



# 2025 Annual Report

Eliminate Homelessness  
Among Veterans

The background of the slide is a lush, green tropical forest scene with various palm leaves and other foliage. A dark blue horizontal band is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the text.

## Our Mission

### Eliminate homelessness among veterans in Central Florida

At NVHS, we believe no veteran should be left behind, which drives our mission to support homeless and at-risk veterans and their families. Since 2008, we have reduced the homeless veteran population in Brevard County by 90%, from 1,800 to fewer than 200 in 2024. Over the past year, we've provided street outreach, prevention case management, and transitional housing to more than 400 veterans and their families. Our commitment to fiscal responsibility and transparency has earned us a Gold Star rating from Candid (formerly known as GuideStar) and a 4-Star rating from Charity Navigator. While we are proud of these accomplishments, the rising cost of living and inflation continue to threaten low-income veterans. With your support, we can ensure that no hero faces homelessness again.



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# George Taylor - President & CEO of NVHS

As I reflect on this past year, I am filled with gratitude and pride in what our community continues to accomplish together. Every day at National Veterans Homeless Support, we are reminded that while the challenges facing veterans are real and ever-evolving, so too is the power of a community united behind them.

This year brought no shortage of hurdles. Housing costs remained high, inflation continued to squeeze working families, and more veterans reached out at the earliest signs of crisis. But instead of allowing setbacks to define the year, our team, volunteers, partners, and supporters met them head-on. We expanded our reach, strengthened our capacity, and served more veterans and families than ever before. Lives were changed because we refused to let any veteran slip through the cracks.

What makes NVHS unique is the same thing that has fueled our mission since the beginning: we find veterans before the system fails them. Our Search & Rescue outreach teams go where others will not. Our homelessness prevention services intervene early — before an eviction becomes a shelter stay. Our transitional housing ensures a safe place for those who have nowhere to turn. And through every encounter, we ensure that veterans who once served us are never left behind. Across the county, we also saw new momentum building. Local leaders, businesses, civic groups, and everyday citizens continued stepping up with the same belief that drives us: homelessness among those who served our nation is unacceptable. Because of you, veterans were housed. Families remained safely under their roofs. Formerly homeless individuals rediscovered purpose and independence.

And yet — our work is not done.

We know the economic pressures forcing many veterans to the edge are not disappearing. We know some still remain unseen in wooded areas, vehicles, or temporary arrangements that cannot last. We know there are veterans quietly struggling who have never asked for help. So as we celebrate progress, we also renew our resolve.

In the year ahead, NVHS will remain focused on:

- Earlier intervention — reaching veterans before housing crisis occurs
- Increased outreach — expanding our presence across all of Brevard County
- Community education — empowering families to seek help sooner
- Sustainable capacity — ensuring our team can meet every veteran where they are

Our vision is clear: a community where no veteran experiences homelessness, even for a day.

To our staff — thank you for your tireless compassion and service.

To our volunteers — your hands bring hope to life.

To our donors, partners, and advocates — you make this mission possible.

And to the veterans we serve — thank you for trusting us to walk alongside you.

As we close this fiscal year and look to the next, I am reminded of a simple truth: progress happens when people decide that doing nothing is not an option. This community continues to choose action — and because of that, we are closer than ever to the finish line.

Together, we will eliminate veteran homelessness.



Respectfully,  
George Taylor  
President & Chairman of the Board  
National Veterans Homeless Support

# Programs & Initiatives

## for Homeless Veterans

NVHS offers three programs created to tackle the needs of veterans experiencing homelessness in Brevard County. We have built a network of community partners and are expanding our outreach activities rapidly across Central Florida to meet the needs of our veterans in the region. After reviewing our programs, please consider joining our efforts as a volunteer, leader, or sponsoring partner. It takes us all to get it done!



