



Homelessness Among Veterans

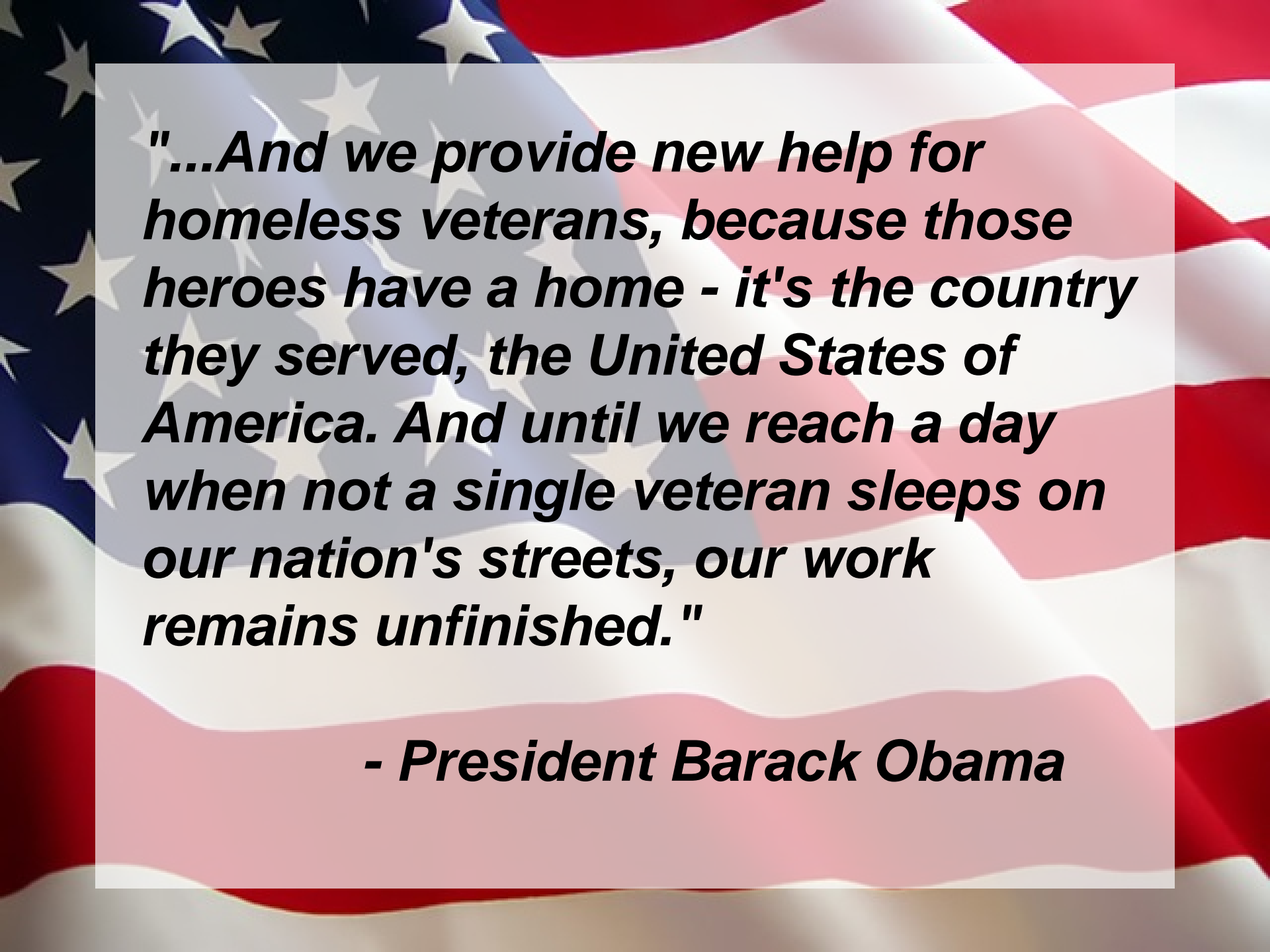
SNHCoC Presentation

March 12, 2015

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United States Veterans Initiative

