2023 ANNUAL REPORT

SPIRIT OF AMERICA





THE PROMISE OF A FREE AND BETTER LIFE

Spirit of America is the only nonprofit that unites citizens with our troops and diplomats in common cause: to defend freedom, strengthen the frontlines of democracy, and help people secure a free and better life.

We start by working with US troops and diplomats to identify places where America's help is needed most. We deliver assistance with flexibility and speed through US troops and our network of local partners. And it all happens with support from Americans like you.

Spirit of America harnesses the power of the American people to defend the values America was built on. We take America's side through an unprecedented partnership with the US military that enables us to fill the gaps between what government can do and what is needed.

Together, we have delivered 20 years of impact for America in the world's toughest places — saving lives, defending freedom, and creating opportunity. United we can preserve the promise of a free and better life.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER AND CEO



Dear Friends and Supporters,

America's values and leadership in the world have led to security, prosperity, and freedom unprecedented in human history. But freedom and democracy are at grave risk. There are growing threats from authoritarian regimes and terrorist groups aiming to destabilize and ultimately destroy free societies and supplant America's leadership with their own.

In 2023, there were unprecedented attacks on security, freedom, and democracy. In Ukraine, Russia used Iranian drones, North Korean ammunition, and Chinese military equipment to kill soldiers and civilians. In Asia, China escalated military pressure against America's democratic friends including Taiwan and the Philippines. In the Middle East, Hamas committed a barbaric terrorist attack on Israel, and Iran and its proxies attacked civilians, US troops, and our security partners. Around the world, Russia, Iran, and China use disinformation to foment chaos and opposition to the United States and our values.

Government alone cannot address these increasingly complex and connected threats. To preserve the security, freedoms, and values America was built on, we need to harness all of America's strengths. Private citizen support is essential. That is what Spirit of America is all about.

In 2023, we helped US troops and diplomats where they needed us the most. We surged nonlethal assistance to Ukraine that saved lives and helped hold the line against Russian assaults. We strengthened resilience in Taiwan by building a network of citizens trained in crisis response skills. In the Middle East, we provided assistance that helped US troops strengthen partnerships vital to combating terrorism and regional aggression.

Spirit of America is at an inflection point. We have implemented thousands of projects in more than 110 countries. Our budget has grown from \$4 million in 2020 to \$35 million in 2023. Our track record, unique model, and not-neutral mission position us to meet a critical need at a pivotal point in America's history.

We have the opportunity to build Spirit of America into an enduring national capability that meets the need for private citizen support for America's role in the world.

Thank you for joining us on this mission. United we can preserve the promise of a free and better life.



Chief Executive Officer

ASSISTANCE WHERE IT'S NEEDED THE MOST

In 2023 Spirit of America prioritized assistance that would meet the highest needs and priorities of US troops and diplomats, and that would have the greatest potential to save and improve lives:

· In Ukraine, we continued to support frontline troops with nonlethal assistance to save lives and defend Ukraine from Russian aggression. We surged assistance to elite units, invested in innovative programs, and supported Ukrainian youth committed to rebuilding their communities.

"The work your team is doing makes me feel proud to be an American."

-HARRY S. **BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI**

- In Taiwan, we helped citizens take action to preserve their way of life in the face of existential threats to their security and democracy. We partnered with the Taiwanese government and civil society to help train thousands of citizens in crisis preparedness skills and build Taiwan's resilience to any crisis.
- In the Middle East and Central Asia, we helped thousands of Afghan refugees build a better future through education and vocational training programs in six countries. In remote northeast Syria, we helped US troops deliver lifesaving aid following an earthquake.

In Iraq and Lebanon, we helped strengthen partner forces vital to countering ISIS.

· In West Africa, where terrorist groups have destabilized the Sahel region and now threaten the democratic countries of the coast, we helped US troops strengthen partnerships to protect communities under threat.

Spirit of America's unprecedented partnership with the US military allows us to reach places where many other nonprofits can't operate, and to deliver goodwill and assistance at scale in the world's toughest places. Together with US troops, diplomats, and a network of local partners, we worked to defend freedom, strengthen the frontlines of democracy, and create opportunity for a free and better life.

2 STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

COMPLEX, MULTI-YEAR PROGRAMS THAT ADDRESS THE MOST STRATEGIC CHALLENGES TO AMERICA AND ITS VALUES

91
PROJECTS

28
COUNTRIES

294,393

TOTAL IMPACTED US AND PARTNER FORCES

80% INCREASE FROM 2022

13,962,207
TOTAL IMPACTED LOCAL CIVILIANS

AREAS OF IMPACT

EUROPE

Albania
Armenia
Bosnia and
Herzegovina
Kosovo
Moldova
Montenegro
North Macedonia
Serbia
Ukraine

"Spirit of America goes wherever America needs them."

