

Felix Delgado 10/13/15

Suggest that
Essay Contest for
all Sweetwater Schools
Students Write:

"How to Help the
Problem of
Homelessness in
our City."

Maybe a \$1,000/\$500
Scholarship.

Courage to Call

Veterans Serving Veterans, Active Military,
Reservists, National Guardsmen
& Their Families



Call 2-1-1

877-698-7838

mhsinc.org/courage-to-call

Courage to Call

Around-the-Clock Support

Call 2-1-1

Veteran-staffed guidance, information and referrals for
veterans, military, reservists and their families.

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
#HHSA
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

mhs MENTAL
HEALTH
SYSTEMS

Courage to Call

Providing information and referrals for:

- Veterans Transition Assistance
- Food and Shelter
- Rent and Utility Assistance
- Employment and Counseling

Call 2-1-1 • mhsinc.org/courage-to-call

What does Courage to Call provide?

Our veteran-staffed 24/7 Helpline provides free, confidential information, guidance and referrals. When you need assistance, call 2-1-1 to arrange meetings with other veterans and family support partners. Courage to Call can help you identify next steps and develop short-term personal and professional plans. Optional deeper level of care coordination is available through our Veteran Peer Navigators.

Types of assistance include:

- Access to resources or referrals
- Employment services
- Food, housing and shelter
- Rent and utility assistance
- Counseling/mental health services
- Family and legal resources
- VA and other benefits and information
- Veterans transition services
- Low-cost or no-cost recreation



Who does Courage to Call serve?

Courage to Call is a countywide San Diego program serving:

Individuals who have served in any branch of the Military, Reserves or National Guard regardless of their discharge status, and those who have left the military and need help finding support and services.

Families and Loved Ones who are concerned about the emotional health and well-being of those who have served in the Active Duty, Reserves or National Guard.

Community organizations, agencies, and providers that want training to improve cultural awareness and understanding for serving those with a military or military family background.

Contact Courage to Call

- For around-the-clock guidance, support, information and/or referrals for a loved one or yourself.
- For veteran and family support and guidance that can help you develop short term prevention-oriented plans to improve your mental wellness.
- For staff training that helps your organization gain a better cultural understanding and awareness for interacting with service members and their families.



*Led by veterans
and their family members*

**Call our 24/7 Helpline:
2-1-1**



What is Courage to Call?

Courage to Call is dedicated to helping current and former service members and their families.

All Courage to Call staff have been in the military or have been military family members. They have firsthand knowledge of the rigors of the military and military family life, constant deployments and transitioning out of the military.

They are committed to helping veterans and their loved ones get the services and assistance they need and deserve.

They can help you find supportive information, access resources and referrals to services throughout San Diego County.

*Courage to Call is led by
Mental Health Systems in
collaborative partnership with 2-1-1
San Diego and Veterans Village of
San Diego. The program provides
guidance, information, and referral
services to Veterans, Active Duty,
Reservists, National Guardsmen and
their families.*

Courage to Call

Business Office:

9445 Farnham St. Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92123

Phone (858) 636-3604 | Fax (858) 268-5013



www.facebook.com/pages/Courage-to-Call/109876169032590

twitter.com/couragetocall

mhs MENTAL
HEALTH
SYSTEMS



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CALIFORNIA DIRECTORY OF VETERAN SERVICES



EDD Employment
Development
Department
State of California

DE 6033 Rev. 17 (3-12)

CU/GA 837C



VOW TO HIRE HEROES ACT OF 2011

WORK OPPORTUNITY TAX CREDITS (WOTC)

HIRE VETERANS AND EARN TAX CREDITS FOR YOUR BUSINESS

The Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) is a federal tax credit available to private-sector businesses and certain non-profit organizations for hiring certain individuals, including veterans, who have consistently faced significant barriers to employment. The WOTC program enables the targeted employees to gradually move from economic dependency into self-sufficiency as they earn a steady income, while participating employers are able to reduce their federal income tax liability.

The VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011 extended and expanded the tax credit for veterans. Through WOTC, employers can receive up to \$2,400 and \$9,600 in tax credits by hiring:

- Veterans receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (food stamps) benefits.
- Veterans with a service-connected disability hired within one year of discharge or release from active duty.
- Veterans with a service-connected disability who are unemployed for at least six months.
- Veterans who have been unemployed for at least four weeks.
- Veterans who have been unemployed for six months or more.

The WOTC only applies to new employees, and the qualified veteran must start work on or after November 22, 2011 and before January 1, 2013. Before claiming WOTC on a federal tax return, employers must first apply for and receive certification from a State Workforce Agency that the new hire is a veteran that meets the required qualifications.

To apply for the certification, employers must:

1. Complete IRS Form 8850, *Pre-Screening Notice and Certification Request for the Work Opportunity Credit*, by the date of the job offer.
2. Complete one of the following U.S. Department of Labor forms:
 - ETA Form 9061, *Individual Characteristics Form*; or
 - ETA Form 9062, *Conditional Certification Form* (if provided to the job seeker by a Participating Agency, such as Vocational Rehabilitation, an Employment Network, or a State Workforce Agency).
3. Submit the forms to the State Workforce Agency within the following timeframes:
 - For hires made before May 22, 2012, employers have until June 19, 2012 to submit.
 - For hires made on or after May 22, 2012, employers must submit not later than 28 days after the new hire begins work.

To access these forms and find more information on the WOTC program, how to claim the tax credit, and a list of state contacts, visit the Department of Labor's WOTC program website at www.doleta.gov/wotc and the IRS website at www.irs.gov/form8850. You should also visit www.benefits.va.gov/VOW for additional information related to VOW.

For local information, you may call WOTC toll-free at 866-596-0173 or visit http://www.edd.ca.gov/Jobs_and_Training/Work_Opportunity_Tax_Credit.htm.

Please continue to check www.va.gov and www.dol.gov for changes and updates to the VOW to Hire Hero Act programs and benefits. Last updated on 04/26/2012.



U.S. Department
of Labor



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA)

The USDVA provides many significant federal benefits, including life insurance and medical coverage.

The USDVA also provides assistance to all veterans in determining their eligibility for and participation in a number of programs, including:

GI Bill

- Education benefits
- Tutorial
- Work study

Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment (VR&E)

- Readjustment counseling

GI Loans

- Home loans
- Manufactured/mobile home loans
- Condominium loans
- Multiple Unit loans
- Service-connected Disability Compensation
- Non-Service-connected Disability Pension
(War-time Vets Only)

- Medical care
- Dental care
- GI life insurance
- Burial benefits

Visit the USDVA website at www.va.gov

The USDVA has three regional offices in California. Call for information or send your inquiry e-mail to:

- Oakland:** 800-827-1000
e-mail: Oakland.query@VBA.VA.Gov
- Los Angeles:** 800-827-1000
e-mail: LosAngeles.query@VBA.VA.Gov
- San Diego:** 800-827-1000
e-mail: SanDiego.query@VBA.VA.Gov

Specialized State Programs for Veterans

Education and Training: The USDVA under the provisions of Title 38, U.S. Code, contracts with each state's government agency for the approval of courses for the education and training of veterans, eligible members of the National Guard, the Reserves, and other eligible persons. Section 66025.8 of the California Education Code requires California State Universities and local community college districts that administers a priority enrollment system, to grant registration

priority for any member or former member of the Armed Forces of the United States for any academic term attended at one of these institutions within two years of leaving active duty.

The California State Approving Agency for Veterans Education (CSAAVE) operates under contract with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA). The CSAAVE operates as part of the government of the State of California to approve or disapprove veterans' education and training programs, prevent abuses, and promote quality in veterans' education by evaluating and monitoring education and training programs.

The programs that can be approved by the CSAAVE are institutions of higher learning (colleges and universities), non-degree institutions (vocational and technical schools), and licensing and certification exams. It is important to note that CSAAVE does not approve Apprenticeship or On-the-Job Training programs or flight training.

The following is a list of the entitlement programs that apply to education and training:

- Chapter 30: Montgomery GI Bill - Active Duty
- Chapter 32: Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP)
- Chapter 35: Dependents Educational Assistance (DEA)
- Chapter 1606: Montgomery GI Bill - Selected Reserve

For more information contact:

California State Approving Agency for Veterans Education
Office: 916-503-8317 Fax: 916-653-1035
Website: csaave.ca.gov

The California Department of Veterans Affairs (CDVA) serves the veterans of the state in several ways:

The CalVet Home Loan Program provides low interest financing to qualified veterans purchasing homes in California, for use as their primary residence including condominiums and mobile homes. Effective January 1, 2006, the maximum loan amount is \$521,250. This amount is adjusted annually based on the Fannie Mae single family loan limit. The maximum loan for mobile homes in rental parks is \$175,000, and the maximum loan for farms is \$625,500. Construction loans are available to purchase a home site and build a single family residence. Rehabilitation loans are available to purchase a home in need of repairs or renovation.

No down payment is required on loans guaranteed by the USDVA, up to the VA maximum loan amount (currently \$417,000). A 3 percent down payment is required on other loans, up to the CalVet maximum. Low-cost fire, hazard insurance, and disaster coverage (earthquake, mudslide, and flood) is provided. A 3 percent down payment is required on other loans, up to the CalVet 97 loan program. With a down payment less than 20 percent, a 1.25 to 3.3 percent loan guarantee will be charged. There will be no charge with down payment greater than 20 percent. In some cases the fee can be included in the loan amount.

Eligible veterans must have served a minimum of 90 days active duty and received an honorable discharge. Certain members of the National Guard or U.S. Military Reserves are also eligible. Veterans who have a prior CalVet loan can receive another loan when the first loan is paid in full.

For additional information, you may contact one of the local district offices listed in the white pages of your telephone directory under "State Government Offices, Veterans Affairs," call 800-952-5626, or visit the CDVA website at www.cdva.ca.gov.

The Veterans Home of California, Yountville is a community of and for veterans located in the heart of scenic Napa Valley. The home provides residential accommodations and a wealth of recreational, social, and therapeutic activities for residents living in each of four levels of care from independent living, to residential care for the elderly, skilled nursing, and acute care. With more than 1,000 veterans (both men and women) living at the home, the facility also includes a specialized memory care unit for those residents who need specialized long-term care. Veterans desiring to be considered for membership must be residents of California, age 62 or older (or younger, if disabled), and have served honorably.

For additional information on the Veterans Home, visit www.cdva.ca.gov, call 800-404-8387, or write to:

Veterans Home of California
Attn: Communication and Development
P.O. Box 1200
Yountville, CA 94599

The Veterans Home of California, Barstow is located in the high desert of Southern California, off Interstate 15, midway between Los Angeles and Las Vegas. This state-of-the-art home, which opened in February 1996, has the capability to care for approximately 400 elderly or disabled California veterans in three levels of care: domiciliary (independent living), skilled nursing, and residential care for the elderly. Services are similar to those provided at the Veterans Home of California, Yountville, except that hospital care is provided at the United States Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Loma Linda for those veterans eligible for VA care, or at the Barstow Community Hospital.

The Veterans Home provides California veterans with a living environment that protects their dignity, privacy and safety, and contributes to their feeling of self-reliance and self-worth. Many cultural and educational opportunities are available at the adjacent Barstow College campus. In addition, the Big Bear Lake recreation area is less than two hours away.

The City of Barstow, with 22,000 residents, has a "home town" atmosphere and is only an hour from the Ontario Airport. Southern California beaches and recreational opportunities are within convenient driving distance.

For additional information, visit www.cdva.ca.gov, call 760-252-6281 or 800-746-0606, or write to:

Veterans Home of California, Barstow

Attn: Admissions
100 East Veterans Parkway
Barstow, CA 92311

Veterans Home of California, Chula Vista is located on a 30-acre site adjacent to Sharp Chula Vista Medical Center off Telegraph Canyon Road. The Veterans Home of California (VHC) Chula Vista is the third state veterans home in the Golden State and the first located in a coastal, urban Southern California setting.

VHC-Chula Vista is a 400-bed, long-term residential and nursing care facility providing options for independent living residential and skilled nursing care. Completed in May 2000, VHC-CV employs 258 and contracts locally for a variety of supplies and services such as food and security.

A two-year study by the Governor's Commission on a Southern California Home resulted in a unanimous recommendation in favor of the Chula Vista location. In selecting Chula Vista, the commission highlighted the proximity to the area's acute health care facilities; wide range of commercial, recreational and cultural services that are available to residents of the facility; and the magnitude of community support.

For additional information, visit www.cdva.ca.gov, call 888-857-2146, or write to:

Veterans Home of California, Chula Vista

Attn: Admissions
700 East Naples Court
Chula Vista, CA 91911

Greater Los Angeles and Ventura County Veterans Home:

The Greater Los Angeles and Ventura County Veterans Home (GLAVC Veterans Home) is actually three separately located facilities in the Southern California area. The three locations and occupancies are:

	Skilled Nursing	Residential Care for Elderly	Skilled Nursing Dementia	Adult Day Health Care
West Los Angeles Medical Center	252	84	60	
Ventura		60		50
Lancaster		60		50

The homes are owned by the State of California but operate in partnership with the USDVA's Greater Los Angeles Medical Center. A number of the home's resident services are provided by the USDVA. Examples are medical care, pharmacy, nutrition, and laundry services.

While allowing member-residents to age in place where ever possible, the three campuses are also linked to allow movement of residents as necessary to receive appropriate levels of care. For example, a Residential Care for Elderly (RCFE) resident in Lancaster may develop a need for skilled nursing care.

That patient will be eligible for admission to the Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) in West Los Angeles (WLA) without going through the application process. Conversely, a SNF resident in WLA may recover to the extent that RCFE care would be more appropriate. This resident could then transfer to any of the other RCFEs.

Prospective residents should refer to the CDVA website at www.cdva.ca.gov, for details on admittance procedures.

Veterans Claims and Benefits Representation

Veterans and their dependents may be eligible for benefits administered by the USDVA. District office staff of the CDVA assists veterans and their dependents in obtaining these benefits through the process of application and representation of claims.

For additional information, visit www.cdva.ca.gov, or contact a CDVA district office at one of the following locations:

1301 Clay Street, Room 1130N
Oakland, CA 94612-5209
510-286-0627

11000 Wilshire Blvd., Room 5203
Los Angeles, CA 90024
213-620-2755

8810 Rio San Diego Drive, Room 1122
San Diego, CA 92108
619-400-0070

College Tuition Fee Waiver Program. The dependent child, spouse, or unmarried surviving spouse of a service connected disabled or deceased veteran may be entitled to tuition and fee waiver benefits at any campus of the California State University system, University of California, or a California Community College. To obtain eligibility requirement information and assistance in applying for this benefit, please contact your local County Veterans Service Office, your school's Veteran's Assistance Office, or the CDVA. You may obtain an application at www.cdva.ca.gov.

The Veterans License Plate Program has provided more than \$3.5 million to support local veterans programs since its inception on January 1, 1995. The cost of a veterans license plate is \$30 annually. If you want to personalize your plate, there is an additional one-time charge of \$10. The veterans license plate is uniquely different from other special interest license plates because there are more than 100 different veterans emblems and logos to choose from. To view all the logos available, visit www.cacvso.org.

The funds generated from the Veterans License Plate program are used to expand local services to veterans. The money collected is maintained in the Veterans Service Fund account and is distributed to California's County Veterans Service Officers (CVSO). The CVSOs assist veterans, as well as their dependents, spouses, and survivors, in obtaining state, federal, and local benefits.

For a veterans license plate application or additional information, contact a County Veterans Service Office. For the nearest CVSO in your area, consult the "Government" section of the telephone directory or visit their website at www.cacvso.org. You may also obtain an application from the CDVA by calling toll-free 800-952-5626, or by visiting www.cdva.ca.gov.

California Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Services Division
1227 O Street, Suite 105
Sacramento, CA 95814
916-653-2573 or 800-952-5626

Business License, Tax, and Fee Waiver of municipal, county, and state business license fees, taxes, and fees for veterans who hawk, peddle, or vend any goods, wares, or merchandise owned by the veteran, except spirituous, malt, vinous, or other intoxicating liquor, including sales from a fixed location.

Who is Eligible

Honorably discharged veterans and veterans who engage in sales (not services) activities.

Where to Apply

Bring proof of honorable service discharge to your local appropriate county/city licensing authority.

California Women Veterans Roster. Unfortunately, women veterans have not applied for or utilized their veterans benefits as have their male counterparts, which ultimately dilutes the voice of veterans overall. The California Women Veterans Roster is an information bridge that connects California's women veterans to the various resources and benefits available to them. The roster is strictly confidential and used solely as a link among California's women veterans.

Please call CalVet toll-free at 800-952-5626, or the women veterans line at 916-653-2551, or register online by going to the women veterans icon at www.cdva.ca.gov.

****AN IMPORTANT REMINDER****

Wherever you apply for any veteran's entitlement, you will be asked to provide a copy of your military discharge document, commonly known as a "DD-214." If you lose or misplace your DD-214, obtaining an official replacement from the Military Personnel Records Center, in St. Louis, Missouri, may take up to three months or more, thus delaying your ability to obtain medical care and other entitlements. You are, therefore, strongly urged to have your DD-214 recorded at your county recorder's office, at no charge. By doing so, you will be able to obtain a free official copy of your DD-214 in the future should the need arise. You may also request a copy of your DD-214 at www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/index.html.

County Veterans Service Offices (CVSO). Fifty-six counties have services available from a CVSO to assist veterans and dependents at the county level, to provide information on federal and state veterans' benefits, and to help veterans' or their dependents complete application forms for benefits. These benefits include outpatient, extended and ambulatory health care, compensation, pension, insurance, education assistance, vocational rehabilitation, home purchase assistance, and burial allowance.

For additional information, contact your local CVSO or visit the California Association of Veterans Service Officers website at www.cacvso.org.

County Veterans Service Offices are listed below:

Alameda	510-577-3547	Orange	714-567-7674
Amador	209-267-5764	Placer	916-780-3290
Butte	530-891-2759	Plumas	530-283-6275
Calaveras	209-754-6624		800-219-5295-Plumas
Colusa	530-458-0494	Riverside	951-955-6050
Contra Costa	925-313-1481	Sacramento	916-874-6811/6713
Del Norte	707-464-2154	San Benito	831-637-4846
El Dorado	530-621-5892	San Bernardino	909-387-5516
Fresno	559-454-5436	San Diego	619-531-4545
Glenn	530-934-6524	San Francisco	415-554-7100 or
Humboldt	707-445-7341		800-807-5799
Imperial	760-337-5012	San Joaquin	209-468-2916
Inyo-mono	760-873-7850	San Luis Obispo	805-781-5766
Kern	661-868-7300	San Mateo	650-802-6598/6446
Kings	559-582-3211	Santa Barbara	805-737-7900
Lake	707-263-2384	Santa Clara	408-553-6000
Lassen	530-251-8192	Santa Cruz	831-454-4761
Los Angeles	213-744-4825	Shasta	530-225-5846
Madera	559-675-7766	Siskiyou	530-842-8010
Marin	415-499-6193	Solano	707-784-6590
Mariposa	209-966-3696	Sonoma	707-565-5960
Mendocino	707-463-4226	Stanislaus	209-558-7380
Merced	209-385-7588	Tehama	530-529-3664
Modoc	530-233-6209	Trinity	530-623-3975
Monterey	831-647-7610	Tulare	559-685-3300
Napa	707-253-6072	Tuolumne	209-533-6280
Nevada	530-273-3396	Ventura	805-477-5325
		Yolo	530-406-4850
		Yuba-Sutter	530-749-4967

If any of the telephone numbers above are not in service, you may also obtain your local number in the "Government" section of your white pages, or visit www.cacvso.org for a detailed list of offices.

Rehabilitation Services

The **State Department of Rehabilitation** provides vocational rehabilitation and career preparation services for disabled veterans. These services may include one or more of the following:

- Counseling and guidance
- Assessment
- Vocational planning
- Training
- Transportation
- On-the-job training
- Assistive technology
- Job placement

When funding is inadequate to serve all eligible individuals, priority is given to individuals with the most severe disabilities. There are field offices located throughout the state, which are listed in the white pages of the telephone book under the listing for "State of California." For information on the location of local Department of Rehabilitation offices, contact:

State Department of Rehabilitation

721 Capitol Mall
Sacramento, CA 95814
916-324-1313
Website: www.dor.ca.gov

Public Records

Veterans in California are not required to pay for copies of public records, which they need to file certain claims. Veterans can have their DD-214s recorded by any County Clerk Recorder's office free of charge. There is no fee for certified copies of discharge records, marriage, birth, and death records, deeds of trust, and/or mortgage records, if the veterans has a written request from the USDVA or a County Veterans Service Office. For the County Clerk Recorder office nearest you, consult the "Government" section of the telephone directory.

Job Service

Veterans with disabilities receive the highest priority for employment services from the California Employment Development Department (EDD) Workforce Services staff. Veterans and other eligibles follow in priority.

