



# Do You Know of a Homeless Veteran?

## Housing Our Heroes Initiative

Do you know of a homeless Veteran who lives on the streets or in shelters in the city of San Diego?

Please tell them about the Housing Our Heroes initiative, which will provide housing opportunities for up to 1,000 homeless Veterans in the city of San Diego.

Veterans who are being assisted include:

- Veterans and their families who become homeless because of an unexpected life experience, such as a job loss, domestic violence, or medical crisis. They will receive monthly financial rental assistance (Rapid Rehousing), as well as funds for up-front move-in costs.
- Chronically homeless Veterans with an honorable discharge and a disabling condition who need supportive services and who qualify for the Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) voucher program of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Federal government pays approximately 70 percent of their rent. These Federal housing vouchers do not expire as long as the individual continues to meet qualifying criteria, such as income eligibility.
- Veterans who are not eligible for the Federal VASH Vouchers, including Veterans who did not receive an honorable discharge. They may qualify for a Sponsor-Based Housing Voucher with supportive services, based on income. The Federal government pays approximately 70 percent of their rent. The San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) awards Sponsor-Based Housing Vouchers to nonprofit or for-profit organizations, or "sponsors," to provide rental assistance to homeless Veterans to help pay for their housing.

SDHC is partnering with the City of San Diego for the Housing Our Heroes initiative. For more information: email [HousingOurHeroes@sdhc.org](mailto:HousingOurHeroes@sdhc.org), call (619) 578-7768, or visit [www.sdhc.org](http://www.sdhc.org)

All participants of the Housing Our Heroes initiative must be referred by SDHC partner agencies or organizations that provide supportive services to homeless San Diegans.

It is important that homeless Veterans add their names to a database that assesses their housing needs and vulnerability, which will help identify those homeless Veterans who are most in need.

Call or visit the following agencies that can assist homeless Veterans with the registration for this Coordinated Assessment database:

**Father Joe's Villages**  
(619) 446-2100  
1501 Imperial Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92101

**Joan Kroc Center at  
Father Joe's Villages**  
(619) 233-8500  
1501 Imperial Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92101

**ElderHelp**  
(619) 284-9281  
3860 Calle Fortunada, Suite 101  
San Diego, CA 92123

**Community Resource Center**  
(760) 753-8300  
650 Second Street  
Encinitas, CA, 92024

**PATH**  
(619) 810-8600  
1250 6th Ave.  
San Diego, CA, 92101

**Alpha Project for the Homeless**  
(619) 232-4785  
3737 5th Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92103

**U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**  
(619) 400-5000  
7410 Mission Valley Rd.  
San Diego, CA 92108

**Episcopal Community Services**  
(619) 955-8217  
2144 El Cajon Blvd  
San Diego, CA, 92104

**Neil Good Day Center**  
(619) 233-8500  
299 17th St.  
San Diego, CA 92101

**Volunteers of America**  
(619) 561-9808  
3530 Camino Del Rio North  
Suite 300  
San Diego, CA 92108

**Veterans Community Services**  
(800) 974-9909  
5605 El Cajon Blvd.  
San Diego, CA 92115

**Interfaith Shelter Network**  
(619) 702-5399  
3530 Camino Del Rio N #301  
San Diego, CA, 92108

**YWCA**  
(619) 239-0355  
1012 C Street  
San Diego, CA, 92101

**Veterans Village of San Diego**  
(619) 497-0142  
3320 Kemper St. Suite 104  
San Diego, CA 92110

**Courage to Call**  
(Mental Health Systems)  
211 – Option 4  
9445 Farnham St. Suite 100  
San Diego, CA 92123





## *Housing Our Heroes Initiative*

The Housing Our Heroes initiative is part of SDHC's **HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO** Homelessness Action Plan, which follows the national “Housing First” model - to provide housing as quickly as possible, with supportive services as needed.

In addition to the landlord outreach program, which provides incentives for participating landlords, the other three critical programs of the Housing Our Heroes initiative are:

### **Rapid Rehousing Assistance**

**Homeless Veterans Assisted:** Up to 600 homeless Veterans will be provided housing opportunities with supportive services. Veterans need not have an honorable discharge to be eligible.

**Program provides:** Rental payments to Veterans and their families who become homeless because of an unexpected life experience, such as a job loss, domestic violence, or medical crisis. The program covers up-front move-in costs, such as security deposits and utility deposits. The funds will also be used to provide supportive services, such as case management and client outreach. Rapid Rehousing funds are awarded to nonprofit or for-profit organizations who apply for these funds through a competitive Notice of Funding Availability. These funds are paid directly to the landlord.

### **SDHC Federal VASH Vouchers**

**Homeless Veterans Assisted:** 300 chronically homeless Veterans with an honorable discharge and a disabling condition who need supportive services and who qualify for the Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) voucher program of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

**Program provides:** Rental housing vouchers from the HUD VASH voucher program, which provides rental assistance administered by SDHC and supportive services through the VA San Diego Healthcare System. To help homeless Veterans find an apartment, SDHC obtained a waiver from HUD that allows for up to 20 percent higher rent payment amount for a VASH Voucher, effective February 1, 2016. These Federal housing vouchers do not expire as long as the individual continues to meet qualifying criteria, such as income eligibility.

### **SDHC Federal Housing Vouchers with Supportive Services**

**Homeless Veterans Assisted:** 100 homeless Veterans who are not eligible for the Federal VASH Vouchers.

**Program provides:** Housing for homeless Veterans with supportive services, such as mental health counseling, substance abuse treatment programs, job training skills and health services. SDHC will award Federal HUD Sponsor-Based Housing Vouchers to nonprofit or for-profit organizations – chosen through a competitive process – to provide rental assistance to homeless Veterans to help pay for their housing.

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It is important that homeless Veterans add their names to a database that assesses their housing needs and vulnerability, which will help identify those who are most in need.

**Funding Sources:** A grant from the City of San Diego resulting from the ground lease of San Diego Square; proceeds from SDHC's sale of Hotel Metro; HUD VASH Voucher Administrative Fees; HUD Extraordinary Administrative Fees for VASH Vouchers; HUD VASH Rental Assistance; and HUD Sponsor-Based Housing Voucher Rental Assistance.

