

# 2011

## POST-EVENT REPORT



### LAS VEGAS VETERANS STAND DOWN

Prepared By:







*“SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED”*

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## **About the Stand Down & U.S.VETS**

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The mission of United States Veterans Initiative (U.S.VETS) is the successful transition of military veterans and their families through the provision of housing, counseling, career development and comprehensive support. Founded in 1992, U.S.VETS is the largest non-profit organization of its kind in the United States, providing an array of support services to at-risk veterans. U.S.VETS operates programs at 10 sites in five states and the District of Columbia, serving more than 2,000 veterans every day. U.S.VETS has been the non-profit sponsor of the Veterans Stand Down since the event's inception in Las Vegas in 2004.

The Stand Down is an event that is held in cities all over the nation to provide food, clothing, services and referrals to homeless veterans. The name "Stand Down" comes from a term used in times of war. Exhausted combat units requiring time to rest and recover were removed from the battlefields to a place of relative security and safety. Today, Stand Down refers to a grassroots, community-based intervention program designed to help the nation's estimated 107,000 homeless veterans "combat" life on the streets. The hand up, not a handout philosophy of Stand Down is carried out through the work of hundreds of volunteers and organizations throughout the nation.

On March 23 & 24, 2011, the 8th annual Veterans Stand Down in Las Vegas was held at the East Las Vegas Senior Community Center. The event was carried out with support from Nellis Air Force Base and over 70 local non-profit agencies, veteran service organizations, and other providers. The event was also supported by the offices of Senator Harry Reid, Senator John Ensign, Congresswoman Berkley, Congressman Heck, and Congressman Heller, as well as the VA Southern Nevada Healthcare System. Over 500 volunteers served during the event, and the event was supported by several generous sponsors, donors and grantors. Without these contributions of volunteer time and financial and in-kind support, the event would not have been possible.

A total of 574 homeless and at-risk veterans were served at this year's Stand Down – 549 males and 25 females. More than 55 veterans were connected to housing resources and emergency shelter during the event. In addition to housing, the Stand Down provided veterans with free and comprehensive services such as VA enrollment, legal assistance, medical checks, dental work, clothing, hygiene products, haircuts, showers, and much more.

**U.S. VETS – Las Vegas**

**Phone: 702.366.0456  
Fax: 702.307.6985**

**525 East Bonanza Road  
Las Vegas, NV 89101**

**[www.usvetsinc.org](http://www.usvetsinc.org)**

**Tax ID# 95-4382752**



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## **About the Stand Down & U.S.VETS (continued)**

Many new components were added to the list of services provided at the 2011 Stand Down, to include:

- \*Stand Down webpage
- \*Online provider and volunteer registration
- \*Pre-Registration for veterans prior to the event
- \*New venue
- \*Veterans Stand Down Store sponsored by Goodwill
- \*Fifteen (15) new providers
- \*Tote bags for veterans
- \*Free Phone Calling Station
- \*Computer/Email Station
- \*Volunteer Evaluations
- \*Assistance with free wills
- \*North Las Vegas Justice Court presence
- \*Parking shuttle service for volunteers and providers
- \*Coffee & Drinks Canteen thanks to Salvation Army
- \*Hot Breakfast cooked by Salvation Army
- \*Volunteer/Provider Break Area
- \*Baggage Check for veteran belongings
- \*Pet Sitters

The Stand Down brought the community into the solution against homelessness among veterans. The event was designed to bring hope to at-risk veterans and those still living on the streets of Las Vegas, to offer them a temporary respite, and to provide information and services to help them.

U.S.VETS – Las Vegas would like to thank the many partners – planning committee, volunteers, vendors, donors, sponsors, and providers who made the event a success! Thank you for serving those who served.

More about the Veterans Stand Down can be found online at [www.usvets-lasvegas.org](http://www.usvets-lasvegas.org).