The EDD Workforce Services (WS) staff works in partnership with a multitude of other local employment and training agencies. Local WS staff are key partners in local One-Stop offices throughout California. Job seekers may obtain information about other services, such as job search workshops to develop and practice online job search interview techniques, and referral to employment-related training. To locate the nearest One-Stop Career Center, consult the phone directory under, "State of California, EDD," call the America's Service Locator toll-free at 1-877-US-2JOBS, or visit www.servicelocator.org. For more information about EDD services, visit the EDD website at www.edd.ca.gov.

The following is a brief description of the many services available to veterans seeking jobs and for employers who hire veterans:

Local Veterans' Employment Representative advocates on behalf of veterans for employment and training opportunities, provides case-managed services to eligible veterans giving priority to disabled veterans seeking employment and/or training.

Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program provides case-managed employment, placement, and/or training services designed to meet the needs of all veterans and eligible persons giving priority to disabled veterans for services under the Federal Workforce Investment Act.

CalJOBSSM is the EDD's Internet-based labor exchange system that increases the public's access to employment services.

CalJOBSSM provides job services to both employers who want to fill job openings and individuals seeking employment. It lists a variety of job openings located throughout the state, and has the largest database of job seekers in California.

CalJOBSSM is available to employers and job seekers 24-hours a day, and can be used from any location with Internet access. Job seekers may access CalJOBSSM from computers located in EDD lobbies statewide.

Veterans can view job listings anywhere in the state and, if qualified, may directly refer themselves to employers for consideration. Veterans receive a 24-hour priority on job listings in the CalJOBSSM system.

Veterans may prepare résumés online by following simple instructions in CalJOBSSM. The CalJOBSSM résumé can be viewed by prospective employers or printed for job search needs. CalJOBSSM automatically searches for new openings daily and will inform you of job matches by e-mail through a feature called Jobscout. Visit CalJOBSSM at www.caljobs.ca.gov.

Job Search Workshops – These classes provide information on how to find a job and secure a job.

Workforce Investment Act (WIA) – The Federal WIA allocates funds to programs that provide employment, job training, and retention to adults, youth, and dislocated workers with multiple barriers to employment. These programs seek to improve the quality of the workforce, reduce welfare dependency, and enhance the productivity and competitiveness of the participant. The program is statewide and services are made available through the local workforce investment areas and other (WIA) employment and training providers.

Veterans Workforce Investment Program is targeted specifically to veterans. The program allows the Secretary of Labor, directly or through grants or contracts, to conduct programs to meet the needs for workforce investment activities of disabled service-connected, campaign, and recently separated veterans.

For further information, please contact the veterans representative at your local EDD office or contact the Program Development and Management Division at 916-654-7799.

Transition Assistance Program (TAP) is an intensive employment preparation program designed to assist individuals leaving the military to make a smooth transition into a rewarding and successful career in the private sector.

The TAP classes are conducted over three consecutive days and provide the service member with the vocational guidance to make a sound and realistic career choice.

The TAP classes are currently conducted at most military installations throughout California. All military branches, including the Guard and Reserve, participate.

Federal Contractors Job Listing (FCJL) – The FCJL program requires employers with federal contracts of \$100,000 or more to list job openings with the EDD Workforce Service. This program provides a large source of jobs for which veterans are given priority.

Return to Former Employer – Under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) of 1994, veterans and members of the National Guard and Reserve called to active duty or training have the right to return to their civilian jobs – in both the private and public sectors – with all the benefits they would have accrued if not for their military service.

Under the USERRA, the U.S. Department of Labor, Veterans' Employment and Training Service (USDOL-VETS) investigates complaints from veterans who believe these rights have been violated. The Department of Labor also attempts to negotiate voluntary settlements between veterans and employers, and recommends legal action in cases where adjudication seems warranted. Technical assistance is provided to employers, veteran organizations, and reserve units to assist in understanding and complying with the law.

For more information, contact the USDOL-VETS office in Sacramento at 916-654-8178. You can visit the USDOL-VETS website at www.dol.gov/vets.

State Employment

Most jobs with the State of California can be obtained only as a result of successfully competing in a civil service examination. To receive a pamphlet on "How to Get a Job with the State of California," you may either visit the California State Personnel Board at 801 Capitol Mall, Sacramento, CA 95814, or call 1-866-844-8671. For jobs with the State of California, contact the human resources department at the state agency you are interested in working for. You may also find out what examinations you can apply for by accessing the State Personnel Board's website at www.spb.ca.gov.

There are special provisions allowing veterans to receive preference in testing for open and open nonpromotional entrance examinations requiring college graduation **AND** less than two years of experience. The examination announcement will state whether or not veterans preference credits will be granted. In open examinations, eligible veterans, widows/widowers of veterans, and spouses of 100 percent disabled veterans receive 10 points. Eligible disabled veterans receive 15 points. In open nonpromotional examinations, eligible veterans, widows/widowers of veterans, and spouses of 100 percent disabled veterans receive 5 points and eligible disabled veterans receive 10 points. No veterans preference credits will be allowed once a veteran achieves permanent civil service status.

The points are added to the final score only after the candidate has successfully passed all parts of the examination.

To be eligible for veterans preference credits, you must be qualified as a veteran by meeting the required definitions. "Veteran" means any person who has served full time for 30 days or more in the armed forces in time of war or in time of peace in a campaign or expedition for service in which a medal has been authorized by the government of the United States; or during the period of September 16, 1940 to January 31, 1995; or who has served at least 181 consecutive days since January 31, 1995; and **who has been discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable**, but does not include any person who served only in auxiliary or reserved components of the armed forces whose service therein did not exempt him or her from the operation of the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940.

"Disabled Veteran" means any veteran as defined herein who is currently declared by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) to be 10 percent or more disabled as a result of his or her service; and "100 percent Disabled Veteran" means any veteran as defined herein who is currently declared by the United States DVA to be 100 percent disabled as a result of his or her service. Proof of disability shall be deemed conclusive if it is of record in the United States DVA.

To apply for veterans preference credits, obtain a copy of Form SPB 1093, "Application for Veterans Preference for California State Civil Service Examinations," from any state department's testing office. This form may also be accessed through the State Personnel Board's website. This form along with a copy of military discharge papers (form DD214) should be sent to the State Personnel Board at 801 Capitol Mall, MS 37, Sacramento, CA 95814.

Persons retired from the United States military, honorably discharged from active duty with a service-connected disability, or honorably discharged from active duty, shall be eligible to apply for promotional civil service examinations, including examinations for career executive assignments, for which they meet the minimum qualifications as prescribed by the class specification. Persons receiving passing scores shall have their names placed on promotional lists resulting from these examinations or otherwise gain eligibility for appointment.

If you have further questions concerning veterans preference, you may contact the State Personnel Board at 1-866-844-8671, option 3. For the hearing impaired only, call TDD at 916-654-6336. Questions can also be sent via e-mail to jobexamcerts@spb.ca.gov.

The Department of Personnel Administration administers military leave provisions for state employees.

Federal law restricts employee contribution to deferred compensation plans to state employees on payroll status. When on military leave, an employee may or may not be on payroll status. For more information, contact:

Department of Personnel Administration
1515 "S" Street, North Building, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95811-7258
916-324-0455

Federal Employment

Employment with the Federal Government

If you are interested in working for the federal government, there are several programs designed to assist you. For further information, visit the United States Office of Personnel Management at www.usajobs.opm.gov.

Disabled Veterans Business Enterprises

The State of California spends approximately \$9 billion each year on contracts and procurement. The state has established a **Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE)** participation goal of at least 3 percent. The goal applies to the overall dollar amount expended each year by an awarding department. If you are a disabled veteran, part of that 3 percent, which equates to millions of dollars, could be yours.

To be certified as a DVBE, you need to own a business. Unfortunately, at this time, no assistance in business creation is offered by the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CDVA). There is help available through Service Corp of Retired Executives (SCORE), which is part of the Small Business Administration (SBA), the Small Business Development Centers, and some One-Stop business offices.

Who is Eligible

In order to be certified as a DVBE in the State of California, a business must:

- 1) Be at least 51 percent owned by one or more disabled veterans;
- 2) Have its daily operations managed and controlled by one or more disabled veterans; and
- 3) Have its home office located in the United States. The office cannot be a branch or subsidiary of a foreign corporation, foreign firm, or another foreign-based business.

A disabled veteran means a veteran of the U.S., military, naval, or air service, with a service-connected disability of at least 10 percent or more, and who is a California resident.

How Do You Get Certified

The certification process is the responsibility of the Department of General Services, Office of Small Business and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Certification (OSDC). To obtain DVBE certification, a firm must:

- 1) Submit a completed application; and
- 2) Provide a copy of an Award of Entitlement letter from the USDVA or the United States Department of Defense, dated within six months of the date the application is submitted to OSDC.

Procurement's OSDC conducts workshops on the benefits of certification and doing business with the State of California. The OSDC is available to assist you in completing the necessary documents. The OSDC can be reached at:

Office of Small Business and DVBE Certification
707 3rd Street, 1st Floor, Room 400
West Sacramento, CA 95605
916-375-4940 or 800-559-5529

The process is relatively simple. You can download the application at www.pd.dgs.ca.gov/smbus or call 916-375-4400 to have one mailed to you. Complete the application and submit it along with the required documentation to the OSDC. There is a lot of information regarding both the DVBE and the Small Business Certification process on the OSDC website.

It is recommended that you apply to be certified as a small business while you are getting your DVBE certificates. Small Business certification has its own unique benefits, including a 5 percent bidding preference, and greatly improves your chances of success.

To take advantage of this program it is recommended that your business offer services or commodities that the State of California actually needs. Supply those services or commodities at a fair market rate. The DVBE program is an opportunity, being a good business operator guarantees success.

DVBE Networks

Most areas have a network of active DVBE participants. If you need directions or have questions, contact the **DVBE Advocate**, at the CDVA, 916-653-2573 or e-mail at dvbe@cdva.ca.gov.

Unemployment Insurance

The **Unemployment Insurance (UI)** program operates under federal and state law to provide benefit payments to eligible workers who have become unemployed through no fault of their own. It is financed by contributions from employers who pay a tax based on a percentage of wages of workers covered by the program. Under UI, eligible workers can receive payments for a maximum of 26 weeks, provided they are able and willing to accept a suitable job.

For claims filed with a beginning date of January 2, 2005, the maximum weekly benefit amount will be \$450.

Those that have served in the military for the last 18 months and become unemployed, should call the EDD immediately for UI benefits. Your claim cannot begin until you file for benefits. (If you have not been in the military during the last 18 months, you can access the online eApply4UI application at www.edd.ca.gov).

EDD UI Toll-Free Telephone Numbers inside California:
English 800-300-5616 Cantonese 800-547-3506
Spanish 800-326-8937 Mandarin 866-303-0706
Vietnamese 800-547-2058

TTY (NonVoice):
800-815-9387

For general information on filing for UI benefits and to obtain a paper application that can be faxed or mailed, visit the EDD website at www.edd.ca.gov.

Automated Self Service

A telephone line is available for check information and One-Stop Career Center locations. The automated self-service system can be used by customers who do not need to speak to a representative. Information is available 24 hours per day, 7 days a week.

Automated Self-Service

Language	Number
ENGLISH Check Information One-Stop Career Centers	1-866-333-4606 Please dial carefully.
ESPAÑOL Información sobre su Cheque Los Control Profesionales de Una Parada	1-866-333-4606 Por favor, preste suma atención cuando marque.

**Department
of Labor
Veterans'
Employment
and Training
Service**

The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA)

USERRA is intended to minimize the disadvantages to an individual that can occur when that person needs to be absent from his or her civilian employment in order to serve in the uniformed services. It covers every individual in the country who serves in or has served in the uniformed services and applies to all employers in the public and private sectors including federal employers. The law seeks to ensure that those who serve their country can retain their civilian employment and benefits, and can seek employment free from discrimination because of their service. USERRA also provides enhanced protection for disabled veterans.

USERRA is administered by the U.S. Department of Labor, Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS). In California, VETS can be reached by calling 916-654-8178 or call the national DOL information line at 1-866-4-USA-DOL or TTY 1-877-889-5627 for the hearing impaired. For additional information on USERRA or to request assistance, visit <http://www.dol.gov/vets/programs/userra/main.htm>. Questions on USERRA and employment disputes related to military service can also be answered by the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR). Call 1-800-336-4590 or visit <http://esgr.mil>.

**State
Disability
Insurance**

California's State Disability Insurance (SDI) program provides Disability Insurance (DI) and Paid Family Leave (PFL) benefits. DI benefits are paid to eligible individuals who are unable to perform their regular or customary work due to illness or injury, including pregnancy and childbirth. The PFL insurance benefits are paid to eligible individuals who take time off work to care for a seriously ill child, spouse, parent, or registered domestic partner, or to bond with a new minor child.

Both DI and PFL benefits are financed entirely by California workers through a payroll tax on their earnings. Both the wage ceiling and tax rates are set by law as are the minimum and maximum weekly benefit rates. DI payments may be paid for up to 52 weeks. The PFL benefits may be paid for up to six weeks in a 12-month period. These benefits provide approximately 55 percent wage replacement.

In addition, there are special provisions which may allow a veteran to obtain a valid DI or PFL claim if the veteran worked for an employer who withheld SDI contributions prior to or during the time the veteran was in the armed forces.

For general information on filing for DI or PFL, visit the EDD website at www.edd.ca.gov.

To speak with a representative regarding DI, call:

1-800-480-3287 (English)

To speak with a representative regarding PFL, call:

English	1-877-238-4373
Spanish	1-877-379-3819
Cantonese	1-866-692-5595
Vietnamese	1-866-692-5596
Armenian	1-866-627-1567
Punjabi	1-866-627-1568
Tagalog	1-866-627-1569
TTY	1-800-445-1312

**Fish and
Game**

The California Department of Fish and Game issues reduced fee hunting licenses to honorably discharged veterans with a 50 percent or greater service-connected disability, and discounted sports fishing licenses to veterans with a 50 percent or greater service-connected disability. First time applicants must provide proof from the USDVA of their service-connected disability. Persons wishing to renew their reduced-fee license may submit a new application and a photocopy of their prior year's license, along with appropriate fees, to any Department of Fish and Game office. Proof of hunter safety is also required for persons obtaining a reduced-fee hunting license.

Only the license is offered at a reduced cost. Additional stamps, tags, permits, or other items must be purchased at full-fee. For additional information contact:

Department of Fish and Game
License and Revenue Branch
1416 9th Street, 12th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
916-445-0411

Visit the Department of Fish and Game at www.dfg.ca.gov.

Housing and Community Development

Blind and/or disabled veterans are entitled to special property tax exemptions if they own and occupy a mobile home. Depending on individual circumstances, veterans may qualify for license fee or homeowner's property tax exemptions.

For information on mobile home license fee exemptions, contact:

Department of Housing and Community Development
Registration and Titling
1800 3rd Street
Sacramento, CA 95811-6942
916-445-4782

Property Tax Exemptions

For information regarding county property tax exemptions for totally disabled service-connected veterans, and the surviving spouses of veterans whose cause of death was rated as service-connected, call the assessor's office of the county in which the property is located.

Motor Vehicles

The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) – A qualified disabled veteran is exempt from payment of all fees, except fees for duplicate plates and/or certificates for one passenger motor vehicle, motorcycle, or commercial motor vehicle of less than 8,001 pounds unladen owned by the disabled veteran. The vehicle cannot be used for transportation for hire, compensation, or profit. The veteran will receive a set of special "DV" plates which permit parking at all parking meters in the state with no time limit and allows for parking in handicapped zones. The USDVA proof of service connection is required. Qualifying disabled veterans are as follows:

Vehicle Code Section 295.7. A "disabled veteran" is any person who, as a result of injury or disease suffered while on active service with the armed forces of the United States, suffers any of the following:

- (a) Has a disability which has been rated at 100 percent by the Department of Veterans Affairs or the military service from which the veteran was discharged, due to a diagnosed disease or disorder which substantially impairs or interferes with mobility.
- (b) Is so severely disabled as to be unable to move without the aid of an assistant device.

- (c) Has lost, or has lost use of, one or more limbs.
- (d) Has suffered permanent blindness, as defined in Section 19153 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.

NOTE: A disability compensation rating refers only to the compensation received and does not qualify veterans for the "DV" plates.

California recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor (CMOH) and a former American Prisoner of War are exempt from payment of fees for one passenger motor vehicle, motorcycle, or commercial motor vehicle of less than 8,001 pounds unladen weight owned by the CMOH or former American Prisoner of War. The vehicle cannot be used for transportation for hire, compensation, or profit. The exemption can be used for one vehicle only, an individual who qualified for more than one type of fee-exempt plate such as CMOH and Ex-POW cannot obtain more than one plate.

Special Pearl Harbor Survivor (PHS), Purple Heart, and Legion of Valor license plates may be obtained for one vehicle without the special plate fee for vehicles owned by a qualified veteran. The PHS and Legion of Valor plates are not issued to motorcycles. PHS, Purple Heart, and Legion of Valor plates are not issued to commercial vehicles being operated for hire.

Applicant Qualifications – A PHS plate applicant must have been a member of the Armed Forces stationed at Pearl Harbor, the Island of Oahu, or offshore within a distance of three miles, on December 7, 1941, during the hours of 7:55 a.m. to 9:45 a.m., Hawaii time and must have received an honorable discharge from the military service. Special Purple Heart and Legion of Valor license plates may be obtained by recipients of a Purple Heart and Legion of Valor.

To apply for these special plates, contact the DMV. For the DMV location nearest you, please consult the "Government" section of the telephone directory or visit www.dmv.ca.gov. You may call the Telephone Service Center toll-free at 800-777-0133.

For calls by speech or hearing impaired persons, call TTY: 800-368-4327.

Example of program

Butte County's solution offers blueprint for Redding's homeless issues

BY: Jenny Espino

POSTED: 5:45 PM, Aug 28, 2015

UPDATED: 6:10 PM, Aug 31, 2015

TAG: [shaping our future \(/topic/shaping+our+future\)](#) | [homepage showcase \(/topic/homepage+showcase\)](#) | [tablet showcase \(/topic/tablet+showcase\)](#)

REDDING, California - As Redding

Councilwoman Kristen Schreder prepares to unveil a report that lays the groundwork for a

1 of 14 strategic approach to fight homelessness, the 10/1/15, 9:58 AM

community can look right in its backyard and to its neighbors for possible solutions.

Here in Redding, FaithWorks, the transitional housing program, has a track record for teaching homeless families the skills to move into permanent housing.

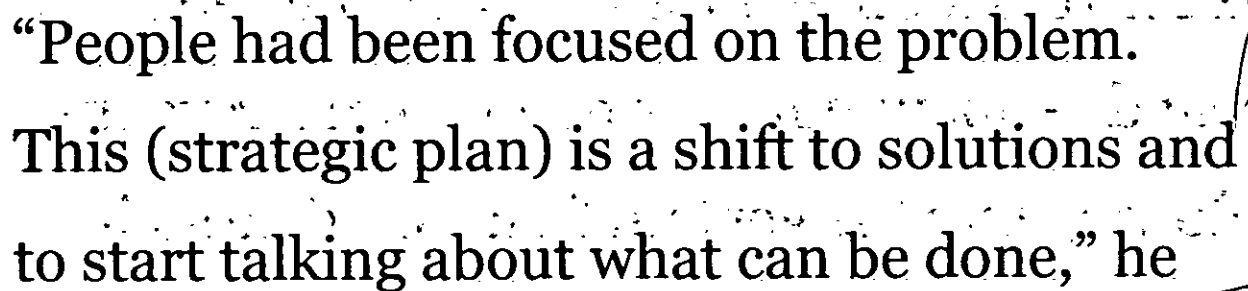
In Butte County, homeless advocates are talking about more housing for the mentally ill and homeless. There is a housing trust fund in place that's raised more than \$1 million to give these projects a small boost.

Meanwhile, Chico State University graduate students in social work may soon pick up case management duties at Butte County

Homeless Continuum of Care, which like in

is stretched thin...

Housing the homeless is not cheap, and nothing comes easy with the elimination of redevelopment dollars. But James Coles is upbeat about Butte County fixing its homeless problem. People who had never been at the table on the issue are tossing around ideas, said Coles, a consultant for Housing Tools who guided the Continuum of Care through its 10-year strategy to end homelessness. The report was completed in May 2014.



“People had been focused on the problem. This (strategic plan) is a shift to solutions and to start talking about what can be done,” he

The plan's top three objectives are to create a volunteer support network, promote public awareness on the topic and form a homeless court that directs offenders to services.

Schreder said Butte's progress can easily be replicated in the Redding area.

She holds up programs like FaithWorks as examples of what's working in Redding.

Mindful that business groups are still supportive of reviving a sales tax initiative to beef up public safety, she was open to having a conversation — once she has a full report in hand — about how any potential tax revenues flowing into the general fund could be split.

“What we're waiting to find out is, what are

the components of the programs and the costs to address homelessness?" she said.

