

Staff Sergeant John Q. Adams

In celebration of the July 4th holiday, Rebuilding Together's *Serving Those Who Serve* program will assist US Army Staff Sergeant John Quincy Adams, a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom who was seriously wounded in service and now suffers complications from Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).

SSG Adams was severely-injured in Iraq when an improvised explosive device (IED) detonated near his humvee while on patrol in August of 2003. The explosion left SSG Adams with serious injuries including periods of paralysis and memory loss, speech impediments and other symptoms as a result of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).

SSG Adams, 39, lives with his wife, Verlorene and their two sons Christopher, 5, and Brandon, 7. Also living in the home is SSG Adams' mother. They live in Miramar, Florida, an area close to the Miami VA Hospital.

SSG Adams continues speech therapy and physical therapy to recover from his injuries. His hard work has helped SSG Adams better communicate with Christopher and Brandon over time. He is able to walk to pick his children up from school. It is SSG Adams' hope that he will one day be able to run and play with them again.

As a platoon sergeant in the Florida National Guard 124th Infantry, SSG Adams was responsible for approximately 30 soldiers located in and around Ramadi, a city that represents the southwest corner of the Sunni Triangle, a focal point of the insurgency.

The Adams' family contacted Rebuilding Together's Broward County affiliate to inquire about the national special-needs initiative, *Serving Those Who Serve*, a program designed to install free modifications in the homes of injured soldiers and veterans. Some of the many modifications that will be provided by Rebuilding Together's *Serving Those Who Serve* include: installing vertical and horizontal grab bars in the bathroom to assist with mobility, installing impact glass in the front windows, organizing various electrical hazards, installing and enhancing track lighting, installing a chair rail for support around the living room and replacing the sink faucet with a single lever handle.

This is the fifth project completed by Rebuilding Together's *Serving Those Who Serve*. Previous projects were completed in Clinton, MD; Birmingham, AL; Manassas Park, VA; and Rosedale, MD. Rebuilding Together's *Serving Those Who Serve* was developed with founding sponsor Countrywide Financial Corporation.