The Search & Rescue program is a proactive, street-level outreach initiative that locates homeless and at-risk veterans, provides immediate basic needs, preventative support, and seasonal assistance, and connects them to housing, employment, mental health, and benefit resources. By intervening early, before financial or personal challenges escalate, the program helps prevent homelessness while supporting long-term stability, dignity, and independence.

**SEARCH & RESCUE**



The Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder program supports individuals living with PTSD while educating the wider community through three core pillars: Awareness, Action, and Anonymity. By combining education, access to resources, and a safe, discreet path to support, the program reduces stigma and empowers individuals to seek help with confidence.

**PTSA**



Which comes first, the job or the home? Sometimes veterans are homeless because of joblessness, but sometimes they are jobless because of homelessness. NVHS offers a drug and alcohol free housing environment for homeless and transitioning veterans while they seek employment, get back on their feet, and attempt to rejoin society.

## TRANSITIONAL HOUSING



NVHS's Seasonal Support Initiatives provide targeted assistance to homeless and at-risk veterans during the holiday and winter months, addressing food insecurity, weather exposure, and social isolation. Through coordinated meal distributions, winter safety outreach, and holiday programs, veterans and their families receive essential support across Central Florida. These efforts offer stability, connection, and dignity during a vulnerable time of year, while complementing NVHS's year-round work toward long-term housing and stability.

## SEASONAL SUPPORT



The Warm Full Safe campaign is NVHS's annual fundraising initiative dedicated to ensuring struggling veterans have the support they need throughout the year. While it began as a way to provide warmth, safety, and essential resources to homeless veterans during the holidays, it has since grown into a year-round effort to fund NVHS's programs that assist at-risk veterans.

## WARM FULL SAFE



## Search & Rescue

### A Lifeline for Heroes: Finding & Helping Homeless and At-Risk Veterans

The Search and Rescue program is a veteran outreach initiative designed to support homeless and at-risk veterans in Central Florida. By addressing the unique challenges veterans face—mental health struggles, financial instability, and housing insecurity—this program seeks to restore stability and dignity to their lives.

The program's mission is twofold: locating unsheltered veterans and intervening before financial hardships lead to homelessness. Through street-level outreach, the team provides immediate assistance such as food, clothing, and hygiene kits while connecting veterans to vital resources like mental health services, job training, and housing solutions.

Housing support ranges from temporary shelter to permanent housing, ensuring each veteran's specific needs are met. Beyond providing a roof, the program focuses on long-term stability by offering financial education, addiction recovery services, and career support to empower veterans to regain independence.

Community reintegration plays a key role, fostering connections through peer support groups, family reunification efforts, and events that celebrate veterans' contributions. Seasonal initiatives, like holiday meals and gift drives, offer warmth and belonging, reinforcing a sense of value and hope.

Search and Rescue is more than a program—it's a movement to ensure no veteran is left behind. Through advocacy, outreach, and your support, we can honor their service and help them rebuild their lives with dignity and purpose.

Together, we can make a lasting impact.



## PTSA

### Navigating the Challenges of PTSD by Building a Supportive Community Together

The NVHS PTSA program is a lifeline for individuals impacted by post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), particularly veterans, offering a comprehensive approach built on awareness, action, and anonymity. PTSD affects millions worldwide, causing emotional isolation, strained relationships, and barriers to seeking help. By educating the community, dispelling myths, and fostering empathy, NVHS breaks the stigma, creating a supportive environment where individuals feel safe to seek assistance.

The program provides vital resources, including therapy, support groups, and educational tools tailored to address the unique challenges of PTSD. Through immediate and ongoing support, it empowers individuals to navigate recovery and reclaim their lives. Anonymity ensures privacy, reducing fears of judgment or discrimination, while offering a secure space to seek help.

NVHS recognizes the critical role of community, encouraging active participation through awareness campaigns, peer networks, and family education. By promoting understanding and engagement, the program strengthens support systems, alleviates feelings of isolation, and rebuilds relationships. Specialized resources for veterans address combat-related trauma, honoring their service while guiding them toward healing.

