

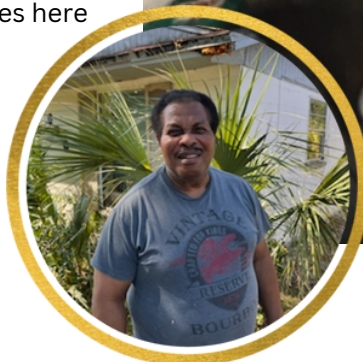
David Rowe

Vietnam Army Combat Veteran

If you ask David Rowe about his military service he will say, "I loved the travel the most." David is a Vietnam Combat Veteran who served in Cu Chi Vietnam from 1967-1969. He was drafted at the age of 19 and served in the Army Infantry for a year before he was wounded. He is the recipient of a Purple Heart, Bronze Star, Combat Infantry Badge, and the Vietnam Campaign Medal. David doesn't like to talk about his time in Vietnam except for the experience it provided him. "I was able to see so many things. So many places here and in Vietnam," David said.

David, like so many Veterans living in Hillsborough County, lives on a fixed income and has mobility issues caused by age and his combat related injury. His home means everything to him. His wish is to live out the remainder of his days there. It's filled with the memories of the life that he has shared with his family.

His fixed income makes it difficult to pay for the major repairs that need to be done to his home. And he cannot physically complete the work on his own. David needs exterior paint and landscaping to help maintain his home's appearance but the major work to be done is on his roof. David will receive roof replacement services through the Owens Corning Roof Deployment Project for veterans in partnership with a local roofing company. And on November 8, 2022 Friends of U. S. Military Families, who is also a Proud Patriot Sponsor of our Week of Service, will volunteer their time to paint and landscape his home, along with Regions Bank employees.



David was initially referred to us by The East Tampa Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) for a neighborhood revitalization project. During our visit we learned that he was a military veteran which qualified him to receive services through our Veterans Build Initiative Program. David was also connected with the Self Reliance Program who was able to replace the home's HVAC system.

Habitat Hillsborough's Veterans Build Week of Service is an annual event where we partner with volunteers and corporate sponsors to help a Veteran, Veteran Family, or Veteran Organization through our Home Preservation program. If you would like information on how you or your organization can get involved, please visit our Veterans Initiative page <https://www.habitathillsborough.org/news-and-events/veterans-initiative/> or contact Melissa Crowther at MCrowther@habitathillsborough.org.