

Dear Chapter State Editors of UPMA

The Tunnels to Towers (T2T) Foundation has been selected again for this year's veterans outreach program. We are asking you to recommend to your executive boards and individual members to donate to this worthy charity for veterans. Many states have stepped up in the past and made generous donations for our selected veteran's projects. Please consider T2T for this year's effort to honor and support veterans.

The response to our project in 2024 was overwhelming. We are so thankful for your support and ask for your continued support. Last year UPMA donated approximately \$40,000. T2T used those funds to build 40 Smart Homes for catastrophically injured veterans and paid off the mortgages for 200 homes in 2024. They have paid the mortgages for over 1500 Gold Star families with small children to date. They have distributed over one billion dollars to support their program goals. No other charity is doing more for veterans than T2T.

UPMA Retired has signed an agreement with the T2T organization to use their logo. They have established a UPMA webpage to collect donations from our members. In the past UPMA has made a nationwide effort that benefited a small segment of veterans. This is our effort to support a nationwide charity. We have written articles for many UPMA publications and provided flyers for the welcome bags at the national UPMA Convention in Orlando. T2T provided an outstanding speaker for our convention as well. We had an information booth at the convention to educate our members about how to sign up for donations. We have written letters to all UPMA Chapter Presidents and UPMA Retired Presidents, and Chapter Editors asking for their help to inform our members of our veteran's recognition project for 2025: which is the T2T charity. We are amazed, after all our efforts there are still members that have not heard of T2T or our efforts to make donations to their charity.

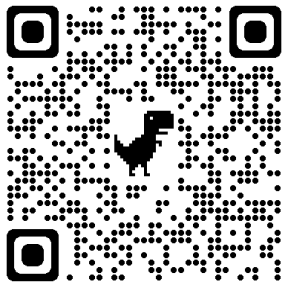
Why Tunnels to Towers? 1. They are a qualified tax deductible 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. So you get a tax deduction if you itemize your taxes. 2. Better yet, 95.1 percent of all donations are directly paid out to support veterans and first responders and their survivors. That statistic is unheard of in the non-profit world. 3. They have the maximum "Four Star" rating with Charity Navigator. 5. They provide mortgage free homes to Gold Star (death of a service member on active duty), and first responders families with young children. 6, They build or modify homes for catastrophic injured veterans and first responders. 7. They are committed to eradicating homelessness for veterans. They are building and renovating hotels for homeless shelters for veterans. Some are next door to Veterans hospitals. They are doing things for veterans that no one else is doing.

Now for the specifics of the process: There are several ways to donate to T2T foundation. **We prefer the Chapters write a check payable to Tunnels to Towers, but mail the check to Anita Pfiefer, Treasurer, UPMA Retired, 20576 Kearney Path, Lakeville, MN 55044.** She will log your contribution and forward the checks to ensure they are added to our UPMA total.

For contributions from individual members, we prefer you go to the UPMA Webpage established by T2T. You can make a one-time contribution or a monthly donation.

Google will not direct you to our UPMA Webpage. You must use the URL code provided below. It is important for us to track your donations. We want to be able to see the impact of our members with our combined donations. Please consider donating no matter how large or how small. T2T recommends a \$11 monthly donation. That is an amount most folks can afford.

Also you can use the link: <https://dogood.t2t.org/UPMAVeteransProject25> the QR Barcode.



If you don't see this screen shot of the UPMA webpage for donations to T2T you are not at the right place. You may be on the T2T generic webpage for donations. That does not get UPMA credit for your donations.

Thank you for your generosity to veteran programs.

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