-GENERAL RICHARD D. CLARKE US ARMY, RETIRED

MIDDLE EAST & **CENTRAL ASIA**

Iraq

Kazakhstan

Kyrgyzstan

Lebanon

Qatar

Syria

Tajikistan

ASIA-PACIFIC

Burma

Laos

Mongolia

Philippines

Taiwan

AFRICA

Benin

Burkina Faso

Comoros

Equatorial Guinea

Mozambique

Niger

Togo

FEATURED PROJECTS

SAVING AND IMPROVING LIVES IN UKRAINE

Since Russia's full-scale invasion began in February 2022, Spirit of America has delivered over \$50 million in nonlethal aid to the frontlines in Ukraine. Through our unique partnership with the US military, we have provided assistance at scale to help Ukraine defend itself against a brutal invasion, liberate territory, and save thousands of lives.

"I believe Ukraine and freedom will prevail with the help of the United States and Spirit of America supporters."

-AMBASSADOR WILLIAM B. TAYLOR

In the early months of the full-scale Russian invasion, we supported large-scale mobilization and provided protective gear to keep Ukrainian soldiers safe. We helped them hold the line and liberate key terrain. As we entered 2023, we shifted assistance to increase the effectiveness, mobility, and safety of Ukraine's soldiers.

Spirit of America coordinates with US military commands responsible for Ukraine, including the Security Assistance Group – Ukraine

in charge of coordinating Ukraine security assistance, to identify the most urgent needs on the battlefield. We focus on supporting initiatives and units across Ukraine's armed forces that have the most asymmetric impact on defending the country.

Our US and Ukrainian military partners consistently tell us that there are gaps in US support and that Spirit of America provides a unique capability that addresses critical shortfalls within those gaps. Our assistance complements and doesn't duplicate what the US government is doing and, because of our unique capabilities, it can't be replicated by other organizations.









Our 2023 assistance included:

- 763 mobile phones, 535 tablets, and 253 laptops to support a secure communications network that identifies threats and protects lives on the battlefield
- 194 surveillance drones
- 387 military trucks rebuilt and deployed
- 84 4x4 pickup trucks, vans, and SUVs
- 375 advanced trauma kits
- 290 pairs of night vision goggles
- > 90 radios and other communications gear
- 12 mobile combat shower units
- Other high-priority needs for elite military units

Speaking to the results of the secure communications network that Spirit of America helped launch and later helped expand, a US Army officer told us, "I haven't seen anything this game changing in the nine months I've been here."





EMPOWERING UKRAINE'S YOUTH TO REBUILD THEIR COMMUNITIES

Russia's unprovoked war against Ukraine has ravaged cities and villages across the country. To address the devastating impact of Russia's war on Ukrainian students, their schools, and their communities, Spirit of America developed a new program, UActive, in partnership with the Ukrainian nonprofit savED.

"What Ukraine needs is hope for the future. Thanks for providing a unique opportunity for us to contribute to rebuilding Ukraine."

—HEIDI S. WESTVILLE, IN UActive teaches Ukrainian high school students in previously Russian-occupied territories entrepreneurial skills so they can be leaders in rebuilding their communities. Student teams develop project ideas that will improve their schools and neighborhoods, then compete for micro-grants that fund the projects they come up with.

As a result, students are restoring integral community spaces such as theaters, sports fields,

cultural venues, co-working spaces, rehabilitation centers, and other critical outlets. And, young Ukrainians are working together to help their country, and each other, by doing their part.

HELPING TAIWAN PROTECT ITS DEMOCRACY AND SECURITY

In support of a secure and democratic Taiwan, Spirit of America collaborated with Taiwanese partners and civil society to strengthen resilience against crises. For two years, our Asia-Pacific team has built partnerships in Taiwan with officials and civil society to identify and test approaches that can help Taiwan achieve the capabilities it needs to preserve peace and its way of life.

To ensure Taiwan has first responders able to assist in every community, we supported Taiwanese civil society, National Fire Agency, and National Police Agency programs to train over 40,000 citizens in emergency casualty care, search and rescue, communications, navigation, shelter management, and the use of surveillance drones. To educate and engage citizens, we partnered with Taiwanese nonprofits to launch public communications campaigns to educate people on the skills they need to keep their families safe in the event of a crisis.

In September, we participated in Taiwan's National Disaster Prevention Day exercises, where teams trained in crisis response showcased their capabilities to international observers and key government officials, including Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen (pictured).



SUPPORTING THE FUTURE OF AFGHAN REFUGEES



Continuing our commitment to Afghans following the 2021 evacuation crisis, Spirit of America is working with US embassy teams and local partners to promote the education of 3,000 displaced Afghans in Iraq, Qatar, Lebanon, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan, supporting their transition to permanent countries.

"Thanks for helping others make every year better for themselves and their communities."

-ROBIN W. WEST PALM BEACH, FL Our Afghan Future Campaign supports educational programs and tutoring services, organizes professional development retreats, and arranges cultural experiences to improve mental health. In Tajikistan, for example, we supported a vocational training program for Afghan and Tajik women interested in generating income through fashion. After a series of training sessions and mentorship in dressmaking, participants' handicrafts were

featured at Tajikistan Fashion Week, fostering the integration of Afghan women into the local community of fashion designers.