Sincerely,

Shalimar T. Cabrera, MSW  
U.S.VETS – Las Vegas Site Director  
Veterans Stand Down Chair

## Summary of Stand Down Services

### Service Categories

Housing  
 Education & Employment  
 Counseling & Treatment  
 Military Records  
 Legal Assistance  
 Legal Courts  
 Veterans Affairs  
 Non-VA Healthcare  
 Handouts  
 Pet Care Supplies  
 Veterans Stand Down Store (clothing, shoes and accessories)  
 Other Resources

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program  
 Energy Assistance Program  
 Tax Preparation Assistance  
 Hospice Information  
 Independent Living Resources  
 Information about Nevada identification  
 Free Cell Phone Assistance  
 Social Security Administration  
 State of NV Welfare Division & Supportive Services  
 Banking Information  
 Veteran Service Organizations  
 Voter Registration



### Activities

3 hot meals per day  
 Arts & Crafts  
 Haircuts  
 Showers

Live Entertainment  
 Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting  
 Narcotics Anonymous Meeting  
 Relaxation Tent



### Other Services

Intake – Demographic Screenings  
 Badges & Team Assignments  
 Team Leaders  
 Veteran Assistants  
 Veteran Tour Guides

Baggage Check  
 Transportation  
 Cell Phone Station  
 Computer/Email Station  
 Pet Sitters



## Service Providers

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American Legion Post 8 & Post 8 Riders  
 American Legion Post 14  
 American Lung Association in Nevada  
 Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada  
 City Mission Las Vegas  
 City of Las Vegas  
 Clark County Social Service  
 Cloudbreak Las Vegas, LLC  
 College of Southern Nevada Ophthalmic  
     Geometric Optics students  
 Congressional Delegation  
 Creative Care Systems  
 Cunningham House  
 DA Family Support  
 HOPE of Nevada/DBSA Southern Nevada  
 Family Promise of Las Vegas  
 Foundation for Recovery  
 Foundation for an Independent Tomorrow  
 Gaylord Pearson  
 Goodwill of Southern Nevada  
 HELP of Southern Nevada  
 HELP USA  
 House of Dreams  
 Humana  
 Information Processing Systems Integration and  
     Consulting, Inc.  
 Internal Revenue Service  
 Jewish War Veterans Post 65  
 Las Vegas Justice Court  
 Las Vegas Municipal Court (City of LV Marshals)  
 Las Vegas Urban League  
 Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada  
 Lindsey House  
 Las Vegas Professional Institute of Technology  
 Lutheran Social Services of Nevada

Nathan Adelson Hospice  
 Nevada Council on Problem Gambling  
 Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center  
 Nevada Job Connect/DETR  
 Nevada Legal Services  
 Nevada Partners  
 North Las Vegas Justice Court  
 Public Health (Nellis AFB)  
 Safelink Wireless  
 Salvation Army  
 Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services  
 Social Security Administration  
 Somerset Apartments  
 Southern Nevada Center for Independent Living  
 Southern Nevada Elks Lodges  
 State of NV Div. of Welfare & Supportive Services  
 Stovall & Associates - Attorneys at Law  
 The Problem Gambling Center  
 The Shade Tree  
 U.S.VETS - Las Vegas  
 United Latino Association  
 UNLV Problem Gambling Program  
 US Bank  
 VA Dental Services  
 VA Enrollment  
 VA Legal  
 VA Medical  
 VA Nutrition  
 VA Health Care for Homeless Veterans  
 Vet Centers - Las Vegas & Henderson  
 Veterans of Note  
 VFW Post 983  
 Voter Registration  
 Westcare NV  
 Yours Truly Ministries



## **Stand Down Outputs**

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574 veterans attended the 2011 Stand Down (including 202 who were transported from various areas)  
549 male veterans, 23 female veterans, 2 transgender veterans

