

# THE STEPHEN SILLER TUNNEL TO TOWERS FOUNDATION

I am very humbled to be a part of the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation in presenting **The Building For America's Bravest Golf Event on September 10, 2018 at the Orchard Park Country Club**. This is a special way that Western New York can honor the memory of the tragedy of 9-11 and help support the families who lost loved ones or those that suffered catastrophic injuries while protecting our freedom. The information below summarizes the many great projects this foundation continues to maintain.

A very important fact regarding the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation is that over 93% of all of the monies collected go directly to the programs that are being supported. Below please find a sampling of some of the fine work of this Foundation.

To date the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation has built, have in construction or designed 66 homes to a catastrophically injured service member.

In October of 2017 the Tunnel to Towers Foundation presented a new home to Corporal Mark O'Brien, USMC, of **East Aurora, NY**.

USMC Corporal Mark O'Brien (Golf Company, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment) was catastrophically injured on November 8, 2004 when a rocket-propelled grenade struck his Humvee during a firefight with insurgents in Ramadi, Iraq. Corporal O'Brien, originally from Marilla, NY, suffered the loss of his right arm above the elbow and his right leg above the knee. He also sustained a traumatic brain injury. Corporal O'Brien, who is married and has two children, received his *smart home* in **East Aurora, NY**.

Additionally, Corporal Mark Beyers also of **East Aurora, NY** will receive a smart home in August of 2018.

Lance Corporal Mark Beyers of **East Aurora, NY** was severely injured by an improvised explosive device (IED) while on foot patrol with the 3rd Battalion, 25th Marines in Hit, Iraq on Aug. 2005. The explosion took his right arm and right leg and he sustained damage to his hearing as well as other injuries and complications.

Please note there are 64 other catastrophically injured service members who have received or will receive a smart home through this program Tunnel to Towers has committed to building 200 of these homes for severely injured service members. The 64 recipients are located throughout the country.

The New York-based Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation has created a special program to support the families of first responders who have lost their lives in the line of duty, providing them with financial assistance so that they are able to pay off the remainder of their mortgage. In the last 3 years, the Foundation has spent over \$5 million on first responder mortgages. Recent examples include:

- January of 2018: The Foundation raised \$335,000 to pay off the mortgage of slain US Marshal Christopher D. Hill from Harrisburg, who lost his life while issuing an arrest warrant

- December of 2017: The Foundation raised over \$420,000 for a new home for the three children of Miosotis Familia, a dedicated police officer who lost her life on July 5 when a gunman ambushed her in the Bronx
- April 2017: The Foundation paid off the mortgage for the family of FDNY firefighter William Tolley, who lost his life after falling off a building while battling a fire in Queens

The program began in December 2014 when NY police officers Liu and Ramos were assassinated. The Foundation also responded on behalf of the 5 Dallas police officers assassinated in 2016.

<b>Police Officers</b>	<b>FDNY</b>
Wenjian Liu, NYPD Rafael Ramos, NYPD Brent Thompson, Dallas PD Patrick Zamarripa, Dallas PD Michael Krol, Dallas PD Lorne Ahrens, Dallas PD Michael Smith, Dallas PD Anthony Beminio, Iowa PD Justin Martin, Iowa PD Joseph Lemm, NYPD Miosotis Familia, NYPD Eric Joering, Ohio PD Paul Tullozzo, NYPD Christopher Hill, US Marshal	Joseph Sanford Michael Fahy Yardim Arroyo, EMT William Tolley Christopher Raguso Dashan Briggs Michael R. Davidson



Yours truly,

*Don Lorentz*

Don Lorentz  
 Golf Chairman

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