



RECONNECT • RECALIBRATE • REDISCOVER

2023

# ANNUAL REPORT

*January - December*



# Table of Contents

• <b>A Letter from Our Founder</b>	<b>pg 3</b>
• <b>Board of Directors</b>	<b>pg 4</b>
• <b>Mission</b>	<b>pg 4</b>
• <b>Vision</b>	<b>pg 4</b>
• <b>Member Spotlight</b>	<b>pg 5</b>
• <b>Financials</b>	<b>pg 6</b>
• <b>2023 Impact</b>	<b>pg 7</b>
• <b>Event Highlight</b>	<b>pg 8</b>
• <b>Permanent Base</b>	<b>pg 9</b>
• <b>Donor Spotlight</b>	<b>pg 11</b>

*“I’ve made deep friendships, I’ve become part of a collective, I’ve built a platform to use my voice to serve the community”*



## Tom Schueman

*Founder, Patrol Base Abbate*



As we close the chapter on a remarkable 2023 and step into 2024 with renewed determination, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each one of you for your steadfast support and unwavering dedication to Patrol Base Abbate. Your commitment has been the cornerstone of our success and the source of inspiration for our continued mission.

Reflecting on the past year, we've seen incredible growth and success across all facets of our organization. The expansion in our membership and the significant increase in the veterans we've served stand testament to the collective effort and passion that fuel Patrol Base Abbate. The growth of our Return to Base Programs have provided unparalleled support and camaraderie to our

members, reinforcing our core mission of serving those who've served.

Our Local Chapters have been the lifeblood of our community, hosting numerous events nationwide and directly impacting the lives of our members. The dedication and enthusiasm of our local leaders and volunteers have been instrumental in creating a welcoming and supportive environment for all. Similarly, we served more veterans through our premier programming than ever before. The personal accounts and testimonials demonstrate Patrol Base Abbate is changing lives and forging deep bonds of community through which our members thrive.

As we turn the page to 2024, our vision remains clear, and our resolve stronger than ever. Our focus will be on maintaining the quality and accessibility of our programs. With a goal of hosting and serving no fewer than 200 veterans through our barrier-free programming, we are committed to ensuring that every member has the support and resources they need. These initiatives are not just programs; they are lifelines for many of our members, providing them with the support, camaraderie, and healing that they deserve.

However, the road ahead is not without its challenges. Our goals are ambitious, yet achievable, with the continued support of our community. We will rely heavily on donors, partnerships and sponsorships to bring these plans to fruition and to continue offering our services without barriers to our veterans.

In closing, I want to reiterate my immense gratitude for your support, dedication, and belief in our mission. Together, we have achieved remarkable milestones, but more importantly, we have changed lives. As we embark on this new year, let us renew our commitment to our veterans and to each other.

Thank you for being an integral part of our tribe. Here's to a successful and impactful 2024!

Return to Base,

*Tom Schueman*

# Board of Directors

**Tom Scheuman**  
Founder

**RJ Amador**  
Board Member

**Jesse Iwuji**  
Board Member

**Ted Massey**  
Board Member

**Tyler Van Horn**  
Board Member

**Nate Boaz**  
Chairman of the Board

**Trey Humphrey**  
Board Member

**Maren Leed**  
Board Member

**Jeff Smitherman**  
Board Member

**Thomas Zulanas**  
Board Member

## MISSION

We provide a space for veterans to form community and rediscover their purpose around shared interests to promote mental health and foster resilience.

## VISION

We aim to reach all veterans and provide them the opportunity to reconnect and form a community with fellow veterans around shared interests. On this foundation of connection, our veterans recalibrate their focus on their next best chapter. In the community of Patrol Base Abbate, veterans rediscover their purpose in service to themselves, their families, and their communities

## Destiny Perkins

### *Chapter Captain, Northern Nevada*



I was invited to attend a PB Abbate Warrior Weekend by one of the Marines I served with, Kirsten Shipp. To say I needed a weekend away was an understatement. I was struggling and going through some very challenging circumstances. I was apprehensive at first, but found an amazing community of people at the PB Abbate Warrior Weekend in Utah. I am not the kind of person to ask for help, but I was able to let down my guard there because I was surrounded by such like-minded people.