<b>Provider Agency</b>	<b># of vets seen</b>
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	
Rescue Mission & Catholic Charities	13
<b>Housing</b>	
Catholic Charities	56
City of Las Vegas	40
Clark County Social Service	116
Cloudbreak LLC	75
Cunningham House	58
Family Promise of Las Vegas	7
Help of Southern Nevada	67
HELP USA (Genesis & Bonanza View)	50
Lindsey House	26
Lutheran Social Services of NV	12
Somerset Commons Apartments	125
Southern NV Center for Independent Living	42
The Shade Tree	20
U.S.VETS (Housing)	116
United Latino Association	28
<b>Education &amp; Employment</b>	
American Legion Post 14	67
Foundation for an Independent Tomorrow	64
Goodwill Career Connections	89
Information Processing Systems Integration & Consulting	73
Las Vegas Urban League	84
Las Vegas Professional Institute of Technology	88
Nevada Job Connect/DETR	106
Nevada Partners	59
U.S.VETS (Workforce)	89



**Stand Down Outputs (continued)**

**Counseling & Treatment**

American Lung Association	81
Creative Care Systems	164
Foundation for Recovery	173
Henderson/Las Vegas Vet Centers	138
Nevada Council on Problem Gambling	79
Salvation Army ARP	41
Salvation Army Mental Health Services	42
Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services	40
The Problem Gambling Center	36
UNLV Problem Gambling Program	15
Westcare NV	76



**Military Records**

Congressional Delegation	137
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**Legal Assistance**

DA Family Support	42
Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada	72
Nevada Legal Services	90
Stovall & Associates	40



**Legal Courts**

Las Vegas Municipal Courts	63
Las Vegas Justice Court	84
North Las Vegas Justice Court	32



**Veterans Affairs**

VA Benefits Office	76
VA Dental Services	167
VA Healthcare for Homeless Veterans	191
VA Nutrition	187



**Stand Down Outputs (continued)**

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**Non-VA Healthcare**

CSN Ophthalmic Geometric Optics	221
Nellis AFB Public Health	208

**Spiritual/Faith-Based**

City Mission of Las Vegas	128
Yours Truly Ministries	72

**Handouts**

American Legion Post 8 & American Legion Post 8 Riders	327
Humana	263
Southern Nevada Elks Lodges	286
Veterans of Note	345



**Pet Care Supplies**

Jewish War Veterans Post 65	266
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**Veterans Stand Down Store (clothing, shoes, linen, and accessories)**

Goodwill of Southern Nevada	442
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**Other Resources**

Email Station	20
Information about NV Identification	85
Help of Southern Nevada - SNAP/Food Stamps	40
IRS - Tax Preparation Assistance	137
Nathan Adelson Hospice - Hospice Information	215
Safelink Wireless - Free Cell Phones	325
Social Security Administration	198
State of NV Welfare - Food Stamps & Medicaid	56
US Bank - Establishing Bank Accounts	74
Veteran Service Organization - VFW Post 983	63
Voter Registration	30



**Haircuts/Showers**

Haircuts by Volunteer Barbers & Stylists	174
Shower/Shave Tent	48



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## **Stand Down Outcomes**

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### **Housing**

- 13 veterans received emergency shelter on March 23 thanks to the Rescue Mission and Catholic Charities!
- 50 veterans visited Help USA and 11 made appointments for housing!
- 58 veterans visited the Cunningham House and 6 made appointments for housing!
- 67 veterans visited Help of Southern Nevada and 5 made appointments for housing!
- 75 veterans visited Cloudbreak LV Apartments and 10 were approved for low-income housing!
- 116 veterans visited U.S.VETS housing booth and 12 veterans moved into U.S.VETS' back-to-work program directly from the Stand Down! Another 4 entered U.S.VETS after the Stand Down having received a referral at the event, plus 1 is currently on the waiting list.

