



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hundreds to come together for the annual “Veterans Stand Down” to help local Veterans

Las Vegas, NV (March 19, 2012) – U.S.VETS announces the 2012 Veterans Stand Down will take place March 21 & 22, 2012 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.

The “Veterans Stand Down” is a grassroots, community-based intervention program designed to help the nation’s estimated 67,000 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.

“The veterans being served were there for us when our country called; now they need us,” says Shalimar Cabrera, Chairperson of the Veterans Stand Down. The last homeless census revealed that 1,350 veterans were homeless in Southern Nevada – men and women who served our country valiantly, now sleep on the streets. The Veterans Stand Down brings the community into the solution, gives hope to homeless and at-risk veterans, offers them a temporary respite, and provides information and services that can help them connect to much-needed services.

More than 100 service providers will be represented at the event comprised of local nonprofits, veteran service organizations, the VA Medical Center of Southern Nevada, legal Courts, and many more. Staff members from the offices of the Nevada Congressional Delegation will also participate in the event to assist veterans in obtaining their military records.

For the first year, the Veterans Stand Down is 100% funded by community donations! Major sponsors of the event include Goodwill of Southern Nevada, Humana, Greenspun-Radin Jewish War Veterans Post 21, Sgt. Manny Peven Jewish War Veterans Post 65, 707 Management, and a donor group called “Caring for our Veterans 2012.” Over 400 volunteers, the majority who are active service members from Nellis Air Force Base, will also assist with the event.

Last year, the 8th Annual Veterans Stand Down served 574 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” sponsored by Goodwill where vets can “shop” for free for clothing, hygiene items – and a new component this year – non-perishable food items.

For more information including sponsorship opportunities or to donate, contact Shalimar Cabrera at 702-429-7294 or e-mail 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 11 sites in six states and the District of Columbia, serving more than 2,500 veterans every day.