The weekend was a much-needed recharge for me. I was able to be vulnerable and heal. There was also more laughter than I've had in a long time. The scenery at Warrior Rizen Ranch was breathtaking, but it didn't hold a candle to the connections I made. I returned home and was able to push through the challenging situation I was in with a much better mindset. I also gained an amazing support network of friends that I still talk to today.

As I prepared to leave Utah, I wanted to bring the same experience I had to Northern Nevada. There is a large veteran population in this area. My time as a 911 dispatcher here showed me that there's so many veterans struggling or in crisis. There is an amazing group of veterans that are here who share my same vision. We hosted our inaugural event on Veterans's day and hosted a veterans archery day and barbecue. We are beginning fundraising for a Warrior Weekend in Northern Nevada and I hope it can help even one veteran as much as it helped me. Our goal is to have a retreat in October, and we plan to get together as a group as much as possible between now and then.

## Three Pillars of Engagement

*Patrol Base Abbate's three pillars of engagement allow for ALL service members and veterans to find community. When combined, they allow Patrol Base Abbate to facilitate wellness, connectedness, resilience and purpose among our members.*

**Return to Base  
Programs**

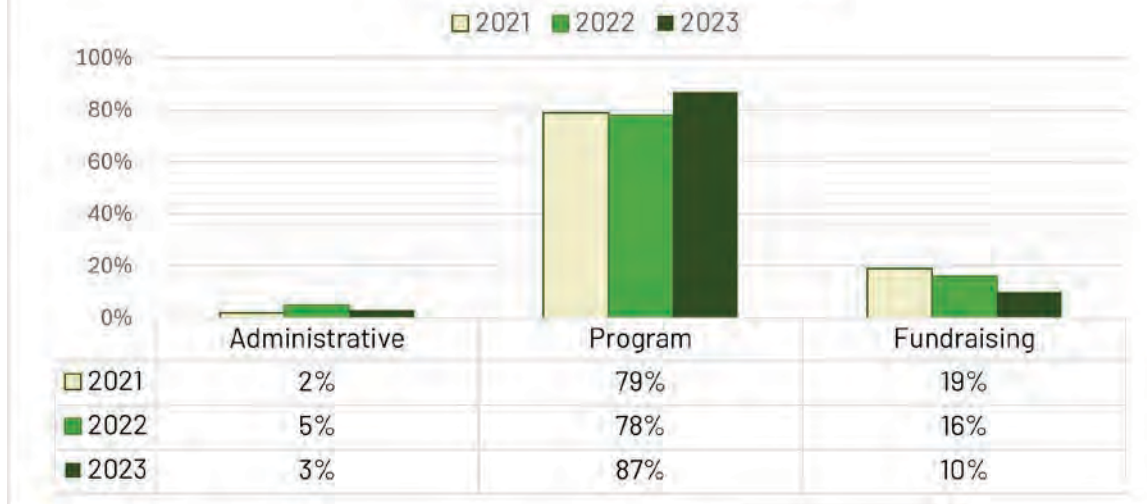
**Interest  
Based  
Clubs**

**Local  
Chapters**



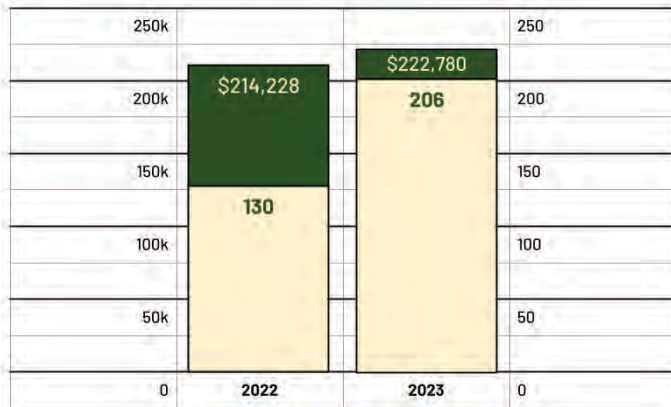
# Financials

## 3-Year Expense Allocations



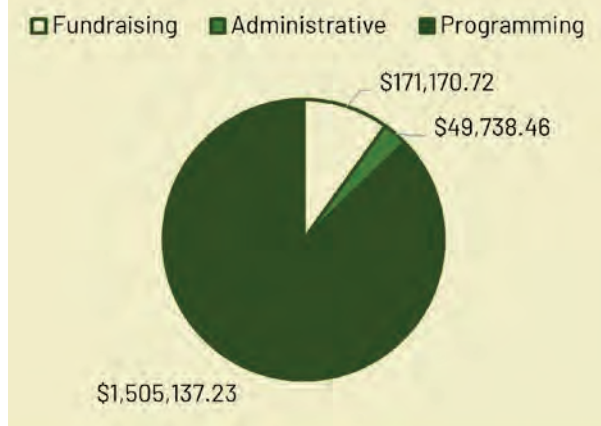
Patrol Base Abbate honors the generosity of our donors. We set a 5-year goal to reach 90% of every dollar donated being used to impact our members through our programming. At current rate, we are tracking the realization of this goal ahead of schedule.

## RTB Cost and RTB Participation



In 2023, our donations significantly extended their impact, achieving a 59% increase in the number of veterans served, while incurring only a modest 4% rise in RTB programming costs. These funds enabled the organization to reach over 800 veterans across all in-person engagement opportunities, demonstrating the profound effect of donor support on our mission to bring veterans together in community.

## Program Expenses



## Total Donations



# 2023 IMPACT

Over the past year, Patrol Base Abbate has significantly focused our efforts to dramatically increase both membership and programming. We have achieved this growth due to the immeasurable contributions received from supporters, donors, and volunteers. It is our promise to those who have served that we continue to strive for greater ways to positively impact veteran mental health and resiliency.



