

Ending Veteran Homelessness

All of our Veterans deserve the dignity of having a place to call home, yet many have fallen on hard times. Some are homeless, and others are one tough break from losing housing.

The faith community can offer hope and assistance to Veterans in need. Here are ways to help end and prevent Veteran homelessness:

Connect Veterans to VA. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has services for Veterans who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless. Urge them to visit their local VA Medical Center, where VA staff are ready to assist. Or help Veterans make the call to **1-877-4AID-VET** (1-877-424-3838), where trained personnel are ready to provide referrals to local VA resources and services.

Reach out to VA's faith-based initiatives office. The mission of VA's Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships is to work with the faith community to better serve all Veterans, including those who are homeless. Email the center at VAPartnerships@va.gov.

Stand up for Veterans at Stand Downs. Stand Downs connect homeless Veterans with services that lead to permanent housing and supplies to help during the transition. Visit www.va.gov/homeless/events.asp to find one near your faith center, and reach out to the point of contact to find out how your organization can participate.



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Help with Veterans' security deposits and move-in costs. Veterans exiting homelessness may not have the resources to move into or furnish their homes. Raise funds to help Veterans secure first and last months' rent, security deposits and move-in essentials so they can exit homelessness quickly. Contact the Homeless Programs Office at your **closest VA medical center** to find out how you can help.

Work with the VA Voluntary Services Office of your local VA Medical Center. Work with other organizations in your community to provide security deposits, furniture, cookware and other move-in essentials for Veterans exiting homelessness. Check with **VA Voluntary Service** to see how you can help.

Start a conversation. Faith leaders can use their position to keep the issue of ending Veteran homelessness front and center. Share the information in this document and ideas of your own with those who look to you for leadership and guidance.

No Veteran should be without a safe place to call home.

Find out more at www.va.gov/homeless.

VA



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