



2026 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



Your Support Brings Hope to
Veterans, First Responders, & Their Families



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Our Mission

Upstate Warrior Solution (UWS) connects local veterans, actively serving military, first responders, and their families to resources and opportunities, leads them through the process of self-empowerment, and inspires the community to embrace them as valued neighbors.

FROM THE PRESIDENT



**Timely support makes the difference
between isolation and hope.**

Every day our team meets veterans, first responders, and families in moments of transition, hardship, and growth. While each story you'll read in this report is unique, many share a common thread: the critical need for accessible, personalized mental health support. Whether someone is navigating the challenges of leaving service, facing a financial crisis, or rebuilding stability after trauma, timely support can make the difference between isolation and hope. We are proud to help fill that gap for those who have served our communities and our country.

In 2025, we were honored to see that impact reach beyond the Upstate. Members of our team along with two veterans—whose lives were changed by the SSG Fox Suicide Prevention Program—traveled to Washington, D.C. to testify about the program's life-saving impact.

Last year also marked meaningful growth across many areas: new outreach efforts to Oconee County veterans in partnership with Goodwill Industries, hosting a domestic violence education seminar at the Rupert Huse Veteran Center, and leading local Police Week observances. As we look to the future, we remain committed to providing the best possible resources and opportunities to our warriors and their families.

None of this happens alone. Thank you for investing in those who serve—you are changing lives.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Charlie Hall'.

Charlie Hall
Lieutenant Colonel, USMCR (Ret.)
President, UWS

Our Vision

We envision a future in which our warriors and families are restored with a sense of purpose and are effectively supported by the Upstate community.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT IN 2025

Bringing Hope and Changing Lives.

ANDERSON / GREENVILLE / OCONEE / PICKENS / SPARTANBURG

2,555

VETERANS
SERVED

443

FAMILY MEMBERS
SERVED

138

FIRST RESPONDERS
SERVED*

LIFE-CHANGING RESOURCES PROVIDED IN 2025

708

HEALTH CARE
ASSISTANCE

498

HOUSING
ASSISTANCE

425

CAREER
SERVICES

160

WARRIORS
EMPLOYED

533

BENEFITS
ASSISTANCE

299

LEGAL
ASSISTANCE

71

THERAPEUTIC
ART

283

RECREATION

112

FINANCIAL
WELLNESS

97

TRANSPORTATION
ASSISTANCE

*Veterans who were also first responders: 66



VETERAN SUCCESS HIGHLIGHTS

No one must face challenges alone.

Behind every success story is a team of advocates walking alongside veterans, first responders, and their families through life's toughest moments. From navigating resources to providing personalized support, they ensure no one must face challenges alone. Names have been changed to respect our warriors' privacy.

Amber | Marine Corps Veteran

After serving five years in the Marine Corps with two deployments, Amber returned home to South Carolina feeling overwhelmed and alone. She found herself unemployed, living with family, and struggling to adjust.

While seeking mental health support through the VA, Amber was referred to UWS. When she met with our advocacy team, she screened as at risk for suicide—only 60 days after leaving the military.

In partnership with the VA's SSG Fox Suicide Prevention Program, we were able to offer Amber workforce development, disability assistance, and mental health resources. She also took part in recreation events like skiing, archery, and surfing where she connected with fellow veterans.

Working with our career services and advocacy team, Amber secured her first civilian job and built a new support system. Less than a year later, she's now thriving in civilian life—proof that timely, personalized support can truly make all the difference.

"I was drowning in civilian life and didn't know how to swim. UWS threw me a life ring and gave me connections that I will always be grateful for." —Amber, USMC veteran

Nathan | Army Veteran

Nathan is a former soldier and combat veteran who faced a difficult transition back to civilian life. After a year and a half in prison, he found himself arrested again and at a crossroads. Determined to change the trajectory of his life, he entered Veterans Treatment Court.

Our team walked alongside him throughout that year-long journey, providing care coordination for basic needs and mentorship as he worked to rebuild stability.

In August 2025, Nathan graduated from Veterans Treatment Court with his charge expunged and a fresh start ahead of him. Today, he owns his own home and vehicle, is close to finishing school, and is actively pursuing employment. He has even taken up fly fishing—one of many signs that he's building a life that feels stable, healthy, and hopeful.



Jerry | Navy Veteran

When an injury left Jerry unable to work, it didn't take long for financial stress to spiral into a housing crisis. With no income, he quickly fell behind on rent and faced eviction as bills continued to pile up.

To make matters worse, Jerry was unable to apply for state benefits because he couldn't afford the medical appointment needed to complete his paperwork. This left him stuck in a cycle with few options. After finding UWS online, he reached out for help.

Our team stepped in to stabilize his immediate situation by securing rental assistance through the South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs and connecting him with Foothills Community Health Care so he could complete his benefits application.

