



STAND DOWN

A CREATIVE COMMUNITY INTERVENTION TO ENGAGE
HOMELESS VETERANS, 2015 POST-EVENT REPORT

By Shalimar T. Cabrera
Executive Director, U.S.VETS – Las Vegas
Chair, Las Vegas Veterans Stand Down



STAND DOWN

Named after the term used in times of war when bringing front line troops off the battlefield into a place of safety and security. Translated today to refer to the grassroots effort to bring homeless veterans off their “battlefield” of homelessness into a place of safety and security.

First Stand Down: 1988 in San Diego, founders of Stand Down – Robert Van Keuren, Dr. Jon Nachison and Vietnam Veterans of San Diego

The program has become recognized as the most valuable outreach tool to help homeless veterans in the nation today.

“A successful Stand Down will be an effective mix of programming and logistics.”

STAND DOWN – OBJECTIVES/PURPOSE

- Provide resources to veterans – bring it to them
- Increase accessibility to veterans by pooling services in one location
- Offer support
- Build rapport
- Change an output to an outcome
- Engage the community
- Meet community goals: housing, employment, legal, mental health, treatment, and more

STAND DOWN KEY ELEMENTS



- Location
- Resources:
 - Housing
 - Counseling
 - Employment
 - Benefits
 - Legal Assistance
 - Much More
- Basic Needs:
 - Food
 - Shelter
 - Clothing
- Volunteers
- Service Providers

LAS VEGAS VETERANS STAND DOWN

2004

- 200 veterans
- 1-day event
- 20 service providers
- About 100 volunteers



2015

- 825 veterans/229 family members
- 2-day event (formerly 3 days)
- 150 service providers
- 521 volunteers
- 2,954 hours of volunteer service



PURPOSE/OBJECTIVES – GET INNOVATIVE

- COLLECT DATA
- CREATE TANGIBLE, LONG-TERM OUTCOMES
- GET BUY-IN OF THE COMMUNITY
- IDENTIFY THE HOMELESS VETERANS & THEIR NEEDS
- ENGAGE SPONSORS
- OBTAIN GRANT FUNDING (DOL)
- USE OF STAFF/KEY POSITIONS

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE LV STAND DOWN



- Specialized staff positions
- Veteran Assistants & Individualized Client Services
- Coordinated Intake at Stand Down
- Electronic Data collection
- Veterans Stand Down Store
- Live tracking of outputs and outcomes
- Awards (Incentives) – Housing Provider, Partner of the Year

SPECIALIZED STAFF/KEY POSITIONS

Organized Structure

- Chair
- Co-Chairs
- Section Leads
- Floor Managers
- Logistics Manager
- Operations Manager



INDIVIDUALIZED CLIENT SERVICES

- Veteran Badge System
- Team Assignments based on housing situation
- Team Leaders
- Veteran Assistants
- Veteran Checklists



COORDINATED INTAKE

- Bringing Coordinated Intake to Stand Down – thank you, Dr. Dodge & the VA CRRC
- “VIP Lounge” for homeless veterans within Stand Down



REAL TIME DATA GATHERING

- Check In process
 - Volunteers (check in and out)
 - Providers
 - Veterans
- Use of Google Docs (formerly SPSS) to get demographics at point of intake
- Output tracking from each service provider



DEMOGRAPHIC EXAMPLES

91% males
9% females
0% transgender

Age Range: 23 - 89

Eras Served:
WWII <1 %
Korea <1 %
Between Korea and Vietnam 2%
Vietnam 31%
Post-Vietnam 45%
Persian Gulf 12%
OEF/OIF 9%

Army 46%
Navy 25 %
Air Force 15 %
Marines 14 %
Coast Guard < 1%

88% of veterans reported receiving an Honorable Discharge from the military

472 (or 56%) of veterans reported having a serious medical problem; 315 (or 38%) reported having a mental health problem

90% of veterans reported an income of less than \$24,000, including 62% who reported living below the Federal Poverty Level for a family of one.

TRACKING OF OUTPUTS/OUTCOMES

- Live tracking of outputs and outcomes – “Live Ticker”

2015 VETERANS STAND DOWN REPORTING LIVE

| Day 1 | Day 2 | Total |
|--------------|---|--------------|
| 588 | Number of New Veterans Entered Stand Down 237 | 825 |
| 10 | Number of Veterans Placed Into Housing 12 | 22 |
| 21 | Number of Veterans With a Housing Plan 30 | 51 |
| 5 | Number of Veterans Prevented From Homelessness 1 | 6 |
| 89 | Number of Veterans With an Employment Plan 104 | 193 |