### **Education & Employment**

- 89 veterans visited the U.S.VETS Workforce booth and 8 made appointments to enroll in the Incarcerated Veteran Transition Program
- 89 veterans who visited the Goodwill Career Connections booth
- 59 veterans visited Nevada Partners and 31 veterans had interviews scheduled
- 64 veterans visited Foundation for Independent Tomorrow and 90% were referred to orientation
- 88 veterans visited Professional Institute of Technology and 80 signed up for the free computer class
- 106 veterans visited Nevada Job Connect/DETR and 22 veterans registered

### **Legal Assistance & Legal Courts**

- 40 veterans visited Stovall & Associates and 6 drafted free wills, and 20 received free legal consults
- 32 veterans visited the North Las Vegas Justice Court
- 63 veterans visited the Municipal Court and 38 court dates were scheduled
- 84 veterans visited the Las Vegas Justice Court and more than 150 different cases were resolved!

### **Other Resources**

- 325 veterans visited SafeLink for free cell phones and 175 veterans completed applications and were eligible for free cell phones
- 40 veterans visited Help of Southern Nevada – SNAP/Food Stamps and 15 veterans applied for SNAP EBT (food stamps)
- 30 veterans registered to vote
- 74 veterans visited US Bank and 40 opened new bank accounts



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**Veteran Demographics**

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Here are some examples of the demographics of veterans who attended the Stand Down, as reported by the veterans themselves:

**Male Veterans (549 total)**

Age Range: 22 – 86 years  
 Average age: 56 years  
 Median age: 56 years

**Period of Service:**

	Male	Female
Pre-WW II	0.4%	4%
WW II	1%	0%
Pre-Korean	1%	0%
Korean War	2%	0%
Between Korean and Vietnam Era	5%	0%
Vietnam Era	41%	32%
Post-Vietnam	34%	32%
Persian Gulf	10%	20%
OIF/OEF (2001-Current)	5%	12%

**Discharge:**

	Male	Female
Honorable	88%	96%
General	9%	0%
Other than Honorable	2%	0%
Bad Conduct	0.5%	8%
Dishonorable	0.2%	0%

**Race:**

	Male	Female
Black	36%	36%
White	50%	48%
American Indian/ Alaskan Native	3%	0%
Pacific Islander	1%	0%
Asian	2%	0%
Other	8%	4%

**Female Veterans\* (25 total)**

Age Range: 35 – 74 years  
 Average Age: 52 years  
 Median Age: 50 years

**Branch of Service:**

	Male	Female
Army	47%	48%
Navy	22%	28%
Marine Corps	15%	4%
Air Force	14%	20%
Coast Guard	0.4%	0%

**Highest level of education achieved:**

	Male	Female
Less than 6th grade	0.2%	0%
Less than H.S. diploma	6%	0%
H.S. Diploma/GED	42%	28%
Technical Certificate	2%	12%
Some college, no degree	32%	40%
Associates degree	8%	8%
Bachelors degree	8%	8%
Masters degree	1%	0%
Doctorate degree	0.4%	4%

*\*Female veteran data includes data from 2 veterans who chose “transgender” on their demographic screening form, and who identify as female.*

## Veteran Demographics (continued)

### Alcohol Abuse Issues:

	Male	Female
Present	12%	4%
Past	36%	24%

### Drug Abuse Issues:

	Male	Female
Present	7%	8%
Past	29%	24%

### Problem Gambling Issues:

	Male	Female
Present	8%	0%
Past	14%	0%

### Receiving care from the VA:

	Male	Female
Medical Care	61%	68%
Mental Health Care	28%	44%

### Where did you sleep last night?:

	Male	Female
In own home, apartment, or room	41%	60%
With friends or family long-term	7%	4%
With friends or family temporarily	10%	12%
Temporary/Transitional/Halfway Housing Program	12%	16%
Emergency Shelter (e.g., short-term shelter facility)	10%	4%
No residence (e.g. street, camp, abandoned building, auto, bus station)	19%	4%
Institution (e.g., hospital, prison, detox, treatment facility)	2%	0%

### Reasons for Homelessness:

	Male	Female
Medical Problem	11%	12%
Mental Health Issue	6%	4%
Eviction or Rent Increase	7%	8%
Unemployment	34%	24%
Legal Problems or Incarceration	4%	0%
Problem Gambling	2%	0%
Substance Abuse Issue	5%	4%
Natural Disaster	0%	0%
Family Issue	7%	8%