Observed on June 27th, National PTSD Awareness and Screening Day highlights the importance of early intervention and mental health awareness. NVHS leverages this day to educate and inspire proactive action in addressing PTSD.

The NVHS PTSA program is more than a support system; it's a call to action for a compassionate community. Join us in building a future where no one faces PTSD alone. Donate, volunteer, or reach out today to make a lasting impact.



## Transitional Housing

### The Hopeful Path to Housing for Homeless Veterans and Their Families

Returning from service should mark the beginning of a new chapter for our nation's heroes. Yet, for many veterans, the transition to civilian life is fraught with challenges, often leading to homelessness. Physical injuries, mental health struggles like PTSD, and difficulty finding employment can create a cycle of instability. Without a home, maintaining work, managing basic needs, or supporting dependents becomes nearly impossible.

At NVHS, we aim to break this cycle with our Veteran Transitional Housing Program, offering 17 beds across four properties in Brevard County. These spaces provide more than shelter—they are launching pads for new beginnings, offering veterans and their families a stable environment to heal, rebuild, and thrive. Beyond housing, NVHS delivers tailored support through employment assistance, financial literacy training, mental health resources, and community integration initiatives.

Our holistic approach ensures veterans regain control of their lives while fostering connection and belonging. Success stories, like Navy veteran R. Donnelly's journey from homelessness to financial independence and entrepreneurship, showcase the transformative power of stability and compassion.



## Seasonal Support

### Bringing Hope to Veterans With Our Seasonal Support Initiatives

NVHS's Seasonal Support Initiatives are designed to address the increased challenges homeless and at-risk veterans face during the holiday and winter months, including food insecurity, exposure to the elements, and social isolation. While Florida does not experience severe winters, veterans without stable housing are still vulnerable to cold weather, storms, and limited access to consistent meals and safe shelter.

Each year, NVHS delivers targeted seasonal assistance across Central Florida through coordinated Thanksgiving meal distributions, Christmas gift programs, winter safety outreach, and community-based holiday activities. These efforts include preparing and distributing hundreds of holiday meals, providing warm clothing, blankets, and essential supplies, and delivering holiday care packages to veterans and families transitioning into housing. In 2024 alone, NVHS supported more than 140 veterans, along with spouses and children, through its Christmas initiatives in Brevard County, while Thanksgiving programs provided over 300 meals to veterans and their families.

Beyond meeting immediate needs, the Seasonal Support Initiatives create moments of stability, connection, and dignity during a time of year that can be especially isolating. By pairing practical support with opportunities for community engagement, these programs reinforce NVHS's commitment to ensuring that no veteran feels forgotten, while working in tandem with year-round initiatives that address long-term housing and stability.



**WARM  
FULL  
SAFE**

## Warm Full Safe

### All Year Long Help Us End Veteran Homelessness All Year Long

NVHS's year-round commitment to ensuring veterans have access to the essentials they need to remain stable, supported, and housed. The program provides comprehensive services including safe housing placements, homelessness prevention, consistent food assistance, individualized case management, and emergency support when unexpected challenges arise.

Separate from our seasonal initiatives that focus on short-term relief (such as holiday meals or winter clothing) Warm Full Safe is designed to create lasting impact. By addressing immediate needs while also supporting long-term stability, the program helps veterans stay warm, well-nourished, and secure throughout the entire year.

Warm Full Safe reflects NVHS's ongoing dedication to meeting veterans where they are and providing dependable support beyond any single season.





## Success Stories

### Katherine T.

Katherine T. is a 75-year-old, low-income, disabled Air Force Veteran who walked into our NVHS office one day in need of assistance with stairs going into her house. Her stairs had become unsafe, and she was afraid of falling. We were able to partner with Home Depot who provided the supplies and the time to build her not only stairs but a brand-new porch. They even surprised her with decorations and chairs.

We would like to especially thank Mircea, Patty and the amazing workers at Home Depot in Merritt Island Store #0234 for going above and beyond for our veterans!