With housing protected and access to critical benefits within reach, Jerry now has the stability and foundation he needs to move forward. Through community partnerships, this setback did not become a long-term crisis.

"I appreciate groups like UWS who are here at ground zero helping veterans like myself get assistance, guiding them on the journey back to a good life. It means a lot to have that support in our community, and hopefully one day I can help to return the favor."

—Jerry, Navy veteran

FIRST RESPONDER SUCCESS HIGHLIGHTS

No one goes unsupported on our watch.

Thomas | Law Enforcement Officer

After leaving law enforcement, Thomas found the transition out of uniform more challenging than expected. Like many first responders, he wasn't just searching for a new job—he was navigating the loss of identity and purpose that had defined his career.

As we've seen countless times with veterans returning to civilian life, this transition can be critical for one's mental health and trajectory in life. Through our proactive partnership with Thomas' agency, we connected with him early in this process.

Our team provided one-on-one career coaching to help him translate his years of experience and explore meaningful new opportunities. That support led to a leadership role with one of our employer partners, allowing Thomas to regain a sense of purpose and to continue serving others in a new way.

"UWS sharpened my resume, connected me with the right opportunities, and became a key part of the support system that helped me reclaim direction, confidence, and purpose." —Thomas, former LEO

Beyond Officer Wellness: Peer Training Is About Survival

Our team sees the growing risk of first responder suicide every day, and it makes one thing clear: mental, emotional, and spiritual fitness is about more than wellness. It's about survival.

Our two-day, peer-to-peer training meets that critical need head on by equipping law enforcement, firefighters, EMS, coroners, and spouses to recognize and address the signs of crisis and burnout in others—and in themselves.

This training also builds a trusted peer network for the men and women who run toward crisis every day for our communities. They will not go unsupported on our watch.

"This training was an eye-opener for me to realize that I had more support 'out there' than I was aware of." —LEO participant

2025
IMPACT

4

2025 PEER-TO-PEER
TRAINING EVENTS

51

FIRST RESPONDERS
TRAINED

17

SPOUSES
TRAINED



FAMILY SERVICES SUCCESS HIGHLIGHTS

Support for the next generation.

Aaron Jones | Gold Star Son

For the Jones family, the impact of service and sacrifice has stretched across generations.

We first connected with the family while honoring Sgt. Anthony “Tony” Jones at the 2024 Palmetto Heroes Hike. After the event, Tony’s wife, Kelly, shared that it was the first memorial event she had attended for her husband in the 20 years since his death in Iraq.

As we stayed connected with the family, we learned that Tony’s son, Aaron—who was only a few months old when his father died—was commuting nearly two hours a day to Clemson University in a 20-year-old vehicle he feared could break down at any moment.

Through partnerships with Recycled Rides and Better Collision, Aaron was selected as the recipient of a reliable vehicle—removing a major barrier as he works toward his degree and career goals.

Today, Aaron is focused on building the future his father fought to protect—and his family knows they have a grateful community that supports them.

Scan to watch a video
of Aaron’s story:
***Built with Purpose,
Given with Heart.***





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Guided by leadership, expertise, and unwavering dedication.

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Charlie Hall
Lieutenant Colonel,
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DONOR RECOGNITIONS

We honor those who make this impact possible.

AFL	Jean T. and Heyward G. Pelham Foundation
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Fountain Inn Presbyterian Church	South Carolina Charities, Inc.
Greenville County Redevelopment Authority	SouthState Bank
Greenville Drive, LLC	Southern Crown Partners
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Indigo Hope Foundation	United Way of Anderson County
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IPS Packaging and Automation	US Department of Veteran Affairs
Isaiah 40:31 Melanie and Michael Fee Foundation	Vincent and Joan Cialdella
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James O'Conner	

OUR TEAM

Driven to serve. United in purpose and patriotism.



With multifaceted leadership experience and a passion for service, our team is equipped and ready to help warriors and their families. Many of us have walked in the same shoes as military service members and first responders, so we understand their needs personally. Fueled by patriotism and camaraderie, our goal is to offer guidance with compassion.





**Your support
is essential to
our mission!**

Donate

All donations are tax-deductible and stay in the Upstate serving local warriors and their families.

ONLINE

www.UWS.us

Scan the code to donate.



BY MAIL

Upstate Warrior Solution

PO Box 27232, Greenville, SC 29616

Visit

Experience the impact of community-based warrior care by touring the Rupert Huse Veteran Center located in Greenville at 770 Pelham Road.

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2026

Candid.

Your support makes this work possible, and we are committed to stewarding it well. Our annual IRS Form 990 filings and independent audits are always available on our website.

Scan the code to the right to view these documents.





Together we bring hope that changes lives.

PO Box 27232, Greenville, SC 29616 (864) 520-2073

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