

VHA Homeless Programs Office

Working Together to Help Veterans Exit Homelessness

Introduction



Welcome to the third edition of the VA Homeless Programs quarterly newsletter. Looking back on 2018 and ahead into 2019, we continue to work toward the day when homelessness among Veterans is rare, brief and nonrecurring. Together with our partners and stakeholders, we remain dedicated to addressing the supportive service, healthcare and other needs of Veterans who are either homeless or at-risk of homelessness, while helping them access resources that provide affordable housing, job training and placement, household essentials, and more. In this edition, we spotlight several partnerships that help to provide many of these essential resources for homeless and at-risk Veterans.

VA programs and services contributed to a 5.4 percent decline in homelessness among Veterans between 2017 and 2018 and a 49 percent decrease since 2010. To date, [69 local communities and three states](#) have declared an effective end to Veteran homelessness. Each of those communities created an infrastructure to ensure that at-risk Veterans are prevented from becoming homeless whenever possible. If they experience homelessness in those communities, Veterans are quickly put on the pathway to permanent housing. The dramatic decline in homelessness among Veterans shows us that the evidence-based strategies we have employed to help the most vulnerable Veterans are working, but we still have more work to do to ensure all who wore our nation's uniform are stably housed.

To accomplish the audacious goal of ending homelessness among Veterans, collaboration is essential. Strategic partnerships and relationships increase our efforts by not only reaching every Veteran who is homeless but also by allowing each partner to focus on what they do best. That's why VA staff members are encouraged to spread the word about the continued need for partner organizations so we can work to drastically decrease and one day end Veteran homelessness in all communities.

For those wanting to get involved or learn more about how housing, employment, and community collaborations can help end Veteran homelessness, send an email to HomelessVets@va.gov or visit VA's Homeless Veterans [website](#).

Homeless Programs Major Updates

Anthony Love, Senior Advisor and Director of Community Engagement, VHA Homeless Programs, will be participating in the first ever [#ExploreVA Facebook Live event focused on VA's work to end homelessness among Veterans in partnership with Vietnam Veterans of America](#). Anthony will discuss all the resources available to Veterans who are at-risk of or experiencing homelessness as well as how community partners can join efforts to end homelessness among Veterans.

- Date: February 12, 2019
- Time: 2 p.m. (ET)
- Registration Link: <https://explore.va.gov/events>

Community Highlights

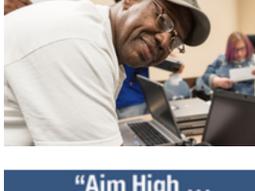
Follow the links below for recent stories and highlights on community partners and local VA facilities who are doing great work and establishing promising practices to end homelessness among Veterans.



[Little Rock, Arkansas becomes latest community to declare effective end to Veteran homelessness](#)



[Elementary Schools Across the Country Support Veterans Exiting Homelessness](#)



[Tech for Troops bridges the digital divide for Veterans in need](#)



[Stable housing leads Air Force Veteran to better employment, more time with her children](#)



[VA and Department of Labor strengthen inter-agency collaboration to improve employment outcomes for Veterans exiting homelessness](#)

In Case You Missed It

Below are a few additional success stories previously published on efforts to prevent and end homelessness among Veterans.

- [Texas VA partners with local Food Bank to fight hunger](#)

On the Calendar

Mark your calendars for the following upcoming events that will bring together key players and community decision makers to discuss homelessness among Veterans.

- [National Alliance to End Homelessness 2019 Solutions for Individual Homeless Adults: A National Conference](#)

Also, visit [VA's Homeless Programs Events page](#) to learn about more upcoming events, Operation Reveilles and Stand Downs in your area.

Resource Highlights

The [VA Homeless website](#) has resources and information about VA's homeless programs, ways to get involved, and shareable content. Follow the links below to our new and updated resources.

- [No Wrong Door video](#)
- [Help for Homeless Veterans Web Ads](#)

Spread the Word

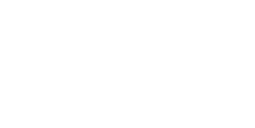
Share information with your community on how to get involved in efforts to end homelessness among Veterans by using the social content below on your various social platforms. Also, follow VA's various social platforms and retweet or repost homelessness content.



Facebook Posts

The hard work of @U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs volunteers does not go unnoticed! Last year alone, our collaborative efforts helped reduce Veteran homelessness by 5.4%! Get involved today: <https://www.va.gov/homeless/stakeholders.asp>

Together with partners and stakeholders, @U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs is making progress toward ending homelessness among Veterans in every community. Your participation can bring us one step closer. Learn more: <https://www.va.gov/homeless/stakeholders.asp>



Tweets

The hard work of @DeptVetAffairs volunteers does not go unnoticed! Last year alone, our collaborative efforts helped reduce Veteran homelessness by 5.4%! Get involved today: <https://www.va.gov/homeless/stakeholders.asp>

#EndVeteranHomelessness

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Communicate with Us

Solving homelessness among Veterans requires a collaborative approach with input and efforts from stakeholders at all levels. Knowing that, we want to hear your thoughts, ideas and feedback about VA's available programs and services supporting homeless and at-risk Veterans. We value your input and feedback as we know we cannot do this alone. Please share your thoughts with us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), or by using the "Contact Us" button on our [homeless website](#).