- \*\*\* City of Riverside
- \*\*\* CJH Mechanical
- \* Cleveland Browns
- \* Cleveland Cavaliers
- \* Coco's Bistro
- \* Collier, Petras & Associates
- \* Columbus Crew Soccer Team
- \*\*\* Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association OH-12-1
- \*\*\* Coolidge Wall Co., LPA
- \* Cooper's Hawk Winery & Restaurants
- \*\*\* Daughters of Union Veterans, Ohio Department
- \*\*\* Dayton Area Perianesthesia Nurses Association
- \*\*\* Dayton Children's Hospital
- \*\*\* Dayton Daily News
- \*\*\* Dayton Development Coalition
- \*\*\* Dayton Exchange Club Foundation, Inc.
- \*\*\* Dayton Heidelberg Distributing Co.
- \* Dayton Hispanic Chamber
- \* Dayton History
- \* Dayton Performing Arts Alliance
- \* Dayton Racquet Club
- \*\*\* Dayton Warriors Softball Fund
- \*\*\* Debi's Mulch
- Defense Contract Management Agency Dayton Silver Tool Golf League (*IMO Major Larry Smith*)
- \*\*\* Defense Orientation Conference Association
- \*\* Defense Research Associates, Inc.
- \*\*\* Detmer and Sons, Inc.
- \* Dover OSC Welfare Club
- \*\*\* DP&L
- \* Drury Inn & Suites North
- \*\*\* Dublin A. M. Rotary Club
- \*\*\* Duke Realty
- \* E. L. Davis, Inc.
- \* Eagle Riders Chapter 387, Newark OH
- \*\*\* Edward Duggar, Jr., Military Lodge #123, Huber Heights OH
- \*\* EGA Cryogenics Training and Service, LLC
- \*\*\* Electronic Warfare Associates, Inc.
- \*\*\* Elements IV Interiors
- \*\*\* Emerson Network Power Liebert Services
- \*\* Energy Optimizers USA
- \* English Pines Bed & Breakfast
- \* Epsilon Lamda Chapter, Sigma Phi Gamma International Sorority
- \*\*\* Evanhoe & Associates, Inc.
- \*\* Evans Auto Group
- \*\*\* Extended Stay America
- \*\*\* Fairmont Presbyterian Church
- \*\*\* First Baptist Church Vandalia - Classics Ministry
- \*\*\* First Command Financial Services, Michael J. Gazzero, Advisor
- \*\* First Presbyterian Church, Fairborn OH
- \*\*\* Fisher House Foundation
- \*\* Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc. Executive Board
- \*\*\* Fluor Foundation
- \*\* Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie No. 1689, Xenia OH
- \*\*\* Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie No. 2233, Bryan OH
- \*\*\* Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie No. 2597, Delta OH
- \* Frickers
- \*\*\* Frontier Technology, Inc.
- \*\*\* Fulton County United Veterans Association
- \* Funny Bone Comedy Club
- \*\* Gaier's Furniture and Interiors
- \* GameWorks
- \*\*\* GE Aviation Veterans Network
- \*\*\* Girl Scout Troop 2978/2916
- \* Gold Star Wives of America, Miami Valley Chapter
- Graeters Ice Cream
- \* Greater Cleveland Post Anesthesia Nurses
- \*\*\* Greater Dayton Corvette Club
- \*\* HamlerGingrich Insurance Agency
- \* Hanscom Spouses' Club

