



Air Force Enlisted Village

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Mission: To Provide a Home

FACT SHEET

History

The Air Force Enlisted Village (AFEV), was envisioned after the Air Force Sergeant's Association (AFSA) conducted a survey in 1967 and found that over 50,000 widows of enlisted men were living in poverty. With the assistance of former Air Force Chief of Staff General and Mrs. John D. Ryan, a group of active duty and retired Air Force noncommissioned officers set about to correct this with the goal of building a community for surviving spouses of retired enlisted Air Force members.

Incorporated in Washington, D.C. on January 17, 1968 and granted federal tax-exempt status as a nonprofit 501(C)(3) organization in 1971, AFEV was recognized as an official Air Force charity in 1973 and annual support through the Air Force Assistance Fund (AFAF) began.

Today, AFEV owns and operates Bob Hope Village, an independent living community, and Hawthorn House, an assisted living and memory support residence, located on the Bob Hope Village campus. With over 500 residents combined at Bob Hope Village and Hawthorn House, residents range in age from 55 to 100 +.

Why Your Help is Needed

Low pay and frequent military moves leave some spouses without careers, home equities, retirement plans or significant assets. Even as one plans for retirement, an unexpected tragedy or insurmountable medical expenses can deplete retirement savings. AFEV's Benevolence Fund provides financial assistance for surviving spouses of retired enlisted Airmen while residing at Bob Hope Village and Hawthorn House. AFEV provides basic essentials that are usually taken for granted: a safe home, security, dignity, independence, and camaraderie.

In 2019, AFEV provided over a half million dollars in financial assistance for housing and medical support services for eligible Bob Hope Village and Hawthorn House residents. All residents have access to "healthy aging" programs that promote spiritual, physical, social, and intellectual well-being with the opening of the new fitness and wellness center.

How to Help

Your gift changes lives. For example, a monthly gift of \$20 provides bus transportation for one year for a Bob Hope Village resident to go to and from medical appointments, the commissary, the BX, and to attend entertainment outings planned by the activities staff. As one ages, driving is often given up, yet it is the one form of maintaining independence that residents miss most. Having access to regularly scheduled transportation gives residents the independence they desire with the safety they require. Another example, a monthly gift of \$100 provides 3-4 hours of direct care monthly for one memory support resident at Hawthorn House, our assisted living residence.

Because of you, AFEV residents lead happy, healthy, and active lives in a safe and secure community with their pride and independence intact.



Who We Help

- ◆ Priority is given to surviving spouses of retired enlisted Air Force, Air National Guard or Air Force Reserve.
- ◆ Surviving spouses whose enlisted sponsors served in other branches of the service when space is available.
- ◆ Retired enlisted Air Force and other military services couples when space is available.
- ◆ Spouses of enlisted members who die or who are killed on active duty or active duty members when tragedy or disaster strikes. Temporary housing is provided up to one year when space is available.
- ◆ Moms of active duty members are eligible for permanent housing on a space available basis due to family members' deployment or needing assisted living or memory support.

The Mom Rule

The Mom Rule is our guiding principle that ensures that all staff members treat residents fairly and with dignity. Our staff asks themselves these three questions while interacting with residents or making a decision on behalf of a resident's care:

- ◆ Would I do this to my mom?
- ◆ Would I do this for my mom?
- ◆ Would my mom approve?

About Bob Hope Village

Bob Hope Village is a 55+, active, independent living community shaped by six villages of one and two bedroom apartments, a community center, a swimming pool, and more. Bob Hope Village has a real sense of community. Residents enjoy the camaraderie of military life while sharing memories with each other while on-site conveniences provide worry-free living. These conveniences include transportation, household maintenance, wellness workshops, prescription pick up service, beauty salons, chapels, café, convenience stores, activities programs, social events, libraries, fitness room and classes designed for aging adults, walking trails, and gardening plots.



Bob Hope Village is also home to the Bob Gates Welcome Center, the Garden of Hope, the Dolores Hope All Faiths Chapel, AFEV headquarters in the D. N. Masone Administration Building, and Hawthorn House.

About Hawthorn House

Hawthorn House provides assisted living and memory support services to residents who need extra help within a safe and caring residence community. Hawthorn House residents are given the choice to live their lives without the worries of daily living such as maintaining a house, cooking meals, or managing medications.

At Hawthorn House, residents are empowered with life because they connect with others who share a military background, participate in daily scheduled social activities, and use the AFEV transportation services for medical appointments, shopping, and entertainment. An individualized service plan is developed for each resident using a team approach with the resident, the family, and our caring and dedicated staff.

