



## How Partner Collaborations Can Make A Difference

Working together, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and community partner organizations can meet at-risk and homeless Veterans' needs for affordable housing, job training and placement, household essentials, and nutritional support. The types of partnerships VA has formed with various organizations are described below. Please review these brief descriptions to find the partnership that best aligns with your organization's objectives, purpose and organizational structure.



### HOUSING PARTNERSHIPS

Landlords, property management companies, and apartment buildings and complexes can:

- Provide homeless or at-risk Veterans with affordable housing options by accepting [Housing and Urban Development-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing \(HUD-VASH\)](#) Program vouchers as rent payments.
- Set aside affordable housing units for low-income Veterans and their family members in existing and new housing developments.

The benefits of becoming a VA housing partner may include, steady rent payments through HUD-VASH, reliable tenants and more.



### EMPLOYMENT PARTNERSHIPS

Businesses and agencies providing employment can often:

- Work with VA's [Community Employment Coordinators \(CECs\)](#) to recruit, interview, and hire job-ready Veterans for entry and mid-level positions.
- Provide on-the-job training.
- Create positive work environments that promote Veterans' success.

The benefits of becoming a VA employment partner could include a lower turnover rate because Veterans tend to have higher retention rates than other subpopulations of employees, faster identification and placement of the right candidates for job openings, lower employee acquisition costs and a smooth transition into employment due to the continuation of VA supportive services.



## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

VA's traditional and nontraditional community partners — nonprofit organizations, Veterans Service Organizations, industry associations, educational institutions — have abilities, resources, and organizational goals that complement VA's work to end Veteran homelessness. By tapping into them, VA can maximize the effectiveness of the assistance being provided and improve the outcomes of Veterans exiting homelessness. These partners help by providing the following:

- Household essentials for Veterans exiting homelessness.
- Security deposits for homeless Veterans.
- Outreach to help VA expand awareness of Veteran homelessness and the critical needs gaps that exist throughout communities.
- Food security through food banks and donations.

The benefit of leveraging an organization's resources, assets, mission, commitment, and dedication to end and prevent Veteran homelessness is that community awareness and involvement expands so that more can be done to help Veterans exiting homelessness lead independent lives.

## HOW TO GET INVOLVED

It is through the support of VA's numerous, dedicated partners that VA is ending and preventing Veteran homelessness one community at a time. To get involved or learn more about how housing, employment, and community collaborations can help end Veteran homelessness, send an email to [HomelessVets@va.gov](mailto:HomelessVets@va.gov) or visit VA's Homeless Veterans website at <https://www.va.gov/homeless/>.

## A PHONE CALL AWAY.

If a Veteran you know is homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless, refer him or her to their local VA medical center where staff is ready to assist, or urge them to call **1-877-4AID-VET** (1-877-424-3838). Trained, supportive professionals are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to connect Veterans with the care they need to get back on their feet.