

# SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION VETERANS EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION COMMISSION

What is it and why is it important?



# **The American Legion Structure - Veterans Employment & Education Division**

The Veterans Employment & Education Division is responsible for ensuring that U.S. veterans have the opportunity to provide, with honor and dignity, the economic necessities of life for themselves and their families.



# **The American Legion Structure (cont.)**

## **Veterans Employment & Education Commission**

### **Purpose**

- To supervise and coordinate all activities of committees assigned to the Veterans Employment & Education Commission;
- When necessary, to initiate action concerning all matters affecting the economic well-being of veterans and/or the re-establishment of all war veterans returning to civilian life after a period of active service in the Armed Forces of the United States;
- To keep the National Commander and the National Executive Committee informed concerning all developments affecting the economic welfare of veterans in all areas under the jurisdiction of the Veterans Employment & Education Commission;
- Such other purposes as may be assigned to it by the National Executive Committee.



# The American Legion Structure (cont.)

## Veterans Employment & Education Committees:

- *Employment & Veterans Preference Committee*
- *Veterans Education, Other Benefits & Homelessness Committee*
- Veterans Employment and Education deals with programs involving veteran's education, small business, employment, veteran's preference, VA home loans, homeless veterans, training, licensing and certification, transition, USERRA, and other issues related to economics



# **S.A.L. VE&E COMMISSION MISSION STATEMENT**

- ▶ “To assist The American Legion in ensuring that America’s Veterans have the opportunity to provide, with honor and dignity, the economic necessities of life for themselves and their families”.



# HOW CAN YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE

As a leader in your Detachment,  
encourage the creation of a Veterans  
Employment and Education  
Committee or a Sub-committee under  
VA&R



The American Legion National Veterans Employment & Education Commission is still requesting that all Detachments form their own VE&E Committees/Commissions and then request that their Districts and Squadrons do the same. Several Detachments have already done so and we thank you.

These Committees can then assist us by going online and finding local job fairs being held in your states and communities. Then take this info, as well as info received from National HQ, and place it on your websites and Facebook pages and in your newsletters. You can also print out fliers that advertise these job fairs and post them on the bulletin board at your Posts and in other locations around your community where local Veterans will see them.





- ▶ In addition, We are sure that you will agree that no Veteran should ever be homeless. However, Veterans Homelessness does exist in all corners of our nation.
- ▶ First Responders are often times in contact with these down on their luck Veterans on a daily basis. The VA has created a brochure to assist these First Responders in dealing with and assisting these homeless Veterans.
- ▶ The VE&E Commission is requesting everyone to print out and make copies of this 2- sided brochure at:
- ▶ [www.va.gov/homeless/docs/VA\\_Homeless\\_Brochure\\_FirstResponder.pdf](http://www.va.gov/homeless/docs/VA_Homeless_Brochure_FirstResponder.pdf)
- ▶ Then make contact with your local Police & Fire Departments to see if they would be willing to place a copy in each of their vehicles.





[www.va.gov/homeless](http://www.va.gov/homeless)

(Click on Get Involved, Outreach)

## VA Helps Veterans ...

### Stay healthy

- Eligible Veterans can receive health care, including mental health care and treatment for substance use.

### Secure safe, stable housing

- Veterans at risk of becoming homeless can get assistance with expenses such as utilities and child care to help them stay in their homes.
- Qualified Veterans in temporary housing can get help finding a permanent home.
- VA can help Veterans having trouble making mortgage payments explore options to avoid foreclosure.

### Find a job

- VA provides job training or referrals to help eligible Veterans gain skills to prepare them for employment.
- Work therapy programs can help Veterans who are homeless find temporary housing and a paying job.

### Get a degree

- VA can help eligible Veterans go back to school and assist with living expenses while they pursue their studies.

VA provides individualized care through a wide range of services for Veterans who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless. Veterans of all eras and branches may be eligible for VA services. Make the Call and take the first step to access help from VA.

Help for Homeless Veterans  
**877-4AID-VET**  
ask for Veterans (877) 424-3838

For First Responders

**When first responders encounter Veterans who are homeless,**

**VA IS HERE TO HELP.**

Officer Jennie Evans, Jr.  
Homeless Outreach Officer and  
U.S. Marine Corps Veteran  
City of Alexandria, Va.