## Success Stories

### Timothy C.

Timothy Cornelison is a 73-year-old Marine Veteran, that was homeless for almost a year, camping in the woods. He showed up to the House of Hope food pantry and met with our Outreach Team who immediately connected him to a VA Caseworker.

He tried applying for VA Benefits years prior, but his application fell through the cracks, and he became discouraged and ended up homeless. With the support from NVHS and his new VA Caseworker he got approved for VA Healthcare and HUDVASH.

NVHS provided some furniture and household items as well as support throughout the entire process. He has now been living in his HUDVASH apartment for almost a year, attends all of his VA healthcare appointments and has stayed sober and regularly attends AA meetings. He has even reconciled with his wife, which he never thought would be possible.



## Success Stories

### The Burrell Family

The Burrell family came to NVHS when they found themselves homeless after going through an eviction. D. Burrell along with his wife and daughter have been living in our transitional housing getting their financials in order to be able to afford a place of their own.

In the meantime D. Burrell has been working full time while his wife takes care of their daughter who was sadly diagnosed with cancer. Having only one car made it difficult for the family to make it to work and their daughter's numerous medical appointments. NVHS was able to gift them with a van to help ease the burden.



# Operations



George Taylor Jr  
President/CEO



Jennifer Taylor  
Chief Operations Officer



Michael Weller  
Chief Financial Officer



Kasey Corson  
Community Relations Director



Jan Taylor  
Housing Program Manager



Carol Dyke  
Finance Manager



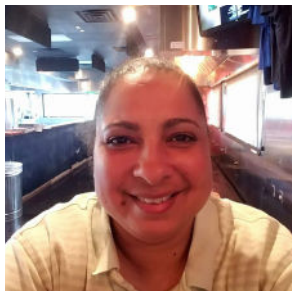
Greg Bowman  
Community Outreach  
Manager



Deirdre Seifert  
Administrative  
Coordinator



Janet Thurman  
Prevention Coordinator



Holly Kelly  
Program Support  
Coordinator

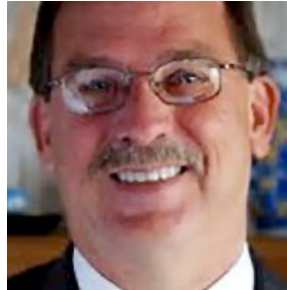


Jennell Newton Jones  
Outreach Coordinator

# Board of Directors



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THOMAS SCHMUTZ

# Last year Impact

## A Year of Direct, Measurable Support

### Veterans & Families Served

- **359** Veterans and their dependents assisted
- **103** veteran households prevented from becoming homeless through financial assistance and case management

### Seasonal Support Programs

- Christmas Assistance
  - **143** Veterans and **55** dependents supported
  - Served those living in transitional facilities or identified as low-income or at-risk
  - Provided essential supplies, clothing, and holiday gifts for children across Brevard County
- Thanksgiving Outreach
  - **396** meals prepared and delivered
  - Served homeless and low-income Veterans and their families throughout Brevard County

Without these services, Veteran homelessness in Brevard County would have increased by **64%** in a single year.

When including dependents assisted, overall homelessness would have risen by **15%**.

# 10-Year Impact

## A Decade of Sustained Change

### 10-Year Program Reach

- **1,362** Veterans assisted through long-term programs and services

### Housing Stability & Transitional Support

- **96** Veterans and 18 dependents supported through the Transitional Housing Program

### Financial Assistance & Prevention

- **411** Veterans and **390** dependents received financial assistance to improve stability (car repairs, moving expenses, emergency support, and other critical needs)
- **323** veteran families prevented from becoming homeless

Together, these efforts reduced Veteran homelessness in Brevard County by **52%** over the last **10 years**.

From immediate relief to long-term stability, every year builds on the last, creating lasting change for Veterans and their families in Brevard County.

