

FREEDOM FIGHTERS UKRAINE: BIO BLURBS & PORTFOLIO

Blurb 1: Comprehensive Emergency Management Focus (Short)

Leslie L. Wilson is a 20-year, professional emergency manager with over 10,000 hours of "boots-on-the-ground" fieldwork with vulnerable populations. Ms. Wilson specializes in disaster response & recovery, first throughout America (professional & volunteer) and internationally (pro-bono) since 2010 in Haiti, Tajikistan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and now permanently based in Ukraine since May 2022. Her projects are designed to enhance the capabilities of individuals and teams, both military and civilian, to strengthen the fabric of our communities.

Blurb 2: Tactical Infrastructure & Technical Focus (Medium)

Leslie Wilson is a boots-on-the-ground visionary with diverse skills forged in disaster response, tempered by 20+ years in emergency management, disaster response & recovery, often serving as a vulnerable population specialist. Prior careers in IT and off-grid permaculture also play a critical role in Ukraine.

Since May 2022, Ms. Wilson has immersed herself in the culture, language, and wartime challenges of the Ukrainian people to better understand their most urgent unmet needs. She is establishing a wide-ranging network to aid in wartime survival, peacetime recovery, and rebuilding through recycling war debris into innovative and off-grid solutions designed to strengthen rural economies in developing green solutions.

Emergency Management Operational Highlights

- **State of Illinois Emergency Management Agency Subcontractor:** Setting up & coordinating COVAX pods across the state.
- **FEMA Reservist:** 48-hour response to 15-20 major disasters across the nation including the U.S. Virgin Islands. Average deployment: 3 months beginning on Day 1-4 following disaster event (floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, etc.).
- **SRA Emergency Preparedness & Response Analyst (Federal Government Projects):**
 - *Pentagon, Joint Staff section:* Operations manager for Joint Staff Computer Center.
 - *Architect of the Capitol complex (including U.S. Capitol building and the Supreme Court):* Writing Emergency Action & Response Plans for all staff.

- **Red Cross Disaster Services:** Disaster Services Coordinator/Manager in Washington DC area, later SC California. Responsible for the welfare of all people in times of disaster, encompassing a wide range of duties and management of 100+ disaster volunteers. Numerous government awards. Interlaced with over 15 years as a disaster response volunteer + International Services.
 - **Domestic/Caribbean Volunteer Operations:** Disaster response, rebuild, and chaplain volunteer across the nation with 6-10 nonprofits throughout 2005 - 2019. Deployed to post-quake Haiti 2010.
 - **Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) – basic level - volunteer,** Fairfax County, DC Metro Area. 2008 -2009
 - **International Civil Society Liaison:** Completed nearly 3 years of pro bono work in Tajikistan—five trips spanning 11 years—as a liaison/consultant/partner with the Red Crescent, Aga Khan Foundation, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), and many other nonprofits & agencies on national & international levels.
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Chronological Field Highlights: Ukraine

2022–2023: Tactical Heating Roots

- Kharkiv and Army Training Camp outside Lviv: Completed initial development projects for elements of the first Rocket Mass Heating system. Invited by the Ukrainian army to develop a system for dugouts. (Suspended due to floods and higher priorities).

2024: Debris Recycling & Hazard Containment

- **Hostomel Center Development:** Dedicated six months to partnering with the volunteer deconstruction branch of the NGO *Brave to Rebuild* to create the first R&D outdoor lab and training center in Hostomel on a war-destroyed homesite.
- **Operational Focus:** The project specialized in developing uses for war debris, including modern Rocket Mass Heating innovations and safer handling procedures for individuals dealing with asbestos contamination.

2025: Tactical Medicine & The Kharkiv Build

- **Civil-Military Liaison Work:** "Platoon Mom" involvement brought deeper connections with the local Territorial Defense and a pivot to focusing on developing workshops encompassing the total life cycle of a military warrior: from enlistment to veteran. Liaison work brought TCCC/CLS training to citizens and military.

- **EkoPich Prototype:** The first portable version of the Rocket Mass Heating system was successfully designed and built for, and with the help of, an international nonprofit in Kharkiv in December under adverse winter conditions.

2026: Reintegration & Mass Dissemination

- **Veteran Workshops:** Focus on building a more resilient military continues through developing workshops in peer-to-peer and train-the-trainer formats. Working with the new Veteran PRO Center in Bucha, developed a proposal to establish a Veteran Volunteer Corps to help train veterans for reintegration into the community while developing professional-level job skills.
- **System Scaling:** Plans to mass-produce variations of the EkoPich system are due to start by September for free dissemination to select populations across Ukraine showing greatest need and interest. Learning Lab workshops are also planned to teach these skills to interested Ukrainians and NGOs.