Schreder has said community concerns over crime can sometimes be intertwined with those over homelessness.

Consider the findings from last year's survey at homeless encampments in Redding and across Shasta County: More than two-thirds of the people interviewed are locals and most have substance abuse problems or a mental illness.

Schreder wants to know how much it is costing the region each year for police calls, jail space and emergency-room visits, so as to draw comparisons with how much it may cost to try something new.

“The important thing is throughout the plan to have real strong engagement and to have the buy-in from the community to establish their priorities,” Schreder said.

The consultants she hired — independently from her position as an elected official — delivered to her a draft report on Friday that evaluates the area's approach to counting the homeless and running the Continuum of Care.

Schreder anticipated reviewing the preliminary report by HomeBase with City Manager Kurt Starman and city housing officials.

When the report is finalized in early September, it will be the basis for a long-term

Work on the latter — estimated at \$64,050 — will be carried out, again, by HomeBase. The San Francisco consulting firm met with numerous community leaders at a July workshop. And consultants have interviewed many of them by phone to jot down their ideas.

With its 16 units in the Martin Luther King Jr. neighborhood, just outside of downtown Redding, FaithWorks is being held up as a model for promoting family stability and breaking the cycle of homelessness.

The program has a 94 percent success rate getting families into permanent housing.

These families must first complete two years

at the Francis Court townhomes and apartments on West Street and Linden Avenue, where during that time they work toward self-sufficiency.

“There’s a lot of structure and a lot of rules here. Sometimes that is hard to follow,” said Monique Taylor, FaithWorks executive director. “But the ones who are successful, when they leave here, they say the rules are what helped them.”

The supervision is intense. There are weekly checks on each unit to make sure they are clean. Visits are limited. Tenants, who pay in rent 30 percent of their family income, must demonstrate they are paying off debts and

money is saved for when they move into permanent housing.

They receive parenting and life skills classes, basics that some were never taught. Some go on to obtain degrees from schools and gain steady employment.

But its impact is limited. Demand for housing at the Francis Court units is overwhelming.

At any one time, there are at least 100 families on the waiting list, Taylor said.

The city last year, in a long-term lease, turned over a strip of vacant land on Linden Avenue for FaithWorks to build eight apartments as part of a third phase of Francis Courts.

million for design and construction and is eyeing a federal housing grant application in spring.

That's where the strategic plan could come in handy — whether through the formation of a trust fund or private or public grants.

An accurate homeless count is key to improving the county's chances of competing for state and federal dollars.

Funding awards through the Redding/Shasta County Continuum of Care in 2006 were

\$273,288. Last year, the amount was \$373,349, an increase of only \$100,000 in eight years.

annual allocations have grown from about \$102,000 in 2003 to about \$580,000 in 2013.

It is worth noting Shasta County has a homeless data-tracking system in place. But not all service providers use the system. Most have counting systems of their own. To add another can be a difficult sell.

One of the goals of Butte's strategic plan was to put the homeless issue into the hands of the community and forge partnerships beyond those who already interact with the Continuum of Care.

The North Valley Housing Trust Fund is a product. Three banks put up \$650,000. Businesses and service providers also kicked

in contributions, along with a state program, bringing the total raised above \$1 million, Coles said.

About \$300,000 of that money will go toward a \$6 million project that will add 14 bedrooms for the mentally ill. The project, which includes on-site management, is by Palm Communities and Northern Valley Catholic Social Service. Groundbreaking next spring is dependent on the project receiving federal tax credits in September.

A second housing project is in the early stages. Any contribution from the trust fund would go toward acquisition of a property, Coles said.

He said locals now also are in talks with Butte

Humane Society about how to provide care
for pets owned by the homeless.

“It’s pretty basic, the value of opening dialogue. It’s honestly about asking questions, what do people think?” Coles said.

“It’s about asking for ideas and not assuming that the people who have been doing this for a long time know everything.

“It’s a little early to do a numeric impact,” he said, “but you can see changes happening.”

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Grant funding for homeless programs

Friday, January 08, 2010

The Hillsboro Argus

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development announced \$1.9 million in awards to local organizations. This funding will provide:

\$996,516 to renew funding for Shelter Plus Care Program rental assistance administered by the Washington County Department of Housing Services in partnership with nonprofit service providers.

\$136,523 for HopeSpring Transitional Living Program serving families with housing and services provided by Lutheran Community Services NW.

\$83,868 for the Hillsboro Graduated Independent Living Program serving chronically homeless individuals with housing, mental health and addictions services provided by Luke-Dorf, Inc.

\$119,465 for rental assistance and operations of The Boys and Girls Aid Transitional Living Program for runaway and homeless youth ages 18 to 23.

\$291,867 for operations of the Garrett Lee Smith Safe Haven facility sponsored by Luke-Dorf, Inc., in providing services and housing to homeless individuals with severe and persistent mental illness.

\$14,496 for operations of Washington County Transitional Housing Program units sponsored by the Housing Authority of Washington County in partnership with Washington County Community Corrections.

\$39,000 for administration of the countywide Homeless Management Information System. Project sponsor is Washington County Department of Housing Services.

\$165,218 for homeless persons participating in the Supplemental Assistance for Families in Assisted Housing Program through Community Action.

\$38,095 for mental health outreach provided by Open Door Counseling Center.

In a separate HUD funding award announcement in early 2010 will be new projects under funding consideration, including \$126,000 for Shelter Plus Care rental assistance to help homeless single adults obtain housing and services. The program is administered by the Washington County Department of Housing Services in partnership with nonprofit service providers.

The federal dollars awarded to Washington County are part of a \$1.43 billion competitive funding package that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development will distribute to local programs nationwide and in U.S. territories. Locally, this federal award will fund strategic housing and service programs identified in the county's 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness. Counties, cities, faith-based and community nonprofit agencies throughout Oregon depend on this funding to provide housing to some of our most vulnerable neighbors....

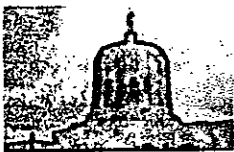
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"When it comes to looking for government grant money, you don't need an expensive consultant, you need a database software program called the **Federal Money Retriever**. It's unusual to find a product that the experts agree is the best of the best."

The Wall Street Journal

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GOVERNMENT GRANTS AND LOANS Mentally Disabled

- Nutrition Services Incentive -- \$150,443,000 - grants
- Supportive Housing for the Elderly -- \$1,024,151,000 - grants
- Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities --
- Shelter Plus Care -- \$223,000,000 - grants
- Resident Opportunity and Supportive Services -- \$55,000,000 - grants
- Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons -- \$8,920,000 - other funding / assistance
- Americans With Disabilities Act Technical Assistance Program -- \$15,590,000 -- grants other funding / assistance
- Work Incentives Grant -- \$20,000,000 - grants
- Employment Programs for People with Disabilities -- \$43,263,000 - grants
- Federal Employment for Individuals With Disabilities --
- Employment Discrimination Title I of The Americans with Disabilities Act --
- Special Education Grants to States -- \$7,528,533,000 - grants
- Rehabilitation Services Vocational Rehabilitation Grants to States -- \$2,455,385,000 - grants
- Rehabilitation Services Service Projects -- \$4,946,000 - grants
- Rehabilitation Long-Term Training -- \$25,000,000 - grants
- National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research -- \$110,000,000 - grants
- Rehabilitation Services Client Assistance Program -- \$11,897,000 - grants
- Special Education Preschool Grants -- \$390,000,000 - grants
- Rehabilitation Services Demonstration and Training Special Demonstration Programs -- \$21,238,000 - grants
- Program of Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights -- \$15,200,000 - grants
- Rehabilitation Short-Term Training -- \$500,000 - grants
- Rehabilitation Services American Indians with Disabilities -- \$25,998,000 - grants
- Rehabilitation Training General Training -- \$300,000 - grants
- Demonstration Projects to Ensure Students with Disabilities Receive a Higher

- Education -- \$7,000,000 - grants
- Community Technology Centers -- \$32,475,000 - grants
- Assistive Technology State Grants for Protection and Advocacy -- \$2,680,000 - grants
- National Council on Disability -- \$586,000 - grants
- Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services for Children with Serious Emotional Disturbances (SED) -- \$87,996,000 - grants
- Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) -- \$35,776,000 - grants
- Family Support Payments to States Assistance Payments -- \$23,000,000 - grants
- U.S. Repatriation -- \$1,000,000 - grants
- Developmental Disabilities Basic Support and Advocacy Grants -- \$104,800,000 - grants
- Developmental Disabilities Projects of National Significance -- \$11,734,000 - grants
- University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service -- \$24,000,000 - grants
- Medicare Hospital Insurance -- \$141,432,000,000 - grants
- Medicare Supplementary Medical Insurance -- \$105,289,000,000 - grants
- Medical Assistance Program -- \$144,886,851,000 - grants
- Senior Companion Program -- \$39,219,000 - grants

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Office of Governor

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GOVERNOR SIGNS LEGISLATION INITIATING THE FIRST STEPS TOWARD A VETERANS' CEMETERY AT FORT ORD

Governor Schwarzenegger today signed AB 3035 by Assemblymember John Laird (D-Santa Cruz), which starts the process of building a veterans' cemetery at Fort Ord in Monterey County.

"The men and women of our armed forces risk their lives to keep us safe and free and we owe them our deepest gratitude," said Governor Schwarzenegger. "This bill exemplifies people working together at all levels of government, veterans groups, and the community to work outside of the confines of government bureaucracy. I am pleased to sign AB 3035, which creates a funding mechanism to cover ongoing operations costs of the cemetery not covered by the federal government."

The federal government has built National Cemeteries across the country since the Civil War as a tribute to America's fallen heroes. The veterans of the Monterey area have been advocating for a Veterans Cemetery on the former U.S. Army base at Fort Ord for over 10 years. However, the site was unable to be considered for a Federal Cemetery due to its proximity to the San Joaquin Valley National Cemetery.

AB 3035 creates a mechanism to finally build this memorial to veterans in Monterey County without placing the long-term expenditures associated with operating a veterans' cemetery on the state. The bill creates the Central Coast State Veterans' Cemetery Endowment Fund which will be responsible for generating the funds necessary to ensure the maintenance and operations of the cemetery. Once adequate resources are raised, the state will file an application with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' Cemetery Grant Program, which will cover the cost of the designing, developing, constructing, and equipping of the cemetery.

There are 2.3 million veterans living in California, which is home to more veterans than anywhere in the United States. Governor Schwarzenegger has been a strong advocate for California's veterans, consistently promoting policies that support military personnel and recognizing their valuable contributions to California and the nation, including:

- Leading an effort to advance funding for five new state veterans' homes to be built in the next seven years in California to provide a place for veterans to receive assisted living, skilled nursing care and specialized attention in a new Alzheimer's unit.
- Signing legislation this year that supports veterans by helping the disabled with transportation, authorizing special road signs and Veteran's Day celebrations, and preventing the abuse of veterans' benefits by expanding the list of veterans organizations for which it is a crime for a person to falsely associate with in order to make solicitations or gain benefits.
- Signing legislation that extends job security for state workers who serve in the military, increases opportunities for businesses operated by disabled veterans, protects service members from financial scams, makes it a crime to impersonate a veteran, and increases the limits on CalVet home loans to 125 percent of the Fannie Mae limit.
- Signing legislation that allows Californians to donate to the Veterans Quality of Life Fund via state income tax. Monies donated to the Veterans Quality of Life Fund will be distributed to California's three veterans' homes in Barstow, Chula Vista, and Yountville for use in improving the morale, welfare and recreation of veterans.
- Dedicating the state veterans' cemetery in Redding on Veterans Day 2005. He also commissioned a Commemorative Medallion for presentation to former prisoners of war and families of service members missing in action.

See attached signing message



Latest News

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GOVERNOR ISSUES STATEMENT ON \$388 MILLION IN PROPOSITION 1C HOUSING BOND FUNDING FOR CALIFORNIA COMMUNITIES

Latest News:

Today Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger issued a statement on the more than \$388.8 million in Proposition 1C funds awarded to local communities throughout the state to improve housing, infrastructure and support housing near transit. The funding was made available through Proposition 1C which provides \$2.85 billion to finance affordable housing and infrastructure across California, and is part of the historic \$42 billion package of infrastructure bonds championed by the Governor and approved by voters in November 2006.











"This funding will help revitalize neighborhoods by providing important infrastructure improvements, building affordable housing near transit, and stimulating the economy for affordable multifamily projects up and down the state," said Governor Schwarzenegger.

Proposition 1C initiated new programs to improve infrastructure and support housing near transit - these are the first awards for the Infill Infrastructure Grant Program (Infill) and the Transit-Oriented Development Program (TOD). An additional \$150 million in awards for the Infill and TOD programs will be available if the Legislature passes AB 1252 (Caballero) which provides for an additional appropriation for these important programs. This bill is needed to help invigorate the economy and also fund projects that provide affordable housing and infrastructure incentives for cities and counties.

These awards are an investment in affordable housing in California's communities and are run through three Department of Housing and Community Development programs:

- \$240 million in awards through the Infill Infrastructure Grant Program will provide infrastructure improvements to facilitate new housing development in residential and mixed use infill projects throughout California, including parks or open space; water, sewer, or other utility service improvements; streets, roads, parking structures, or transit linkages and facilities; pedestrian or bicycle transit facilities; and traffic mitigation.
- \$95 million to provide funding through the Transit-Oriented Development Housing Program to stimulate the production of higher density housing and related infrastructure within close proximity to transit stations that encourage increased public transit ridership and minimizes automobile trips.
- \$53.8 million in awards through the Multifamily Housing Program will provide hardworking families, as well as seniors, the disabled, homeless and those transitioning from homelessness access to affordable housing.

For a listing of awards by program please visit the Department of Housing and Community Development website.

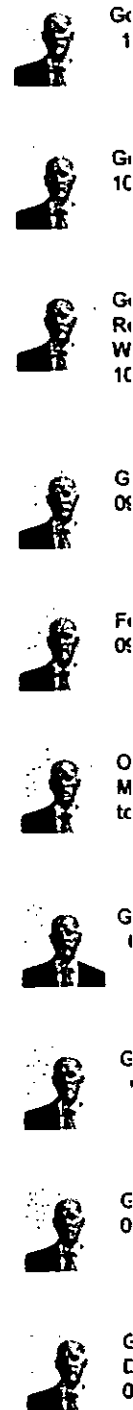
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S-07-06

Latest News

WHEREAS, good mental health is an integral component of a person's overall health and well-being; and WHEREAS, in California today, 5% of individuals may experience severe mental illness; and WHEREAS, mental illness is treatable and recovery is possible; and WHEREAS, thousands of suffering people remain on our streets because they are experiencing untreated severe mental illnesses; and WHEREAS, homeless people with mental illnesses are often likely to have acute and chronic physical health problems, abuse alcohol and drugs, have escalating, ongoing psychiatric symptoms, and become incarcerated; and WHEREAS, studies estimate that over a million Californians are homeless at some point during each year, and WHEREAS, supportive housing combines permanent, affordable housing with a range of support services that help people with mental illness and other disabilities stabilize their lives and function as members of the community, and WHEREAS, studies have shown that 95% of supportive housing costs are offset by service reductions, making supportive housing a sound public investment; and WHEREAS, supportive housing for persons with special needs, including physical disabilities, mental illness, and chronic homelessness, is particularly hard to build, as the residents typically are only able to pay minimal rent making it difficult for developers of this type of housing to support large amounts of conventional debt; and WHEREAS, state government has an opportunity to lead by example in recognizing that "Every Californian deserves a place to call home; and WHEREAS, the Health and Human Services Agency and the Department of Mental Health provide access to services and supports that promote the health, well-being, and independent living of the state's most vulnerable children, adults, and families; and WHEREAS, the California Housing Finance Agency has developed unique expertise in real estate development, underwriting, and finance to provide affordable housing to thousands of Californians; and WHEREAS, the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) is the state's principal housing agency and the mission of HCD is to provide leadership, policies and programs to expand and preserve safe and affordable housing opportunities and promote strong communities for all Californians; and WHEREAS, in 2004, California voters passed Proposition 63, the Mental Health Services Act, which expanded mental health care for children, youth, adults, and seniors; and WHEREAS, the Mental Health Services Act dedicated a significant portion of funds for capital facilities. NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby issue this Order to become effective immediately: 1. With the goal of creating 10,000 additional units of supportive housing, the Department of Mental Health (DMH), in consultation with the California Mental Health Directors Association, is directed to allocate up to \$75 million in Mental Health Services Act funds each year to finance the capital costs associated with development, acquisition, construction and/or rehabilitation of permanent supportive housing for individuals with mental illness and their families, especially including homeless individuals with mental illness and their families; 2. DMH shall work with the HCD and the California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA) to utilize those agencies' expertise in housing and real estate development, financial markets, loan underwriting and asset management, including expanding other funding sources and tax incentives to maximize the total commitment devoted to financing permanent supportive housing for individuals with mental illness and their families, especially including homeless individuals with mental illness and their families; 3. DMH, HCD and CalHFA shall work with other state agencies, county mental health departments, and other local and private parties to assist in the development of county Community Services and Supports Plans that focus on the housing needs of individuals with mental illness; 4. DMH, HCD and CalHFA shall take appropriate actions to ensure all California counties, large and small, have the opportunity to obtain funding for the supportive housing funding, providing technical assistance to any county upon request, to ensure that all counties have the opportunity to propose projects for the use of these funds; 5. CalHFA is directed to seek legislation creating a new category of housing within its statutes specifically permitting CalHFA to finance housing for persons with mental or physical disabilities who are in need of supportive housing; 6. Nothing in this Order shall preclude the funding of other capital facilities and technology needs where such funds are available and have been allocated for such purposes pursuant to the Mental Health Services Act; and 7. I further direct that as soon as hereafter possible, this Order be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given to this Order.



EXECUTIVE ORDER D-53-02

WHEREAS, it is estimated that on any given day approximately 350,000 people are homeless in California, including 35,000 to 100,000 children; and

WHEREAS, homelessness impacts individuals and families of all demographics and communities in all areas of our state; and

WHEREAS, homelessness has been a significant issue nationally and the subject of more than 80 studies in California since 1980 with varying focuses and recommendations on best practices; and

WHEREAS, California has invested in more than 70 state programs to provide services to the homeless and those at risk, raising a need to determine the success achieved by these programs in reducing homelessness; and

WHEREAS, preventing homelessness is the most effective and compassionate way to end it;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GRAY DAVIS, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby issue this order to become effective immediately:

IT IS ORDERED that an Interagency Task Force on Homelessness (Task Force) is created, composed of the Secretaries of the Health and Human Services Agency, Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, Youth and Adult Correctional Agency, Office of the Secretary for Education, and Department of Veterans Affairs and shall include representatives from the Housing and Community Development Department, Department of Mental Health, Department of Health Services, Alcohol and Drug Program, Department of Social Services, Employment Development Department, and Department of Corrections. The Task Force shall be co-chaired by the Secretaries of the Health and Human Services Agency and the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency. The Task Force shall seek assistance from any other agencies or departments and experts in homelessness prevention to complete the work of the Task Force.

The Task Force shall provide the Governor by July 1, 2002 a plan to incorporate homelessness prevention as an integral part of the mission within all State programs with the goal of reducing the incidence of homelessness in California. The Task Force shall consider ways to incorporate at-risk assessment tools into existing program services to assist in identifying individuals at risk of homelessness, and develop recommendations to provide services to the homeless in an integrated manner.

The Task Force shall also develop recommendations to utilize existing housing programs and proceeds from future housing bonds to significantly expand the number of permanent and transitional housing units for the long-term homeless population by 2010, and link supportive services into these programs to the greatest degree possible.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all State agencies, departments, and offices responsible to the Governor are directed, and all other public entities are requested, to provide their full support and cooperation to the Task Force.

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GOVERNOR BROWN SIGNS LEGISLATION TO PROTECT HOMELESS, FOSTER YOUTH

9-29-2014

SACRAMENTO – Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. today signed legislation to help protect the most vulnerable Californians – homeless children and adults and foster youth.