# SPONSORS

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**American Legion Auxillary Unit 348**  
**American Legion Post 1**  
**Rolling Thunder Chapter 1**  
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# Support

## How to Apply for Homeless Veterans Assistance:

We understand that seeking help can be a big step, and we're here to make the process as straightforward and supportive as possible. Please take a moment to review this detailed guide to ensure your application to get homeless veterans assistance is completed correctly and efficiently.

### Step 1: Confirm Your Eligibility

Before you start your application, we want you to know that we truly wish we could help everyone. However, we focus our efforts on supporting:

- Homeless Veterans
- Veterans at At-risk
- Low-income Veterans

Our services are specifically for veterans in the Central Florida Area.

If you do not fall within these categories but are a non-veteran seeking assistance in Brevard County, we recommend contacting the 211 Brevard helpline. This resource connects you to various local agencies that can address your specific needs. You can reach them by dialing 211 or visiting their website at [www.211brevard.org](http://www.211brevard.org).

### Step 2: Complete the Application Form

The application form is your first step toward receiving assistance. Please fill it out as accurately and thoroughly as possible. Your information lets us better understand your situation and create a personalized case management plan tailored to your needs.

Here's what you need to know:

- **Required fields** are marked with a red asterisk (\*). Please complete these fields to submit your application.
- **Optional fields** allow you to share additional details. The more information you include, the



faster we can address your needs.

All information entered into the form is stored securely. We will never share it without your explicit permission. If you'd like to review our privacy practices, [click here](#) to access our Privacy Policy.

## Step 3: Prepare and Upload Supporting Documents

To better support your case, you can upload relevant documents toward the end of the application. These documents help us verify your eligibility and process your request more quickly. Examples of commonly required documents include:

- **Housing and/or Utility Assistance Documentation:** Rent agreements, utility bills, or deposit information to demonstrate your current need for support.
- **Florida Power & Light (FPL) Assistance Form:** If you're seeking help with an FPL bill, you must complete and upload this form.
- **Proof of Identification and Veteran Status:** To verify your veteran status, you will need documents such as a DD214, VA Card, Military ID, or a valid State ID.
- **Authorization to Work with the VA:** If you'd like us to coordinate directly with the Department of Veterans Affairs on your behalf, you must complete and upload the VA release form.
- **Proof of Income:** Documents such as Social Security or VA determination letters, food stamp award letters, or pay stubs can be used to verify your financial situation.

Don't worry about the format of your documents. Whether it's a scanned file, a digital PDF, or a photo taken with your phone, we can work with it.

## Step 4: Submitting Your Application

The most crucial step is simply submitting your application. While having your supporting documents ready can speed up the process, we understand that gathering these materials can sometimes take time. If you cannot upload certain documents when submitting the form, don't let that stop you, complete the application to the best of your ability and send it in.

Once we receive your submission, our team will review your information and reach out to guide you through the following steps. If additional documents or information are needed, we'll assist you in gathering what's required.

## Helpful Tips for a Smooth Application Process

- **Set Aside Time:** The application may take 15–20 minutes to complete, especially if you have documents to upload.
- **Prepare Documents in Advance:** While not mandatory, having your documents ready before starting the application can save time and reduce stress.
- **Reach Out for Help:** If you encounter any challenges or have questions while filling out the form, please get in touch with us. We're here to assist you every step of the way.

## Why Completing the Form is Important for Homeless Veterans Assistance

You're taking an essential step toward securing the help you need by filling out the application form. The information you provide helps us:

- **Understand Your Situation:** Every case is unique, and the details you share allow us to develop a personalized plan tailored to your needs.

- **Coordinate Resources:** We use the information to connect you
- **Streamline the Process:** A detailed application minimizes back-and-forth communication, allowing us to assist you more quickly.

## We Are Here To Support You!

We're honored to support veterans who have given so much to our nation. Please remember that you're not alone, our team is here to help guide you through the process and connect you to the assistance you need.