**4500**

Members  
*45% increase*



**206**

Veteran Participants  
thru Premier Programming  
*59% increase*



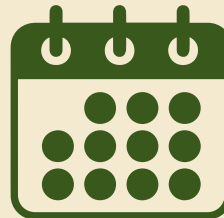
**8**

Return to Base Programs  
*33% increase*



**35**

Local Chapters



**97**

Local Chapter Events



**21**

Interest-Based  
Clubs



**600**

Members Served  
through Local Chapter Events



**1**

Warrior Weekend  
(Regional Return to Base)

## Utah Warrior Weekend

This year, Patrol Base Abbate executed another Regional Return to Base Program, or Warrior Weekend. Thanks to a very generous grant from our friends at the Kahlert Foundation, we opened an opportunity to all of our members in Utah and the surrounding areas to reconnect, recalibrate, and rediscover. Warrior Rizen Ranch hosted us on their amazing property in the Wasatch Mountains and we arrived just in time to be welcomed by crisp fall weather and a vast canvas of leaves turning colors across the mountainside.

Our members participated in yoga and meditation each morning to start the day, a service project to help the ranch and their many horses, and shared stories of challenge and triumph around the campfire each night. During the day, Warrior Rizen Ranch and the community of Morgan, Utah provided fly fishing on the ponds and rivers of the property, horseback trail rides through the mountains, archery lessons, and more miles of trails than could be hiked in a long weekend. Each activity was facilitated by a local professional who is now either a new member of Patrol Base Abbate or proud spokesperson, telling their loved one about us. Our service event was conducted on the ranch, adding many helping hands to an overdue project in the horse pens. We conducted our sandbag ceremony among our new friends as we honored our namesake, Sgt Matt Abbate, and found gratitude for the heroes in our own lives who urge us towards the best versions of ourselves.

This experience, as all our premier programming experiences, offered a trusted community, a shift in perspective, a brief period to quiet the noise and recalibrate our focus on the things that matter in our lives. Throughout the weekend, deep bonds were formed, struggles were shared, victories were celebrated, and everyone walked away with a renewed sense of self. With new friends, new focus, and batteries recharged, our Utah members emerged ready to better serve themselves, their families and the communities around Utah. The bonds formed at this event remain strong to this day. We cannot wait to expand this amazing program into more communities around the country where our members live, work, and play.





