Focus on Veterans Experiencing Homelessness

24/7 RESOURCES FROM THE VA

If your community sees veterans at risk of homelessness or experiencing homelessness, be sure to bookmark this VA site:
https://www.va.gov/homeless/

Call the phone number around the clock.
Chat online 24/7.
Find posters and many other comprehensive resources.

Make the Call
Dial 1-877-4AID-VET
(1-877-424-3838)

Access VA’s services for homeless and at-risk Veterans, available 24/7.

Chat Online
Homeless Veteran Chat
Confidential, 24/7 online support for Veterans and friends

Remember, your monthly statistics are due by May 7th. Input them here with this easy-to-use link:
https://bit.ly/2O5ru4T
Two Minute Tips
FROM VRC STAFF & VOLUNTEERS

1. First impressions mean a lot to the veteran. When a veteran or family member arrives, stand up, introduce yourself and shake hands. This provides a warm and welcoming environment.

2. I volunteer for a lot of different organizations and find it helpful when there is bottled water available.

3. Displaying books for veterans has encouraged staff to make book recommendations to veterans that have stopped by our VRC.

4. Keeping a box of tissues on the VRC table helps to signal that this is a "safe space".

5. We plan to recruit the other branches in our library system to help advertise the need for volunteers.

6. As an older volunteer, please don't ask me to set up and move furniture when I come to the VRC. This is "the line in the sand" for me.

7. As a volunteer it is vital that we have access to basic technology including a phone line and access to electrical outlets.

8. Recruiting Volunteers: PSA on City blogs / Chamber of Commerce email blast (just ask!) / advertise to churches

REMINDER: May 2019 statistics are due June 7th. Here is the link: https://bit.ly/2O5ru4T

"Library staff was instrumental assisting a 61 year old female veteran presenting mental health problems and a need to find permanent supportive housing. Connections were made with the Veteran Women's PTSD Behavioral Services Clinic for counseling and Volunteers of America for assistance in locating affordable housing. Support services were provided to the veteran within 24 hours of the initial interview with library staff."

FOOD FOR THE SOUL, VRC 2019

The new 2019 Veterans Resource Book is now available for bulk ordering here: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KJMP8G
Inglewood Grand Opening

On May 11, the Inglewood Public Library held an opening ceremony for their freshly furnished Veterans Resource Center. Several of the community’s veterans, along with family members, friends, and advocates, attended to learn about the services the VRC would offer. Also in attendance were Los Angeles County LINC Anthony Rodriguez, Sharon Fields of the West LA Vet Center, and Robert Loyd of the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System. Each of these special guests shared valuable information about the resources available through their respective organizations, and all attendees were given the opportunity to build new connections during a light reception.

Visit the Inglewood Public Library VRC virtually at: https://www.cityofinglewood.org/1229/Veterans-Resource-Center

Help us welcome Inglewood Public Library to the Veterans Connect family!

Do you have potential volunteers that are unwilling or unable to commit to becoming a full Benefits Coach?

Are you looking for a way to expand your Veteran Connect volunteer impact with the use of volunteer ambassadors?

Please check the job description for Community Outreach Specialist Volunteer Position Description on our website:


#EXPAND YOUR REACH