

Six new affordable houses will go to Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans

Sunday April 21, 2013 9:45 AM By [Nicole Fuller](#)



Photo credit: Randee Daddona, 2011 | Army staff sergeant and Purple Heart recipient Omar Domenech, 36, and his family receive keys to their new house built by [Long Island Home Builders Care Development Corp.](#) in 2011. A similar program is being offered to veterans in [Hauppauge](#) in 2013.

The charitable arm of the Long Island Builders Institute is seeking Iraq and Afghanistan wars veterans to apply for the chance to own one of six new below-market-rate homes in Islandia.

Long Island Home Builders Care Development Corp. plans to construct a subdivision of six affordable homes called Veterans Way, an effort that has built homes in Lake Ronkonkoma and Sound Beach.

The three-bedroom homes, which would be built on a 3.5 acre donated parcel on a cul-de-sac, would cost between \$172,000 to \$199,000, said Lois Fricke, director of the development corporation. The group has received 15 applications, which are due May 16.

Applicants should write a letter to the development corporation detailing military service and why the home would be life-changing, Fricke said. A panel of Veterans of Foreign War post commanders will select the winners, who must be able to qualify for a federal Veterans Affairs loan to purchase the home.

“This is an opportunity where they can have a new home, in a great school district, right near the expressway,” said Fricke, who said the homes will be in the Hauppauge School District. “It’s just a perfect, ideal community.”

Tom Datre, president of the development corporation, said in a statement, “One of the many hurdles facing returning veterans is finding an affordable place to live and anchor their lives. We hope our program can help fulfill this need.”

Letters should be sent to Lois Fricke, 1757-58 Veterans Memorial Hwy., Islandia 11749.