OUTPUT EXAMPLES

- 114 veterans obtained free legal assistance
- 136 veterans ordered copies of their military records or obtained case assistance from the Nevada Congressional Delegation
- 75 veterans received benefits assistance from the VA
- 190 veterans obtained vision screenings and appointments for eye care
- More than 150 veterans obtained free dental appointments to receive much-needed dental care
- 259 veterans received haircuts and showers
- Over 600 veterans shopped for free in the Stand Down store and obtained 5,385 items of clothing, shoes, workforce attire, hygiene items, and non-perishable food

VETERANS STAND DOWN STORE

- Daily Clothing, Shoes, Workforce Attire, Linens, Hygiene Items, Non-perishable food
- Meeting Basic Needs
- Engagement Tool



VETERANS STAND DOWN STORE

- “Register” App for ipad/iphone for Store check-out system

| | |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Food - | 2444 |
| Kids Items - | 20 |
| Men’s Pants - | 425 |
| Men’s Shirts - | 876 |
| Men’s Shoes - | 102 |
| Socks - | 712 |
| Underwear - | 432 |
| Women’s Pants - | 62 |
| Women’s Shirts - | 172 |
| Women’s Shoes - | 45 |
| Work Attire - | 94 |
| TOTAL: 5,385 items “sold” | |



Thank you, Donation Drive Hosts:
Circus Circus, Cosmopolitan LV, Compassion Care Hospice, Nathan Adelson Hospice, Humana

PROGRAMMING + LOGISTICS

- Client-centered approach
- Service availability
- Long-term outcomes
- Access to services
- Meeting client needs
- Allow Stand Down to create change

- Event Flow
- Organization
- Schedule of Events
- Set-Up
- Floor Plan
- Staffing
- Diverse service representation
- Tracking
- Vendors

OUTCOMES/POST-EVENT TAKEAWAYS

Notable Outcomes:

- 825 veterans attended
- 229 veteran family members attended
- 73 veterans moved into housing or secured a housing plan during the event
- 193 veterans were hired into jobs or moved toward employment by scheduling interviews or follow-up appointments with employers
- 163 veterans met with the legal Courts to resolve outstanding legal issues

Renewed Sense of Community:

- Buy-in, returning sponsors, engaged volunteers, excited partners, increased morale of staff, veteran satisfaction

STAND DOWN AWARDS

- Housing Provider of the Year

SALVATION ARMY

- Partner of the Year

HUMANA



THANK YOU, PROVIDERS

2nd Chance Christian Ministries
707 Property Management
AlliedBarton Security Services
American Institute of Trucking
American Legion Auxiliary Unit #14
American Legion Post 10
American Legion Post 14
American Legion Post 76
American Lung Association
AMU
Angels of Nevada
Apostolic Behavioral Health
Assurance Wireless
C3 Customer Contact Channels
City of Las Vegas

Cloudbreak Las Vegas
College of Southern Nevada
Combat Boots to Makeup Brushes
Community Counseling Center of
Southern Nevada
Compassion Care Hospice
Congressional Delegation
CRRC
Department of Veterans Administration
DETR/Job Connect
Digiphoto Entertainment Imaging
Disabled American Veterans
District Attorney, Criminal Division
District Attorney, Family Support
Easter Seals Nevada

THANK YOU, PROVIDERS

Foundation for an Independent Tomorrow
Foundation for Recovery
G&G Home Health
Give An Hour/rep. by Cavazos Counseling
Goodwill of Southern Nevada
Hearts with Helping Hands
Heavy Equipment College of California
HELP of Southern Nevada
HELP USA
Henderson Municipal Court
Hilton Grand Vacations
Home Health Care Resource Services of
Nevada/Elder HelpLv
HPACT HUD
Internal Revenue Service

ITT-TECH
Jewish War Veterans
KOFE Institute
Las Vegas Justice Court
Las Vegas Municipal Court Marshals
Las Vegas Professional Institute of Technology
Las Vegas Urban League - Early Childhood
Connection
Las Vegas Urban League
Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada
LegalShield
Let Nevadans Vote / ACLU of Nevada
Lowe's
Lutheran Social Services
LVMPD

THANK YOU, PROVIDERS

MEMRA

Mind Over Matters Behavioral Health

MIPPA - Aging and Disability Services Division

Mountaintop Faith Ministry

MSA Home Health

MyHealtheVet

MyPainCreamMd.com

NAMI of Southern Nevada

Nathan Adelson Hospice

Nellis AFB Public Health

Nevada Career Information System

Nevada Council on Problem Gambling

Nevada Department of Veteran Services

Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center

Nevada Free Taxes Coalition

Nevada Health Care Guidance Program

Nevada Legal Service

Nevada Office of Suicide Prevention

Nevada Partners

Nevada Senior Medicare Patrol

Nevada State Welfare

New Horizons Computer Learning

Centers of Nevada

North Las Vegas Elks

North Las Vegas Justice Court

Northwest Career College

NUR-360 Budget Mobile Lifeline Service

Oathkeepers Southern Nevada Chapter

Operation Homefront

Outreach Experts Inc. (OEI)