## Frequently Asked Questions for Homeless Veterans Assistance

### **Who is eligible for assistance?**

We assist homeless, at-risk, and low-income veterans in the Central Florida area. If you are not a veteran but are seeking help in Brevard County, we recommend contacting the 211 Brevard helpline.

### **What documents do I need to submit with my application?**

You may need to upload documents such as:

- Proof of veteran status (DD214, VA card, etc.)
- Housing or utility assistance documentation
- Proof of income (Social Security letters, pay stubs, etc.)
- Florida Power & Light (FPL) assistance form (if applicable)
- Authorization to work with the VA (if needed)

### **What happens if I don't have all the documents when I apply?**

Don't worry—submit your application as soon as possible, and we'll guide you through submitting any missing documents. You can always send them later.

### **How long does it take to complete the application?**

The application typically takes about 15–20 minutes to complete, especially if your documents are ready to upload.

### **Can I apply if I don't live in Central Florida?**

Our services are focused on veterans living in the Central Florida area. If you're located outside the region, we encourage you to use our chatbot to find veteran resources available near your ZIP code.

### **How will my personal information be handled?**

Your information is stored securely and will never be shared without your permission. You can review our privacy practices by reading our Privacy Policy.

### **What should I do if I need help filling out the application?**

If you have any questions or encounter difficulties, please contact us. Our team is here to assist you throughout the process.



Special thanks to our sponsors

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# Ways to Give

Supporting our mission to eliminate homelessness among veterans and assist veteran families at risk of becoming homeless is easier than ever. There are many ways you can contribute to our cause. Explore the options below to find the best way for you to make a difference.

## Online Donations

Make a one-time or recurring donation using your credit card, Google Pay, Apple Pay, or PayPal. Your online donations help us quickly and efficiently allocate resources where they are needed most.

## Cryptocurrency Donations

Donate cryptocurrency to support our mission. Crypto donations are one of the most tax-efficient ways to give and can make a significant impact.

## Donor-Advised Funds (DAF)

Recommend a grant from your Donor-Advised Fund to support our work. DAF donations combine favorable tax benefits with the flexibility to support your favorite causes.

## Stock Donations

Donate publicly traded stock to help us provide essential services to veterans. Stock donations are tax-efficient and can significantly reduce your capital gains taxes.

## In-Kind Donations

Donate essential items such as food, hygiene products, camping gear, and household goods. We also accept vehicles, real estate, and professional services.

## Workplace Giving

Participate in workplace giving programs such as United Way campaigns, Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), matching gifts, and volunteer grants. Your contributions through workplace giving can make a significant impact.

## Organize a Fundraiser

Organize your own fundraiser to support our mission. Use our peer-to-peer fundraising tools to create and manage your campaign, and engage your community in meaningful ways.

## Check and Cash Donations

We also accept donations via check and cash. Here's how you can contribute:

- **Check Donations:** Please make your check payable to NVHS and mail it to:  
**NVHS** 1436 King St Cocoa, FL 32922
- **Cash Donations:** For security reasons, we recommend delivering cash donations in person at our office. Please contact us to arrange a suitable time.

## Specific Purpose Donations

While we greatly appreciate all donations and prefer to allocate funds where they are most needed, we understand that some donors may have specific purposes in mind for their contributions. If you would like your donation to be used for a specific purpose, please indicate this clearly in your submission. We will ensure that your contribution is allocated according to your wishes.

## Disclaimer

NVHS is a tax-exempt public charity organized under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. All donations are fully tax deductible so long as no goods or services were provided in exchange for them. NVHS is registered with the Florida Department of Agriculture: Division of Consumer Services. Registration number CH31885.

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY VISITING FDACS.GOV OR CALLING TOLL-FREE AT 1-800-HELP-FLA (435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

Copies of NVHS's IRS Tax Filing's (Form 990) and other financial statements can be obtained at <https://www.guidestar.org/profile/35-2330290>.



[nvhs.org](https://www.nvhs.org)