

# Tacoma Rescue Mission / Veterans Resource Center

Serving homeless vets

*Veteran's Resources*



*R e s c u e*

# Emergency Housing for Homeless U.S. Military Veterans

Joint Base Lewis-McChord and Navy Region Northwest are home to one of the largest military populations in the U.S.

The number of homeless Veterans in this area is a deep and growing concern

We want to provide emergency housing for those veterans who are homeless.

Currently they must go to The Rescue Mission or other Emergency shelters

## Background

- Veterans who are homeless in Pierce County cannot find emergency shelter in any county , state or federal facility
- Veterans must apply for shelter at locations such as The Rescue Mission in Tacoma
- Veterans are housed with the general homeless population, some distance from VA facilities, usually not an ideal situation.

# Proposal

- Form a coalition of concerned officials and citizens to address emergency housing for homeless veterans
- Locate a facility to provide emergency housing for homeless veterans (such as bldg 26 at Western State Hospital)
- Provide emergency housing as well as initial case management and direction to U.S and State Veteran's Affairs programs and facilities

## Process

- Use WA State VA Building 9, at Retsil's policies and procedures as a template for operations
- Use expertise of The Rescue Mission of Tacoma to guide and oversee the implementation and development of an emergency veteran's shelter
- Engage our legislators, elected officials and friends of veterans to find emergency housing for homeless veterans

## Process

- Provide 3 levels of emergency assistance to homeless veterans.
- Screen for PTSD, Suicide, and Drug addiction upon intake, monitor for 48 hours
- 1. Emergency Housing for 10-90 days
- 2. Enroll in VA healthcare and homeless programs at American Lake VA within 30 days
- 3. Provide Active case management for 30 to 60 days in partnership with the VA Homeless Veteran Outreach
- 4 Expectation is to develop an individual improvement plan within 90 days

## Payoff

- Veterans can be offered emergency housing with other veterans,
- Run by VETERANS FOR VETERANS
- Veterans can use their military training and skills to assist in operation of the emergency housing facility and programs
- The time from homelessness to improved lives for veterans will be dramatically reduced

## Next Steps

- We need advocates and sponsors to champion this process
- We need a facility close to Veteran's Affairs American Lake
- We need active support from all who claim to support our military men and women
- We need to be in this for the LONG HAUL...
- Larry Geringer. Denny Sapp, Phil Sawyer  
253 720 5785
- Tacoma Rescue Mission...253 383 4493







2 0 1 3		vets	passes	coins	
vets given bus passes	January 2013	31	57	15	
	February 2013	26	45	11	
	March 2013	15	30	9	
	April 2013	15	30	9	
	May 2013	16	28	9	
	June 2013	16	21	6	
	July 2013	20	40	6	
	August 2013	25	60	12	
	September 2013	24	63	8	
	October 2013	20	66	1	
	November 2013	22	53	4	
	December 2013	27	62	3	
total vets given bus passes		132	556	95	
vets seen / helped but not given bus pa		48			
total vets seen 2013		180			
vets seen by service;	USA	89			
	USAF	15			
	USCG	3			
	USMC	11			

2 0 1 2		vets	passes	coins	
vets given bus passes	January 2012	21	38	11	**
	February 2012	21	38	11	**
	March 2012	21	38	11	**
	April 2012	21	38	11	**
	May 2012	21	38	11	**
	June 2012	21	38	11	**
	July 2012	21	38	11	**
	August 2012	29	53	10	
	September 2012	12	29	10	
	October 2012	23	32	12	
	November 2012	21	38	11	**
	December 2012	21	38	11	**
calculated totals		256	456	128	
recorded partial totals		121	173	46	
		actual	projected		
vets seen by service;	USA	72	152		
	USAF	5	11		
	USCG	3	6		
	USMC	8	17		
	USN	23	49		
	USNG	1	2		
	branch unrecorde	9	19		

2011		recorded	projected
vets seen in	January 2011	0	29
	February 2011	14	29
	March 2011	7	29
	April 2011	27	0
	May 2011	28	0
	June 2011	30	0
	July 2011	32	0
	August 2011	10	29
	September 2011	8	29
	October 2011	13	29
	November 2011	18	29
	December 2011	15	29
<b>totals</b>		<b>202</b>	<b>232</b>
vets seen by service;	USA	65	110
	USAF	4	10
	USCG	3	5
	USMC	11	25
	USN	16	35
	USNG	5	8
	branch unrecord	4	9