BUILDING TRUST AND RESILIENCE AMID TERRORISM IN BENIN



The coastal west African nation of Benin is threatened by terrorist groups pushing south, and the Beninese army is welcoming US support to contain their influence. To foster trust between security forces and the northern Beninese communities most vulnerable to these extremists. Spirit of America supported a joint exchange training between the US military and Beninese army. At the end, Beninese soldiers put their training into practice to address the medical needs of hundreds of men. women, and children from four villages. This capstone event served as a model for the Beninese army of how to build positive relationships with the local people they serve.

HELPING US TROOPS SUPPORT SYRIAN EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS

The 7.8 magnitude earthquake that struck Turkey and Syria in February 2023 caused widespread damage, killed more than 36,000 people, and left hundreds of thousands homeless. Delivering aid in Syria is exceptionally difficult, but Spirit of America's relationship with the US military allows us to reach places that are often inaccessible. Working with the US Special Operations Command in Syria and local partners, Spirit of America provided urgently needed humanitarian aid to Syrian families victimized by the disaster — 750 blankets, 800 winter coats, and food supplies to underserved areas.



GOVERNANCE

Board of Directors

Chairman of the Board

Bob Oster

Former CFO, Oracle Corp.
Independent Board Member Since 2017

Michael Bigham

Executive Chairman,
Paratek Pharmaceuticals
Independent Board Member Since 2014

Natalie Cryer

Vice President, The Cambria Group Independent Board Member Since 2019

Jim Hake

CEO, Spirit of America Board Member Since 2004 Fred Khosravi

Chairman and CEO, Imperative Care Inc. Independent Board Member Since 2017

John Phelan

Founder and Chairman, Rugger Management LLC Independent Board Member Since 2018

Board of Advisors

Ambassador Rick Barton

John Bellinger

Colonel Stu Bradin US Army

General Phil Breedlove US Air Force

Dr. James Jay Carafano

General Richard Clarke

US Army

Lt. General Charles Cleveland US Army

Ambassador Ryan Crocker

Ambassador Kelley Currie

David Davenport

General Joseph F. Dunford Jr. US Marine Corps

Admiral James O. Ellis Jr. US Navy

Hon. Joseph Felter

Dr. Edwin Feulner

Hon. Michèle Flournoy

Richard Fontaine

Major General J. Marcus Hicks US Air Force

Lt. General Ben Hodges US Army

Ambassador Greta C. Holtz

Hon. Jeh Johnson

General James Jones US Marine Corps

Dr. Kimberly Kagan

Dr. David Kilcullen

Lt. General Dan "Fig" Leaf US Air Force

Major General Jim Linder US Army

Hon. James Locher III

Clare Lockhart

Lt. Colonel Scott Mann US Army

General James N. Mattis US Marine Corps

Colonel David Maxwell US Army

General Stanley McChrystal US Army

Ambassador Michael McFaul

Lt. General H.R. McMaster US Army

Nicco Mele

General T. Michael Moseley US Air Force Ambassador Ronald E. Neumann

Lt. General Lawrence Nicholson US Marine Corps

Admiral Eric Olson US Navy

General Jay Paxton US Marine Corps

Linda Robinson

Admiral Gary Roughead US Navy

Daniel F. Runde

General Curtis Scaparrotti US Army

Dr. Nadia Schadlow

Dr. Kori Schake

Admiral Scott Swift US Navy

Ambassador William B. Taylor

Admiral Kurt Tidd US Navy

Matt Turpin US Army

General Joseph L. Votel US Army

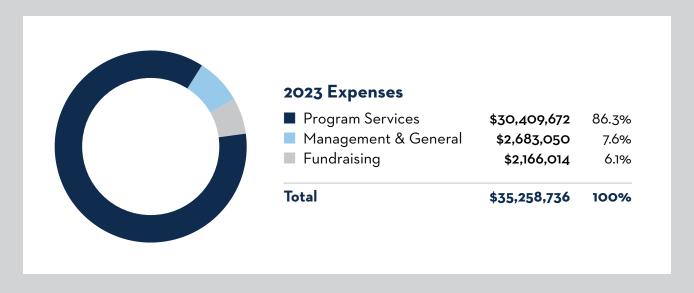
*All US military and State Department personnel are retired

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Spirit of America is a privately funded 501c3 nonprofit organization. We are supported entirely by private contributions from citizens, foundations, and businesses. We do not seek or accept government funding.

For 2023, total net assets were \$31,253,607. Total liabilities and net assets were \$35,329,272.







3033 Wilson Blvd., Suite 700 Arlington, VA 22201

+1.571.970.1370 spiritofamerica.org ¶ ☒ ☑ in SpiritAmerica

No endorsement of Spirit of America by the US Department of Defense, Department of State, or US personnel is intended or implied.