The Governor signed the following bills today:

- AB 388 by Assemblymember Wesley Chesbro (D-Arcata): Clarifies how juvenile courts may consider a child's dependent minor status when determining whether to place that child in delinquency and requires DSS to make public additional information about licensing and monitoring requirements for child welfare placements, including group homes.
- AB 1089 by Assemblymember Ian C. Calderon (D-Whittier): Establishes procedures for transferring foster children from one regional center to another.
- AB 1658 by Assemblymember Reginald B. Jones-Sawyer, Sr. (D-Los Angeles): Requires county child welfare agencies to help protect foster youth from identity theft by requesting from the three major credit rating agencies credit reports for foster youth aged 16 or older.
- AB 1701 by Assemblymember Jim Patterson (R-Fresno): Makes changes to adoption processes.
- AB 1733 by Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva (D-Fullerton): Allows persons who can verify their status as homeless to obtain an identification card from the California Department of Motor Vehicles without a fee.
- AB 1761 by Assemblymember Isadore Hall III (D-Compton): Permits social workers to place children who have been removed from the custody of their parents in the homes of relatives or non-relative extended family members after a detention hearing and pending the dispositional hearing.
- AB 1790 by Assemblymember Roger Dickinson (D-Sacramento): Requires the California Department of Social Services (DSS) to convene a stakeholder meeting to identify barriers to mental health services for foster children and children who are adopted or enter guardianship. A signing message can be found here.
- AB 1806 by Assemblymember Richard Bloom (D-Santa Monica): Applies, to students who are homeless, policies and procedures for students in foster care for graduation requirements, completed coursework, suspension and expulsion.
- AB 1978 by Assemblymember Reginald B. Jones-Sawyer, Sr. (D-Los Angeles): Enacts the Child Welfare Social Worker Empowerment and Foster Child Protection Act, which allows social workers to voluntarily disclose to DSS when they believe a policy, procedure or practice of a county child welfare agency endangers the health or well-being of children.
- AB 2454 by Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva (D-Fullerton): Allows former nonminor dependents who had received certain assistance to re-enter extended foster care upon approval of the juvenile court and if their guardians or adoptive parents are not providing ongoing support.
- AB 2668 by Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva (D-Fullerton): Permits nonminor dependents who are themselves parents to enter into a parenting support plan.
- SB 1023 by Senator Carol Liu (D-Glendale): Authorizes the Chancellor's Office of the California Community Colleges to establish the Cooperating Agencies Foster Youth Educational Support program with up to 10 community college districts.
- SB 1099 by Senator Darrell Steinberg (D-Sacramento): Encourages visitation with siblings for children in the dependency and juvenile justice system.
- SB 1252 by Senator Norma J. Torres (D-Chino): Authorizes counties to extend transitional housing to former foster youth up to age 25 who are completing secondary education or are enrolled in an institution that provides postsecondary education.
- SB 1460 by the Committee on Human Services: Requires counties to recruit to be foster parents individuals who reflect the ethnic, racial, and cultural diversity of foster children, and conforms to federal laws.

For full text of the bills, visit: <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov>

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GOVERNOR BROWN SIGNS HOMELESS, FOSTER YOUTH LEGISLATION

Latest News

10-2-2013

SACRAMENTO – Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. today signed legislation to help protect the most vulnerable Californians – homeless children and adults and foster youth.

The Governor signed the following bills:

• AB 346 by Assemblymember Mark Stone (D-Scotts Valley) – This bill establishes "runaway and homeless youth shelters" (RHYS) as a new subcategory of group homes under the Community Care Facilities Act (CCFA), requiring licensure by the Department of Social Services (DSS), as specified.

• AB 652 by Assemblymember Tom Ammiano (D-San Francisco) – This bill provides that the fact that a child is homeless or an "unaccompanied minor," as specified, is not, in and of itself, a sufficient basis for triggering the mandatory child abuse or neglect reporting laws.

• AB 787 by Assemblymember Mark Stone (D-Scotts Valley) – This bill makes clarifying and technical changes to the California Fostering Connections to Success Act (Act) to ensure the continued implementation of the Act.

• AB 873 by Assemblymember Ed Chau (D-Monterey Park) – Makes changes to the Emergency Housing Assistance Program (EHAP) for homeless individuals.

• AB 1109 by Assemblymember Susan Bonilla (D-Concord) – This bill would provide that when property is transitioned from an emergency shelter or transitional housing to permanent affordable housing, as specified, and serves people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, an existing loan may be deferred and forgiven, as if the property had remained an emergency shelter or transitional housing.

• AB 1133 by Assemblymember Holly J. Mitchell (D-Los Angeles) – This bill requires that when determining the placement of a foster child who is medically fragile, priority consideration be given to placement with a foster parent who is an individual nurse provider (INP), and who provides health services under the federal Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) program, unless the child has the option of placement with a relative, as specified.

• SB 177 by Senator Carol Liu (D-La Canada Flintridge) – Requires the State Interagency Team on Children and Youth to develop policies and practices to support homeless children and youths and to ensure that child abuse and neglect reporting requirements do not create barriers to school enrollment and attendance, as specified. This bill also extends to homeless children or youths existing requirements specific to foster youth, which require those students be immediately enrolled in school and deemed to meet all residency requirements for participation in interscholastic sports or other extracurricular activities.

• SB 342 by Senator Leland Yee (D-San Francisco) – Allows a foster youth to request a private conversation with his or her social worker or probation officer and ensures that foster youth are visited periodically in their home placements.

• SB 347 by Senator Jim Beall (D-San Jose) – Allows a county to repurpose unexpended bond funds initially awarded for the construction of shelters for abused and neglected children under the Youth Center and Youth Shelter Bond Act of 1988, and instead use those funds for shelters for runaway or homeless youth. Exempts a county from repayment penalties if expended funds were repurposed for runaway or homeless youth shelters.

• SB 522 by Senator Ben Hueso (D-San Diego) – Clarifies liability coverage of the Foster Family Homes and Small Family Home Insurance Fund, to provide greater liability protection for foster parents when a foster child is injured, subject to specific exceptions.

For full text of the bills, visit: <http://leginfo.ca.gov/bilinfo.html>.


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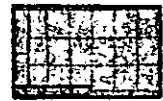
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Los Angeles panel proposes homelessness emergency, funds

By CHRISTOPHER WEBER
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) - It's no secret to people who walk or drive the streets of Los Angeles that homeless people - tens of thousands of them - are everywhere.

On Tuesday, having looked at numbers showing the city's homeless population has increased more than 10 percent over the past two years, officials announced they have decided enough is enough.

Mayor Eric Garcetti and several other elected officials stood outside City Hall - a few feet from several homeless people dozing on a lawn - to announce they plan to declare a state of emergency on homelessness and spend \$100 million to eradicate it.

"These are our fellow Angelinos," the mayor said. "They are those who have no other place to go, and they are literally here where we work, a symbol of our city's intense crisis."

Six blocks away, on the city's notorious Skid Row, thousands more live permanently in tents, makeshift cardboard shelters and sometimes just on the sidewalk itself.

"If you walk five blocks south and one block over, you'll enter the largest concentration of homeless in the country - about 4,000 homeless living in Skid Row," said Councilman Jose Huizar, who co-chairs the City Council's homelessness & poverty committee.

"Unfortunately, that is just a small percentage of the city's homeless population," he continued. "Yes, 85 percent of the city's homeless population lives outside of Skid Row, throughout the city."

The emergency declaration and the funding will require action by the full City Council. Officials didn't say exactly where the money will come from, but Council President Herb Wesson promised it would be found "somehow, some way."

Huizar spokesman Rick Coca said afterward that officials anticipate it will come from the city's general fund, adding "a more robust financial forecast for the city" is anticipated in the months ahead.

Councilmembers said they hope to have a draft strategic plan on homelessness by December.

The first rollout of funds - projected for Jan. 1, 2016 - would go toward permanent housing and shelter, according to Wesson's office.

Garcetti had already announced plans Monday to release nearly \$13 million in such newly anticipated excess tax revenue for short-term housing initiatives. The bulk of that money would be dedicated to housing homeless veterans.

Alice Callaghan, a longtime advocate for the homeless on Skid Row, said the proposed funding would not be nearly enough to stop the loss of affordable housing, especially in rapidly gentrifying areas of downtown and on the city's west side.

Skid Row itself has been touched in recent years by that gentrification as aging hotels and abandoned buildings have been turned into expensive lofts, condos and apartments. Upscale coffee shops and restaurants now compete for space with homeless shelters and flophouses on the area's 50 square blocks.

"A hundred million dollars won't even buy all the homeless pillows," Callaghan said, contrasting LA's proposal with New York City's \$41 billion affordable housing plan unveiled last year. "A hundred million certainly won't build much housing - and what we really have here is a housing crisis."

Experts blame that crisis on several factors, including the long recession, the city's gentrification and its rapidly rising rents and home prices. Those events have combined to push the homeless population steadily higher since 2013, to a figure now estimated at 20,000.

Those factors also have helped push some out of Skid Row and many more all across the city. Some homeless now reside on bluffs overlooking freeways, in ocean-front parks and in hillside nooks and crannies. Others have moved right into suburbia.

A graphic map published by the Los Angeles Times in June - and drawn from statistics provided by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority - revealed people living in cars and tents in such fashionable areas as Brentwood and the wealthiest sections of the San Fernando Valley.

Earlier this year, a study by the city's top budget official found Los Angeles already spends \$100 million a year to deal with homelessness - much of it on arrests and other police services - but its departments have no coordinated approach for addressing the problem. Without clear guidelines, departments instead tend to rely on ad hoc responses, according to the report by City Administrative Officer Miguel Santana.

Callaghan said she fears this latest initiative is aimed more at "reducing the visibility" of the homeless ahead of a proposed bid to bring the Olympics to Los Angeles in 2024, rather than getting homeless people off the street permanently.

"They can spend billions on getting the Olympics," she said of the proposal that anticipates spending \$6 billion in public and private financing to bring the Games to LA. "But not on getting people off the sidewalks."

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GOVERNOR SCHWARZENEGGER JOINS U.S. HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT SECRETARY ALPHONSO JACKSON TO ANNOUNCE \$228 MILLION IN FEDERAL GRANTS TO COMBAT HOMELESSNESS IN CALIFORNIA

Latest

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and U.S. Housing and Urban Development Secretary Alphonso Jackson today announced that California will receive more than \$228 million in federal grants to programs that provide temporary shelter, permanent housing and important services for the homeless. "This is a great day for California and the broader effort to end chronic homelessness. Our mission is to provide the homeless an open door to welcome the weary and then a window to a life of dignity and self-sufficiency," said Governor Schwarzenegger at the People Assisting the Homeless (PATH) Residential Service Center in Los Angeles. "This federal money will help us meet this goal by providing the homeless with housing, health care and the tools necessary to build a new life." The federal funds will support state and local programs through the Continuum of Care grants and Emergency Shelter grants. Continuum of Care grants are awarded directly to local programs that provide permanent and transitional housing, job training, health care and child care for the homeless. Emergency Shelter grants, which are allocated to state and local governments, fund converting buildings into homeless shelters in addition to other homeless prevention services, such as substance abuse treatment. "This money is going directly to the front lines, straight to the extraordinary people in the trenches running the programs that are lifting the hearts of the homeless day after day," said Governor Schwarzenegger. The funding for California is part of \$1.4 billion in grants distributed nationally to combat homelessness by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. This is the largest ever single allocation of federal funds for the purpose of ending long-term homelessness and assisting those without a home. California will receive 15 percent more grant money than in 2004, which will significantly boost efforts to assist the more than 360,000 homeless people in the state. "The funds we are announcing today represent more than just dollars for the state of California - to the thousands receiving support services, the grants represent a roof over their head, job training, health care, and a better way of life. We have made a pledge to combat homelessness and this unprecedented amount of money will help us meet that challenge head on," said Secretary Jackson. Governor Schwarzenegger also expressed gratitude to PATH Executive Director Joel John Roberts for his organization's commitment to helping the more than 80,000 homeless in Los Angeles. "For over 20 years PATH has proven that just because there is no home does not mean there is no hope," said Governor Schwarzenegger. "PATH provides not only shelter but health care and job training to thousands of Californians." PATH began as an emergency food and clothing distribution program in Los Angeles' Westside in 1984. The group, now with numerous locations and services throughout the Los Angeles area, is dedicated to empowering the homeless by giving them the support, life skills and resources they need to end the cycle of homelessness.





GOVERNOR BROWN CREATES CALIFORNIA INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON VETERANS

8-23-2011

SACRAMENTO – Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. today issued an Executive Order establishing the California Interagency Council on Veterans to improve how veterans’ services are coordinated across local, state and federal government.

“The California Interagency Council on Veterans gives everyone a seat at the table and ensures we’re working collaboratively to address the needs of the 30,000 servicemen and women who return to California each year,” Brown said. “We owe our veterans the best and when they come home, we must serve them the same way they so bravely served us.”

Governor Brown’s Executive Order directs the Secretary of the California Department of Veterans Affairs to establish the Council, which will be tasked with identifying and prioritizing the needs of California’s veterans and coordinating the activities at all levels of government in addressing those needs.

“With so many combat veterans returning to California every year it is imperative that state agencies and departments coordinate our efforts to ensure these young men and women are connected to the services and benefits they need to successfully transition home,” said California Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary Peter J. Gravett.

This order is based on AB 557, authored by Assembly Speaker John A. Pérez with Assemblymembers Paul Cook, Richard Pan, and Henry T. Perea.

“I’m very pleased the Governor has created the Interagency Council on Veterans Affairs because one of our most important duties is to keep faith with the men and women who have served the United States in uniform,” said Speaker Pérez. “I introduced legislation to create the Council early this session because we need to do more with less, and by creating this Council, we will bring new focus and new efficiency to provide needed services to California’s veterans. I’m very pleased the Governor has taken the proactive step of creating this Council by Executive Order so that it can begin its vital work immediately.”

Under the order, Speaker Pérez and Senate President pro Tem Darrell Steinberg are each expected to appoint a member to the Council from their respective houses. These appointees will join Secretaries and department heads of the Labor and Workforce Development Agency, California Volunteers, Business Transportation and Housing Agency, Health and Human Services Agency, Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Military Department, Employment Development Department, Department of Consumer Affairs, Department of Rehabilitation and Department of Housing and Community Development.

Additionally, the Governor’s order requests that the Chief Justice of California, President of the University of California, Chancellor of California State University and Chancellor of California Community Colleges each appoint a member to the Council. The Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs will also coordinate with Federal partners and external stakeholders to ensure both groups are active participants on the Council.

California’s veterans face many challenges as they transition back to civilian life, including:

- The unemployment rate for Gulf War II veterans is 42 percent higher than it is for non-veterans.
- Approximately 25 percent of Gulf War II veterans have a disability that is connected to their military service, compared with approximately 13 percent of all veterans.
- Recent tests of returning troops show that 20 percent of infantry and 10 percent of other troops suffer from at least mild brain injury.
- Over 35 percent of veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, who have sought healthcare through the Veterans Administration, have been diagnosed with mental disorders.
- California has the largest number of homeless veterans in the nation and 62 percent of all homeless veterans have been diagnosed with both substance abuse issues and serious mental health problems.

The text of the Executive Order is below:

EXECUTIVE ORDER B-9-11

WHEREAS more than 30,000 veterans return to California each year after leaving the United States Armed Services; and

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WHEREAS approximately 25 percent of Gulf War II veterans have a disability that is connected to their military service, compared with approximately 13 percent of all veterans; and

WHEREAS recent tests of returning troops show that 20 percent of infantry and 10 percent of other troops suffer from at least mild brain injury; and

WHEREAS over 35 percent of veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, who have sought healthcare through the Veterans Administration, have been diagnosed with mental disorders; and

WHEREAS California has the largest number of homeless veterans in the nation; and

WHEREAS 62 percent of all homeless veterans have been diagnosed with both substance abuse issues and serious mental health problems; and

WHEREAS many federal, state, and local agencies, and non-governmental organizations receive and distribute funding targeted to address veteran needs from a variety of sources; and

WHEREAS California veterans can be better served with a more coordinated statewide effort.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, EDMUND G. BROWN JR, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, issue this Order to become effective immediately.

IT IS ORDERED that the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs establish the California Interagency Council on Veterans, whose purpose shall be to identify and prioritize the needs of California's veterans, and to coordinate the activities at all levels of government in addressing those needs.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Secretaries of the Labor and Workforce Development Agency, California Volunteers, the Business Transportation and Housing Agency, the Health and Human Services Agency, and the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, the Adjutant General of the Military Department, and the Directors of the Employment Development Department, the Department of Consumer Affairs, the Department of Rehabilitation, and the Department of Housing and Community Development are appointed as members of the California Interagency Council on Veterans.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that each of those Secretaries and Directors designate a member of their management staff as their Ombudsman for Veterans' Affairs who shall be that agency's primary point of contact for veteran issues.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs invite federal agencies such as the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, U. S. Department of Labor, U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the military services, and the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Unit to participate in the California Interagency Council on Veterans.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs invite veteran stakeholders, such as the California Veterans Board, the California Association of County Veteran Service Officers, the California Association of Veteran Service Agencies, the California Commanders Council, the Employment Training Panel, the California Workforce Investment Board, and the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities to nominate a representative to participate in the California Interagency Council on Veterans.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Secretaries of the Department of Veterans Affairs and Labor and Workforce Development Agency provide staff support to the California Interagency Council on Veterans.

IT IS REQUESTED that the President pro Tem of the California Senate and Speaker of the California Assembly each appoint a member from their respective houses to represent the legislative branch as members of the California Interagency Council on Veterans.

IT IS FURTHER REQUESTED that the Chief Justice of California appoint a representative from the judicial branch as a member of California Interagency Council on Veterans.

IT IS FURTHER REQUESTED that the President, University of California, the Chancellor, California State University, and Chancellor California Community Colleges each appoint a representative from their respective systems to sit as members of the California Interagency Council on Veterans.

This Order is not intended to create, and does not create, any rights or benefits, whether substantive or procedural, or enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California or its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

I FURTHER DIRECT that, as soon as hereafter possible, this Order shall be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given to this Order.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 23rd day of August 2011.

Homeless Motel-Clinic Program Honored

by David Gorn

Thursday, February 27, 2014

Two innovators who started a program in Orange County to help homeless people recover in motels after they're discharged from hospitals will be honored today with the James Irvine Foundation Leadership Award at a ceremony in Sacramento.

As part of the award, Gene Grigsby and Paul Leon will receive \$125,000 for their program.

"Most people call it respite care, we call it recuperative care," Grigsby said. "The way to think of it is, if you or I were in a hospital, we would be discharged, then someone would look after you until you could go back to work. So this is a place for the homeless to go until they can function again. That's critical for homeless people."

The recuperative program is set up in motel rooms throughout Orange County – in part because those motels are in a familiar neighborhood for many of the homeless, and in part because it's an inexpensive and simple way to set up recovery care for them, Leon said.

"Mostly we did it that way because of need," Leon said. "We had no money [to set up a program], and we did what we had to do."

The two estimate they've saved 63 hospitals more than \$13 million over the past four years. The rate of readmission is down significantly, they said, with only 11% of their 1,900 patients eventually returning to the hospital.

"The numbers are so incredible, we had to look twice at them," Leon said. "The recidivism rate is off the charts. We had one patient who went from 16 [hospital stays] in an eight-month period down to zero."

Leon said the award could help spread the idea to other parts of the state and country.

"Our biggest hurdle is hospitals understanding what we do and that we're available," he said. "The award validates the work we're doing, but also it allows us to get the word out. I mean, we're not only saving hospitals millions of dollars, but we're giving much better care."

That may be music to the ears of a hospital director, he said.

"At one point in my life I was a hospital administrator," Leon said. "And I wish we had this kind of thing when I did that. We

were too busy running the hospital. We think more administrators will take the time to understand the problem [now]."

The program has three hubs – in Orange County, Los Angeles and a recently opened one east of the San Gabriel Mountains, Grigsby said.

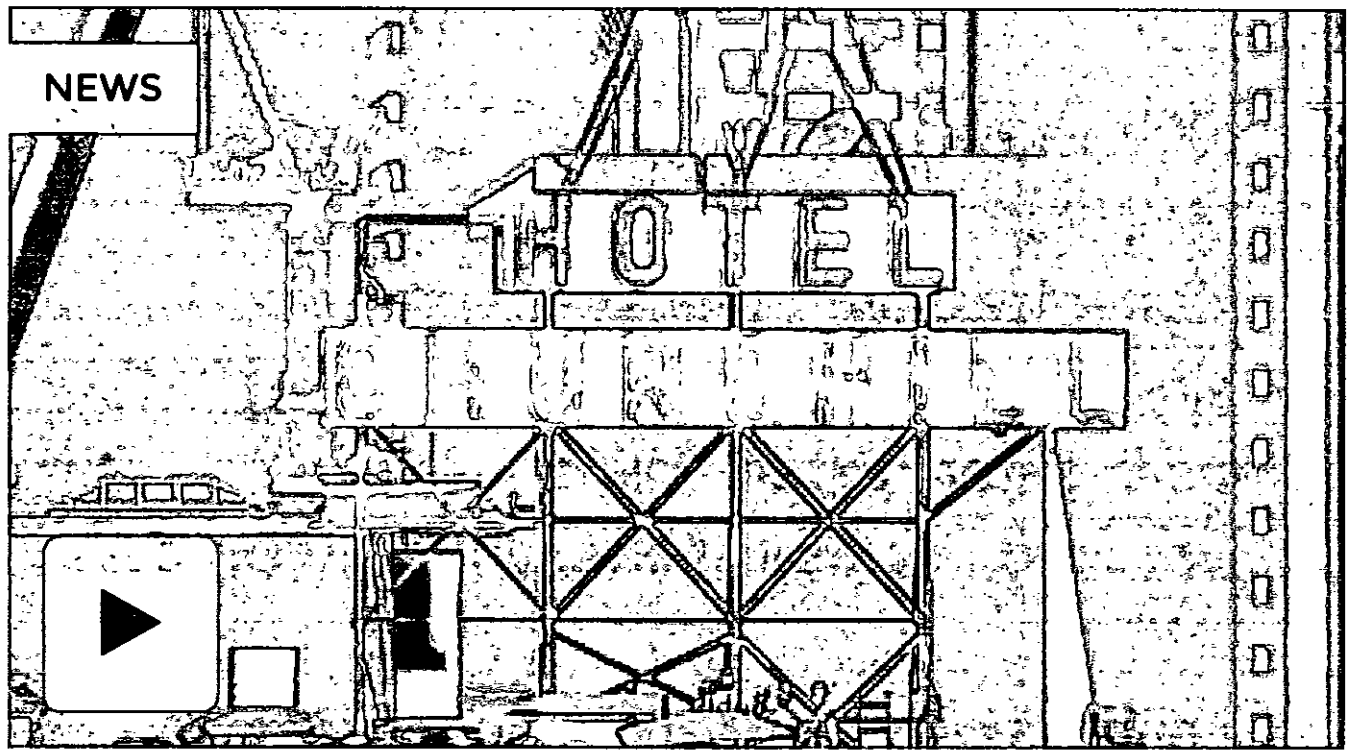
"It saves a lot of money for hospitals, which allows them to focus on other things," Grigsby said. "But from a policy perspective, if Medi-Cal made this an eligible reimbursable service, or if hospitals were not allowed to discharge to shelters, that would make a huge difference for the homeless."