### Length of Homelessness:

	Male	Female
1 night, less than 1 month	7%	8%
1 month, less than 6 months	9%	12%
6 months, less than 1 year	7%	4%
1 year, less than 2 years	7%	4%
2 years or more	16%	4%

### Episodes of homelessness (last 3 years):

	Male	Female
1 Time	23%	16%
2 Times	8%	8%
3 Times	4%	4%
4 Times	2%	0%
5 Times	2%	0%
6 Times	1%	0%
More Than 6 Times	7%	4%

## Stand Down Sponsors

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### Level Four - \$3,000

Humana  
Sgt Manny Peven Jewish War Veterans Post 65



### Level Two - \$1,000

“CARING for our VETERANS 2011” –  
Ron Virtue, John Jaworek and Friends (\$1,600)  
Nevada Military Order of the Purple Heart  
Greenspun-Radin Jewish War Veterans Post 21 &  
Ladies Auxiliary

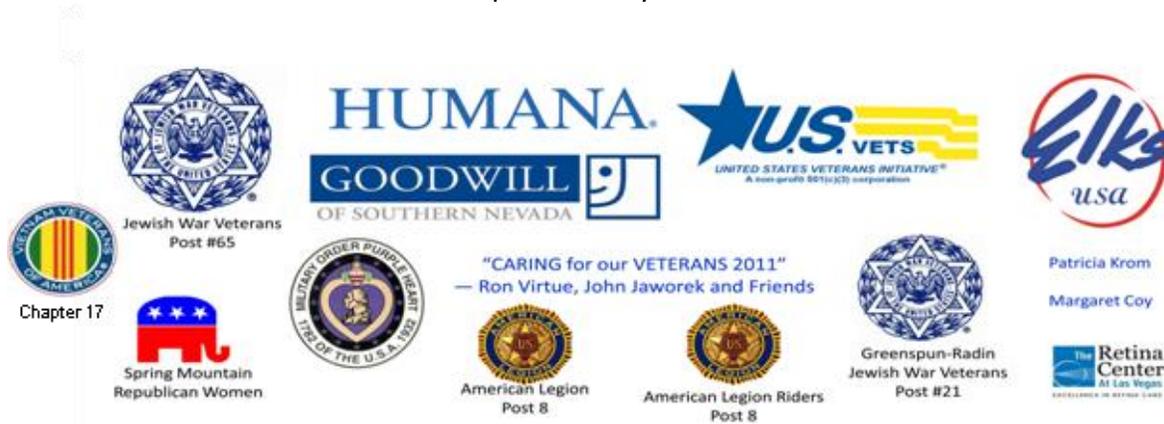


### Level One - \$500

Spring Mountain Republican Women (\$679)  
American Legion Post 8  
American Legion Post 8 Riders  
Margaret Coy  
Patricia Krom  
The Retina Center at Las Vegas  
Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 17

The event was also made possible through generous grants from:  
Nevada State Elks through the National Elks Foundation - \$6,000  
U.S.VETS through the U.S. Department of Labor - \$5,000

The Veterans Stand Down Store was sponsored by Goodwill of Southern Nevada





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## **Stand Down Financials**

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### **Income**

Carry-Over from 2010	\$10,428.00
Grants	\$11,000.00
Sponsorships	\$13,279.00
Miscellaneous Donations	\$ 850.00
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$35,557.00</b>

### **Expenses**

<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$25,312.09</b>
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**Balance (Carry-Over to 2012)** \$10,244.91

*See Appendix A for detailed report of Revenue and Expenses.*

## Stand Down Spotlight – Veterans Stand Down Store



Thanks to Goodwill of Southern Nevada, the 2011 Stand Down featured the first-ever “Veterans Stand Down Store” where veterans could shop for free for clothing, accessories, linens, and more.