**Make the Call!**  
Help for Homeless Veterans  
**877-4AID-VET**  
va.gov/homeless (877) 424-3838

VA



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs



- ▶ **The creation of a Veterans Employment and Education Committee (or Sub-committee) within a Detachment can greatly benefit the Sons of The American Legion. While VE&E and VA&R are closely tied and often associated together, they cover different issues America's veterans are facing.**
- ▶ **Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation**
  - ▶ **Program Outline**
    - ▶ **I . Volunteer Services**
    - ▶ **II. Support Military Troops**
      - ▶ **A. USO**
      - ▶ **B. Squadron/Individual Support (Phone cards, Care Packages)**
      - ▶ **C. POW/MIA Issues**
      - ▶ **D. The American Legion Operation Comfort Warrior**
      - ▶ **E. My Healthy Vet III.**
    - ▶ **Collaborative Program Efforts**
      - ▶ **A. National Veterans Assistance Day**
      - ▶ **B. Fisher House**
      - ▶ **C. Veterans Suicide Prevention as well as other programs**



## ▶ Veterans Employment and Education

- ▶ Veterans Education
- ▶ Small Business
- ▶ Employment
- ▶ Veteran's Preference
- ▶ VA Home Loans
- ▶ Homeless Veterans
- ▶ Training
- ▶ Licensing and Certifications
- ▶ Transition
- ▶ USERRA (Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Act)
- ▶ And other issues related to Economics
- ▶ As you can see, there is too much ground to cover by only one committee/commission



# SOME EXAMPLES OF VE&E IN ACTION ACROSS OUR DETACHMENTS





# **BARRACKS**

VETERANS HELPING VETERANS

AMERICAN

“THE BARRACKS” IN MUSKOGEE,  
OK IS A PLACE THAT PROVIDES  
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES, JOB  
TRAINING AND SHELTER FOR  
VETERANS



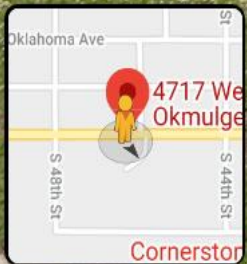


4706 US-62

Muskogee, Oklahoma



Street View



Google



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION  
DETACHMENT OF WISCONSIN CAMPOUT  
IN A MAKESHIFT HOMELESS AREA TO  
RAISE AWARENESS AND MONEY FOR  
HOMELESS VETERANS









[See More](#)





[See More](#)

THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY IN  
KANSAS RAISED OVER \$45,000 IN  
TWO SHORT YEARS WITH THEIR  
“HOLD ‘EM FOR HEROES” EVENT  
WITH PROCEEDS GOING TO THE  
VETERANS COMMUNITY PROJECT

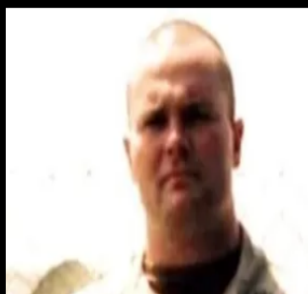




HOME **OUR STORY** SPONSOR PLAY CONTACT



**Bobby Carver**  
Sons of American Legion



**Jeremiah Bull- Legionnaire**  
2-14 Calvary /1-25th ID "Lancers"



**ALL PATRIOTS. ALL AMERICANS.  
ALL WORKING TOGETHER TO ENSURE  
NO VETERAN GOES WITHOUT!**

In 2017, Jeremy "Bull" and Robert "Bobby" Carver had the idea to hold a fundraiser in celebration of Jeremy's 21st birthday. The event, a Texas Hold'em poker game, was hosted at American Legion Post 19 in Gardner, KS.

The event was so successful, Jeremy and Bobby decided to repeat it the following year. In 2018, "Hold'Em for Heroes" raised over \$12,000 with proceeds benefiting Veterans Community Project. During that event, Jeremy and VCP co-founder Vincent Morales learned they did two tours together in Iraq (2004 and 2007) with the 25th Infantry Division.

In 2019, the 3rd annual "Hold'Em For Heroes" continued to grow. With new sponsors, players, and community involvement, the event raised \$34,000 to help eliminate Veterans homelessness in Kansas City.







