

ANNUAL REPORT



2023



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MISSION



THE MISSION OF VETERANS PLACE

is to empower veterans' transition from homeless to home, ending the cycle of homelessness, and to assist all at-risk veterans to become engaged, valuable citizens who contribute to their communities.

VISION



THE VISION OF VETERANS PLACE

is a community where veteran homelessness is rare, brief, and non-recurring and where veterans are valued, productive, and respected citizens who contribute to their community.

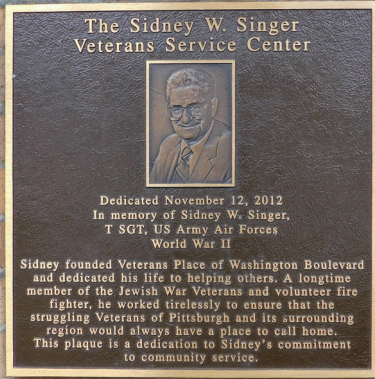


Platinum
Transparency
2022

Candid.

our history

1996



Jewish War Veterans Post 718 purchased a parcel of blighted property with run-down row houses on Washington Boulevard. Over the next ten years, Sidney Singer fought tirelessly to raise over \$2.5 million in government and foundation grants to transform the site into an administration/service building and 13 townhouses that can accommodate up to 48 veterans.

2008



Initial townhouse renovations were completed and Veterans Place started our Transitional Housing Program, becoming the only single-room occupancy, transitional housing center for homeless veterans in the region.

2019



Veterans Resource Center renovations were completed. With support from Walmart, Kozi Media Design, and many others, Veterans Place Veterans Resource Center incorporated a smart classroom, food pantry, computer lab, and laundry and shower facilities for veterans that seek assistance.

2022



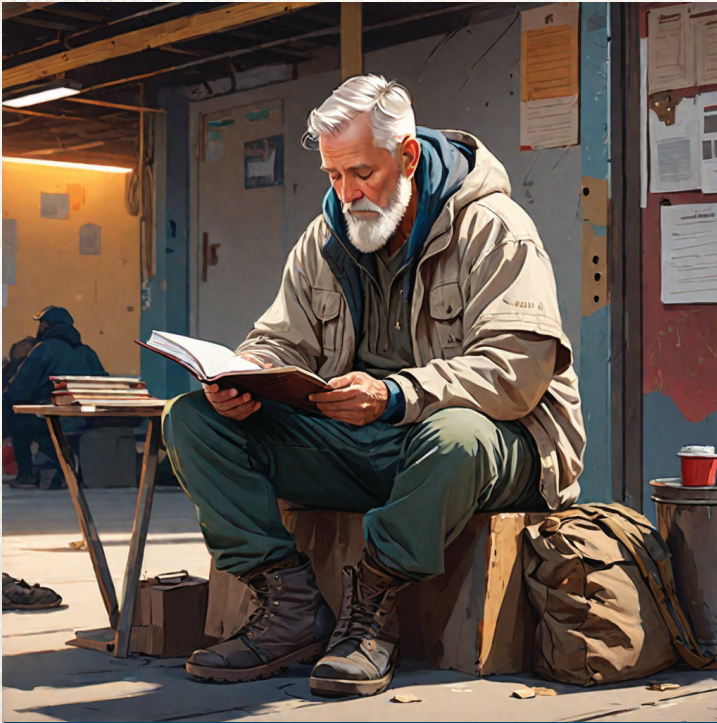
Veterans Place completed infrastructure upgrades to the existing 13 townhouses where veterans live while receiving assistance to obtain stable employment and a permanent home. Upgrades included new roofs, windows, doors, and flooring as well as refurbishing each basement foundation. Veterans Place also hired its first female Executive Director in September.

WHAT'S NEXT



2024 promises to be a transformative year in the growth and execution of our core mission. Commencement of construction on Operation: Empowering Transitions and Project 919 will expand the capabilities of Veterans Place to support the veterans we serve. With the establishment of key corporate, individual and government partnerships, Veterans Place has set a goal in 2024 of putting special focus on issues that affect the female veteran population in the Greater Pittsburgh area and beyond.

★ A YEAR OF GROWTH ★



Empowering Transitions signifies a revolutionary initiative in the region, constructing a 3-story multipurpose building on the Veterans Place campus. This facility will feature (8) single-occupancy apartments for homeless veterans, fostering independent living, and a wellness center serving campus residents and day program participants alike. This project exemplifies our commitment to a housing first holistic approach, ensuring a smoother transition for those who have bravely served our nation.