Starting in February 2011, clothing drives were held at the Humana Guidance Centers in Las Vegas and Henderson, as well as at Nathan Adelson Hospice in both Las Vegas and Pahrump. Donation bins were posted at these locations for individuals to drop off donations of new and gently used items for the Stand Down. Goodwill’s trucks picked up the donated goods which were taken to Goodwill’s warehouse where they were sorted, sized, and made presentable to be hung on racks or displayed on shelves at the Stand Down.



On Tuesday, March 22, the day before the Stand Down, the Goodwill team brought the donations (and other items from their own inventory) to the event site. After several hours, a full retail store had been created in the 1,300-square foot room of the East Las Vegas Community Center. The store included a customer service desk and various departments for women, men, kids, shoes, accessories, blankets, backpacks, bags, toiletries and new care items of shirts, socks, and underwear.



Veterans were invited to the store to spend their “shopping bucks” that they each received in their tote bags upon arriving to the Stand Down. Their “shopping bucks” entitled them to shop for: 2 shirts, 2 pants, 1 pair of shoes, 1 linen item, 1 toiletry package, 1 new care package, and 1 miscellaneous item. Veterans who visited the employment section of the Stand Down could also obtain “workforce shopping bucks” which entitled them to shop for workforce attire.



Once a personal shopper (a volunteer or Goodwill team member) helped the veteran select their items, they would “check out” at the cash register where their items were bagged in Goodwill shopping bags. A total of 442 veterans shopped in the store! It was a wonderful experience for volunteers to assist veterans with their shopping. Many providers also shared that they were in awe at how professional the store looked and felt. The racks were constantly being restocked, and

veterans received more than 4,700 items and a great retail experience! This was certainly one of the favorite services offered at the Stand Down.

*Thank you, Goodwill!*



*Joshua, who attended the Stand Down with his veteran father, was one of our favorite shoppers!*

*Lil Joshua is pictured here with a volunteer who helped him shop for new clothes.*

## **Closing Ceremony**

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On Friday, March 25, 2011, providers and sponsors came together for the 2011 Stand Down closing ceremony to celebrate the accomplishments of the event and give proper recognition to several individuals and organizations. Preliminary output and outcome data was also given at the closing ceremony.

Three awards were given during the closing ceremony for excellence in service to the Stand Down:

**FOR YEARS OF DEDICATION**  
**Volunteer Support & Supplies/Equipment**  
*Nellis Air Force Base*



**NEW PARTNER AWARD**  
**Drinks Canteen & Hot Breakfast**  
*Salvation Army*



**OUTSTANDING PARTNER AWARD**  
**Veterans Stand Down Store**  
*Goodwill of Southern Nevada*



A highlight of the ceremony was hearing from a 2010 Stand Down graduate, Tom S., who shared his story of how far he has come since last year. Tom S. entered the U.S.VETS program from the Stand Down on March 24, 2010. He successfully completed the U.S.VETS program on November 26, 2010 and is now living in his own apartment and is employed full-time as a security guard at the Post Office. Tom S. has one year clean and sober and has received medical, dental and vision care including dentures and eyeglasses. We wish you continued success, Tom!



## **Closing Ceremony (continued)**

Twelve veterans stood to be recognized at the ceremony as 2011 Stand Down graduates. The crowd gave a standing ovation upon meeting these twelve veterans who are no longer homeless. They were housed directly from the Stand Down in U.S.VETS’ residential back-to-work program! Welcome home, veterans!



The closing ceremony concluded with a tearful tradition of “open microphone.” Wonderful success stories were shared including the story of MSgt Hayes’ trip to the Home Depot to buy a grill when the Air Force grills were not working and a barbecue lunch was planned for hundreds of veterans! After the Home Depot learned about what the grills were to be used for, they graciously donated a brand new grill on the spot! Thank you, Home Depot for coming to the rescue!

The most poignant part of the ceremony was hearing from several of the Stand Down graduates who are now in housing. They thanked everyone for the opportunity they were given at the event. Tearfully, John H. shared, “I never in my life imagined I’d be homeless... I worked all my life but then I lost my job. I was sleeping on the streets. I didn’t know what to do. Thank you all for helping me here at the Stand Down. You saved my life.” There was hardly a dry eye in the house.