**Hold 'Em for Heroes event helps to end veterans homelessness**



## ▶ **SUGGESTED RESPONSIBILITIES FOR A DETACHMENT VE&E COMMITTEE/COMMISSION**

- ▶ **COORDINATE WITH SAL NATIONAL VE&E COMMISSION**
- ▶ **COORDINATE WITH DEPARTMENT VE&E COMMISSION OR EQUIVALENT (SUCH AS EMPLOYMENT)**
- ▶ **DISSEMINATE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE VE&E COMMISSION ON THE STATE AND NATIONAL LEVELS TO DISTRICTS, COUNTIES, SQUADRONS.**
- ▶ **IDENTIFY THE ACTIVE COMMUNITY BASED VETERAN SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS/PROVIDERS IN YOUR AREAS AND THEIR NEEDS.**
- ▶ **EDUCATE YOURSELVES AND YOUR MEMBERS ON VETERANS HOMELESSNESS IN YOUR AREAS SO YOU MAY EDUCATE OTHERS.**
- ▶ **PROMOTE LOCAL BUSINESSES THAT HIRE VETERANS.**
- ▶ **HOLD A FUND RAISER AND MAKE A DONATION TO A VETERAN'S SERVICE ORGANIZATION OR PROVIDER.**
- ▶ **CONTACT LOCAL OFFICIALS TO SEE WHAT IS BEING DONE TO END VETERAN HOMELESSNESS – BECOME AN ADVOCATE.**
- ▶ **IN SHORT THERE ARE NUMEROUS WAYS THAT YOUR DETACHMENT CAN ADVOCATE FOR, ASSIST AND PROMOTE VETERANS EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION.**



Recommended activities for detachments and squadrons could include but would not be limited to:

- Attend meetings and conference calls of the national VE&E Commission,
- Coordinate with your respective department VE&E Commission to assist in job/career fairs, homeless stand-downs or other events,
- Disseminate information provided by the VE&E Commissions on the state and national level to district, county and squadron levels,
- Identify the active community-based Veterans Service Providers in your areas,
- Educate yourselves and your members on veteran homelessness so you may educate others,
- Promote local businesses to hire veterans,
- Hold a fundraiser/make a donation to a veteran outreach program / VOLUNTEER,
- Contact local officials to see what is being done to end veteran homelessness-become an advocate.

While it is the responsibility of the commission to pass along as much information as possible, the success of the VE&E commission will be dependent on detachments and squadrons with “boots on the ground” at the local levels.

**We can make a difference!**



**Sons of The American  
Legion  
P.O. Box 1055  
Indianapolis, Indiana  
46206  
317-630-1205  
[sal@legion.org](mailto:sal@legion.org)  
[www.legion.org/sons](http://www.legion.org/sons)**



**NATIONAL SONS OF THE  
AMERICAN LEGION  
VETERANS EMPLOYMENT  
AND EDUCATION  
COMMISSION**

**Our Mission**

**To assist The American Legion  
in ensuring that America's  
Veterans have the opportunity  
to provide, with honor and  
dignity, the economic  
necessities of life for themselves  
and their families.**

## Websites associated with Veterans Employment

- The American Legion  
<https://www.legion.org/careers>
- Veterans Administration  
<https://www.vacareers.va.gov>  
<https://www.va.gov/homeless>
- Dept. of Labor  
<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/vets>  
<https://www.veterans.gov>
- US Government  
<https://www.usajobs.gov>
- [www.recruitmilitary.com](http://www.recruitmilitary.com)
- [www.military.com](http://www.military.com)
- Disabled American Veterans  
<https://www.dav.org>
- <https://www.usaaajobs.com>
- [www.jobs2careers.com](http://www.jobs2careers.com)
- [www.hireveterans.com](http://www.hireveterans.com)

## Web sites associated with Veterans Education

- Department of Defense for transitioning service members.  
<https://www.dodtap.mil>
- The American Legion  
<https://www.legion.org/education>
- Veterans Administration  
<https://www.va.gov/education>
- Student Veterans of America  
<https://www.studentveterans.org>
- Department of Defense  
<https://www.dantes.doded.mil>
- Department of Labor  
<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/vets/programs/tap>
- USDA Apprenticeship Program  
<https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2016/10/03/usda-launches-new-apprenticeship-program-targeting-veterans>
- USA. Gov. - Education Benefits  
[www.usa.gov/military-assistance](http://www.usa.gov/military-assistance)

## Websites associated with Veterans Homelessness

- <https://www.va.gov/homeless>
- Make the call to access VA's services for homeless and at-risk veterans, available 24-7. Dial 1-877-4AID-VET (1-877-424-3838)
- Federal Government  
<https://www.benefits.gov/benefit/5891>
- Housing and Urban Development  
<https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness>
- Operation We Are Here  
<http://www.operationwearehere.com/HomelessVeterans.html>
- Disabled American Veterans  
<https://www.dav.org/veterans/outreach-programs/homeless-veterans/>
- Volunteers of America  
<https://www.voa.org/transitional-housing-for-homeless-veterans>

