

Executive Summary:

The text below discusses the mission of Mighty Hero Homes, a non-profit organization dedicated to eradicating veteran homelessness. The author emphasizes the collaborative nature of their efforts, acknowledging the contributions of a team of patriots working towards the common goal. The organization plans to build 84 home "Bases" across the U.S., with a scalable and economically feasible plan to house 35,000-40,000 homeless veterans permanently.

The author highlights the challenges faced by non-profits in obtaining grants, navigating regulations, and competing with larger, established organizations. They express frustration with the typical approaches that seem ineffective in reducing veteran homelessness and stress the need for a change and a call to action.

The text mentions the entry of a well-known non-profit into the veteran homelessness space, signaling potential competition. However, the author encourages collaboration and expresses a willingness to share their unique building strategy. The overall tone is one of determination, calling for a coalition of individuals, celebrities, influencers, and non-profits to join the movement and work towards a fundamental solution to the housing crisis for veterans.

It's Time for a Change. One Veteran Organization Calls for Collaboration in Responding to the Egregious Crisis of Veteran Homelessness



These headlines reference an individual. The truth is this individual can take credit for ONE thing; taking the first step of obedience to follow what the Lord called him to do.



Few things of significance are accomplished by individuals. Even when the leader is in the forefront, many, many others are typically responsible for 99.99% of the results.

The mission of Mighty Hero Homes is to eradicate veteran homelessness. WE didn't choose this. It's just the right thing to do because veteran homelessness, as egregious as it is, is a solvable crisis. The mission is being carried out by an amazing team of similarly called patriots, each humbly serving by giving their time, talents, and treasures to a fight far greater than their individual abilities.

Our team members have worked tirelessly for 4, 3, 2+, etc. years and we've spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on architectural designs, engineering work, development planning, branding, marketing, etc., the "behind the scenes" expenses that are often overlooked but are critical to the development and implementation of a master plan.

We've been gratefully blessed by friends, families, businesses, and organizations with contributions far more than what I could have imagined when the word's "Okay Lord, let's do it" were originally uttered. This is a typical way for new non-profits to launch and we've been very typical to date.

We can't be typical any longer. Typical isn't working. Typical isn't moving the needle. In fact, typical is broken and typical just saw the largest YOY increase in veteran homelessness in more than a decade.

There are thousands of veteran centric non-profit organizations in the U.S., hundreds of which deal with veteran homelessness in some way. We've even been contacted by 4-5 organizations over the past two weeks seeking advice, input, and guidance on what they can do to follow their dream, goal or calling in this space.

We are building 84 home "Bases", 450 of them across our great nation if/as needed to accomplish the mission. It's a reasonable plan. It's a scalable plan and it's an economically feasible plan. It's not the only plan and it may not even be the best plan to some, but it is a plan that can move the needle.

At an overall budget of \$7.2B to permanently house 35,000 - 40,000 homeless veterans in homes from which they never have to move and can one day own (our model is for a veteran to go from homeless to homeowner in 2 years) the job can be completed, done, finished, wrapped with a bow, etc. inside of a decade and perhaps by 2030 with a concerted effort.

The money is out there. It's just lying in a minefield. The grant process is crazy and not at all friendly to newer or smaller non-profits. Larger, more established non-profits are protective of their space, the space it took years or even decades to create, and letting others in is almost



impossible, even if they wanted to due to rules, regulations, restrictions, and red tape. Fear of being sued or receiving bad press just adds fuel to the fire.

Not a day goes by that we don't read of a celebration of putting a veteran in a home by XXXX organization. This is amazing and should be celebrated but, on a day when one is celebrated, two become homeless. When we house 10, 20 are back on the streets somewhere else.

I've sat or presented before scores of elected and appointed officials who couldn't love what we're doing more and, I believe, legitimately want to see us succeed but hours after our meeting, the weight of what's got the public's attention is where they apply theirs. The effort needs more men and women of influence to declare that veteran homelessness is a top priority and then, put their efforts and influence behind it, regardless of by whom or what *they're* influenced.

The greatest non-profit organization in the country, in my opinion, recently announced their movement into the veteran homelessness space. This was the best news I'd heard since saying "Yes, Lord". Interestingly, my phone didn't stop ringing as our supporters reached out to me with concern that "________ is doing what you're doing" or "they've stolen your ideas...". My reply?; "Amen, praise the Lord and, by the way, it's not my idea!" (I learned long ago that when we take credit for what belongs to the Lord, we may as well have acted in disobedience.) While their model is similar in ways (and yes, they do use some of our vernacular) it's vastly different in others, and we believe our Base models will provide greater long-term benefits. This said, they have a cache of cash and will no doubt (thankfully) have impact. Even so, if they fulfill every stretch goal over the next five years, 80+% will remain homeless if others don't step up and stay in the fight. We have met with them on three occasions and offered our full assistance in sharing with them our unique CorpSection building strategy. This construction methodology allows us to build permanent, individual homes for about half the cost. (And we don't care whose name is on the sign or who gets the credit.) While interest has been expressed in partnering in some manner, it's uncertain that we're considered big enough or if our strategies are compatible.

We certainly remain committed to working cooperatively with any organization which can help us or where we can help them house more veterans more quickly. (We are in discussion with multiple organizations at this very moment about supplying Mighty Hero Homes for their projects considering the costs, simplicity of construction and the quality of our homes.)

This realization and even frustration, if I may, are not pointed towards a single entity, public or private, and it's not a statement of defeat. In fact, it's just the opposite. It's a declaration that it's time for a change and it's a call to action.

If you are associated with a non-profit which deals in some way with veteran homelessness and you too feel there's got to be a better way, we'd love to hear from you. If you are a celebrity,



HNW individual, social media influencer and you've felt the tug on your heart or heard that Still Small Voice, suggesting it's time to be involved in a MOVEMENT, to work on LEGACY stuff and be a part of solving one of the most significant crisis in our great nation's history, act on it and reach out to us. We need you.

I do believe in the power of team, and I know the right coalition will be an unstoppable force, a mainstay in the way that low-income housing is executed and will become, in general, a fundamental solution to our housing crisis.

In the interim, we are "full steam ahead"! Continuing with the train analogy, we'll stop at any station along the way to pick up passengers, engineers, rail owners, etc. We're well pleased to shovel the coal, blow the horn, collect tickets, or bring up the caboose. Let's just work together to get it done!

Because They Deserve Better.

www.MightyHeroHomes.org



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?



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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.