

HOMELESS VETERANS PROGRAM

Homeless veterans are fast becoming a major portion of our "street people". Vietnam veterans make up a lot of these street people and Desert Storm veterans are not far behind. Women make up one-tenth of the armed forces. One in every 10 homeless veterans on the street is a woman veteran, many with children. This is becoming a big issue because a lot of homeless veterans shelters don't have the facilities for women veterans, much less for the children. We are working on that problem.

We need to identify and help these veterans with food, clothing and support such as Stand Downs, shelters and Vet Centers with medical and group therapy. We need to support stand-downs that are conducted within our areas. Stand Downs might seem like short term solutions, but it shows our veterans we care. It gives them some dignity and compassion which are things they don't get too often and are things that we take for granted.

We have to go out in our neighborhoods to feed and clothe our veterans, and not just on holidays, but everyday. These veterans are our other MIA's (MISSING IN AMERICA)! You know where they are in your area; a minute or two of conversation and a smile works wonders.

All Posts are reminded that in order to receive credit on the Department "X" Sheet, they must send in a minmum \$50 Cash donation to the VFW State Headquarters. You can also donate with a credit or debit card on the Department's website at www.vfwil.org.

Contact your local V.A. Hospital, Outreach Clinic or your local Vet Center and ask what you can do. I go out in the streets every week, so if you have any questions, call me. Remember, we need to be embody our motto

"Mission First - Veterans Always"



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