

Mission

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, Inc. is dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled active military service personnel and disabled veterans through fly fishing and associated activities including education and outings.

- **Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, Inc.** (PHWFF) has been designated by the IRS as a **501(c)(3)** nonprofit organization.
- The first program started at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. in 2005. The official name was established in the fall of 2006, and the organization was incorporated in the State of Maryland in 2007.
- PHWFF currently has 223 programs serving disabled veterans and disabled military service personnel from 45 states. Each program is managed at the local level by volunteers who work in partnership with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) facilities, Department of Defense (DOD) military installations, Warrior Transition Units (WTU) and other institutions. PHWFF has 19 geographic regions throughout the United States.
- PHWFF is a volunteer-run organization governed by a Board of Trustees (BOT) and elected officers. The BOT and elected officers create policy, provide operational and budget oversight, and develop the strategic plan of the organization. The administrative and program functions are supported by Headquarters (HQ) staff. The volunteer leadership across the regions and programs work with the HQ staff to coordinate plans and operations, administer programs, assist with fundraising and manage special projects. PHWFF is not a membership organization with subordinates. We refer to the local affiliates as programs, not chapters or clubs.
- PHWFF relies on the generosity of both private and corporate donors. PHWFF also solicits foundation grants and government funding. After a thorough vetting process, PHWFF is part of the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC #82526). In 2020, PHWFF overhead expenses for salaries, administration and fundraising were 29% of total revenue as determined by CFC calculations outlined in Memorandum 2009-8.
- PHWFF programs are associated with and draw volunteers from Fly Fishers International clubs, Trout Unlimited chapters, and Independent clubs. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is signed by PHWFF and the fly fishing club/chapter to formalize a partnership. Program Leads from PHWFF coordinate with VA, WTU, and DoD employees to recruit participants.
- Each PHWFF program is managed by a Program Lead (PL) who recruits and manages local volunteers and coordinates the program's activities. A Regional Coordinator (RC) oversees all the programs within the geographic region. Program activities include fly fishing education, fly tying classes, fly casting classes, fly rod building classes, and fly fishing outings. PLs hold classes a minimum of once per month.
- In 2020, 259,488 hours were donated by over 4,295 PHWFF volunteers. This enabled more than 9,765 disabled veterans and disabled active military service personnel to participate in PHWFF program activities at no cost to the participant.
- PHWFF program activities, volunteers, and participants have been featured on the NBC Nightly News, ESPN, CNN, Fox News, Barnwood Builders, Seahunter and local network television and cable stations as well as in major publications such as The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Time Magazine, Forbes, and in countless other magazines, publications, and digital outlets such as Today.com.
- More information is available on our website: www.projecthealingwaters.org.