- \* Heart Mercantile
- \* Henry M. Jackson Foundation
- \*\*\* Hollywood Gaming at Dayton
- Home Town Realty of Vandalia, LLC
- \*\* *(IHO Keller Williams Realty/Scott Fullam)*
- \*\*\* Hospice of Dayton
- \*\*\* Huron County Veterans Service Office
- \*\*\* HX5, LLC
- \* Illinois Tool Works Foundation
- \* Indian Creek Distillery
- \* Inn Port Bed and Breakfast & Suites
- \*\*\* Interstate Ford
- \*\*\* IREM Chapter 9
- \*\*\* Iron Eagle Aviation Art
- \*\*\* Jacob G. Schmidlapp Trusts, Fifth Third Bank, Trustee
- \*\* Jamie's Tire and Service
- \* Jan Miller, RE/MAX HomeBase
- \*\*\* JJR Solutions, LLC
- \* Joe Buckey Tire
- \* KBRWyle
- \*\*\* Kelchner, Inc.
- \*\* Kings Island
- \* Kitchen Aid Experience
- \* Knollwood Garden Center & Landscaping
- \*\*\* Kramer Portraits
- \*\* Kuerig Green Mountain, Inc.
- \*\* L. B. Integrity "Advocare"
- \* La-Z-Boy Home Furnishings & Décor
- \*\*\* LDSS Corp.
- \*\*\* Levin Family Foundation
- \*\*\* LexisNexis
- \* Liberty Center VFW Wives Club
- \* Lighthouse Ministries
- \* Lily's Bistro
- \*\*\* LJB, Inc.
- \*\*\* Lockheed Martin
- \*\*\* Longhorn Steakhouse
- \* Lorelei's Boutique
- Mama DiSalvo's Italian Ristorante
- \* Massage Envoy
- \*\*\* McAfee Heating and Air
- \* McDonald's
- \* McILHenny Company
- \*\*\* MCR Federal, LLC
- \* Meadowlark Restaurant
- \* Meadowview Garden Barn
- \*\*\* Megacity Hockey Club
- \*\*\* Mercer County Elks
- \* Miami Dolphins
- \*\*\* Miami Valley Military Affairs Association
- Mike's Express Car Wash of Beavercreek
- \*\*\* Military Officers Association of America - Dayton Chapter
- \*\*\* Military Order of the Purple Heart
- \* Miller Boat Line
- \*\*\* Miller-Valentine Walsh Fund
- \*\*\* Modern Technology Solutions, Inc.
- \*\*\* Monterey Consultants, Inc.
- Montgomery County Auditor's Office
- \* Mountain Home Officers' Spouses' Club
- \* National Air and Space Intelligence Center/GS
- \*\* National Air and Space Intelligence Center/GSP
- \* National Aviation Hall of Fame
- \*\*\* National Defense Industrial Association
- \* Newport Aquarium
- \*\*\* NextGen Federal Systems, LLC *(IHO Congressman Mike Turner)*
- \*\*\* Northrop Grumman
- \*\*\* Nova Technology Solutions, LLC
- \*\*\* Oakwood City School District
- Ohio Perianesthesia Nurses Association
- \*\*\* Ohio State Auxiliary, Fraternal Order of Eagles
- \*\*\* O'Neil & Associates, Inc.
- \* Organization Solutions, LLC
- \* Patriot Beard Company
- \* Patriot Pin Ups - Miami Valley
- \* PE Systems
- \* Perfect North Slopes
- \*\*\* Perma-Pipe, Inc.
- \* Perry's Butterfly House
- \* Perry's Cave Fun Center