THANK YOU, PROVIDERS

Primm Valley Casino Resorts
Public Defender's Office
R.W.B. Dog T.A.G.S.
Raye of Hope Community Development Corp
Red Cross
Reigning Blessing Inc.
Rhythm of Life Hospice
Shook & Stone, Chtd.
Silver State Fair Housing Council
So. NV Rotary Clubs/ Kiwanis Neon Lights
Social Security Administration
Southern Nevada Center for Independent Living
Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority
Southwest Truck Driver Training Inc.
Springboard Non-Profit

State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)
Station Casinos
Sun City Aliante Veterans Auxiliary
T. H. Oil (Herbst Richardson/White Castle)
Taxpayer Advocate Service
Team Red, White & Blue - Las Vegas
The Home Depot
The Learning Center
The Salvation Army
The Shade Tree
Three Square
Touro University Nevada, School of PA Studies
Transparent Mental Health, Inc.
Trident University
Turning Point Nevada

THANK YOU, PROVIDERS

U.S.VETS - Las Vegas
United Healthcare
United Latino Association
University of Phoenix
UNLV School of Nursing
USA Cares
Vegas PBS
Vegas Valley Behavioral Health
Veterans Administration
VFW Post 121011
Vibrant Life Holistic Healing
WestCare
Westfield Eye Center
Women's Development Center



THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!

521 volunteers
provided 2,954 hours of service!

Shout out to our large Volunteer Groups:

Cosmopolitan Las Vegas

Creech Air Force Base

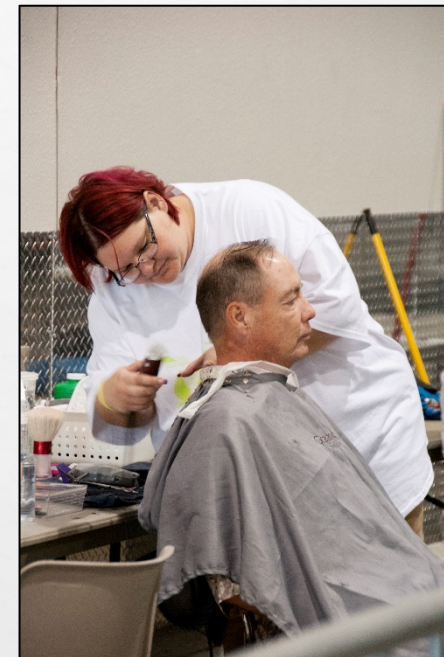
FedEx

Great Clips

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department

Nellis Air Force Base

UNLV



THANK YOU, IN-KIND DONORS

Altenburg Studio

Brady Linen

Cannery Hotel & Casino

Catholic Charities – Security Detail

Clark County Information Technology

Cosmopolitan

Cox Communications

Girl Scouts

MGM Resorts International

Nellis Air Force Base

NY NY Hotel & Casino

Salvation Army Canteen

Starbucks

Strip on the Strip Marathon

Venetian | Palazzo



THANK YOU, SPONSORS



2015 VETERANS STAND DOWN

POST#65

CreditOne BANK

Rotary Club of Green Valley

GRIFOLS

Silver State Fair Housing Council

weCARE weSHARE

MyVA.org

CompassionCare HOSPICE

707 MANAGEMENT

Let's compare. We'll show you.

PainCreamMD.com
(702)425-1917

LAS VEGAS VETERANS STAND DOWN

The Retina Center At Las Vegas
EXCELLENCE IN RETINA CARE

northwest CAREER COLLEGE

CHAPTER 1076
POSTAL SERVICE

Humana.

POST#21

LAS VEGAS VETERANS STAND DOWN

THANK YOU, KEY STAFF!

Shalimar Cabrera – Event Chair

Krystal Cotton – Event Co-Chair

Hillary Mirabal – Assistant Event Co-Chair

Dawnielle Sampson – Co-Chair, Finance & Operations

Chelsea Utick – Co-Chair, Operations

Clayton Steinberg – Co-Chair, Logistics & Floor Management

Tony Forbes – Co-Chair, Logistics & Floor Management

Karen Lewis – Co-Chair, Volunteer Coordination

Natalie Montas – Co-Chair, Volunteer Coordination

Stephanie Kircher – Co-Chair, Provider Registration

And U.S.VETS Staff who served as Event Leads



CONTACT INFORMATION

Shalimar T. Cabrera, U.S.VETS – Las Vegas
Executive Director
Las Vegas Veterans Stand Down Chair

scabrera@usvetsinc.org
(702)947-4442

Website: www.usvetsinc.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/usvetslv
Twitter: @USVETSLV
YouTube: www.youtube.com/usvetsinc

