

# South Dakota National Guard

## Public Affairs Office

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March 7, 2018

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



## SD Guard Soldiers aid in Habitat for Humanity project

By Pfc. Alexis Stevens – 129th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

RAPID CITY, S.D. – Warrant officer candidates from the South Dakota Army National Guard partnered with Black Hills Habitat for Humanity to assist with a home remodel project for a family in need in Rapid City, March 3.

Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 196th Regional Training Institute's Warrant Officer Candidate School participated in the project to aid their community while also providing them with necessary skills for future jobs.

The Habitat for Humanity project involves a number of home remodeling repairs with help from community based members and organizations. The candidates worked on landscaping and drainage needs for the home.

The volunteer project is candidate driven, but is monitored and supervised by train, advise and counsel officers, or TACs.

"We encourage the candidates to seek out a community project," said Chief Warrant Officer 3 James Fleming, WOCS senior TAC officer.

Candidates are responsible for coordinating with community members and executing a plan to accomplish tasks. The TAC officers provide any tools or equipment needed for the project.

The warrant officer candidates use the project as a way to give back to the community as Soldiers and citizens.

"The work being accomplished is getting this house closer to being ready for a family that's going to live here," said Fleming.

The candidates are organized and motivated to finish the project.

"Everything that was finished today, I had planned to take at least a week," said Jory Beck, Habitat for Humanity construction supervisor. "The candidates are super willing to help us out with anything that needs to be done."

Beck said Habitat for Humanity has been working on this project for nearly two months. Everything was remodeled including the windows, flooring and siding, as well as adding a new patio.

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High resolution photos are available at [www.flickr.com/photos/southdakotationalguard](http://www.flickr.com/photos/southdakotationalguard)



**180303-Z-WF991-0004:** Warrant officer candidates from the 1st Battalion, 196th Regional Training Institute, South Dakota Army National Guard, work on landscaping during a home remodeling project in partnership with the Black Hills Habitat for Humanity, March 3, 2018, in Rapid City, S.D. The Soldiers from the 196th RTI's Warrant Officer Candidate School participate in a volunteer project to aid their community while also providing them with necessary skills for future jobs. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Pfc. Alexis Stevens)



**180303-Z-WF991-0011:** U.S. Army Spc. Ryan Skjoldal, of the 200th Engineer Company, left, and Warrant Officer Candidate Shane Wilkinson 1st Battalion, 196th Regional Training Institute, South Dakota Army National Guard, haul dirt toward the back of a home during a remodeling project in partnership with the Black Hills Habitat for Humanity, March 3, 2018, in Rapid City, S.D. The Soldiers from the 196th RTI's Warrant Officer Candidate School participate in a volunteer project to aid their community while also providing them with necessary skills for future jobs. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Pfc. Alexis Stevens)



**180303-Z-WF991-0018:** Warrant officer candidates from the 1st Battalion, 196th Regional Training Institute, South Dakota Army National Guard, work on landscaping during a home remodeling project in partnership with the Black Hills Habitat for Humanity, March 3, 2018, in Rapid City, S.D. The Soldiers from the 196th RTI's Warrant Officer Candidate School participate in a volunteer project to aid their community while also providing them with necessary skills for future jobs. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Pfc. Alexis Stevens)



**180303-Z-WF991-0022:** U.S. Army Spc. Ryan Skjoldal, of the 200th Engineer Company, South Dakota Army National Guard, tamps dirt during a home remodeling project in partnership with the Black Hills Habitat for Humanity, March 3, 2018, in Rapid City, S.D. The Soldiers from the 196th RTI's Warrant Officer Candidate School participate in a volunteer project to aid their community while also providing them with necessary skills for future jobs. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Pfc. Alexis Stevens)



**180303-Z-WF991-0051:** U.S. Army Warrant Officer Candidates Shane Wilkinson, left, and Jamie Murray, 1st Battalion, 196th Regional Training Institute, South Dakota Army National Guard, work on landscaping during a home remodeling project in partnership with the Black Hills Habitat for Humanity, March 3, 2018, in Rapid City, S.D. The Soldiers from the 196th RTI's Warrant Officer Candidate School participate in a volunteer project to aid their community while also providing them with necessary skills for future jobs. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Pfc. Alexis Stevens)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION,** please contact the SDNG Public Affairs Office at (605) 737-6721 or e-mail [ng.sd.sdarng.list.pao@mail.mil](mailto:ng.sd.sdarng.list.pao@mail.mil)