>> ET- OPERATION



919 marks a significant venture, fully renovating and expanding an existing facility to enhance Workforce Development at Veterans Place. This revamped space will provide crucial services for female veterans with children, offering targeted treatment programs and counseling. The expansion of our Workforce Development capabilities underscores our commitment to empowering veterans, ensuring they receive comprehensive support for a successful transition to civilian life. This initiative is a testament to our dedication to holistic veteran care and empowerment.

>> 919- PROJECT

★ PROGRAMS & SERVICES ★

PROGRAM ENTRY

Veterans are picked up across southwestern PA from the streets, encampments, under bridges, at shelters, hospitals, and other places not meant for human habitation. Veterans are transported to the Veterans Resource Center for supportive services.



VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER (VRC)

Veterans go through the initial intake process for a referral to one (1) or more of our CARF Accredited VP programs such as:

- ★ Transitional Housing
- ★ Employment
- ★ Substance Use Support
- ★ Food Bank
- ★ Minority Veteran Program
- ★ Female Veteran Program
- ★ Other Supportive Services



TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Veterans can be accepted into one (1) of our three (3) transitional housing programs through referrals from the VRC, Veterans Administration (VA), or other community partners.

- ★ Service Intensive Transitional Housing
- ★ Bridge Housing
- ★ Low Demand Housing



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Veterans can then be referred to our workforce development programs from any of our internal programs or by our community partners:

- ★ Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP)
- ★ Post 9/11 Employment Program
- ★ Transitioning Veteran Employment Program



VETERAN ALUMNI PROGRAM

Veterans Place continues to work with veterans regardless of program completion and re-engages all veterans through an array of community events. This includes ongoing access to the VRC.



★ VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER ★



CARF Accredited for Services Coordination



Volunteers preparing breakfast for veterans in the Resource Center

VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER (VRC), unique in that it is 1 of only 15 similar centers nationwide, the VRC offers veterans access to its computer lab, state-of-the-art Smart Classroom, commercial kitchen, free laundry, shower facilities, and an on-site food pantry. Open Monday through Saturday, the center ensures homeless veteran population have easy access to meals, clothing, showers, laundry, and other essential services that may not be available elsewhere 6 days each week.

VETERAN WILLIAM STAUDE, a former United States Army member, sought refuge at Veterans Place amid homelessness. After separating from his significant other, Staude exhausted his savings on a temporary hotel stay. Referred to Veterans Place by the Healthcare for Homeless Veterans Program at the VA, he faced initial challenges. With assistance, Staude overcame obstacles, securing an opportunity in the Transitional Housing program. During his 30-day stay in a Humanitarian Bed at the Veteran Resource Center, he demonstrated commitment, attending all scheduled case management sessions and diligently working towards his set goals.

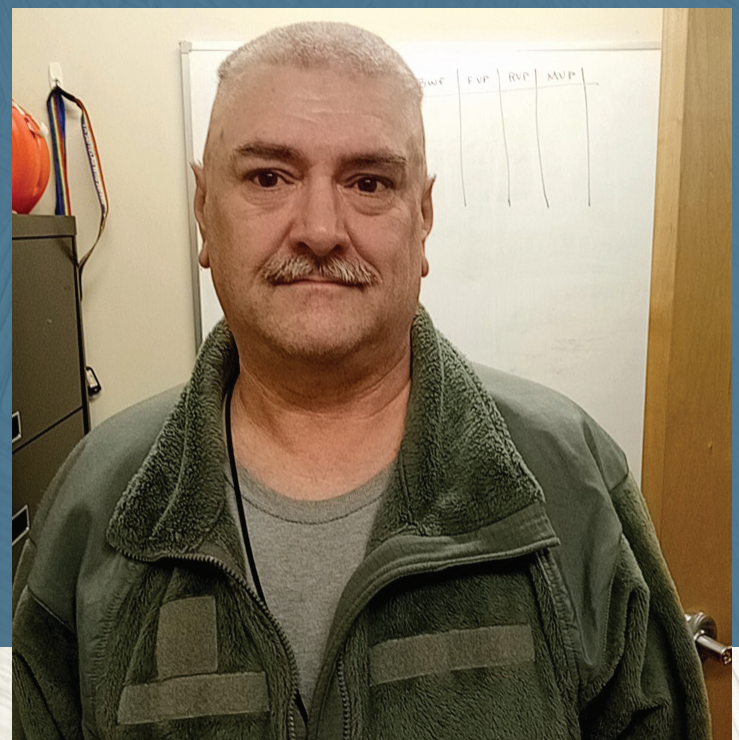
FEMALE VETERAN PROGRAM catering to the specific needs of female veterans, this program, which began in 2019 with the assistance of Highmark, continues in support of our commitment to aid the unique requirements of all veterans.