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throughout the region in October to identify unmet needs and gaps in mental health services and get community input on where additional dollars should be spent.

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Supervisor Greg Cox said he participates in the annual point-in-time homeless count done on city streets every winter and witnessed firsthand the needs of homeless people in the county.

“In 2004, the voters of California passed Prop. 63 showing there was a need to address mental health services, and 11 years later that need remains,” Cox said. “Each individual has a compelling story to tell. This is absolutely a major step forward, but it’s just one step in the process.”

The county’s Live Well San Diego initiative is designed to provide resources to individuals with behavioral health needs to help them live healthy and productive lives.

The county will hold a dozen public forums

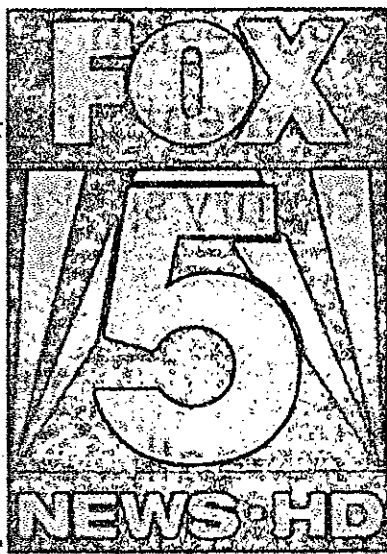
The money comes from the state's Mental Health Services Act, which was approved by voters in 2004 and provides funding to expand mental health services across California.

The supervisors unanimously voted to allocate the \$10 million toward the Special Needs Loan Program to provide supportive permanent housing for the homeless in the San Diego region. A handful of speakers from various mental health organizations throughout the county spoke in support of the program.

Since it began, the supervisors have allocated \$33 million to Behavioral Health Services to develop 241 permanent housing units in the San Diego area for those with mental illness. The agency uses a "housing first" model to address homelessness, according to county officials.

County adds \$10M to house mentally ill homeless

POSTED 11:53 AM, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015, BY FOX 5 DIGITAL TEAM, UPDATED AT 04:02PM, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015



SAN DIEGO — The San Diego County Board of Supervisors secured \$10 million Tuesday to help house homeless individuals with severe mental

SOAPBOX SEPTEMBER 26, 2015

Time to adjust California's Mental Health Services Act

HIGHLIGHTS

Despite advances, issues of the mentally ill are getting worse

Statewide set of priorities will ensure people get help

Three priorities the Mental Health Services Act should address

BY DARRELL STEINBERG

Special to The Bee

Imagine enough resources to provide permanent supportive housing for the thousands of homeless mentally ill and to provide robust mental health services for college students on all our public college campuses without raising a dime of additional state or local dollars.

The vision described is possible with modest adjustments to the Mental Health Services Act, or MHSA, otherwise known as the 2004 ballot initiative, Proposition 63.

The MHSA has helped thousands of Californians living with severe mental illness in its first 10 years. Last March, the Steinberg Institute and the County Behavioral Health

Directors Association of California published an evaluation that showed 35,000 Californians with severe mental illness each year receive a whatever-it-takes approach — rent, housing, mental health care, substance abuse treatment, vocational assistance — from MHSA funding. Their lives are demonstrably better as a result.

The act also has produced \$400 million of supportive housing, early psychosis identification and treatment for teenagers at risk of serious mental illness and many other innovative approaches.

Despite numerous advances, issues of the mentally ill homeless, and mental illness in

general, are getting worse, not better. As a co-author of the act, I have a responsibility to assess its flaws and recommend improvements. Let's begin with the fact that the act appropriates few resources for statewide approaches to the system's most vexing problems.

The public mental health system in California is funded and operated through its 58 counties. While stakeholders recognize that some local priorities differ, parsing \$1.8 billion per year 58 ways does not allow for more comprehensive approaches to improving the mental health system.

For example, experts recognize permanent

supportive housing as the first requisite to reducing homelessness. While the act has provided the one-time investment for several thousand housing units for people with severe mental illness, there is no ongoing statewide funding commitment to do whatever it takes to make a demonstrable impact on homelessness. And there is no statewide approach to ensure college students get help before they suffer more serious mental illnesses.

We must have a statewide set of priorities that ensure people get help before they suffer the horrific consequences of years of untreated mental illness.

The Mental Health Services Act should aggressively address three statewide priorities:

First, the state should issue a revenue bond to fund tens of thousands of supportive housing units for the mentally ill on our streets.

The Mental Health Services Act's annual revenue stream allows the state to bond for the capital necessary to build or subsidize housing. A \$2 billion bond secured by \$130 million per year of MHSA dollars would be the single largest effort in California history to address a social condition that seems unsolvable. It is solvable. No new money. Literally capitalize on an existing state revenue source originally intended to address

homelessness.

Second, the state and counties should set aside some of the \$400 million per year for prevention and early intervention to focus on our youths.

There are few places of greater need of mental health resources than California's college campuses. Wait lists and strict limits on visits for students in need are legendary. College is already a difficult time of transition and is often the time students suffer their first breaks. We must build a system of care that helps students avoid the cycle that too often leads to devastating consequences of not receiving help when first experiencing

symptoms.

The Mental Health Services Act could offer the UC, CSU and community college systems a significant incentive to improve their campus-based services by matching every new dollar the three systems put up toward increasing therapists, psychologists and other mental health personnel on their campuses.

The combination of MHSA, higher-education dollars and health insurance would provide the necessary resources to build quality services where early intervention is crucial.

Third, the Mental Health Services Act and the state should expand its groundbreaking 2013 legislation to provide alternatives to

emergency rooms for people suffering a
mental health crisis.

The state allocated more than \$200 million to
provide 2,000 crisis beds and 600 triage
workers to alleviate overcrowded ERs.

Everyone agrees that the ER is not the place
for people in crisis to get better and attain the
follow-up care they need, and the 2013
investment is near an end. The state should
use its resources, including MHSA, to expand
these humane and cost-effective models.

No one act, even one as ambitious as the
Mental Health Services Act can solve every
societal problem impacted by mental illness.

The mental health needs in California

outweigh this resource. Therefore, we must use it creatively and purposefully to tackle big problems. There is more at stake here than who decides how to spend MHSA dollars. Demonstrating statewide success might inspire policymakers to make mental health a funding priority to help even more people in need.

Absent bolder action, mental health will continue to be a budget afterthought and a human tragedy.

Darrell Steinberg, former president pro tem of the state Senate, is founder of the Steinberg Institute, which works to advance public policy on mental health issues.

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Mac McCauley

4 days ago

If Steinberg is for something count on it benefitting either unions or lawyers.

Just say no to Darrell

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Let's End Veteran Homelessness

Welcome to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Ending Veteran Homelessness website.

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No Veteran Should Be Without a Place to Call Home

VA is committed to ending homelessness among Veterans. Our focus is threefold:

- Conducting coordinated outreach to proactively seek out Veterans in need of assistance.
- Connecting homeless and at-risk Veterans with housing solutions, health care, community employment services and other required supports.
- Collaborating with federal, state and local agencies; employers; housing providers, faith-based and community nonprofits; and others to expand employment and affordable housing options for Veterans exiting homelessness.

Take Action

- Veterans who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless can call or visit their local VA Medical Center, where homeless coordinators are ready to help.
- Veterans and their families may also call 1-877-4AID-VET (1-877-424-3838) to access VA services.
- Explore va.gov/homeless to learn about VA programs for Veterans who are homeless and share that information with others.

LOCATOR

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U.S. Department of
of Veterans Affairs

(<http://www.va.gov>)

VA (<http://www.va.gov/>) » Health Care (<http://www.va.gov/health>) » VA San Diego Healthcare System (</index.asp>) » Health Care Services (</SANDIEGO/services/index.asp>) » Homeless Veterans

VA San Diego Healthcare System

MENU

Homeless Veterans

The VA San Diego Healthcare System partners with the local community to offer a wide array of special programs and initiatives designed to help homeless Veterans live as self-sufficiently and independently as possible.

The Department of Veterans Affairs' Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) (<http://www1.va.gov/HOMELESS/HCHV.asp>) programs comprise the largest integrated network of homeless treatment and assistance services in the nation. As a component of this network, VA San Diego strives to provide a continuum of service – from outreach to permanent housing – to our homeless Veteran population.

Major Program Components

- Outreach

- Grant and Per Diem Transitional Housing
- Housing and Urban Development (HUD)/VA Supported Housing (http://www1.va.gov/HOMELESS/HUD-VASH.asp)
- Veterans Justice Outreach Initiative
 - Stand Down
 - National Homeless Call Center
 - Homeless Patient Aligned Care Team
 - Recuperative Care Program
 - Homeless Veterans Prevention Programs
 - VASDHS Annual Care & Share Program
 - Social Work Information & Referral Services
 - VASDHS Chaplain Service

Aspire Center

The Aspire Center (/locations

[/Aspire_Center.asp](#)), opened in Feb 2014, is a 40-bed residential treatment facility aimed at promoting recovery in Veterans, particularly those who returned from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Center will provide temporary housing for Veterans who do not need inpatient care, but would benefit from rehabilitation services for an average of 60-120 days. Although the Center will include elements of mental health and substance abuse treatment for those Veterans who need them, the facility will NOT be an inpatient psychiatric facility or mental health hospital, drug rehab program, homeless shelter, or long-term stay facility.

For more information about HCHV program, call or visit:

VA San Diego's HCHV Program Office

7410 Mission Valley Road

San Diego, CA 92108

Phone: (619) 400-5157

Fax: (619) 400-5159

If you are a Veteran who has lost your home, VA can help you get back on your feet. Contact VA's National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at 1-877-4AID-VET (1-877-424-3838) to speak to a trained VA responder. The hotline and online chat are free and neither VA registration nor enrollment in VA healthcare is required to use either service.

When you call or join the online chat:

- You will be connected to a trained VA responder.

- The responder will ask a few questions to assess your needs.
- If you're a Veteran, you may be connected with the Homeless Program point of contact at the nearest VA facility.
- Contact information will be requested so staff may follow up.

VA offers these services, all available via 1-877-4AID-VET, to homeless Veterans and Veterans at risk of homelessness and their families:

Opportunities to return to employment

VA's Compensated Work Therapy (CWT) is comprised of three unique programs which

assist
homeless
Veterans in
returning to
competitive



employment: Sheltered Workshop, Transitional Work, and Supported Employment. Veterans in CWT are paid at least the federal or state minimum wage, whichever is higher.

The Homeless Veteran Supported Employment Program (HVSEP) provides vocational assistance, job development and placement, and ongoing supports to improve employment outcomes among homeless Veterans and Veterans at-risk of homelessness. Formerly homeless Veterans who have been trained as Vocational Rehabilitation Specialists

(VRSs) provide these services.

Safe Housing

The Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program provides grants and per diem payments (as funding is available) to help public and nonprofit organizations establish and operate supportive housing and service centers for homeless Veterans. Learn more about the Grant Per Diem Program (<http://www.va.gov/homeless/GPD.asp>)



HUD-VA Supportive Housing (VASH) Program is a joint effort between the Department of Housing and Urban Development and VA. HUD allocated nearly 38,000 "Housing Choice" Section 8 vouchers across the country. These vouchers allow Veterans and their families to live in market rate rental units while VA provides case management services. A housing subsidy is paid to the landlord on behalf of the participating Veteran. The Veteran then pays

the difference between the actual rent charged by the landlord and the amount subsidized by the program. Learn more about the HUD-VASH Program (<http://www.va.gov/homeless/hud-vash.asp>).

The **Acquired Property Sales for Homeless Providers Program** makes all VA foreclosed properties available for sale to homeless provider organizations-at a 20 to 50 percent discount-to shelter homeless Veterans.

The **Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Program** provides grants and technical assistance to community-based, nonprofit organizations to help Veterans and their families stay in their homes. Learn more about the SSVF program (<http://www.va.gov/homeless/ssvf.asp>).

Health care

VA's Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV)



Program

offers outreach, exams, treatment, referrals, and case management to Veterans who are homeless and dealing with mental health issues, including substance use. At more than 135 HCHV sites, trained, caring VA specialists provide tools and support necessary for Veterans to get their lives on a better track. Call VA's toll-free hotline or visit the Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) Program page.

(<http://www.va.gov/homeless/hchv.asp>)

VA's Homeless Patient Aligned Care Teams (H-PACTs) Program provides a coordinated "medical home" specifically tailored to the needs of homeless Veterans that integrates clinical care with delivery of social services with enhanced access and community coordination. Implementation of this model is expected to address many of the health disparity and equity issues facing this population and result in reduced emergency department use and hospitalizations, improved chronic disease management, improved "housing readiness" with fewer Veterans returning to homelessness once housed. Homeless Patient Aligned Care Teams (H-PACTs) Program (http://www.va.gov/homeless/h_pact.asp)

VA's Homeless Veterans Dental Program

provides dental treatment for eligible Veterans in a number of programs: Domiciliary, Residential Rehabilitation Treatment, VA Grant and Per-Diem, Compensated Work Therapy/Transitional Residence, Healthcare for Homeless Veterans (contract bed), and Community Residential Care. VA is working to expand dental care to all eligible Veterans within this program. Homeless Veterans Dental Program (<http://www.va.gov/homeless/dental.asp>)

Project CHALENG (Community Homelessness Assessment, Local Education and Networking Groups) brings together providers, advocates, and other concerned citizens to identify the needs of homeless Veterans and work to meet those needs through planning and cooperative action. This process has helped build

thousands of relationships between VA and community agencies so that together they can better serve homeless Veterans. For more information on Project CHALENG, call VA's toll-free hotline or visit the Project CHALENG web page (<http://www.va.gov/homeless/chaleng.asp>).

Mental health services

Veteran
Justice
Outreach



(<http://www.va.gov/homeless/vjo.asp>) provides eligible, justice-involved Veterans with timely

access to VA's mental health and substance use services when clinically indicated, and other VA services and benefits as appropriate.

VA's Substance Use Disorder Treatment Enhancement Initiative provides substance use services in the community to aid homeless Veterans' recovery.

The Health Care for Re-Entry Veterans Program (<http://www.va.gov/homeless/reentry.asp>) helps incarcerated Veterans successfully rejoin the community through supports including those addressing mental health and substance use problems.

The Readjustment Counseling Service's Vet Center Programs (<http://www.vetcenter.va.gov/>) feature community-based locations and

outreach activities that help to identify
homeless Veterans and match homeless
Veterans with necessary services.

[return to top](#)

Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV)
7410 Mission Valley Road, San Diego, CA 9210
619-400-5157

VA Homeless Program (<http://www.va.gov/homeless>)

CONNECT

Veterans Crisis Line:

(<http://www.veteranscrisisline.net/>)

1-800-273-8255 (tel:+18002738255)

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U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs | 810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington DC 20420

Last updated June 9, 2015



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

September 21, 2015

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Through: Robert J. Fenton, Jr.
Regional Administrator
Federal Emergency Management
Agency, Region IX
Oakland, California, 94607-4052

Dear Mr. President:

I very much appreciate your concern and personal call last week regarding California's wildfires.

Pursuant to Section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. Sections §§ 5121-5207 (Stafford Act), and Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations Section 206.36, I hereby request you declare a major disaster for in the State of California as a result of the Butte Fire burning in Amador and Calaveras Counties.

The Butte Fire began in Amador County on September 9, 2015, quickly spreading through Calaveras County. Given this fire's rate of spread, size, and intensity, scientists consider it to be a "megafire," which behaves differently than typical wildfires. Megafires expand quickly and unpredictably, thriving on dead trees, dry vegetation, and wind conditions. Winds propel burning embers far ahead of the existing fire, accelerating fire growth at a pace that is very difficult to control. Four years of extreme drought conditions have parched our landscapes and created millions of dead trees that have increased California's vulnerability to these types of fires.

The Butte Fire has burned over 70,760 acres and it is already considered the 12th most destructive wildfire in California's history. Presently, it is only 74 percent contained. It has destroyed more than 475 homes and 343 nonresidential properties and threatened over 6,000 single residences and hundreds of nonresidential properties. While we have initiated preliminary damage assessments, 53 parcels still need to be validated. The assessments are confirming approximately 95 percent validation of destruction. As such, the number of destroyed homes may increase by over 50 homes. More than 12,000 residents were issued mandatory evacuation orders necessitating the opening of 11 shelters in Amador and Calaveras Counties. Presently, three shelters continue to support nearly 100 residents.

The most significant impacts of the Butte Fire are located in Calaveras County. Due to the fire's rapid rate of spread, many residents had little time to flee, and some required rescue by firefighters and local law enforcement. Tragically, the Butte Fire has taken two lives. Several residents are missing and our emergency responders anticipate the number of fatalities could grow.

The devastation and disruption caused by the Butte Fire is extraordinary. Thousands have been made homeless by the fire. Schools throughout the area were closed. The fire destroyed nearly 500 utility poles causing the loss of power and telephone service to thousands of residents. The Sierra Vista communications site was burned over causing telephone and power transmission to be lost, resulting in the local California Highway Patrol losing telephone communication. Five cell towers are operating on back-up power systems. While there is no damage to the water system infrastructure, water pressure has been lost as a result of the firefighting efforts. Calaveras County Water District has issued a Boil Water Notice for its Sheep Ranch Water System. This system serves approximately 100 residences.

On September 11, 2015, I declared a State of Emergency as a result of the Butte Fire under the California Emergency Services Act. The Office of Emergency Services activated our State Operations Center as well as the Inland Regional Operations Center. The State's Emergency Operations Plan was implemented and all necessary state assets were deployed, including the California National Guard. Calaveras and Amador Counties also activated their local Emergency Operations Centers. Both the Calaveras County and the City of Angels Camp declared local emergencies.

Nearly 5,000 firefighters, including California National Guard members, were deployed to fight the fire. Over a hundred local law enforcement officers and several emergency managers from neighboring counties have been deployed to assist with the response through the State's mutual aid process. The California Department of Social Services is assisting with shelter operations and is providing accommodations to individuals with access and functional needs. The Department of Social Services is also coordinating with Calaveras County to assist in identifying long-term solutions for displaced residents, including the monitoring of 13 known community care licensing facilities. The American Red Cross, Salvation Army, and Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster are providing support to the community and disaster survivors.

Huge amounts of wreckage and debris must be expeditiously removed to eliminate the immediate threat to lives, public health and safety. Fast debris removal is also necessary to community rebuilding and economic recovery of impacted communities. It is estimated there are more than 500 properties that require major debris removal, each averaging 100 tons of debris that must be removed. Debris hazards, including asbestos, heavy metals, structural debris, ash, concrete foundations, and metals pose a public health and safety concern and threaten the health of the local environment.

Insurance information has not been fully assessed as many residents still remain homeless or displaced and have not been able to provide specific insurance information to the assessment teams. We expect some portion of the disaster survivors have insurance coverage, but we anticipate many have no insurance coverage or are underinsured. The California Department of Insurance identified 12 insurance carriers reporting a total of 647 property claims to date of which 219 are considered a total loss. This number of total loss claims is less than half the number of destroyed homes. This information did not distinguish between owner-occupied and rental properties.

