



Tarrant County Housing Partnership, Inc.

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Grayson County Vet will be honored with donated home

The two-time Purple Heart recipient will be recognized by the Homes with Honor program at a Dec. 12 ceremony in Pottsboro.

The Homes with Honor veterans housing program has chosen Grayson County resident Jarrod Thomas as the recipient of a donated three-bedroom refurbished home located in Pottsboro, TX.

The 28-year-old U.S. Army Corporal will be honored at a special ceremony commemorating the donation **on Thursday, Dec. 12, at 11:00 a.m.**, on the site of the donated home **at 405 Kyker Lane**. The event will kick off with a presentation from the North Texas Chapter of the Patriot Riders, a veteran group that presents colors at the funerals of fallen soldiers. Members will arrive on Harley-Davidson motorcycles and hoist a U.S. flag on a newly-installed pole located at the Thomas family's new home.

About Jarrod Thomas:

Corporal Thomas's eight-year Army career has included multiple tours in Iraq and Afghanistan and two Purple Heart awards. His service in these combat zones typically involved convoy escort work, requiring Thomas to ride shotgun in military Humvees.

On 17 occasions, his vehicle was strafed by IEDs, roadside bombs or enemy missiles. As a result of two serious hits, Thomas sustained severe back and neck injuries. Additionally, the impact of one missile killed the Humvee driver and threw Thomas into another part of his vehicle, which led to broken facial bones and permanent skull damage for the young soldier. Today, Jarrod Thomas battles constant pain and walks with a limp, but continues to work hard in therapy in order to remain as active as possible.

Growing up in Pottsboro, Thomas is especially excited about his new home, particularly since his mother and sister live in town as well. He and his wife and two children are currently living in a two-bedroom rental without central air, and are expecting a baby to arrive in January 2nd.

"Although Jarrod and his family have endured so much, they have maintained such a positive, thoughtful attitude and exemplify everything the Homes With Honor program is about. We are so thrilled and honored to have partners such as Bank of America who provide us the opportunity to give back to such a deserving family," said Donna VanNess, president of Tarrant County housing Partnership, the program's administrator.

About the home:

The donated home recently underwent approximately \$60,000 in repairs and rehabilitation. In addition to the 100% donation of the property, program partners have provided for the contribution of a stainless steel oven/range, dishwasher, washer-dryer, refrigerator and a specially-designed shower that includes a vertically-mobile shower head, bench and rails. Contractor H2 Builder Services and The Home Depot have also contributed a backyard fort/swing set and garage shelves and tools.

“As part of Bank of America’s efforts to help revitalize communities and support the housing needs of those who have served and sacrificed for our nation, the company has pledged to make up to 1,000 homes available nationwide through property donations to military veteran-support charities and other nonprofit, community-based organizations,” said Scott Bertram, SVP Community Revitalization, Bank of America. To learn more about Bank of America’s support of service members and veterans, visit the website at bankofamerica.com/militarysupport.

About Homes with Honor:

The [Homes with Honor](#) Veteran’s Program is an affordable housing initiative developed by **Bank of America**, **Brooke Community Development** and the **National Community Stabilization Trust**, and is operated by [Tarrant County Housing Partnership](#) in the North Central Texas area. Tarrant County Housing Partnership is a Fort Worth-based non-profit organization dedicated to revitalizing communities and increasing affordable housing options for lower and moderate income families and individuals with special housing needs.

The Homes with Honor program transforms vacant, distressed, single-family homes into fully rehabilitated, quality homes that are offered for sale, at a discounted price, exclusively to low- to-moderate income U.S. military veterans. Properties listed under this program will be sold to eligible veterans and active military personnel or reserves for owner occupancy at a 25% discount off the list price. In addition to North Texas, Homes with Honor is currently operating in communities in the South Texas and Houston/Gulf Coast regions of Texas, as well as, nationwide.

Event Quick Facts:

Homes with Honor Ceremony

Featuring presentation of home to Corporal Jarrod Thomas and family

Thurs., Dec. 12, 2013

11:00 a.m. (Sharp)

[405 Kyker Lane](#)

Pottsboro, TX 75076

Guest speakers will include representatives from program sponsors Bank of America, National Community Stabilization Trust, Tarrant County Housing Partnership, and CPL Jarrod Thomas. The program will begin with a flag presentation from the Patriot Riders.