The closing ceremony was a touching way to celebrate the hard work that it takes to put a Stand Down together. Most of all, the closing ceremony was a reminder of the difference that can be made when people join forces to give our veterans the services and help they so deserve.





## “SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED”

### Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Shalimar T. Cabrera, Stand Down Chair  
702-429-7294 [scabrera@usvetsinc.org](mailto:scabrera@usvetsinc.org)

#### “Veterans Stand Down” to help local Veterans

Las Vegas, NV (March 23, 2011) – U.S.VETS is proud to announce the 2011 “Veterans Stand Down” kicks off today from 8:30 am – 3 pm. The East Las Vegas Senior Community Center is the site of the event and is located at 250 N. Eastern Avenue. A 2nd day of services is scheduled for tomorrow.

The “Veterans Stand Down” is a grassroots, community-based intervention program designed to help the nation’s estimated 107,000 homeless veterans “combat” life on the streets. U.S.VETS is the non-profit sponsor of this event, which is held in cities all over the nation to provide food, clothing, services and most of all, long-term solutions to homeless and at-risk veterans. Shalimar T. Cabrera of U.S.VETS and Wayne E. Leroy of Nevada Elks Lodge #2353 are among the chairs of the event.

“The veterans being served were there for us when our country called; now they need us,” says Cabrera, Chairperson of the event. “It is estimated that there are more than 4,000 homeless veterans in Clark County.” The Veterans Stand Down brings the community into the solution, gives hope to veterans still living on the streets of Las Vegas, offers them a temporary respite, and provides information and services that can help end their nightmare on the streets.

The service providers represented at the event are local nonprofits, veteran service organizations, including the VFW and American Legion Posts, the Nevada State Elks, and the VA Medical Center of Southern Nevada. Staff members from the offices of the Nevada Congressional delegation will also participate in the event.

Major sponsors of the event include the National Elks Foundation, Goodwill of Southern Nevada, Humana and Sgt. Manny Peven Jewish War Veterans Post 65 of Henderson, Nevada. Over 400 volunteers, the majority from Nellis Air Force Base, have registered to assist with the event.

Last year, the 7th Annual “Veterans Stand Down” served 477 veterans. The list of free services available at the two-day event has grown to include housing placement, employment and education, homeless courts, pet supplies and legal assistance as well as VA enrollment, medical care, showers, haircuts, free wills, computer/email stations, hot meals and even a “Stand Down store” where vets can “shop” for free for clothing and basic necessities.

For more information including sponsorship opportunities or to donate, contact Shalimar Cabrera at 702-429-7294 or e-mail [scabrera@usvetsinc.org](mailto:scabrera@usvetsinc.org). # # #

*The mission of United States Veterans Initiative (U.S.VETS) is the successful transition of military veterans and their families through the provision of housing, counseling, career development and comprehensive support. Founded in 1992, U.S.VETS is the largest non-profit organization of its kind in the United States, providing an array of support services to at-risk veterans. U.S.VETS operates programs at 10 sites in five states and the District of Columbia, serving more than 2,000 veterans every day.*

## **Media Article – KTNV, Channel 13 - March 23, 2011**

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Las Vegas, NV (KTNV) - Getting used to civilian life can be a challenge for U.S. vets, which is why the Las Vegas community is coming together to help those struggling after coming home from war.

"You know, not everyone has an addiction problem or running from the law or whatever," says retired veteran William Griffin. "It's circumstance. You make of it what you can, and keeping a positive attitude is something you need to do."

An estimated 4,000 homeless vets are living on the streets in Clark County, and hundreds of them are receiving services at this year's "Veterans Stand Down" event.

Event Chairperson Shalimar Cabrera of U.S.VETS says, "We feel like we need to do this for them. They were there for our country when our country needed them and now it's our turn to serve them."

During this two-day event volunteers from Nellis Air force Base and local organizations provide homeless vets with all kinds of services. They get housing and employment advice, education and legal resources, and a hot meal, shower, and even a free haircut.