Even for those residents who have insurance coverage, major challenges remain to recovering their lives. Calaveras County is a rural mountain community and has very little available rental or temporary housing to accommodate homeowners during the rebuilding process. As a result, many of these residents will need to seek temporary housing a long distance away from Calaveras County. This relocation will add undue hardship for families with school children or whose jobs are in the affected area. Additionally, victims may permanently relocate outside of Calaveras County, further hindering the community's ability to recover.

Calaveras County's unemployment rate is 6.7 percent which is higher than the State's average, and the County has few major employers. Also, more than 25 percent of the community is over 65 and is presumably living on a fixed income. More than 17 percent of the population is identified as being "disabled." A breakdown of Individual Assistance Program demographics is presented directly below:

	Population*	Average of Persons Below Poverty Level*	Median Household Income*	Percent Elderly (over 65 yrs)*	Percent Disabled**	Percent Pre-Disaster Unemployment***
National		15.4%	\$53,046	14.5%	12.6%	5.3%
California	37,253,956	15.9%	\$61,094	12.9%	10.6%	6.2%
Calaveras	45,578	10.9%	\$55,295	25.1%	17.6%	6.7%

* 2009-2013 U.S. Census

** 2014 U.S. Census

*** Bureau of Labor

California has suffered multiple disasters in the past year, which have severely impacted its resources. In October 2014, California received a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration for the South Napa Earthquake and has received ten Fire Management Assistance Grants to battle fires in the state. I have also proclaimed states of emergency for four storm events throughout the state in the past 12 months. Additionally, there have been 69 major fires and over 5,345 fire starts in California since January 2015. The acreage burned this year is nearly triple the acres burned in 2014. Presently, over 11,000 firefighters are battling five active fires that are burning nearly 400,000 acres, displaced thousands, and resulted in injuries and loss of life. To protect lives and property from this increased fire threat, State government has provided over \$200 million in emergency funding for additional wildfire fighting in the last two years.

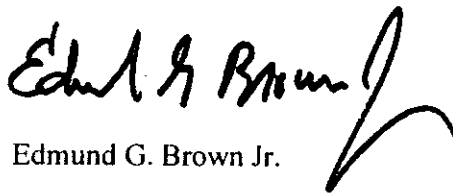
The past four years of extreme drought have also impacted the State's resources. The State has contributed more than three billion dollars in funds and capital investments responding to the impacts of the drought. These resources provide funding for immediate relief to impacted communities and established emergency programs to protect drinking water supplies, provide emergency food aid, fund emergency housing needs, support devastated farming communities, and protect endangered fish and other animals from the drought. In addition to increasing the State's firefighting capacity and budget, I have proclaimed four states of emergency for wildfires in just the last twelve months, including a statewide declaration of emergency on July 31, 2015, due to numerous fires that were raging simultaneously. Additionally, the drought conditions and the burned topography have created a dangerously high probability of floods, debris flow, and mudslides with the slightest amount of precipitation.

I have determined this incident is of such severity and magnitude an effective response is beyond the capabilities of the state and affected local governments and that supplemental federal assistance is necessary. I am specifically requesting all Individual Assistance Programs for Calaveras County, including the Individuals and Households Program, Transitional Sheltering Assistance, Disaster Case Management, Disaster Unemployment Assistance, Crisis Counseling and Disaster Legal Services, Hazard Mitigation statewide; and any other Stafford Act disaster assistance programs that may be appropriate for the declared counties. I am also requesting U.S. Small Business Administration disaster loans and funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Emergency Loan Program.

I certify for this major disaster the State and local governments will assume all applicable non-federal shared costs as required by the Stafford Act. I have designated the Director of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Mark Ghilarducci, as the State Coordinating Officer for this request. Mr. Ghilarducci will work with FEMA in continuing to assess damages and may provide more information or justification on my behalf.

Thank you very much for considering this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edmund G. Brown Jr.", with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Edmund G. Brown Jr.

Enclosures

OMB No. 1660-0009/FEMA Form 010-0-13

A: Individual Assistance

B: Public Assistance

C: Requirements for Other Federal Agency Programs

D: Historic and Current Snowfall Data

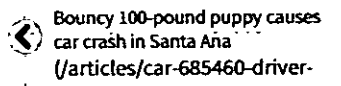
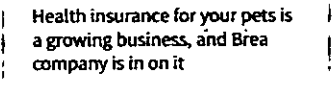
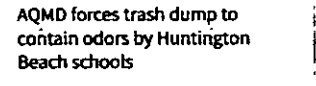
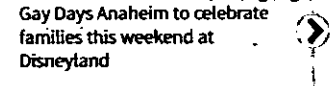
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- Cities (/articles/community-218948-find-news.html) | Crime (/sections/news/crime/) | Traffic (/sections/news/traffic/)

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TOP NEWS

NEWS (/COMMON/ARCHIVES/7CATID=0)

O.C. homeless count taking place today

Jan. 26, 2013 | Updated Aug. 21, 2013 1:17 p.m.

By **LAUREN JOW**
(/reporter-profile/lauren-2218-jow) / ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

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(mailto:?subject=OCREGISTER%20O.C.%20homeless%20count%20taking%20place%20today&body=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ocregister.com/articles/409401-count-county.html)

COMMENTS

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(common /printer /view.php?db=ocregister&id=409401)

On a rare night in a motel room among five people she'd just met, Christina Stephenson, 43, met her future husband over Little Debbie snack cakes and a handful of candy for dinner.

Stephenson has been homeless for five and a half years since her mother passed away, leaving her without an income - and soon, without warm water, a mirror or a roof. But thanks to the kindness of strangers who shared their shelter for the night, she found a home in Dennis Stephenson, 48, the kind of man who would give his shirt or his last dollar to someone else though he had nothing for himself.

"That kind of generosity comes from the kind of desperation that most people don't know," Christina Stephenson said.

The Stephensons are two of 220 homeless advisers leading teams of volunteers early Saturday morning to count the homeless in Orange County.

Every other January, communities across the country are required to take a point-in-time census of their sheltered and unsheltered homeless population in order to receive federal funding for services. In 2011, Orange County received \$16.2 million in SuperNOFA Continuum of Care funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to support 25 organizations, most of which were renewal grants.

This year, homeless advisers have identified hot spots where homeless people are likely to converge so that volunteer efforts are more efficient. Volunteers will count and survey the homeless on their living situation, medical history and personal experiences.

In previous years, the count and survey were done separately, but this

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Bouncy 100-pound puppy causes car crash in Santa Ana (http://www.ocregister.com/articles/car-685460-driver-puppy.html)

Homeless shelter planned in Anaheim attracts support, criticism at forum
(http://www.ocregister.com/articles/shelter-685510-homeless-county.html)

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new approach may provide a better idea of where services are most needed, said Karen Williams, chief operating officer of OC Partnership, which is organizing the count.

O.C. District Attorney official calls claims of intentional misconduct in use of jailhouse (http://www.ocregister.com/articles/attorney-685527-office-district.html)

Comprehensive count, or even a city-by-city tally, organizers don't include those living in motels, couch-surfing or "doubled-up" in homes, the count only focuses on the most vulnerable and those considered chronically homeless, said Scott Larson, executive director of HomeAid Orange County, a nonprofit that builds and renovates shelters.



Social worker Rosemary Nielsen, left, gives encouragement to Alan, a homeless resident of Costa Mesa, at The Lighthouse Church. "There are good people who want to help you," said Nielsen to the tearful Alan.

EUGENE GARCIA, ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

From 2009 to 2011, the county saw a 16.73 percent drop in the number of homeless counted, which some say may have been the result of President Barack Obama's temporary stimulus package that infused the system with \$10.9 million in Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing funds.

Critics of the count have said that the large drop is unrealistic and instead point to an inadequate number of volunteers in 2011. This year, 668 volunteers have been trained - nearly four times the number of volunteers in 2011.

Different organizations have headed the count since 2005, and competing methodologies make comparing the numbers over the years problematic. Since 2009, OC Partnership has coordinated the count with a consistent approach, and volunteers are cautiously optimistic that the data will lead to action.

"It'd be really nice to see that with the data, that we can see that there's a definite need to really provide services to these people," said Santiago Vivas, 25, a first-time volunteer and the children's program coordinator at With Tender Loving Care, a domestic violence shelter in Orange. "It's nice to get information, but if you can't follow it up with any kind of service, I think a lot of people kind of just lose faith in the system."

Stephenson said that many homeless have given up hope on a system with inadequate resources. Homeless people often must travel great distances for a shower or meal, which may not always be guaranteed at the other end. Stephenson herself has made the two-hour bus ride at 4 a.m. to Share Our Selves in Costa Mesa, where a lottery system may or may not yield a free meal.

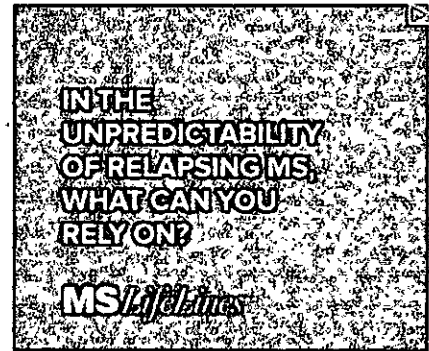
"Your heart just sinks to the floor because you've gone through all of this trouble, and ... find out, well, you're not lucky that day," she said.

In terms of shelter, Orange County has lagged far behind East Coast cities, where the cold weather creates a greater sense of urgency, Williams said. There is currently no year-round homeless shelter in the county - only seasonal shelters at the Fullerton and Santa Ana armories as well as a bevy of more specialized resources.

The county's first year-round, 24-hour shelter is finally coming to Fullerton after the Orange County Board of Supervisors last week approved spending \$3.15 million to purchase a closed Linder's Furniture site at 301 S. State College Blvd.

Some local residents expressed concerns that the facility would increase crime in the area, but homeless advocates say these fears are unfounded and that cities need to take responsibility for their homeless and offer local services.

Most of the housing built in the last 20 years has been transitional



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Do you ever forget to eat?

- No, I could never forget to eat
- Yes, sometimes
- Yes, all the time- I'm so busy
- I'm not sure

MS/LifeLines

housing for stays of three months to three years, Larson said, but the county is short on emergency housing for stays less than three months as well as rapid re-housing for permanent residency. Recent HUD-funded projects have focused more on rapid re-housing so that homeless people can apply for jobs with a permanent address, Williams said.

Only two years in to Orange County's 10-year plan to end homelessness, advocates say they still need to develop strategies to count and support those who are harder to find - particularly homeless youth who are couch-surfing or doubled-up in homes and motels. Future counts will also include surveys in other languages such as Spanish and Vietnamese or count homeless by their service providers, such as food kitchens, Williams said.

For now, organizers are drawing on the knowledge of homeless volunteers like Stephenson, whose faith in God keeps her from giving up on the system.

"I know what it's like to ... be that hand-up kind of person," said Stephenson, who hopes her work with OC Partnership will turn into a fulltime job. "And I also know what it's like to need that hand."

She misses the little things - being able to make toast, brew a cup of coffee or listen to music whenever she wants - and the big ones, including proper health care for respiratory problems and chronic anemia.

She doesn't know why God led her to the streets of Southern California, or where she and her husband are headed from here. But they do have a three-year anniversary to celebrate at the end of the month, and they'll go wherever God takes them.

Contact the writer: 714-796-7944 or ljow@ocregister.com (mailto:ljow@ocregister.com)

Bouncy 100-pound puppy causes car crash in Santa Ana (/articles/car-685460-driver-)

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AQMD forces trash dump to contain odors by Huntington Beach schools

Gay Days Anaheim to celebrate families this weekend at Disneyland

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Two Orange County schools - one in Santa Ana, one in Irvine, win prestigious Blue Ribbons (/articles/school-685194-schools-college.html)

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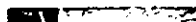
Matt Damon charms as stranded astronaut in 'The Martian' (/articles/watney-685267-mars-nasa.html)

Idina Menzel talks about how 'Frozen' and John Travolta changed her life (/articles/says-684995-menzel-year.html)

AC/DC rocks Dodger Stadium in a possible swan song (/articles/young-685202-band-angus.html)

FEATURED MULTIMEDIA

SLIDESHOW > (/LANSNER/HOUSE-685504-RODRIGUEZ-DISGUSTING.HTML)



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'Dr. Disgusting' is selling his Laguna Beach house for \$2.64 million (/lansner/brink-685504-684047-customers-company.html) (/articles/add-685439-flour-cook.html)

Ritz returns: Beloved Newport Beach restaurant gets reboot as Ritz Prime Seafood (/articles/ritz-685440-kastel-restaurant.html)

Brad A. Johnson: Filomena's expands into Laguna Niguel, but where's the pizza? (/articles/wine-685422-filomena-pizza.html)

New York food phenom Halal Guys to open first West Coast eatery in Costa Mesa (/articles/brink-685529-head-play.html)



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Lobbying surges along with with short-term rental Airbnb listings (/articles/term-684859-short-anaheim.html)

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Watch this, skip that: 'Code Black' (/articles/doctors-685115-series-code.html)

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SLIDESHOW > (/ARTICLES/SERRA-685487-SCHOOL-MASS.HTML)



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OC HOME (http://www.webpublished.com/gallery/view.asp?seq=282145&path=150723130758)

Philharmonic House of Design (http://www.webpublished.com/gallery/view.asp?seq=279999&path=150516133403)

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'Dr. Disgusting' is selling his Laguna Beach house for \$2.64 million (/lansner/house-685504-rodriguez-disgusting.html)



Cartoons: Putin steals Obama's seat (http://www.ocregister.com/articles/seat-685475-steals-cartoons.html?pic=1)



Angels' rookies play dress-up as they head to season's final road trip (/articles/trip-head-play.html)



Escape Rooms, launching Friday in Irvine, mixes high and low tech (/articles/room-685396-escape-rooms.html)



'It's once in a lifetime': JSerra high school celebrates new saint (/articles/serra-685487-school-mass.html)



Ritz returns: Beloved Newport Beach restaurant gets reboot as Ritz Prime Seafood (/articles/ritz-685440-kastel-restaurant.html)

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Tustin Grille aims for 'five star' food and... (http://www.ocregister.com/articles/tustin-683940-service-restaurant.html?nstrack=aid:19823566|met:300|cat:0|order:5|source=dailyme)

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Freeman on the land

From RationalWiki

“ I don't know what the hell law book you're reading, man, but it doesn't apply to me ”

— A freeman named Robert to a court bailiff^[1].

Freeman on the land, also known as **FMOTL**, **FOTL**, **"Footle"** or simply **freeman**,^[2] is a form of pseudolegal woo in various English-speaking countries. Freemen believe they can opt out of being governed, and that what normal people understand to be "laws" are merely a form of "contract" that applies only if people consent to it.^[3]^[4]


Freemen hold that we are all subject to a massive international legal conspiracy perpetrated for the profit of the elites, but you can hack the system if you just use the right form of words.^[5] They believe only in their version of natural law, which they call "common law." In practical terms, they believe this means they do not have to pay taxes, debts, mortgages, etc. because we were all deceived and if you say the right form of words, this fact will be accepted! Think of it as people trying to use a real life cheat code.

Freemen believe they can declare themselves independent of government jurisdiction using the concept of "lawful rebellion": that all statute law is contractual and therefore only applicable if an individual consents to it. They assert that what everyone else regards as "the law" doesn't apply to them as they have not consented to a contract with the state,^[6] even going so far as to claim they have a lawful right to refuse arrest if they do not consent. They insist that the government is a corporation, are obsessed with maritime law, and call themselves things like "John of the family Smith." Essentially, they're hilarious and somewhat less threatening sovereign citizens.

No freeman arguments have ever succeeded in court,^[7] some courts have even explicitly ruled that the term "freeman on the land" has *no legal significance* when the argument is raised.^[8] Actually using the arguments gets people into worse trouble, including fines, asset seizures, contempt convictions and criminal records, and the few cases touted as "successes" are almost entirely for reasons unrelated to the freeman arguments ^[9]. However, this doesn't stop freemen from claiming that it works.

**I fought the law
and the law won**

Pseudolaw



**To convolute
and distort**

- Admiralty law
- American Center for Law and Justice
- Citizen's Rule Book
- Cliven Bundy
- David Wynn Miller
- Flat tax
- Gold standard (economics)
- Militia movement
- Mortgage invalidity
- One People's Public Trust
- Provisional Imperial Government
- Pseudolaw
- Tax protester

View - e (http://rationalwiki.org/w/index.php?title=Template:Pseudolaw&action=edit)

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 - 3.2.3 Lawful rebellion and the Magna Carta
 - 3.3 Contracts and statutes
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History

The "Freeman on the Land" movement inherited various indefensible legal concepts from the older tax protester and sovereign citizen movements in the US such as Posse Comitatus in the 1970s and 1980s, the redemption movement in the 1980s and 1990s and the Montana Freemen in the 1990s. Freeman concepts of admiralty law and common law, their obsession with capitalisation of words and various theories on finance can be traced back to almost identical theories from these earlier movements.

Early examples include "Mary Elizabeth Croft" in Canada and her 2005 book *How I clobbered every bureaucratic cash-confiscatory agency known to man ... a Spiritual Economics Book on \$\$\$ and Remembering Who You Are*^[10]. This evolved into a Canadian movement, with advocates such as Robert Menard — who appears to have actually coined the phrase "Freeman on the land,"^[3] with the phrase achieving currency some time around mid-2008.^[11] However, according to Robert-Scott Christy who co-founded Thinkfree.ca with Menard, Rob got the idea for referring to themselves as "Freemen on the Land" from an unnamed American source.^[12]

The movement appears to have morphed out of the earlier Detax movement in Canada headed by names like Eldon Warman and Russel Porisky. Rob Menard's own ventures into pseudolaw appear to go as far back as 2001 with his book "Letters to Authorities". Dean Clifford also sets the date of his journey into pseudolaw starting in the late 90s and as being influenced by the Detax movement. Clifford prefers the term "Freedom Movement", a phrase used by the earlier Detaxers, over FMOTL.^[13] A potential timeline could be that Tax Protester ideas migrate to Canada in the late 90s, the Detax movement gains popularity then dies out in the early 2000s once followers who stopped paying taxes began being prosecuted, then in 2008 the movement finds new blood thanks to the financial crisis which culminates with the 2012 Meads decision and a new round of Freeman arrests.

It then crossed over to the UK with organisations such as the British Constitution Group and people such as John Harris, Brian Gerrish, the Anti-terrorist, Raymond St Clair (a notorious conman and man of many aliases)^[14] and Dominic Lohan. Freeman arguments came to UK public attention when they tried recruiting amongst the more anarchist-leaning protesters at the Occupy London protests in late 2011, and even got two articles in the *Guardian*.^{[15][16]} These were promptly slapped down by actual lawyers who detailed how this was dangerous idiocy that would send you directly to jail.^{[17][18][19][20]} Freeman ideas are now an object of amusement for the British legal profession.^[21]

Freemen have also shown up in Ireland, causing similar concern amongst the legal profession there^[22] and a similar lack of success in practice.

Freeman ideas are closer to libertarianism than anarchism,^[20] with some libertarians considering them a very positive sign (e.g. the Libertarian Alliance in the UK^[23]). Although many of the ideas originated amongst backwoods white supremacist groups, it must be noted that current freemen thankfully do *not* commonly^[24] espouse any such racism as part of their thinking.

How it's marketed

As *Legal Week* noted, "These ideas are most attractive to desperate, vulnerable people who are going through terrible times in their

lives.^[20] If someone is selling a simple explanation of why your life is messed up, the false hope it offers is extremely attractive — even if the explanation is complete rubbish and the suggested actions consistently just don't work.

Robert Menard in particular sells his DVD and book packs for C\$250, but notably *doesn't use freeman legal tactics himself*^[25] — he leaves that to his victims.^{[26][27]}

Canadian Associate Chief Justice John D. Rooke wrote a 185-page judgment rejecting what he called "Organized Pseudolegal Commercial Arguments" (OPCA), specifically defendant Dennis Meads's Freeman on the Land claims,^[28] saying:^[7]

These persons employ a collection of techniques and arguments promoted and sold by 'gurus' to disrupt court operations and, to attempt to frustrate the legal rights of governments, corporations and individuals. The persons who advance these schemes, and particularly those who market and sell these concepts as commercial products, are parasites that must be stopped.

The bluntly idiotic substance of Mr. Mead's/sic/ argument explains the unnecessarily complicated manner in which it was presented. OPCA arguments are never sold to their customers as simple ideas, but instead are byzantine schemes which more closely resemble the plot of a dark fantasy novel than anything else. Latin maxims and powerful sounding language are often used. Documents are often ornamented with many strange markings and seals. Litigants engage in peculiar, ritual-like in court conduct. All these features appear necessary for gurus to market OPCA schemes to their often desperate, ill-informed, mentally disturbed, or legally abusive customers. This is crucial to understand the non-substance of any OPCA concept or strategy. The story and process of a OPCA scheme is not intended to impress or convince the Courts, but rather to impress the guru's customer. *(emphasis in original)*

How it works (or not)

The freeman position is not entirely lacking in moral force: considering government-created law to be a damnable imposition is a defensible stance with a long and respectable history. But their theory of the world is utterly spurious, and their practical approach is made entirely of magic beans and crack.

