

*No one who served this country should be without a place to call home.*

In addition to operating the largest integrated network of homeless assistance programs in the country, VA is proactively reaching Veterans in need and connecting them with housing solutions, health care, community employment services and other required supports.

Visit [va.gov/homeless](https://va.gov/homeless) to learn how these specialized VA programs operate in your community to prevent and end homelessness among Veterans and get involved:

- HUD-VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH)
- Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF)
- Homeless Veteran Community Employment Services (HVCES)
- Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV)
- Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem (GPD)
- Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans (DCHV)
- Veterans Justice Outreach/Health Care for Reentry Veterans (VJO/HCRV)

### How HUD-VASH Can Help

A Veteran had fallen on hard times, and for 10 years lived under a bridge alongside a river. He didn't want to be homeless, but the complexity of his circumstance made him reluctant to respond to offers of support. A VA outreach worker eventually earned his trust and connected him to the HUD-VASH program and a voucher to rent an apartment. He was also assigned a HUD-VASH case manager to help him access VA services needed to maintain housing stability.

### Collaborate with VA.

Visit [va.gov/homeless](https://va.gov/homeless) to learn how you can help end Veteran homelessness, one home at a time.

If you encounter Veterans who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless, encourage them to call or visit their local VA Medical Center ([va.gov/directory/guide](https://va.gov/directory/guide)), where VA staff are ready to help. Veterans and their families can also get access to VA services by calling 1-877-4AID-VET (1-877-424-3838).

## Ending Veteran Homelessness, One Home at a Time.

*Housing and Community Partners Can Help.*



Help for Homeless Veterans  
**877-4AID-VET**  
[va.gov/homeless](https://va.gov/homeless) | (877) 424-3838

## You can help end homelessness among Veterans.

Our nation has set an ambitious goal to end Veteran homelessness. Led by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), tremendous progress is being made. Community by community, localities across the country are on the path to ending homelessness among Veterans. These successes show that it's possible to end homelessness among Veterans and among all Americans.

One way to achieve this milestone is to increase access to affordable housing. For many Americans, including Veterans, safe and affordable housing is out of reach.<sup>1</sup> One study found that just 25 percent of families eligible for housing assistance receive it.<sup>2</sup>

Community-based partners hold the keys to ending homelessness among Veterans. Through greater awareness and long-term commitment, property developers, affordable housing providers, landlords, real estate agents, philanthropic groups and many others can expand housing and related services for Veterans exiting homelessness.

<sup>1</sup>"The State of Homelessness in America, 2015," National Alliance to End Homelessness, [http://b3cdn.net/naeh/458837a0513453bec1\\_56m6zdn13.pdf](http://b3cdn.net/naeh/458837a0513453bec1_56m6zdn13.pdf) (accessed July 14, 2015).

<sup>2</sup>"Out of Reach 2015," National Low Income Housing Coalition, <http://nlihc.org/oor> (accessed July 14, 2015).

## Take action to make sure every Veteran has safe, stable housing.

Too many Veterans are one rough patch away from housing insecurity or homelessness. Work with VA to expand the capacity to quickly house Veterans who become homeless or who we know are at risk of homelessness. Here are a few ways community partners can fill critical housing and service gaps:

### Make a commitment.

Set aside a certain number of affordable housing units each year for Veterans who are homeless. Agree to house Veterans both eligible and ineligible for the Housing and Urban Development-VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program.

### Review your practices.

Identify ways you can lease units to Veterans who are homeless, including by reducing "preconditions" and other barriers to housing Veterans with challenged rental histories.

### Hire a Veteran.

Meaningful employment helps Veterans overcome homelessness.

### Help with Veterans' security deposits and move-in costs.

Join with community partners that raise funds to help Veterans secure first and last months' rent and security deposits so they can exit homelessness as quickly as possible.

### Spread the word.

Encourage others to get involved by talking about your success in helping Veterans exit homelessness at conferences and meetings and among your networks and peers. Serve as a conduit for VA information about ending homelessness among Veterans.

## Take Part in HUD-VASH.

HUD-VASH benefits homeless Veterans by providing access to safe, stable housing. The program also benefits landlords and other housing partners by providing rapid access to tenants who have a supportive network of wraparound services to reduce the risk of default and promote housing success. Landlords willing to accept HUD-VASH voucher holders or otherwise expand rental housing on behalf of Veterans exiting homelessness are critical.

## Help Veterans Make Their House a Home.

Veterans exiting homelessness may have housing but be unable to afford furniture, cookware, linens and other move-in essentials. Housing and community partners can collect and distribute new or gently used items to Veterans moving to permanent housing.

