



Purple Heart Project

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



About the Purple Heart Project (PHP)

What is the Purple Heart Project?

The Purple Heart Project (PHP) is a U.S. Veteran's Service charity recognized under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) since 1 July 2022 and is exempt from federal income taxes under IRC 501(c)(3). PHP's U.S. FederalID / Tax number is 88-2217122. The PHP is also a nonprofit corporation, incorporated in the state of Washington and is a Washington state registered charity. The PHP's Washington state unified business number (UBI) is 604 974 078.

Our Mission

The Purple Heart Project's mission is to introduce physically and mentally combat wounded Veterans, still suffering from the negative effects of combat, to the peace and joy that can be found through the therapy of traditional hand tool woodworking.

Our Vision

We envision a community of combat wounded Veterans that share the joy and peace found through the bond of woodworking, are connected through and with the Purple Heart Project, and know that they are supported and never alone or forgotten.

Visit Us At

<https://www.thepurpleheartproject.org>

About the Purple Heart Project (PHP)



How Does the PHP Accomplish its Mission and Achieve its Vision?



The PHP accomplishes our mission by providing selected combat wounded Veterans with a PHP scholarship to attend one of Rob Cosman's Training the Hand Workshops. The selected combat wounded Veterans are fully funded for travel, per diem, and tuition to attend Rob Cosman's week-long Training the Hand Workshop. In the workshop they learn all the basic hand tools skills needed to build furniture without machinery; no dust, no noise, no danger.

During the week, PHP scholarship selectees form lifelong bonds with fellow Veterans and students, become a part of the PHP family, and learn how much others value their selfless service. We provide each Veteran with their

own set of high-quality hand tools to take home with them. Once selectees return home our Bench Brigade volunteers build and deliver to the selectees a premium workbench.

Through our outreach programs, PHP maintains a community for these combat wounded Veterans to stay connected to their newfound woodworking buddies and the PHP program. The positive result is focused energy on woodworking to chase away the negative effects of combat, provide a feeling of purpose and accomplishment when building something with your hands, and the lifelong support of a community that honors their service.

Message from Executive Director

In 2023, together with your support, the Purple Heart Project (PHP) was able to serve 42 combat wounded Veterans. These 42 Heroes learned hand tool woodworking skills, were provided tools and workbenches, and become part of the supportive PHP community of woodworkers so that they may find the peace and joy they richly deserve.

We are so appreciative of our donors and want them to know that we are fully committed to enriching the lives of combat wounded Veterans. PHP is a small organization, but our size enables us to provide focused and personalized support to the Veterans who come through our program, which is not possible in larger organizations. The skills and lifelong friendships Veterans forge through our program allow them to progress in their healing journey.

As a small and relatively new Veterans service charity, we faced and conquered many challenges in 2023 - our first full year of operation. Our primary goals in 2023 were to properly organize our accounting and bookkeeping system, establish our donation system, set up our online and social media presence, bring on key volunteers, and of course meet our goal of serving 42 combat wounded Veterans through our woodworking program. We are happy to report that we achieved all of these goals and are well situated to move forward to 2024.

Unfortunately, our 2023 expense to service ratio was 10% higher than we desired. This was the result of several one-time start-up costs, including switching bookkeeping firms due to unsatisfactory service, and costs incurred to apply for Canadian charity status. We are confident that we will be able to significantly reduce our expense ratio in 2024 down to our goal of 5% or lower.

We are proud to report that 100% of our Board of Directors and the people who do the heavy lifting of making PHP run are volunteers. Their service allows us to maximize the percentage of donations that directly serve combat wounded Veterans.

As we move into 2024, the Board of Directors has set a goal of becoming a 4-star rated charity by the popular rating service Charity Navigator. We know the importance that donors and the public place on financial stewardship, transparency, and the high standards expected of non-profits. We hold ourselves to these standards of excellence.

Thank you again for a remarkable year. We look forward to advancing our mission with you in the years to come.

Luther Shealy
Executive Director



Our Impact in 2023

GIVE WITH CONFIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF OUR MISSION

42

Combat Wounded Veterans Received
PHP Scholarships
To Attend Rob Cosman's "Training the Hand" Workshop



38

Custom-Made Premium Hand Tool
**WOODWORKING
WORK BENCHES**
Delivered to Combat Wounded Veterans

42

**PREMIUM HAND TOOL
Woodworking Tool Kits**
Delivered to Combat Wounded Veterans



Impact Statements

FROM COMBAT WOUNDED VETERANS SERVED

Visit our Wall of Heroes at www.ThePurpleHeartProject.org to learn more



"I was not in a great place when I showed up to the PHP's woodworking course. Little did I know that it is so much more than just a woodworking course. I left a better man, father, husband, and maybe even a better woodworker." - Noah Multrie