U.S.VETS – Las Vegas

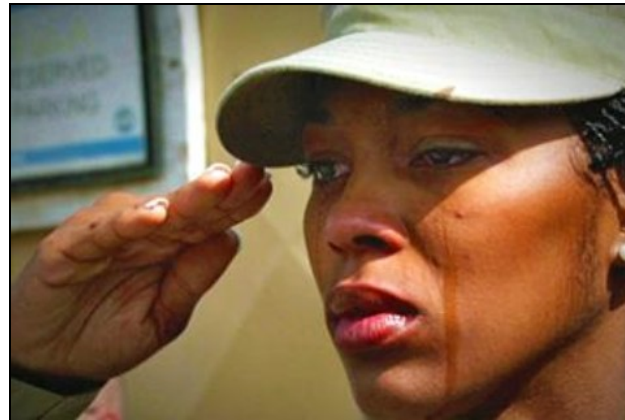
The background of the image is a close-up, slightly blurred view of the American flag. The stars and stripes are visible, with the blue field of stars on the left and the red and white stripes on the right. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent white rectangular area.

"...And we provide new help for homeless veterans, because those heroes have a home - it's the country they served, the United States of America. And until we reach a day when not a single veteran sleeps on our nation's streets, our work remains unfinished."

- President Barack Obama

NUMBERS OF HOMELESS VETERANS

- ▣ In the Nation: approximately 58,000 veterans are estimated to be homeless every night
- ▣ In Southern Nevada: 1,230 homeless veterans (Southern Nevada Homeless Census & Survey, January 2014)
- ▣ According to the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans:
 - Male veterans are 1.5 times more likely to become homeless than their non-veteran counterparts
 - Female veterans are 3.6 times more likely to become homeless than their non-veteran counterparts



WHO ARE HOMELESS VETERANS?

- ▣ About 12% of the adult homeless population are veterans
- ▣ Predominantly male; roughly 8% female
- ▣ Majority are single; live in urban areas; and suffer from mental illness, alcohol and/or substance abuse, or co-occurring disorders
- ▣ Age: 5% of all homeless veterans are between the ages of 18 and 30, and less than 23% are between 31 and 50

Source: Department of Veteran Affairs



REASONS FOR HOMELESSNESS AMONG VETERANS

- ▣ Shortage of affordable housing, livable income and access to health care
- ▣ A large number of veterans live with lingering effects of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and substance abuse
- ▣ Lack of family and social support networks
- ▣ Military occupations and training are not always transferable to the civilian workforce, placing some veterans at a disadvantage when competing for employment



U.S.VETS MISSION

The successful transition of military veterans and their families through the provision of housing, counseling, career development and comprehensive support.

WHO DOES U.S.VETS SERVE?

- Homeless Veterans (male and female) with eligible discharge status (including OTH, but not including dishonorable discharge)



- Veterans of all branches and eras
U.S.VETS has housed veterans from World War II era thru the Iraq/Afghanistan era



- Veterans with families who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness

OUTREACH SERVICES

How does U.S.VETS find veterans?

- ▣ Approximately 5 – 15 veterans walk-in to U.S.VETS' Main site seeking services and assistance daily
- ▣ Referrals from the VA, other agencies and institutions
- ▣ U.S.VETS Outreach team visits streets, shelters, desert camps, tunnels, and other places where the homeless can be found to connect veterans to services
- ▣ Other places homeless veterans can be found: hospitals, institutions, “couch surfing”



Housing at U.S.VETS – Las Vegas

Main Site: Located at 525 East Bonanza Road, est. 9/8/2001

The Radcliff: 2566 Sherwood Street, est. 7/1/2011

Community Office: 777 N. Rainbow Blvd., est. 4/1/2013



- ▣ 118 Veterans In Progress (VIP) transitional housing beds
- ▣ 19 Permanent Housing units for veterans with disabilities– including 10 for chronically homeless veterans
- ▣ 14 Permanent Housing beds for Chronically Homeless veterans at “The Radcliff”
- ▣ 31 Permanent Housing units for vets with disabilities, to include their families; scattered apartments throughout LV
- ▣ 37 Transitional to Permanent (TIP) Housing units for single veterans; scattered apartments
- ▣ 108 Units of Long-Term Supportive Housing
- ▣ 400 households supported through prevention & rapid re-housing services

WHAT DOES U.S.VETS OFFER TO ITS VETERAN PARTICIPANTS?

- ▣ Housing and Meals
- ▣ Intensive Case Management
- ▣ Sobriety Support
- ▣ Safe, clean, and sober living environment
- ▣ Life Skills Classes & Support Groups
- ▣ Problem Gambling Prevention & Education
- ▣ Referrals to 12-Step Meetings
- ▣ Referrals to VA for Medical & Mental Health
- ▣ Employment & Training Assistance
- ▣ Recreational Therapy
- ▣ Financial Management



WHAT DOES U.S.VETS OFFER TO ITS VETERAN PARTICIPANTS?

