WELFARE

Help for Heroes Welfare Support Hubs are available to all wounded, injured and sick Serving Personnel, Veterans, their families and carers.

Our Welfare Support Hubs bring together a dedicated team of welfare specialists from a range of service charities and organisations to collectively offer advice and guidance on a multitude of issues such as money, health, housing and respite.

"When I found out Help for Heroes was going to support me with a grant, I couldn't stop smiling. A weight was lifted from my shoulders and it relieved so much pressure."

Simon Vaughan, Veteran

Each Support Hub can help with advice and guidance on the following issues:

- Financial planning, benefits, budgeting, debt recovery and pensions
- Health support and advice including Prosthetics advice, psychological wellbeing support, hearing loss and visual impairment advice and advice on assistance dogs
- Training, education and employment, including Transition programmes for personnel leaving the Armed Forces
- Family and relationship support, respite and holidays, and hospital visit support
- · Housing options and home adaptations.

Key Workers work closely with beneficiaries who approach the Charity with multiple complex needs and stay in regular contact with them as their circumstances improve.



Simon Vaughan was serving in Helmand Province when his Land Rover hit an IED. Army medics feared he would not survive the journey home and fought to keep him alive.

Left with a serious brain injury, Simon and his family faced new daily challenges together; one was ensuring he had a safe and accessible home to live in.

In 2009 he purchased a bungalow, but when construction work began to adapt it to his needs, builders discovered it was structurally unsafe. It had to be demolished and rebuilt, and when work was unfinished, Simon was left living in an unsafe house without a completion certificate:

"It was a living nightmare. My mental health really suffered, and I wasn't sleeping. I became so angry when I realised the state the house was in."

With his only option to stop speech and language therapy to afford the mounting costs, Simon approached Help for Heroes for a grant.

"It was a living nightmare. My mental health really suffered, and I wasn't sleeping. I became so angry when I realised the state the house was in."

He was awarded £5,000 to make the necessary home improvements, including installing smoke detectors, repairing ceilings and cracks on the floor, obtaining a gas safety certificate for the boiler and installing vents and a gas bottle store. The work finally made his house a home:

"When I found out Help for Heroes was going to support me, I couldn't stop smiling. A weight was lifted from my shoulders and it relieved so much pressure. It was my happiest Christmas in a long time."

Simon received the 10,000th grant from Help for Heroes since the Charity started providing financial assistance to injured Service personnel, Veterans and their families. There are countless more people, like Simon, who still need assistance to live secure lives. Your support could enable them to get it.