- \* Pies & Pints
- Pittsburgh Steelers
- \* Potbelly
- \*\*\* Pratt & Whitney
- \*\*\* Premier Health Specialists
- \* Public Health Apprentice, Class 160229
- \* Put-In-Bay Island Transport
- \* Puzzles Plus
- \*\*\* Quantech Services, Inc.
- \*\* Quantrum, LLC
- \*\* R & J Tools, Inc.
- \*\*\* R. L. Fender Construction Company, Inc.
- \*\*\* Radiance Technologies, Inc.
- \*\* Repacorp, Inc.
- \* Resonate Foundation
- \*\* Rockford United Methodist Women
- \*\*\* Ronald McDonald House Charities, Miami Valley Region, Inc.
- \* Roosters, Chillicothe OH
- \* Ruby Tuesday, Dayton OH
- \*\* Sally DeForest Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution
- \* Scene 75 Entertainment Center
- \* Seneca Caverns
- \* Sgt Guy E. Lee AMVETS Post 1985, Lancaster OH
- \* Sigma Phi Gamma, Chapter Delta Pi
- \*\*\* Sigma Phi Gamma, International Sorority Tau Province
- \* Sigma Phi Gamma, NU Tau Chapter
- \*\* Skateworld of Kettering
- \* SMART Training Planning Team Attendees
- \*\*\* Society of American Military Engineers (SAME), Kittyhawk Post
- \*\*\* Soin Medical Center
- \*\*\* Sons of AMVETS Post 51
- \*\* Sons of the American Legion, 5th District
- \* Sons of the American Legion Squadron 24, McConelsville OH
- \*\* Sons of the American Legion, Ross County Squadron 62, Chillicothe OH
- \*\*\* Sons of the American Legion Squadron 733, Bettsville OH
- \* South Metro Women's Republican Club
- \*\*\* Southwest Airlines
- \*\*\* Speedway LLC
- \*\*\* Spinoza's Pizza & Salads
- \* Square One Salon and Spa
- \*\*\* SRC, Inc.
- \*\*\* St. George's Episcopal Church Social Issues Commission
- \*\*\* St. Joseph Church, Sylvania OH
- \*\* St. Mary's Post 306, Catholic War Veterans
- \*\*\* Stahl Vision, Inc.
- \* Start Skydiving
- Stephen W. Young and William Arnold Golf Memorial (*IMO Stephen W. Young – USMC and William Arnold - USN*)
- \*\*\* Stockslager's
- \* Sugarcreek Auto Bath
- \*\*\* Sycamore Creek Golf Club
- \* TAGMPMC (*IMO John Ogren*)
- \*\*\* Team Toyota
- \*\*\* Terry Webb Memorial VFW Post 1516 and Auxiliaries, Lancaster OH
- Texas Roadhouse
- \*\*\* The Berry Family Foundation
- \*\*\* The CarMax Foundation
- \* The Dayton Dragons
- \*\*\* The Georgette R. Belden Fund (*IMO Lt Colonel Richard D. Hipple*)
- \* The Greene
- \*\*\* The Harry W. and Margaret Moore Foundation, Inc.
- \*\*\* The Kroger Company
- \*\*\* The Ladies of Philoptochos of Dayton Ohio, Soteria Chapter
- \* The Lodge at Geneva On-The-Lake
- \* The Longaberger Company
- The Robert "Driz" Young Designated Charitable Fund at Stark Community Foundation
- \*\*\* The Springfield Eagles Charities, Inc.
- \*\*\* The Union Club, Inc., Springfield OH
- \* The Wharf

- \* Thornville Pharmacy
- \* TJ Chumps
- \*\*\* Toledo Area Military Officers Association of America
- \*\*\* TREA-111
- \*\*\* Tridec Technologies, LLC
- \*\* Triple Creek Sam's Chapter 21
- \* Troop 30329
- \*\*\* Troop 32284
- \*\*\* TW Advisors, LLC
- \*\*\* UES, Inc.
- \*\* United Brotherhood of Carpenters, Local 136
- \*\*\* Universal Technology Corporation
- \*\*\* University of Dayton
- \*\*\* Uptime Solutions Associates, Inc.
- \* USAF School of Aerospace Medicine Flight Nurse/Aeromedical Technician class
- \* Vectren Dayton Air Show
- \*\*\* Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, Department of Ohio
- \*\* Veterans of Foreign Wars Ladies Auxiliary Post 6861, Fairborn OH
- \*\*\* Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary To Post 8312, Beaver creek OH
- \*\*\* Veterans of Foreign Wars Beaver creek Memorial Post Men's Auxiliary 8312, Beaver creek OH
- \* Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 232, Amsterdam OH
- \* Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 291, Shelby OH
- \*\*\* Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 657, Riverside OH
- \*\*\* Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1067, Ashland OH
- \*\* Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1089, Wadsworth OH
- \*\*\* Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1445, New Philadelphia OH
- \*\* Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2901 Men's Auxiliary, Cambridge OH
- \* Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3343, Clyde OH