"The Purple Heart Project has provided me a therapeutic, positive, distraction to my daily struggle of maintaining a somewhat balance with my combat related mental health issues. The enjoyment of woodworking with traditional hand tools is a blissful mind-focusing exercise and a meaningful physical activity." - Mike Miller



"While I've always had a passion for woodworking, my time with PHP has significantly elevated my expertise in the craft. The experience was not just about learning; it was about the remarkable sense of relaxation and stress relief that woodworking offers. Every moment with PHP was enriching. Interacting with fellow Veterans was a delight, and I cherished the connections I forged. It's a truly exceptional experience!" - Sean Grumbles

"Since my time in combat, my life has been taken over by flashbacks and painful memories of combat. The PHP has given me the "off switch," which is hand tool woodworking. It has given me control over my life once again." - Jake Torola



Financial Stewardship

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Purple Heart Project's Financial Position Summary

1 JANUARY 2023 - 31 DECEMBER 2023

REVENUE	
Grants and Contributions	\$269,113.69
Donated Goods & Services	\$9756.06
Other Revenue	\$47.22
Total Revenue	\$278,822.53

EXPENSES	
Fundraising Expenses	\$12,275.89
Management & General Expenses	\$24,055.80
Program Expenses	\$156,466.51
Total Expenses	\$192,798.20

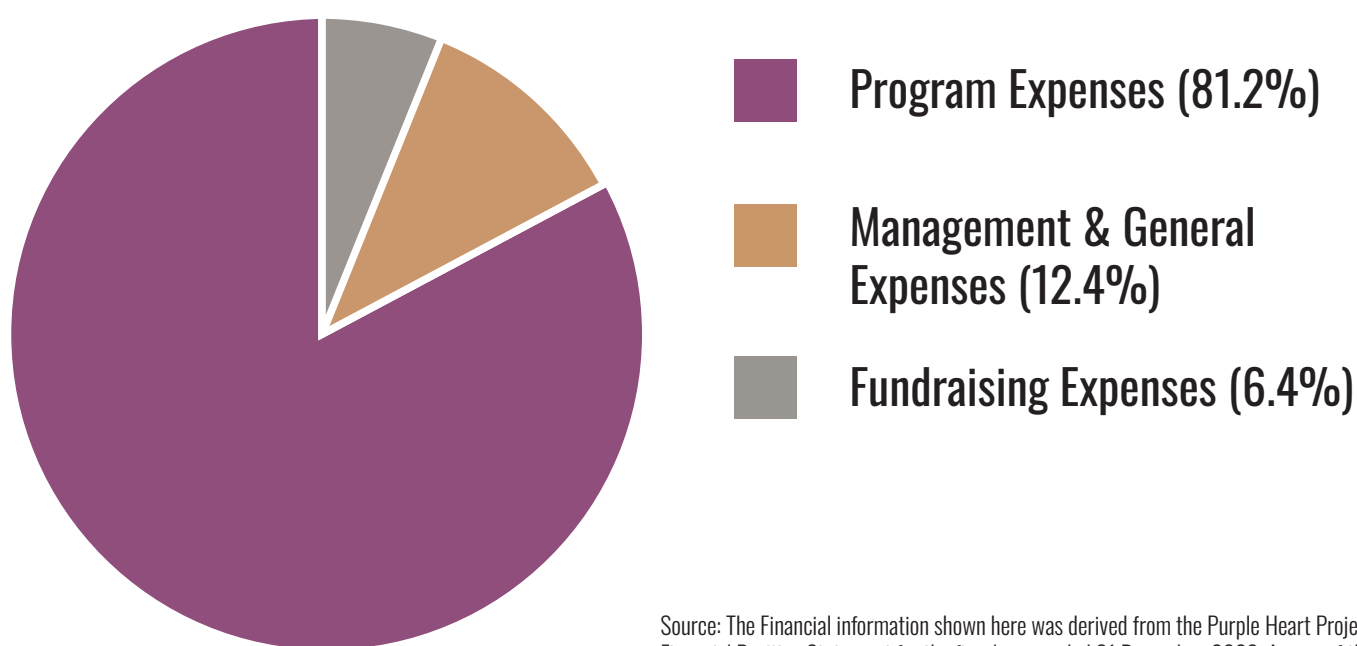
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$86,024.33
Net Assets January 2023	\$33,354.98
Net Assets December 2023	\$130,379.31

Financial Stewardship

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2023 Expenses

*Our goal is to decrease administrative expenses to less than 10% in FY 2024



Source: The Financial information shown here was derived from the Purple Heart Projects Financial Position Statement for the fiscal year ended 31 December, 2023. A copy of the financial statements along with the organization's Form 990 are available on our website.



**PURPLE
HEART
PROJECT**



The Purple Heart Project



@thepurpleheartproject_official