

# SUPPORT FOR HOMELESS AND AT-RISK VETERANS

Veterans at risk of homelessness experience more than double the risk of suicide than stably housed Veterans. For many, the last health care visit prior to suicide is with VA’s emergency services.

Every Veteran deserves the best care possible. Due to challenges with accessing care, Veterans experiencing homelessness may use emergency or urgent care services more frequently than other Veterans. VA has resources available to help homeless and at-risk Veterans access stable housing, employment services, and health care.

## LOCAL HOMELESS SERVICE AND PROGRAMMING RESOURCES

PROGRAM	NAME/POINT OF CONTACT	CONTACT INFORMATION
Local VA Homeless Service Point of Contact		
VA Community Resource and Referral Center		
Local Emergency Shelter(s)		
Local Service Organization(s) <i>(Religious/Spiritual, Food, Clothing)</i>		
Local Substance Use Program		
Post-9/11 Military2VA (M2VA) Program		
Other Important Points of Contact		

We encourage Veterans in need of support to contact the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at 1-877-4AID-VET (1-877-424-3838), the essential community service hotline at 2-1-1, or the Veterans Crisis Line at 9-8-8 and dial 1, or visit their closest VA medical center for additional information.

## SERVICES AVAILABLE THROUGH VA'S HOMELESS PROGRAMS

SERVICE	DESCRIPTION
Housing Services	VA's housing services facilitate Veterans getting access to safe and stable shelter, which may include emergency shelters and transitional housing, with the goal being to help Veterans find permanent housing.
Health Care	Health care teams provide wraparound services as well as high quality, culturally sensitive health care to meet the unique needs of Veterans experiencing homelessness. In addition, rehabilitation and treatment services are available for Veterans experiencing multiple and severe medical and psychiatric conditions as well as psychosocial challenges.
Case Management	VA case managers support and guide Veterans through the process of obtaining housing, and help connect Veterans to critical supportive services, such as primary care, mental health treatment, and substance use counseling.
Employment Services	VA's employment services focus on enhancing employment outcomes for Veterans experiencing homelessness. In addition, specific programming exists for Veterans with service-connected disabling conditions.
Justice-Related Programming	Many Veterans who experience homelessness have a history with the criminal legal system. For Veterans who have had contact with the judicial system, law enforcement, or jail, VA has services that can provide them with community resources to address clinical needs and foster stability.

Some VA medical centers also offer Homeless Patient Aligned Care Teams (HPACTs). HPACT clinics co-locate medical staff, social workers, mental health and substance use counselors, nurses, and homeless program staff to provide Veterans with comprehensive, individualized care, including services that lead to permanent housing.

Even if a Veteran was discharged or released from military service under Other Than General or Honorable conditions, they still may be eligible for help through VA.

### ADDITIONAL NOTES

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For assistance navigating care with Veterans experiencing homelessness who are at risk for suicide, please consider reaching out to the VA Suicide Risk Management Consultation service at [srmconsult@va.gov](mailto:srmconsult@va.gov) or <https://www.mirecc.va.gov/visn19/consult/>.