"I was homeless for about 2 years and it's no fun," says retired vet Ralph Rhodes. "But U.S.VETS helps you out a lot. They can transition you from homelessness to the next level."

The goal is to give these vets access to the right resources to end their nightmare on the streets.

"Now I'm going to have a place to be for at least 60 to 90 days and hopefully I'll be able to get a job and get some housing on my own. That would be awesome," said Griffin.

The event continues on Thursday at the East Las Vegas Senior Community Center. Doors open at 8:30am and close at 3pm.



*“SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED”*

Thank you to all the media partners who provided coverage of the Stand Down,  
including coverage leading up to the event:

“The Forgotten Promise” Radio Show

“Veterans Angels” Radio Show

Mix 94.1

KXNT 100.5

KSNV Channel 3 news

KVVU Channel 5 news

KLAS Channel 8 news

KTNV Channel 13 news

“The Veterans Reporter”

Las Vegas Weekly

Las Vegas Sun

Nellis Bullseye



**APPENDIX A - 2011 LAS VEGAS VETERANS STAND DOWN BUDGET VS ACTUALS**

Vendor	Memo/Description	Budget Amount	Actual Amount
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
RTC Transit	400 Bus Passes	1,000.00	1,000.00
McDonald's	Gift Cards for Veterans for Checklist Incentives		250.00
Goldberg & Solovy Foods	Food for Veterans, Volunteers, & Providers	4,000.00	7,554.92
Natalie's Catering	Catered Dinner for Veterans		2,400.00
N/A	STAND DOWN DENTAL CARE	3,400.00	
Sugar Custom T-Shirts	T-Shirts for Volunteer & Providers	3,800.00	3,442.01
N/A	STAND DOWN STORAGE LOCKS		
N/A	STAND DOWN STORAGE		
NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION RENTALS	Hand Washing Stations	500.00	108.81
EAST LAS VEGAS COMMUNITY CENTER	Stand Down Facility Fee	5,000.00	4,720.50
eventwristbands.com	Wristbands for Vets, Volunteers, & Providers	0.00	204.92
admitone.com	Storage Check Tags	0.00	77.09
	batteries, envelopes, duck tape, paper towel, scissors, markers, nylon ties, hole punch, badge labels, pencils, copy paper, tape/dispenser, pens, ext cord, surge protectors, wet wipes, inbox tray, color paper, stock paper, tally counters, duct tape, labels, badges, A-Z file, A-Z guides, index card box, floor tape	250.00	925.36
Staples			
Office Depot	clipboards, A-Z index guides, sharpies, pens		52.45
4imprint	Convention Bags		661.02
HP DIGITAL MEDIA	Stand Down Banner & Signs	100.00	1,212.50
Awards Won	Recognition Plaques	100.00	75.00
N/A	Postage	100.00	
	Lunch tickets, Gloves, Ice, Wristbands, Tablecloths, Zip Ties, Steam Pans, Razors, Toothbrushes, Chafing Fuel, Shower Curtains, Brooms, Tally Counters		724.34
Party City/Smart & Final/Walmart/99Cent/Office Depot			
Walmart	Phone bank cell phones & minutes		113.30
Smart & Final	Water for Vets, Volunteers, & Providers	400.00	99.98
Pump-N-Snack/Terribles/7-11	Stand Down Shuttle Van Fuel	300.00	258.57
Walgreens/Circle K	Propane	225.00	88.59
Reddy Ice	Ice		45.00
Domino's Pizza	Stand Down Volunteer Training Food	225.00	120.00
Winchells	Planning Meeting Refreshments		53.95
Smart & Final/Party City	Closing Ceremony Food & Supplies		123.20
Buca Di Beppo	Closing Ceremony Food	600.00	1,000.58
<b>Total</b>		<b>20,000.00</b>	<b>25,312.09</b>
	Total Income	20,000.00	35,557.00
	Total Expenses	20,000.00	25,312.09
	Balance	0.00	10,244.91