A lot of freeman ideas revolve around bizarre interpretations of entries in Black's Law Dictionary^[3] — a favourite reference for freemen — and inventing or seeing distinctions where there are none to support their beliefs (such as "policeman" versus "police officer," "understand" versus "stand under," words in CAPITALS having a different legal meaning to those in lower-case, etc.)^[29] A lot of pareidolia with words and concepts is used to derive and justify ideas in freeman theory.

Freemen are typically members of the green ink brigade and often indulge in various other conspiracy theories, as well as holding strong anti-government and anti-corporate sentiments. Freemen often try to escape tax and debt repayment by arguing that they are not required to pay tax, or even to argue that borrowed money was theirs to start with.^[30] Freeman ideas are so far-out that even arch-crackpot Alex Jones thinks they're "quackery."^[31] and agrees that using them will probably get you sent to prison.

Freeman methods fail to understand that the law derives its authority from the fact that the state has the means and the will to use force to impose it. You can argue that the authorities have no jurisdiction over you, and you can choose not to recognise their authority, but as long as the authorities have force to back up their rules they can enforce sanctions against you. Freemen would argue that this would be unlawful imprisonment — but at the end of the day you'd still be in jail.

Common law

Freemen have an obsession with common law, which normally refers to what is known as case law:

“ As distinguished from statutory law created by the enactment of legislatures, the common law comprises the body of those principles and rules of action, relating to the government and security [rights] of persons and property, which derive their authority solely from usages and customs of immemorial antiquity, or from the judgements and decrees of the courts recognizing, affirming, and enforcing such usages and customs; and in this sense, particularly the ancient unwritten law of England. ”

— *Black's law dictionary*, 6th edition, 1991

They use this entry to justify a different definition, one which is heavily reliant on the concept of natural law.^[wp] They see common law as applicable to everyone or, as they put it, "applicable to men and women, flesh and blood human beings,"^[32] but statutory law as dependent on choice, an offer of contract, only applicable to their "person" (their "legal person") and not enforceable except by consent.^[33] This is entirely incorrect, because the Common Law recognises that Statute Law is supreme and binds every person, regardless of consent.^[34]

Freeman definitions of common law include "you do not cause harm or loss to another, while you never breach the peace, and never employ any mischief in your promises & agreements" (Veronica: of the chapman family)^[35] and "There are only three ways to break the law: harm another human being, damage someone else's property, use fraud or mischief in your contracts" (Robert Menard).^[3]

Legal person or strawman

See the main article on this topic: Strawman theory

Freemen believe that an individual has two personas. One of them is a physical, tangible human being, and the other is their legal person, *personality*, or *strawman*: a legal fiction created when a birth certificate is filed with what would normally be considered someone's name (e.g., JOHN SMITH), capitalization being a particular obsession.^{[33][29]} They believe their birth certificate is their legal person, and will attempt to present it in court when said person is called for, rather than identifying themselves as that person.^[3]

Freemen believe that all legal actions, restrictions and statutes can only be applied to their legal personality, and that, by separating themselves from their legal person, they can free themselves of having to abide by statute laws they don't like (or acts, as they would insist they are not laws).^[36] They typically use a slightly different spelling of their name, usually "John of the family Smith" (variations include "John of Smith" or even "John: Smith"), entering into what is referred to as *Lawful Rebellion*, or by filing a *Notice of Understanding and Intent and Claim of Right*. They also believe that use of titles such as Mr/Mrs refer to their legal fiction as opposed to themselves, and will therefore refuse to be identified using them, in case this creates "joinder" (see below).^[33]

Because of their obsession with admiralty law and all things maritime, freemen believe that their legal person is required to operate in commerce. It is therefore defined as a vessel or ship in the legal realm, floating on the sea of commerce.

Notice of understanding and intent and claim of right

A *notice of understanding and intent and claim of right* is a made-up pseudolegal document freemen use in an attempt to declare sovereignty. (American freemen generally use the term "Affidavit of Truth" to describe this document.) They will sign such a document, sometimes with a notary, and then send it to the Queen and sometimes various other figures such as the Prime Minister and police chiefs. (American freemen file the document with the court system. If their local court refuses to accept the filing, they will attempt to file it with as many courts as necessary until someone accepts it.)

It usually consists of a series of lines beginning "Whereas it is my understanding" followed by an assertion which is untrue or completely illogical. Various parts will state their bizarre interpretation of the law and their understanding that they do not consent to it. They are typically much like this example:^[37]

I, Veronica: of the Chapman family, hereinafter known as Veronica: Chapman, a flesh and blood human being in possession of a sovereign and individual spirit, a living soul, do hereby make Oath and state the following is My Truth and My Law:

Whereas it is my understanding that in terms of earthly existence there is no species more supreme than a living, breathing, imaginative human being blessed with a living soul, and

Whereas it is my understanding a living soul who chooses by free will not to be a member of any society can be referred to as a Freeman-on-the-land, and

Whereas it is my understanding a Freeman-on-the-land remains entirely and solely under Common Law jurisdiction, and
Whereas I Veronica Chapman am a Freeman-on-the-land, and ...

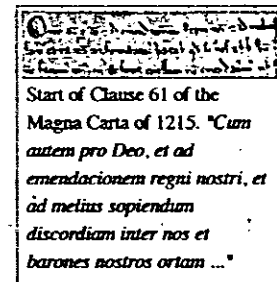
Fee schedule

The notice of understanding is typically followed by a "fee schedule" or "penalty schedules," listing a series of acts and associated penalties the freeman will attempt to levy against the government for perceived transgressions. If the state arrests or incarcerates a freeman against their will, they will then attempt to charge the state a fee for this action. This does not work out in practice and has attracted penalties in return.^[26]

Lawful rebellion and the Magna Carta

Lawful rebellion in British freeman theory holds that one can lawfully choose to cease abiding by the laws, rules and statutes of a country by simply opting out of society. Lawful rebellion is often used as an alternative to the *Notice of Understanding and Intent and Claim of Right* method, although they are sometimes used together. This claim supposedly stems from clause 61 of the Magna Carta.^[33] It fails when used in court.^[38]

Clause 61 is a historically and constitutionally significant clause. It gave twenty-five barons the right to meet and overrule the will of the king and seize his assets, essentially usurping his authority, should this be considered necessary. This was based on *distraint* (the seizure of someone's property in order to obtain payment of rent or other money owed), but it was the first time it had been applied to a monarch. It was one of the first times that there had been any kind of restriction on a king's power from below, and arguably it was one of the first checks and balances on the monarch and the first step toward a constitutional government. Nevertheless, clause 61 was only in effect for three months, as King John later renounced it and Pope Innocent III released King John from his oath to obey it. This led to the First Barons' War^[wp] between the king and his barons.



Freemen claim that clause 61 allows them to cease obeying the state. This sometimes involves sending an affidavit direct to the Queen declaring one's intent to become a freeman and removing their consent to be governed. Some freemen believe that the Queen represents the highest authority in the land as *the* sovereign, but that she derives her authority from the people. This then makes them sovereign, such that there is no higher authority than themselves.

The actual text of Magna Carta's clause 61 explicitly refers to the King and the Barons (25 of them being required to invoke the clause) — nowhere is there any mention of the people, free or otherwise; nor would there be, given the feudal system in place at the time. The phrase "Lawful Rebellion" appears nowhere in clause 61, being an invention of freeman mythology.

Freemen claim that the Magna Carta cannot be repealed, but this simply is not true. It was, in fact, replaced by the Magna Carta of 1297, passed by Edward I in return for new taxes. It is this 1297 version (without any clause 61 or anything resembling it) which is now "in force", although by 1969, all but sections 1 (freedom of the church), 9 (freedom of the City of London) and 29 (right to due process) had been repealed or superseded.

Contracts and statutes

Because of their conception of common law as the only true law, freemen believe that any laws made by the government are not "laws," but are instead invitations to contract, or "acts," giving rise to the freeman maxim, "Acts nor laws." They do not believe that statute law applies without an individual's consent, and that we are merely conditioned and deceived by the authorities to believe that they do. Freemen claim that statutes can have the force of law as a binding contract under the correct conditions.

Freemen believe that the government has to establish what they refer to as *joinder* to link yourself and your legal person. When they ask you whether you are "John Smith" and you confirm that you are, then you are establishing joinder. You have supposedly connected your physical and legal *persons*.^[33] (In real law, joinder^[wp] means joining related cases together, not joining purported identities together.)

The next step is to obtain consent. Statutes are seen as invitations to enter a contract, which are only legally enforceable if one enters into the contract consensually. If one does not enter into a contract, statute laws are not applicable. Freemen believe that the government is therefore constantly trying to trick people into entering into a contract with them. They often return bills, notices, summons and so on with the message "No contract — return to sender".^[33]

Legalese

Notices (*e.g.*, those issued by courts, the police or some government agencies) are supposedly written in "legalese," the *deliberately deceptive* technical jargon language of "a company called the Law Society."^{[33][39]} The claim is that legalese looks like English and uses English words, but is *not English*. For instance, freemen assert that the word "must" in legalese is synonymous with "may" in English, "summons" means "invitation," "demand" means "offer," and "understand" (as in "do you understand?") means "stand under," as in "do you stand under these words?" (*i.e.*, accept the terms of our contract).^{[36][29]} They claim that all these terms are sneaky ways of getting you to contract with the government without realising. No source is provided for this use of language; and some of it is demonstrably incorrect. The English word "understand" derives from an Old English word meaning *stand in the midst of* (*under* deriving from the Proto-Indo-European (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proto-Indo-European_language) root **nter-*, meaning "between" or "among", from where the modern English prefix "inter-" also derives^[40]). In any case, the origin of a word is irrelevant. The only thing that matters is what the word in question means *today*. Freemen should consult Webster's if they are confused.

That Freemen are themselves resorting to deliberately deceptive language to do an end run around the law is an irony that is lost on them.

For a worked example, see this freeman analysis of a leaflet about the UK TV licence: The DECEPTION of: INCLUDE(S) used by TV LICENSING oop's sorry! CONSIGNIA (CUSTOMER MANAGEMENT) LTD also Traded as TV LICENSING (<http://www.tpuc.org/node/609>)^{img} (archive link (<http://web.archive.org/web/20090403161957/http://www.tpuc.org/node/609>)).

Admiralty law and court appearance techniques

Freemen see a distinction between (what they call) common law and statute law, which they refer to as "admiralty law," "law of the sea," "maritime law," or the "universal commercial code" (a distortion of the US-only *Uniform Commercial Code*) — something that only applies to corporations, *e.g.* legal persons, not flesh-and-blood humans.^[29] They see admiralty law as being the law of commerce, the law of ownership, citizenship, and indeed anything else ending in "-ship." They see evidence of this in various nautical-sounding terms used in court, such as "dock," "birth [berth] certificate," "-ship" suffixes and any other fancy word they think might have a vaguely naval sound.^[41] Freemen will take this further by referring to the court as a "ship", its occupants as "passengers" and claiming that anyone leaving are "men overboard." This gives their legal arguments a hilarious nautical theme.^[29]

They see courts as being a place of business intended to make profit for the government corporation. They sometimes refer to these courts as "de facto courts." When they receive a summons to appear in court, they insist that this is not a summons but, in fact, an invitation to a place of business to discuss the matter at hand.^{[33][29]} When one initially enters a court they are then operating under "admiralty law" rather than (their version of) "common law". American freemen will sometimes try to argue that if the flag in the court has a gold fringe, this signifies that it is an admiralty court. British courts tend not to have flags of any type, having the royal coat of arms behind the judge instead, so this claim has largely failed to cross the Atlantic.

Freemen believe that a victim must exist for a common law crime to have been committed.^[29] One attempt at defence will be to demand to see evidence of a victim. They may also complain that the trial is unfair because the judge and prosecution are on the same team, both being employed by the state: If a freeman has had their property confiscated, they will request that it be returned to them.

They will try to claim common law (rather than admiralty law) jurisdiction by asking, "do you have a claim against me?" which supposedly removes their consent to be governed by admiralty law and turns the court into a common law court, forcing the court to proceed according to their version of common law. (This has never worked.) Any cooperation with the court is seen as accepting their terms of contract; and freemen will therefore refuse to do anything asked of them. When asked to stand or approach the bench, they will often refuse to do so, or only do so as long as their "inalienable God-given rights remain intact," in order to prevent them inadvertently entering into a contract.

Freemen will also attempt to "put the judge on their oath" to force them to act in accordance with common law, which entails asking to see evidence of this oath.^[29] Judges typically give short shrift to this kind of request, and either adjourn the hearing or threaten the freeman with contempt of court. The freeman might then ask whether the judge means civil or criminal contempt; this is because freemen believe that civil contempt would come under admiralty law, and therefore require a consensual contract, and that criminal contempt would require a victim. When judges leave the courtroom, Freemen will attempt to claim common law authority and then attempt to dismiss the charges themselves, often with a cry of "ship abandoned" or "man overboard."^{[42][43]}

They will never accept legal representation, as to do so might entail contracting with the state. They also believe that professional lawyers and solicitors owe a duty to the crown before their client due to their oath, and therefore cannot represent them effectively. Professional lawyers are all part of the legal system and therefore not to be trusted.

Court appearances are by far the most hysterical part of the freeman delusion, as various YouTube videos will attest. Watching freemen trying to apply their delusions to reality is like watching a video of a slow-motion train wreck onto which someone has dubbed delusional gibberish. The fact that freemen put these videos (note that most filming in court is illegal in the UK^[44]) on YouTube at all suggests powerful cognitive dissonance, since they typically make the protagonist look very foolish. Techniques used to overcome the manifest failure of freeman logic in court include editing out key moments in favour of voice-overs and mistaking adjournments for acquittals.

Cestui Que Vie Act

Many freemen are big on the *Cestui Que Vie Act* of 1666. They claim that this act declared all English citizens dead and lost, beyond the seas unless they objected within seven years of their birth, after which they would be declared dead without reasonable doubt. The state would then claim all the property of its citizens in trust.^[45] The relevant part of this rather short act reads:^[46]

“ Whereas diverse Lords of Mannours and others have granted Estates by Lease for one or more life or lives, or else for yeares determinable upon one or more life or lives And it hath often happened that such person or persons for whose life or lives such Estates have beene granted have gone beyond the Seas or soe absented themselves for many yeares that the Lessors and Reversioners cannot finde out whether such person or persons be alive or dead by reason whereof such Lessors and Reversioners have beene held out of possession of their Tenements for many yeares after all the lives upon which such Estates depend are dead in regard that the Lessors and Reversioners when they have brought Actions for the recovery of their Tenements have beene putt upon it to prove the death of their Tennants when it is almost impossible for them to discover the same. For remedy of which mischeife soe frequently happening to such Lessors or Reversioners. If such person or persons for whose life or lives such Estates have beene or shall be granted as aforesaid shall remaine beyond the Seas or elsewhere absent themselves in this Realme by the space of seaven yeares together and noe sufficient and evident prooffe be made of the lives of such person or persons respectively in any Action commenced for recovery of such Tenements by the Lessors or Reversioners in every such case the person or persons upon whose life or lives such Estate depended shall be accounted as naturally dead, And in every Action brought for the recovery of the said Tenements by the Lessors or Reversioners their Heires or Assignes, the Judges before whom such Action shall be brought shall direct the Jury to give their Verdict as if the person soe remaining beyond the Seas or otherwise absenting himselfe were dead. ”

The intent of this act is obvious: that anyone lost at sea, or having emigrated, for more than seven years can be declared legally dead for the purpose of redistributing their estate. How anyone can arrive at a different conclusion is bizarre.

Government

Freemen are typically strongly anti-government and believe that the government is a "corporation" (number uc2279443).^[47] Their proof is that the government and various parts of it were listed on the website of credit agency Dun and Bradstreet under "corporations" as having a credit record.^{[48][33]}

In reality, any entity (corporation, government, individual person, charity or whatever) that borrows money or works on credit will have a credit record so that creditors can assess the risk of lending. Nor are credit agencies the arbiters of what is and isn't a corporation. The idiosyncrasies of how a credit rating organisation's website lists entities are not evidence for outrageous claims.

Freemen believe that the UK and Canada are now operating in bankruptcy and are therefore under admiralty law. Since the

abolition of the gold standard in 1917, UK currency is now backed not by gold but rather by the people, or rather the legal fiction of their *persons*. They describe persons as creditors of the UK corporation.

They also claim that when we vote, we are in fact electing directors of a company for profit, that MPs are directors and the voters are employees of the "corporation". Indeed, having a Social Security number (in the US), Social Insurance Number (in Canada), or National Insurance number (in the UK) makes you an employee of the corporation.^[33] Exactly who is supposed to get the profit from this "corporation" is unclear.^[49]

Birth certificates

There are three main beliefs about birth certificates in freeman mythology:

1. The government uses them to create your strawman and legal *person* to which all your legal responsibilities, debts and liabilities belong.^{[36][29]}
2. As a form of registration, they transfer ownership of an individual to the state. This is what allows the state to seize your children if you don't play by *their* rules.^[36]
3. They are financial instruments or birth-tracking bonds (*a.k.a.* live birth bonds) that are sold by the government and then traded on the sea of international commerce, using you as security (an idea taken from the redemption movement).

Freemen claim the government secures the value of its fiat currency using its own citizens' birth certificate "bonds." It is claimed that the value of an individual's "bond" may reach into the billions. It's interesting to see how the alleged value of the Birth Certificate has changed over time. When the conspiracy theory started in the US the value was estimated at ~\$630,000 USD more recent versions of this conspiracy theory put the value of Birth Certificates in the billions.

This can supposedly be proven by entering the numbers on one's birth certificate into various stock-tracking sites to show the current value of one's "bond" on the market. Several popular Youtube videos claim to show evidence that numbers on Birth Certificates are actually CUSIP numbers. In reality, CUSIP numbers are 9 digit alpha-numerical codes. Birth Certificate numbers for the US are 11 digits long. UK birth certificate serial numbers are 10 digits long. In Canada the number is 12 digits long.

Notwithstanding this, freemen believe that one can access the money represented by one's own "bond" through various pseudolegal methods and by filing forms with government agencies. There are plenty of conmen, fraudsters and snake-oil salesmen selling methods on how to achieve this to gullible fools. Naturally, none have ever been shown to work.

The value of one's birth certificate "bond" can also supposedly be used to discharge one's debts and financial liabilities through a process known as "acceptance for value" or "A4V", without the freeman having to gain direct access to the funds himself. The UK Treasury has stated that the existence of these bonds, as well as various other freeman financial concepts, are myths.^[50]

Argument tropes

The accurate responses to most Freeman arguments are "this claim is false", "this is not how the law works", "this strategy has failed literally every time", "this is not what these words mean at all" or "this is completely made-up".

The real problem is that Freemen don't seem to understand how coherent argument works on any level. They refuse to believe a loss in court is not, in fact, a win — they put up illegally-filmed court videos on YouTube of them getting thrown out or penalised, and claim these as clear wins. Even if they are quite unambiguously convicted, fined and/or jailed, they claim *moral* victory. It's like four-dimensional pigeon chess.

Freeman successes

Freeman failures

Despite the numerous failed attempts to use freeman legal methods, freemen will always insist that they do work, even clinging to this delusion when arrested and thrown into jail. Below are some examples.

2015

- In Williams Lake, Canada, Joseph Zombori tried to get out of drug trafficking charges by insisting that he wasn't actually the one on trial, at one point yelling, "Who is Joe? I need to know who Joe is! You are sentencing a person and I need to know who that person is." Joe, to no one's surprise, was Joe, who was sentenced to 18 months in jail. (<http://www.wltribune.com/news/295048931.html>)

2013

- New Zealand woman Kiri Campbell pleads guilty to four counts of fraud (<http://www.stuff.co.nz/taranaki-daily-news/news/8993303/Fraudulent-cheques-totalled-nearly-65-000>) What began as a Freeman-inspired protest against the banking system ended with a young woman being convicted of four counts of fraud.

2012

- 2012 October 3rd - State of Tennessee v. Anthony Troy Williams (<http://www.tncourts.gov/courts/court-criminal-appeals/opinions/2012/10/03/state-tennessee-v-anthony-troy-williams>) "we determine that Appellant was properly convicted of driving on a canceled, suspended, or revoked license. Accordingly, the judgment of the trial court is affirmed."
- Meads v. Meads (<http://www.canlii.org/en/ab/abqb/doc/2012/2012abqb571/2012abqb571.html>) (2012-09-18) Alberta judge writes the all time smack down of Freeman on the land claims. "I agree with Justice Sanderman's succinct evaluation of Henry's claims as 'total gibberish'".