OPIOID RESPONSE PROGRAM, funded by the Veterans Trust Fund, as part of the State of Pennsylvania's response to the opioid pandemic, is one of the only opioid specific programs in the region designed for veterans. Veterans Place connects veterans to inpatient, outpatient, and recovery related services.

LOW INCOME VETERANS AND FAMILIES PROGRAM provides assistance to veterans and their families to aid in essential financial support, such as utilities, clothing, and rental assistance.

COMMUNITY CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM is a VA-funded Grant and Per Diem program, which offers veterans follow-up case management for up to 6 months after moving into permanent housing.

MINORITY VETERANS PROGRAM, with the financial support of the Pittsburgh Foundation, offers minority veterans (African Americans, Asian American/Pacific Islander, Hispanic, Native American/Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian) customized resources to assist in applying for qualifying benefits and referrals to other organizations and resources that help meet the growing needs of these underserved communities.



★ TRANSITIONAL HOUSING ★



CARF Accredited for Community Housing



Veteran Mike preparing a meal in his on-site townhouse



121

Veterans Served



11 Female

110 Male



87%

Successful Transition Rate

VETERANS PLACE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING has the distinction of being one of the few VA funded campus-style transitional housing programs nationwide. It offers temporary on-site housing for 48 male and female veterans. This setting creates a continuum of care in which veterans can receive individualized services in addition to access to all of Veterans Place resources such as an on-site food pantry, employment services, financial literacy classes, art therapy, and counseling services. With the participation of our Veteran Alumni Group the program supplies a unique counseling service encouraging both current and former veteran participants to meet weekly as a group with a Case Manager to discuss any barriers they encounter, recent barriers they have overcome, and provide peer support for our growing community of veteran alumni.

VETERAN JASON PURYEAR, originally from San Diego, faced significant challenges before finding solace at Veterans Place. Serving ten years in the Air Force during Operation: Desert Storm, he returned home to a fractured family dynamic, experiencing strained interactions that were further exacerbated by financial hardships.

Seeking support, Veteran Puryear entered Veterans Place through our Transitional Housing Program, where he gradually rebuilt structure and stability in his life. Despite the familial hurdles he faced before arriving, Veteran Puryear emerged as a leader within the veteran community at Veterans Place, utilizing his experiences to mentor others.

Today, Veteran Puryear's resilience shines as he works as a chef at Homewood's "Own Our Own" Project, a role secured through Veterans Place's Workforce Development Program. Additionally, he dedicates himself to guiding youth, embodying the transformative power of community support in overcoming personal adversities.



★ WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ★



**CARF Accredited for Community Employment Services:
Employment Supports & Job Development**



Members of the Workforce Development team at a community outreach event



**102 Veterans
Placed in Sustainable
Employment**



**100%
Success Rate**



**\$17.85/Hour
Average Placement Wage**

HOMELESS VETERANS' REINTEGRATION PROGRAM (HVRP), funded by the Department of Labor, provides all-inclusive services for unemployed and underemployed veterans. This program assists veterans in resume building, mock interviews, connection to competitive employment, and access to job-related education and materials needed for employment. Veterans Place HVRP consistently meets and exceeds goals set by the Department of Labor and takes great pride in helping veterans secure their chosen career path. The Workforce Development team responsible for providing this service is continually searching for and expanding our partnerships with regional employers and educational institutions and increasing outreach to veterans in need of local training and employment opportunities.

VETERAN MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM entered Veterans Place through the Transitional Housing program. Serving in the Army from 1987 to 1989 as a 31Q Combat Signaler, he received an honorable discharge as an E3. Thanks to the diligent efforts of the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP) in facilitating his job search, we are pleased to announce that Veteran Cunningham has secured a position as a Security Guard with one of our Community Partners, earning \$21.15 per hour.



★ IMPACT & FINANCIALS ★



**OVER 1,000
Vets Served**

58.6% Identified as Black
38.9% Identified as White
2.5% Identified as Other

83.2% Male Veterans
15.7% Female Veterans
**1.1% Did Not Identify
as Either Gender**



**2,768
Beneficiaries of
Food Bank/ Pantry Program**



INCOME

Federal: 72%
State: 8%
Fundraising: 20%

**TOTAL INCOME:
\$2,464,117**



EXPENSES

**90% of funds
go towards
programming**

**TOTAL EXPENSE:
\$2,573,316**



**10,352
Beneficiaries of Meal Program**

thank you

Veterans Place would like to extend a sincere thank you to all our corporate and community partners who play an important role in our mission to end veteran homelessness. Through volunteer hours, much needed supplies, funding, and in-kind support, our veterans receive the support and commitment they need as they transition to stable and productive lives.



