

A Call to Compassion: Churches Uniting to Permanently House Homeless Veterans with a one time, \$100 Donation

Introduction:

In the spirit of compassion and community service, churches have an extraordinary platform and opportunity to make a significant impact on the lives of homeless veterans. Imagine the collective power of the almost 380,000 churches across the nation coming together to provide immediate relief by each providing a one-time \$100 donation to help house those who have bravely served our country. Homelessness is not a Baptist issue or a Catholic issue or a Muslim issue. It's not a Democratic concern or a Republican problem. Homelessness is not gender biased and is certainly color blind. Read forward to explore the power of unity and the transformative effect that a modest yet collective contribution by the "C" hurch can have on ending veteran homelessness.

Recognizing the Urgency:

Homelessness among veterans is an urgent, pressing, and escalating issue. More than 35,000 veterans, who have sacrificed so much for our freedom, currently are without a place to call home. By acknowledging the immediacy of the problem, churches can channel their resources towards supporting the movement to provide the only real solution, affordable, permanent homes. Providing homes for veterans also dramatically impacts the rising suicide rates among veterans and provides the wraparound services needed to treat service-related invisible wounds such as PTSD, TBI, addiction and depression.

The Impact of Collective Giving:

Mighty Hero Homes, a 501(c)3 organization which exist to eradicate veteran homelessness in the United States, is launching our **OPERATION *Because They Deserve Better*** campaign, an effort to recruit 1,000,000 individuals and organizations to make a one-time \$100 donation. For a church, a \$100 donation may seem modest, but when multiplied across the congregations of numerous churches, the impact is substantial. Together, churches can pool their resources to make a meaningful and leading contribution that directly and permanently addresses the needs of homeless veterans.

Providing Permanent Relief:

Mighty Hero Homes is building up to 450 Mighty Hero Homes "Bases" across our great nation, providing affordable, permanent homes for homeless veterans, homes from which they never have to move and can one day own. (The Mighty Hero Homes Model is for a veteran to go from homeless to homeowner in 2 years!) Your one time, \$100 donation, when paired



with others, will allow Mighty Hero Homes to qualify for funding which can be expanded exponentially, allowing Mighty Hero Homes to permanently house 6,720 homeless veterans. Every donation contributes to restoring dignity and hope in the lives of our veterans.

Providing Leadership in a Lost World:

Churches, regardless of denomination, can unite under a common cause—supporting those who have served our nation. This collective effort not only demonstrates solidarity within the religious community but also sends a powerful message of compassion to the wider society. While we are also pursuing funding through traditional forums such as grants, fundraising campaigns, solicitation of private donations, etc., we believe that when instructed to provide shelter to the wanderer in Isaiah 58:7, it is a promise to God’s people that when we do as we are instructed, we ourselves will be restored. Our nation needs restoration.

Encouraging Individual Commitment:

In addition to collective giving, churches can encourage individual members to contribute as they are so led. By fostering a culture of individual commitment, the overall donation pool grows, allowing for an even more substantial impact on addressing veteran homelessness. In a world where celebrity spokespersons and social media influencers dictate so much of societal behavior, we are unashamedly counting on the Greatest Man who ever lived to be our influencer.

Spreading the Message:

In addition to your church donating, we ask each church leader to utilize various communication channels within and beyond the church community to spread the message of this collective initiative. Social media, newsletters, and church services can be powerful platforms for rallying support and inspiring others to join in this compassionate endeavor. Each of you have influence over someone. Your someone may be the gatekeeper to what the Lord has instore for His people.

The Call to Action:

By coming together and each giving a one-time \$100 donation, churches can become a beacon of hope for homeless veterans. The collective impact of this initiative extends far beyond the financial contribution—it is a testament to the strength of unity and the shared commitment to uplifting those who have sacrificed for our nation. Let us stand together and make a lasting difference in the lives of our homeless veterans.

Please use this QR Code or link below to give, selecting the **2024 OPERATION *Because They Deserve Better*** option for tracking purposes, to provide your church’s donation.



[Donate Now](#)

You can also learn more about Mighty Hero Homes by visiting www.MightyHeroHomes.org. If you want to explore how you or your congregation can become more involved or take on a leading role in this campaign, please contact us at Giving@MightyHeroHomes.org or at 770-842-1483.

We will celebrate those who support the movement at various events planned for 2024. Please share broadly within your network, asking your colleagues to join you in doing the same.

Because They Deserve Better.

Mighty Hero Home Foundation
83 Hampton Street
McDonough, GA. 30253
770-842-1483
www.MightyHeroHomes.org
Info@MightyHeroHomes.org

The Mighty Hero Home Foundation is a Non-Profit Organization operating within the provisions of IRS code 501 (c)(3) which allows for contributions to be tax deductible by the donor. IRS #87-3826552.



Did You Know...

- According to the 2023 Point in Time (PIT) count, homelessness in the United States increased by 12% from 2022 to more than 650,000.
- Veterans generally make up ~10% of the overall homeless population but the 2023 PIT count suggested that veteran homelessness “only” increased by 7.4%.
- The VA reports there are now 35,574 homeless veterans in the US (2024).
- At the beginning of the 2023 calendar year the VA announced a pending count of 33,000 homeless veterans in the United States, down from 37,000 the prior year.
- In February 2023 a goal to permanently house 38,000 homeless veterans in the United States, during the calendar, year was announced by the VA.
- A goal to engage with 28,000 “unsheltered” homeless veterans was communicated by the VA at the same time.
- In October 2023, the VA announced that they had exceeded their goal to permanently house 38,000 homeless veterans, two months early.
- In January 2024, the VA announced they permanently housed 46,552 homeless veterans in 2023, surpassing their goal of 38,000 by over 122%.
- The VA has further announced they engaged with 40,203 unsheltered homeless veterans in the calendar year.
- To round out the reported data, the VA reports that of those housed in 2023, 96% remained housed and for the 4% which returned to homelessness, 96% of this population was rehoused or put on the path to secure housing.
- The primary reasons for the increase in veteran homelessness was cited as increase in rent costs and expiration of flexibilities in response to the pandemic.

This sounds like great news doesn't it and wouldn't it be great to join in their celebration? The problem; The math doesn't work, and this data is not supported by those who are working daily in the veteran homelessness space.

If we started with 33,000, but interacted with over 40,000 “unsheltered” homeless veterans, and then permanently housed over 46,000, why are we talking about the homeless veteran crisis? Are the miles of tents housing homeless veterans in LA gone? Are the phone calls from veterans in need of shelter decreasing? No! In fact, leading veteran service organizations estimate there are still well over 50,000 homeless veterans still living on our streets, in the woods, in shelters, on a friend's couch or in their car.

These proclamations, and believed to be misguided celebrations, add to the challenges that veteran homelessness non-profits face. To the unsuspecting reader/listener, it sounds like the problem has been resolved by the government. “That's why I pay taxes. Why should I care now or give of my personal resources to help when the problem no longer exists?”

The VA reports their “Housing First” initiative is “evidenced based” and is working. Leading mental health professionals disagree.

The January 2024 PIT count just conducted. While the official results won’t be published until later this year, the anecdotal evidence suggest that the homeless citizen cases continue to increase, and the count is still not capturing a clear picture of our nation’s homeless population.

Yes, there sure is much work to be done and we’ll keep fighting until the shelters are closed, tents are again used for recreation purposes only and our heroes are getting the treatment and services they need. Will you join us by donating, volunteering, or being a champion for the cause?



[Donate Now](#)

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