- ▣ Temporary Financial Assistance (rental & utility payments)
- ▣ Emergency Supplies and Care (moving assistance, childcare, food)
- ▣ Legal Advocacy (thru partnerships with the Federal Public Defender)
- ▣ Veteran Treatment Court partnership
- ▣ Transportation Assistance
- ▣ Fathers Program for Parenting & Child Support Resolution
- ▣ Women's Program
- ▣ Referrals to other Community Based Services
- ▣ Student program – Bachelor's and Master's level students (UNLV and University of Phoenix) providing social work & counseling services

U.S.VETS — Las Vegas

Program Accomplishments

2013-2014

What is U.S.VETS—Las Vegas doing for veterans?

Veterans receive comprehensive services while participating in U.S.VETS programs. Our programs provide housing and resources to help veterans maintain residential stability, gain life and employment skills, and to prepare them for entering or maintaining permanent housing.

These are the outcomes achieved from July 1, 2013-June 30, 2014.

1,107

The number of veterans outreached to on the streets, in shelters, desert camps and parks. The needs of these veterans were assessed and they were referred to services to meet those needs.

At least **90%** accepted referrals.

374

The number of veterans who were housed in the **Veterans in Progress (VIP)** program. All veterans received round-the-clock residential services, case management, life skills and training, employment assistance, transportation, clothing, hygiene items, food, and much more.

528

The number of people enrolled in the **Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF)** program for homeless prevention or rapid re-housing.

236

The number of unique households served, which includes nearly 200 children.

117

The number of veterans who returned to full-time jobs as a result of the employment assistance provided by the **Workforce Development** department.

81

The number of veterans who participated in one of our four **Permanent Supportive Housing Programs**. These disabled veterans receive permanent subsidized housing as well as intensive case management services.

85%

of veterans in these programs maintained stable housing.

30

The number of veterans enrolled in the **Transition in Place (TIP)** program this year. These veterans are housed in a studio apartment with subsidized rent, while working towards independence and transitioning the lease into their own names.

86%

This program supported of veterans transitioning to permanent housing.



VETERANS STAND DOWN

Hosted by U.S.VETS - Las Vegas



Services will include:

- Housing Assistance
- Homeless Resources
- Employment
- VA Benefits
- VA Enrollment
- VA Medical
- VA Mental Health
- N. LV Justice Court
- LV Municipal Court
- LV Justice Court
- Henderson Justice Court
- Legal Assistance
- Military Records
- Family Services
- Female Services
- Public Health
- Treatment/Counseling
- Support Groups
- Social Security
- Pet Assistance
- Showers
- Haircuts
- Clothing
- Hygiene Supplies
- Food

Dates, Times & Location:

March 18 & 19, 2015, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Cashman Center, 850 Las Vegas Blvd. North

Veteran Pre-Registration Information:

Cut down your wait time at the Stand Down.
 Pre-Register at U.S.VETS, 525 E. Bonanza Rd.:

Thursday, February 26, 2015, 10 am - 3 pm
 Thursday, March 5, 2015, 10 am - 3 pm

Pick-Up Times & Locations:

| U.S.VETS | Salvation Army | Genesis Apartments | Rescue Mission | Bonanza View | Cambridge Community Center |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| 525 E. Bonanza Rd. 6:45 am & 8:15 am | 35 W. Owens Ave. 7:00 am & 8:30 am | 1445 N. Main St. 7:15 am & 8:45 am | 408 W. Bonanza Rd. 7:30 am & 9:00 am | 640 McKnight St. 7:45 am & 9:15 am | 3930 Cambridge St. 8:30 am & 10:00 am |

To Volunteer or Host A Booth:

Register online (required):
www.usvetsinc.org/lasvegas

To Sponsor, Donate, or For General Questions:

Visit the Stand Down webpage: www.usvetsinc.org/lasvegas
 Email: lvinfo@usvetsinc.org

U.S.VETS CONTACT INFORMATION

- Main Site Address: 525 East Bonanza Road LV, NV 89101
- Main Phone Number: (702) 366-0456
- Website: www.usvetsinc.org
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/usvetsinc
- Twitter: @USVETSLV
- YouTube: www.youtube.com/usvetsinc