\* **Member**  
 \*\* **Friend**  
 \*\*\* **Patron**

- \* Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3360, Defiance OH
- \*\*\* Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4329, Galion OH
- \*\*\* Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4615, Tipp City OH
- \* Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6515, Fort Recovery OH
- \*\*\* Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6861, Fairborn OH
- \*\*\* Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7262, Greenville OH
- \* Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8686, Sheffield Lake OH
- \*\* Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9550, Centerville OH
- \*\*\* Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9908, Kellys Island OH
- \*\*\* Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9966, New Carlisle OH
- \* Vin Benedictine Moca 9
- \*\* Vi's Island Treasures
- \*\*\* Vitas Community Connection
- Vocalink, Inc.
- \*\*\* Voss Chevrolet
- \*\*\* VSRM Photography
- \*\*\* Walker Auto Group
- \*\*\* Wallace Farms
- \*\*\* Wal-Mart, Miamisburg OH
- \*\*\* Woodworkers of Central Ohio
- \*\*\* Wright Mulch, Inc.
- \*\*\* Wright-Patt Credit Union
- \* Wright-Patt Top Three Association (*IHO CMSgt Doreen L. Losacco*)
- \*\*\* Wright-Patterson AFB Catholic Chapel
- \*\*\* Wright-Patterson AFB Chapel
- \*\*\* Wright-Patterson AFB Protestant Chapel
- \*\*\* Wright-Patterson Enlisted Spouses' Club
- \* Wright-Patterson First Sergeant's Association
- \*\*\* Xcelsi Group, LLC
- \* YMCA of Greater Dayton

*IMO* – In Memory Of  
*IHO* – In Honor Of

# **The Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc. Privacy Policy**

*In accordance with Better Business Bureau Charitable Advisory Service standards, the Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc. will, at least annually, allow donors to inform us if they do not want their name and address shared outside the organization.*

## **The Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc. Privacy Commitment to You:**

We appreciate each and every individual, organization and corporation who supports the Wright-Patterson AFB Fisher Houses and the Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc. We thank you for being a loyal supporter. It is because of you, your belief in our cause and the trust you place in the Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc. that we can continue to support the military men and women and their families who are utilizing the services of the Wright-Patterson Fisher Houses. In today's information age, we will make extra efforts to ensure and maintain your trust and privacy to your satisfaction. To that end, we are committed to protect and keep information about you private, safe and secure. We have developed and continue to maintain physical, electronic and procedural safeguards to protect your information. Rest assured that we do not sell or release any personal information you have shared with us.

## **The Fisher Houses “Wish List”**

The Fisher Houses and Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc. are always in need of items to support the House guests. In addition to financial donations to the Fisher/Nightingale Houses, Inc., the House managers have compiled a list of needed items. This list is updated regularly and can be located on the website ([www.fnhi.org/wishlist.html](http://www.fnhi.org/wishlist.html)).

***If you are interested in donating any items,  
please call the Fisher House Manager's Office  
at (937) 257-0855***

# The Fisher Houses An Appeal

If you've ever known someone who has had to travel away from his or her home for medical treatment, you know that it can be traumatic. The situation can be compounded with finding a place to stay, the potentially high costs for that place as well as food, and the loneliness of a hotel room. Whether for a few days, a month, or even a year, this situation can wear on a family, physically, emotionally and financially.

That's where the Wright-Patterson Fisher Houses step up to the challenge for our service men and women and their families.

Your donation of

- \$38 helps one family...
- \$114 helps three families...
- \$1,000 helps 26 families spend one night in the Fisher Houses.

*Figures are based on the calendar year 2017 budget of expenses needed to sustain the day-to-day operations of the Wright-Patterson Fisher Houses.*



***The Wright-Patterson  
Fisher Houses  
provide an invaluable  
service to military  
men and women and  
their families. Won't  
you consider  
reaching out a caring  
hand to help a  
military family today?***

# ***“A Port in a Storm”***

**We came to a town we did not know,  
Without a friend in sight;**

**With doors wide open, arms out stretched,  
You bid us stay the night.**

**Others who were far from home  
Had lit upon your door**

**And having similar hopes and fears,  
Shared comfort, smiles and more.**

**You touch the lives of those who stay –  
A shelter in the storm,**

**For lives in chaos, fear and strife,  
A haven, safe and warm.**

***Valerie Brooks***

Mother of Ryan Hall, Naval Seaman Recruit  
A Fisher House Guest, Bethesda Maryland