Volunteers weeding and mulching flower beds on the Veterans Place campus

★ EVENTS ★

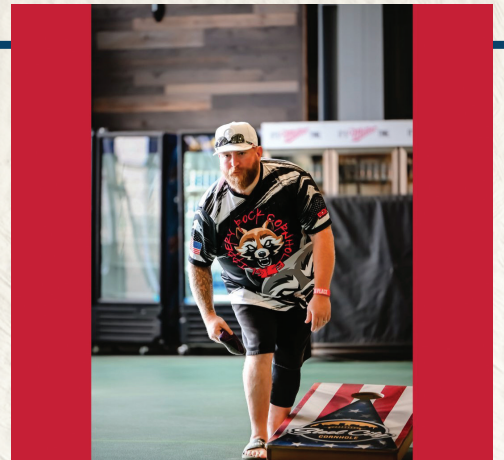
RAMP Charity Golf Outing

The Realtors Association of Metropolitan Pittsburgh (RAMP) sponsored a Charity Golf Outing, an annual tradition benefiting community service. Last year, a generous donation of \$10,000 was presented to Veterans Place, furthering our commitment to supporting veterans in need.



Cornhole Classic '23

The 9th Annual Cornhole Classic, held at Acrisure Stadium in partnership with the Pittsburgh Steelers, attracted 96 teams. This cherished event, benefiting Veterans Place, exemplifies community support in action, fostering a strong bond between participants and our mission.



Veterans Day

Veterans Day is a cherished celebration, marking another successful year at Veterans Place. The annual event on campus brought the community together, benefiting the residence and honoring those who've served.



★ ON THE HORIZON: CAPITAL/OPERATIONAL FUNDING ★



>> BENEFIT CONCERT/CHARITY MOTORCYCLE RIDE

Event will commence with an organized motorcycle ride around area local to event venue, in which patrons will be able to pledge (via pre-registration) to sponsor a rider on a donation/mile traveled basis. Sponsorship opportunities will be offered for event signage recognition, promotional merchandise collaboration, and title sponsorship (Ride Only). This event is structured to execute concurrently, or consecutively, based on venue negotiations.



>> CORNHOLE CLASSIC

Annual event held in partnership with Pittsburgh Steelers at Acrisure Stadium. The event will execute concurrently with Three Rivers RibFest on Labor Day Weekend. Revenue will be generated through tournament registration and sponsorships.



>> INTERACTIVE JOURNALS (PER PROGRAM)

Solicitation commenced with various grant organizations to grant \$40k for the generation and development of Interactive Journals (program-specific) for veterans, and associated guidance program. Objective for program is to use journals as regiment-building and organizational tool for veterans to gauge progress and motivate desired outcomes in respective rehabilitation process. KPIs will be tracked per department for development analytics and planning for scalability.



>> FEMALE VETERAN OUTREACH

Solicitation commenced with various grant organizations to provide \$80k in support towards enhancing capability of VRC to facilitate focused outreach to female veterans. Proposed key actions include the conversion of (2) part-time assistant case management specialist positions to full-time, the generation and dissemination of informational assets to access points (domiciliaries, domestic violence shelters, women's shelters, etc.) and furnishing of dedicated space within the prospective Workforce Development Center (919 project).

★ ON THE HORIZON: PROGRAMS ★



A themed paint-on-canvas medium art exhibition, featuring submissions from veterans participating in the Art Therapy Program at Veterans Place. Event will run concurrently with a catered tapas reception in area adjacent to exhibition. Admission will be offered on pre-registration basis by solicitation. Event will be hosted by a venue with adequate space to accommodate a catered tapas reception for prospective donors.

>> VETERANS ART EXHIBIT

★ VETERAN ARTIST OF THE MONTH ★

Veteran Andrew, U.S. Air Force



Swan Song



★ VETERAN ARTIST OF THE MONTH ★

Veteran Earl, U.S. Navy



Appalachian Trail



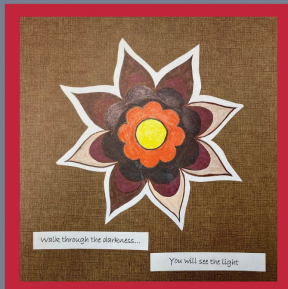
★ VETERAN ARTIST OF THE MONTH ★

Veteran Joe, U.S. Navy



★ VETERAN ARTIST OF THE MONTH ★

Veteran Linda, U.S. Air Force



Walk through the darkness...

...You will see the light.



★ VETERAN ARTIST OF THE MONTH ★

Veteran Robin, U.S. Marine Corps



★ VETERAN ARTIST OF THE MONTH ★

Veteran Yanii, U.S. Army



★ 2023 CORPORATE DONORS ★

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