## Patrol Base Abbate

*Our Permanent Patrol Base for Those Who Served*



In early 2023, Patrol Base Abbate acquired an amazing property that was tailor made to house our programs and our members. Our permanent Patrol Base consists of 60 acres that backs up to 250,000 acres of national forest land and sits in the mountains above the Clark River Valley, just outside of Thompson Falls. One main cabin with two large bunkhouses provide some climate controlled spaces to escape the weather when it is time to be inside. Our huge fire pit is home to our fireside chats where much of our healing and growth takes place. The property is completely off-grid, running on solar panels, a battery bank, and generator backups with two wells to supply water. Our access to wilderness and all forms of outdoor activities from our Permanent Patrol Base is endless.

We have plans to expand the opportunities on these 60 acres through both construction projects and programs in order to ensure this forever remains a place for those who served.

*"It's not about how you served,  
it's because you served"*



Montana was more than a four day trip. It was an exploration of self and a time to hear from others who served. From Vietnam to the GWOT everyone had a story to tell and lessons to share. This is a tribe. Everyone has a voice... I left as an improved version of myself and we left the PB [patrol base] better than we found it. There it is.

@pbabbate does a lot of things right. They figured out the formula for fostering community. And their RTB program did just that for me. I met a lot of great folk whom I admire deeply.

Thank you @pbabbate for inviting me out for Fight Club to train and connect with veterans. The friendships and humor were unmatched and reminiscent of my days in the Marines. Learned a deeper meaning of humility, identity, tribe and service.

Many of us have faced similar challenges post-service and have found that reconnecting with your tribe and those who have walked the same line can be extremely beneficial.



If you served in this nation in any of the branches uniform - @pbabbate has a cot and a sandbag for you to fill.

Through @pbabbate I am fortunate enough to make and keep bonds that will last forever, just like I have before in my life. #battlebuddies

The fireside chats at the PB [patrol base] were an incredible experience and ultimately exposed a lot of the residual anger I still hold. It's a work in progress... but the most beneficial aspect was the lack of judgement from the fellow servicemen and women. They listened and understood and hoped for the best in my improvement. I can't thank you enough for what PBABBATE has done for me and what I'm sure it has done and will continue to do for all who join the tribe.

@pbabbate has provided me the infrastructure to serve. It has given me a new mission and the freedom to create my own. It does this for every single veteran that comes through the RTB program.



## LeMay Family Goodworks



Thanks to the remarkable generosity of LeMay Family Goodworks, we've been able to establish a Patrol Base for our veterans in Thompson Falls, Montana—a sanctuary where all who served can reconnect with their comrades, recalibrate their lives, and rediscover their sense of purpose.

The inception of LeMay Family Goodworks in 2020, under the visionary leadership of Michelle LeMay, has been truly inspirational. Through the foundation, they've tirelessly championed causes and organizations close to Michelle's heart, demonstrating a profound commitment to making a tangible difference in the lives of others.

Much like Sergeant Matt Abbate, Michelle's shared belief in all veterans have served as a guiding light, propelling us forward in our mission to uplift our veteran community. Her passionate advocacy for our cause has played an instrumental role in empowering our members to reclaim the very essence of their being, enabling them to serve their families and communities with renewed vigor and purpose.

*LeMay Family Goodworks supports, protects, and defends veterans, children, and families in an effort to promote overall mental and physical well-being in our communities near and afar*







# PATROL BASE ABBATE

## RETURN TO BASE

*You Are Now Entering Friendly Lines*



@pbabbate



@pbabbate



@patrolbaseabbate



[linkedin.com/company/patrolbaseabbate](https://www.linkedin.com/company/patrolbaseabbate)

[info @pbabbate.org](mailto:info@pbabbate.org)

Patrol Base Abbate  
76 Tanger Lane | Thompson Falls, MT 59873

DONATE TODAY!