2011

- Judge challenged to produce oath by man disputing summons. (<http://www.irishtimes.com/newspaper/ireland/2011/0811/1224302232246.html>) Full panoply of Freeman delusion on display here, down to Black's Legal Dictionary being produced in court. End result: conviction, and when The FreeMan Bobby of the Family Sludds wanted to appeal—"I can't accept a bail bond from someone whose signature can't be verified," the Judge said, remanding Mr Sludds to Cloverhill prison.
- James-Michael: Tesi arrested. (<http://www.star-telegram.com/2011/07/21/3238352/man-in-sovereign-citizen-group.html>) After refusing to pay a fine for not wearing a seatbelt, he flooded the court with woo-woo documents basically refusing to pay. The court ignored this, and issued an arrest warrant. A police officer pulled him over, which resulted in gunfire and Tesi being wounded.
- A Freewoman attempts to use the entire panoply of freeman woo to deny a court's jurisdiction in child custody proceedings. (<http://www.baillii.org/ew/cases/EWHC/Fam/2011/B15.html>) She was sentenced to nine months for contempt.
- Irish chancer spouts pseudolegal and freeman inspired woo (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5tM3kbpDL-I>) in Wexford District Court before an incredulous judge, who convicts him all the same.

2010

- Two men are arrested and charged with growing cannabis. (<http://news.scotsman.com/glasgow/Freemen-are-told-they-will-6676742.jp>) They claim to be "freemen on the land", but the courts state that they have "no personal circumstances applying to them which affords immunity to prosecution", that there was "no legal significance" to the term "freeman on the land" and that they would be tried anyway.
- Freeman Mark of the family Bond gets arrested (http://www.eveningnews24.co.uk/news/norwich_court_case_posted_on_youtube_1_751533) (more (http://www.cdp24.co.uk/news/norfolk_man_s_dramatic_stand_off_over_unpaid_council_tax_1_745837)) after refusing to recognise the court and giving police his notice of intent. He gets a suspended 3 month jail sentence anyway, on condition that he pays off his debt.
- Freeman "Brian-arthur: alexander" tries to get out of speeding (<http://www.kamloopsnews.ca/article/20101224/KAMLOOPS0101/312249983/-1/KAMLOOPS01/kamloops-freeman-says-laws-do-not-apply-to-him>) by telling a judge the law doesn't apply to him. The judge disagrees and the police suggest further charges of obstruction and mischief for his

freeman shenanigans.

- Mika Rasila gets stopped by the police for not having a licence plate. (<http://ww2.nationalpost.com/search/index.html?q=Mika+Rasila>) He tells them that he doesn't consent to their laws and that he isn't an employee of the "corporation of Canada". It doesn't work and they arrest him and impound his van. A judge later gives him a fine of \$1,250.
- Freeman Darren Pollard gets arrested (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ww-rAeNElj4&feature=player_embedded) despite telling the police officer he doesn't consent or contract. Not surprisingly it fails and they take him into custody anyway
- Darren Pollard gets arrested again (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q5TeBpsOTE4&feature=related>) after refusing to appear in court despite trying to claim that he was "Darren of the family Pollard" and not the legal fiction of Darren Pollard they were looking for.
- Freewoman Mary Gye recalls her account of being arrested for not having road tax or car insurance and having her "conveyance" impounded. (<http://www.davidicke.com/forum/showthread.php?t=80419&page=5>)^{img} This in spite of all the freeman woo she tried. She was later sentenced to 14 days in HMP Styal women's prison for criminal contempt when she brought a tape recorder into a court hearing over nonpayment of council tax.^[51]
- Freeman Ben Lowrey is arrested (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QTicurNEEOQ>) for driving a motorcycle without registration, insurance, MOT or a crash helmet. Subsequently fined £500.
- New Hampshire resident Ian Freeman (AKA Ian Bernard) arrested, tried and jailed for 93 days (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rlct-3niVes>) for dumping a couch. Within seconds of his trial commencing, he was rearrested and hand-cuffed for refusing to sit down when asked. He has since attempted using the freeman woo while defending a parking ticket. (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o6IS-edTEH4&feature=related>)
- A person is a "person" (http://www.ctvbc.ctv.ca/servlet/an/local/CTVNews/20100618/bc_legal_person_case_100618/20100618), a Canadian judge rules, after freeman^[52] David Kevin Lindsay tries to get out of paying tax by asserting otherwise. Lindsay has also been designated a vexatious litigant.^[53] (Whether entering into litigation counts as consent to said laws is not clarified.)
- Star: Hills' house is foreclosed upon (<http://docs.justia.com/cases/federal/district-courts/california/caedcc/1:2010cv01871/215063/7/>) when her attempts to just stop paying her mortgage fail, and even her fee schedules (<http://forum.davidicke.com/showthread.php?t=149145>)^{img} don't work. Despite having bought the entire \$250 package from Robert Menard.

See also

- One People's Public Trust
- Direct Democracy Ireland
- Provisional Imperial Government
- Mortgage invalidity

External links

- The People's United Community (<http://www.tpuc.org/>)
- Freeman-on-the-Land Forums (<http://www.fmotl.com/>)
- World Freeman Society (<http://worldfreemansociety.org/>)
- The British Constitution Group (<http://www.thebgroup.org.uk/>)
- Raymond St Clair Freeman on the land (<http://www.raymondstclair.com/>)
- Freeman on the land forum on the David Icke website (<http://www.davidicke.com/forum/forumdisplay.php?f=60>)
- The Freeman Movement and England (<http://forums.randi.org/showthread.php?t=155358>): A major thread on the James Randi Educational Foundation forums discussing and debunking freeman ideas
- Conspiracy Skeptic Interview (<http://www.yrad.com/cs/index2012.htm#nov7>) with Alberta lawyer who advises municipalities how to deal with the movement
- "Universal Consciousness and the Metaphysical Aspects of Reality" (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bJLLgGRNinA>) in addition to metaphysical woo, it also has "you are a boat" pseudolaw around 20 minutes in.

Sources

- John Harris - It's an illusion 2. at London (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gAjssXblGg0&feature=kp>)

Footnotes

1. † Robert Educates the Court (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RfVbiefMdnU>)
2. † FREEMAN. One who is in the enjoyment of the right to do whatever he pleases, not forbidden by law. One in the possession of the civil rights enjoyed by, the people generally. 1 Bouv. Inst. n. 164. See 6 Watts, 556: - from *Bouvier Law Dictionary* (1856), see also: *Black's Law Dictionary* 8th Edition (2004) for similar definition.
3. † ^{3.0}^{3.1}^{3.2}^{3.3}^{3.4} Robert Arthur Menard: Freeman On The Land (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mtoFqb2PTUk&feature=player_embedded); transcript (Link is dead, but the image was captured (<http://forum.worldfreemansociety.org/viewtopic.php?p=15198>) ^{img})
4. † <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/freemen-movement-captures-canadian-police-attention-1.1262159>
5. † This paragraph adapted from the excellent summary (<http://forums.randi.org/showpost.php?p=6055250&postcount=124>) by LightinDarkness on the JREF Forums.
6. † e.g., [1] (<http://forum.davidicke.com/showpost.php?p=1059525087&postcount=27>) ^{img}
7. † ^{7.0}^{7.1} "Meads v. Meads, 2012 ABQB 571" (<http://canlii.org/en/ab/abqb/doc/2012/2012abqb571/2012abqb571.html>)
8. † "Freemen" are told they will be tried (<http://news.scotsman.com/glasgow/Freemen-are-told-they-will-6676742.jpg>)
9. † e.g., lack of evidence beyond a reasonable doubt (<http://metronews.ca/news/canada/1050339/ontario-freeman-on-the-land-member-acquitted-of-hitting-officer-with-his-car/>)
10. † How I clobbered every bureaucratic cash-confiscatory agency known to man ... a Spiritual Economics Book on \$\$\$ and Remembering Who You Are (http://www.hackcanada.com/canadian/freedom/mary_croft.pdf) She actually lists David Icke as a source in this book.
11. † Google groups (<https://groups.google.com/group/viewfromspace/browse/thread/thread/942cc510e1a87e3f5ba01284e8c1fc86?hl=en&ie=UTF-8&oe=utf-8&q=%22freeman+on+the+land%22#5ba01284e8c1fc86>). Google group's earliest record of its usage seems to be June 2008 (in a locked post).
12. † <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=43oN-2JLj6k>
13. † <http://www.fbc.ca/knowledge-centre/dont-be-deceived-de-taxing-movement>
14. † "Exposing the freeman/redemption gurus" (<http://forums.randi.org/showthread.php?t=203625>) JREF
15. † Yes, defaulting on debts is an option (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2011/nov/15/debt-agencies-economy>) (Jon Witterick, *Guardian*, 2011-11-15)
16. † We are the change: welfare, education and law at the Occupy camp (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2011/nov/15/welfare-education-law-occupy-london>) ('commonly known as dom' {Dominic Lohan}, *Guardian*, 2011-11-15)
17. † The law is not the enemy of protest but an essential tool of impartiality (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/libertycentral/2011/nov/16/law-protest-occupy-freemen>) (Carl Gardner, *Guardian*, 2011-11-16)
18. † The freeman-on-the-land strategy is no magic bullet for debt problems (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2011/nov/18/freeman-land-strategy-bullet-debt>) (Legal Bizzle, *Guardian*, 2011-11-18)
19. † Comment is free, but woo is sacred (<https://legalbizzle.wordpress.com/2011/11/15/comment-is-free-but-woo-is-sacred/>) (*Legalbizzle*, *The Bizzle*, 2011-11-15)
20. † ^{20.0}^{20.1}^{20.2} Freeman of the dangerous nonsense (<http://www.legalweek.com/legal-week/blog-post/2125364/freemen-dangerous-nonsense>) (Adam Wagner, *Legal Week*, 2011-11-16)
21. † "Nonsense or loophole?" (http://judiciary.sut1.co.uk/docs/benchmark/benchmark_feb2012.pdf) (*Benchmark #57*, February 2012, p 18) — ~~blatantly plagiarised~~ lovingly referenced from this very article.
22. † Law Society of Ireland *Gazette*, April 2012 (<http://www.lawsociety.ie/Documents/Gazette/Gazette%202012/April2012.pdf>), p12
23. † Kersey, John. "The Freeman on the Land Movement: Grass Roots Libertarianism in Action." (<https://libertarianalliance.wordpress.com/2010/12/02/john-kersey-on-freemen-of-the-land/>) *Legal Notes #50*. Libertarian Alliance, 2010.
24. † Well, mostly. (<https://diggerfortruth.wordpress.com/2012/03/31/the-standford-hill-possy/>)
25. † No attempts to cash in alleged "birth bond" (<http://forums.randi.org/showthread.php?t=176799>); unanswered questions (<http://forums.randi.org/showpost.php?p=5992520&postcount=47>)
26. † ^{26.0}^{26.1} Terry Bouffard's fee schedule fails (<http://forums.randi.org/showpost.php?p=6154645&postcount=182>) (JREF Forums) — Judge: "Where do you get this stuff?" The freeman in this case also had his \$7000 car seized.
27. † Rob Menard's FOTL Claims (<http://forums.randi.org/showthread.php?t=176799&page=10>) (JREF Forums)
28. † Brent Wittmeier, "Edmonton divorce case prompts justice to dissect "pseudolegal" arguments" (<http://archive.is/prdj9>), *Edmonton Journal*, 27 September 2012
29. † ^{29.0}^{29.1}^{29.2}^{29.3}^{29.4}^{29.5}^{29.6}^{29.7}^{29.8} "How To Be Truly Free" talk transcript (<http://truthproject.co.uk/howtobetrulyfreetranscript>) ^{img} (Chris of the family Kentle)
30. † Section 16 - See here for how the concept of fractional reserve banking is perverted to justify this claim (<http://www.fmod.com/Fundamentals.htm#BM16>)
31. † Alex Jones calls freeman ideas 'Quackery' (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LPH5kNKaVE>)
32. † e.g., [5] (<http://blog.scrapperduncan.com/2011/11/22/political-self-sabotage-the-freeman-on-the-land-movement-has-a-conflict-of-interest-with-occupy-london/#comment-6638>), [6] (<http://api.ning.com/files/Cr7DOevACkCdEyaF5wCqBYbdcqaakmaMmR8WDRRtGjI/freemanguide.pdf>)
33. † ^{33.0}^{33.1}^{33.2}^{33.3}^{33.4}^{33.5}^{33.6}^{33.7}^{33.8}^{33.9} John Harris: It's An Illusion (<http://www.tpuc.org/node/558>) talk, a primary Freeman text; transcript (<http://www.saveourearth.co.uk/blog/2009/12/its-an-illusion-by-john-harris-please-read-each-and-everyone-of-you-this-is-so-important/>) ^{img}. At 38:04 in this video, John Harris cites Baby P as an example when talking about social services taking people's children away from them. Baby P^[wp] was a case in the UK of a child who died at the hands of his mother and her boyfriend. Social services and the various other agencies involved were widely criticised for *failing* to take the child into care and not identifying the risk to the child. Not only is it intellectually dishonest to cite an emotive real life example that actually contradicts your argument, to misrepresent a tragic case like this in such a way is downright offensive.

34. ↑ Hilaire Barnett, 2011, "Constitutional & Administrative Law", p.117, published by Routledge.
35. ↑ definition of common law (<http://www.fmotl.com/>)
36. ↑ 36.0 36.1 36.2 36.3 Meet your Strawman (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ME7K6P7hko>) (YouTube)
37. ↑ Notice of Understanding and Intent and Claim of Right (<http://www.fmotl.com/NoticeOfUnderstanding.htm>) (example for your use)
38. ↑ Failed appeal against Occupy London eviction (<http://www.judiciary.gov.uk/Resources/JCO/Documents/Judgments/cityoflondon-v-samede-appeal.pdf>) — *"First, he challenged the judgment on the ground that it did not apply to him, as a 'Magna Carta heir'. But that is a concept unknown to the law. He also says that his 'Magna Carta rights' would be breached by execution of the orders. But only chapters 1, 9 and 29 of Magna Carta (1297 version) survive."*
39. ↑ The Law Society is actually the professional body for solicitors in the UK. Surprisingly enough.
40. ↑ "Understand". Online Etymology Dictionary (<http://www.etymonline.com/index.php?term=understand>)
41. ↑ "Dock" in fact is from (https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/dock#Etymology_4) the Dutch *dok*, meaning "animal pen."
42. ↑ Freeman In Gloucester Court 29th Jan 2010 Part 1. (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uU7G6XIM2Q>)
43. ↑ ENGLISH FREEMAN IN COURT PART 1 (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SWb_89i6vmk&feature=related)
44. ↑ Filming judges' summaries will be allowed in the future (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-14800838>) (BBC)
45. ↑ *e.g.* [2] (<http://tpuc.org/forum/viewtopic.php?p=49170&sid=4ee4c230dfa52c38fe0485356b091554#p49170>) ^{img}, [3] (<http://www.tpuc.org/forum/viewtopic.php?f=4&t=5340>) ^{img}, [4] (<http://www.fmotl.com/forum/viewtopic.php?f=37&t=4029>) ^{img} and even poetry about it (<http://www.conspoeetry.com/cestui-que-vie-act-1666>) ^{img}.
46. ↑ Cestui Que Vie Act, 1666 (<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/aep/Cha2/18-19/11>)
47. ↑ *e.g.* [7] (<http://www.politicsforum.co.uk/forum/viewtopic.php?p=578523&sid=91733391387d3240788c71d10cbc20ed#p578523>)
48. ↑ *e.g.* Meet Your Strawman (<http://www.yourstrawman.com/>)
49. ↑ MPs get a fixed standard salary which is way below an equivalent job in the private sector (though the expenses are pretty lavish).
50. ↑ Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000: Birth Tracking Bond etc (<http://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/29165/response/76103/attach/2/foi%20gol.pdf>) (HM Treasury, 18 March 2010)
51. ↑ Girl Gye in Prison! (<http://forum.davidicke.com/showthread.php?t=84422>) ^{img} (David Icke forums)
52. ↑ CBC - Another State and Police Sanctioned, Propagandized Media Smear Campaign Against Freedom (<http://usuryfree.blogspot.co.uk/2012/03/cbc-another-state-and-police-sanctioned.html>) (David-Kevin Lindsay, *The UsuryFree Eye Opener*, 2012-03-02)
53. ↑ Dump owner's crusader still vexatious, court rules (<http://www.kamloopsnews.ca/article/20110617/KAMLOOPS0101306179968/-1/kamloops/dump-owners-crusader-still-vexatious-court-rules>) (Kamloops Daily News, 2011-06-17)

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Homelessness in the United States: History, Epidemiology, Health Issues, Women, and Public Policy

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References

This article discusses the recent history and current etiologies of homelessness in the United States, presents information regarding homeless persons and their health problems, and describes steps healthcare providers can take to care for homeless patients and to try to overcome the social problem of homelessness. Although most issues relevant to homelessness affect both men and women, homeless women's unique circumstances and health problems will be emphasized when relevant.

The United States is a signatory to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Article 25(1) of this document states: "Everyone has the right to ... food, clothing, *housing* and medical care and necessary social services." [emphasis mine].^[1] The explicit nature of the nation's societal contract to meet the housing needs of its citizens is spelled out in the Housing Act of 1949, which stipulates the "realization as soon as feasible of the goal of a decent home ... for every American family."^[2] In 1968, The Fair Housing Act made discrimination on the basis of race in the housing market illegal. Regrettably, neither the Universal Declaration nor these landmark laws have solved the problem of homelessness, nor of substandard housing and racial profiling by sellers and realtors.^[3]

In the United States, de-institutionalization of the mentally ill – unaccompanied by promised outpatient psychiatric and social services – led to a large increase in the homeless, mentally ill population in the late 1970s. The number of homeless grew in the 1980s, as housing and social service cuts increased. This was in part a consequence of the transfer of federal dollars to a huge military buildup (including the spectacularly wasteful and unsuccessful "Star Wars" strategic missile defense initiative) and consequent large budget deficits. Fortunately, public compassion soared, and in 1986, 5 million Americans joined hands across the country to raise money for homeless programs (*May 25, 1986 Hands Across America*). In 1987, the McKinney Act authorized millions of dollars for housing and hunger relief.

Almost 20 years later, homelessness is largely ignored by the mainstream press and the general public, and the numbers affected continue to grow. Over 7% of persons living in the United States have been homeless (defined as sleeping in shelters, the street, abandoned buildings, cars, or bus and train stations) at some point in their lives.^[4] Homelessness rates have increased over each of the past 2 decades. An estimated 2.5 to 3.5 million people now experience homelessness each year.^[5,6] Approximately half are families with children, the fastest-growing segment of the homeless population.^[5,5] In 1 study,^[7] youth had a 1-year rate of homelessness of at least 1 night of 7.6%.

Although 20% of homeless persons maintain full- or part-time jobs,^[8] only 5% are privately insured, often through COBRA.^[9] The majority of homeless adults are not eligible for Medicaid in most States, and are also not eligible for Medicare. Approximately 23% of homeless persons (and from 3.1 % to 4.4 % of homeless women) are veterans of the armed services, yet only 57% have received healthcare services through the VA system, where long waits for care exist.^[10]

Because they usually lack health insurance, homeless persons tend not to get adequate preventive care and appropriate routine management of such chronic illnesses as hypertension, heart disease, diabetes, and emphysema. They tend to visit emergency rooms for acute illnesses.^[11] Besides lack of health insurance,

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other barriers to care include denial of health problems; the pressure to fulfill competing nonfinancial needs, such as those for food, clothing, and temporary shelter; and misconceptions, prejudices, and frustrations on the part of health professionals.^[12] When hospitalized, the average length of stay of a homeless individual, in 1 study,^[13] was 4.1 days, or 36% longer than that of low-income, non-homeless individuals, even after adjustment for differences in the rates of substance abuse and mental illness and other clinical and demographic characteristics. The cost of the additional hospital days per discharge ranged from \$2414 to \$4094 (1992-1993 dollars).

Homeless adults have an age-adjusted mortality rate nearly 4 times that of the general population; their average life span is shorter than 45 years.^[14] Homeless women 18 to 44 years of age are between 5 and 31 times more likely to die than women in the general population.^[15] Homeless women older than age 44 are only 1 to 2 times as likely to die, and are healthier than their male counterparts.^[15] However, homeless women in their mid-fifties are as physiologically aged as housed women in their seventies and are afflicted to a similar degree with chronic diseases, yet they do not qualify for elderly housing assistance.^[8]

Homeless women are more likely than homeless men to have experienced childhood sexual abuse and/or foster care and adult partner abuse.^[16] More than 50% of all homeless women and children become homeless as a direct result of fleeing domestic violence.^[17] The availability of domestic violence shelter beds in the United States is poor; up to 70% to 80% of women, and 80% of children, are turned away on any given night in major cities.^[17] Shelters are woefully underfunded; some do not allow children. Average length of stay at a US shelter is 14 days; most allow a 30-day maximum stay.^[17] Ironically, women fleeing domestic violence are often not counted in studies of homelessness, since they are considered to have a home (albeit unlivable) or are staying temporarily in shelters.

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