



MACV in the News

Ribbon Cutting in North Minneapolis



On Wednesday, March 31, the Housing First Minnesota Foundation/HomeAid Twin Cities and building partner Lennar formally handed over the keys of a brand new 4-bedroom home in North Minneapolis to MACV. Homes like the North Minneapolis residence helps end Veteran homelessness in Minnesota by supporting the individuals MACV serves as they get back on their feet.

allows them the space and resources to re-center their lives,” said Donnie Brown, Housing First Minnesota’s Foundation Director. “Veteran residents will have everything they need to live on their own and have access to services to support both physical and emotional health to begin their healing process.”

“Our Housing for Heroes community projects provide a safety net for Veterans, which

[Link to Story](#)

Valor Place in Plymouth



Plymouth is proud to break ground at the future site of Valor Place in a ceremony marking the beginning of an affordable housing project that ultimately gets Veterans and their families a place to call home in Plymouth.

Valor Place, a City of Plymouth and Plymouth Housing and Redevelopment Authority joint initiative, is made possible through

partnerships with Charles Cudd Co. - MN Custom Home Builder, Outreach Development Corporation, MACV, and Plymouth Beyond the Yellow Ribbon.

[Read More](#)

Veteran Receives Free Car



Earlier this month, [Mauer Chevrolet](#) made a huge difference in a Veteran's life! They generously donated a brand new 2021 Chevy Trailblazer to Martina Williams.

Martina Williams is a Veteran with two children. She and her family live in MACV's Maplewood transitional home after leaving a shelter.

[Watch Video](#)

Rob Reynolds' Journey Home



Army Veteran Rob Reynolds hit his limit last summer. Following nearly 8 months in jail for charges which were ultimately dismissed, Rob found himself released in the dead of January with nothing but the clothes on his back. After years of small business ownership, Rob now had no money, no assets, and a wrecked credit score through no fault of his own.

This was not how Rob's life had played out up to that point. He served in the Army as a young man, providing radio and telephone communications to Camp Stanley in South Korea and a secondary duty as the General's driver.

After discharge, he owned a small business performing sewer maintenance for years. Nothing about his past suggested that Rob would end up homeless.

Veterans like Rob, those who experience literal homelessness, are sometimes difficult to engage simply because they have a hard time believing that anyone can really help them. When he decided to respond to MACV Hotel Program Manager James McCloden's ongoing contact attempts, Rob explains, "I didn't think anyone could help me and my life was done." But within 12 hours of talking to James, the Veteran found himself walking into a room at MACV housing partner Extended Stay.

Following two weeks in the hotel, Rob moved into one of MACV's transitional housing properties, where he now resides while rebuilding his business. The MACV Employment Services team helped Rob secure a job which allows him to use a company van to do his own contracts outside working hours. This allows him to focus all his income on relaunching General Rooter, the business he owned for decades. Employment Case Manager Scot Harris connected Rob with a web designer, resulting in a website for General Rooter set to come online in May 2021.

Rob also recently secured a private business loan from an individual interested in supporting Veterans, creating additional funding for routine costs small business often incur upon opening. "A bunch of pieces of the puzzle came together because of MACV," Rob notes.

"I owe all the thanks to MACV," says Robert. "They've got me in a safety net, basically." Hoping to give back to other Veterans in need, Rob hopes to become an employer partner when he starts hiring employees again. Having already secured new contracts, he also plans to move into his own place in the next month or two.

MACV staff who worked with Rob the longest, like James McCloden, are now friends Rob wants to keep in his life for years to come. We celebrate the incredible progress Rob made over the past year, and are honored to watch this determined, capable Veteran re-establish the life he deserves.

VA COVID-19 Vaccination Update

All Veterans, Veteran spouses, Veteran caregivers, and ChampVA beneficiaries are eligible to be vaccinated.

Non-enrolled Veterans, Veteran spouses, Veteran caregivers, and ChampVA beneficiaries can sign up to get a COVID-19 vaccine at VA. After completing this tool, you can schedule your vaccination appointments by calling 612-467-1301 on weekdays between 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

You can also walk-in without an appointment Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon, or join your scheduled Veteran for their appointment and receive the vaccine. If you are unable to complete the online sign-up tool, you are invited to walk-in.

Partner Spotlight

Mankato Area Cornhole



MACV received a generous donation of \$2,300 from the amazing supporters of Mankato Area Cornhole and Jason Zuehlke! Thank you for your continued support of our organization and our mission to end Veteran homelessness. We can only accomplish our mission when people like you have our back.

Lost Sanity Brewing



Lost Sanity Brewing was absolutely amazing! Thank you to everyone that came and enjoyed the day and to those that donated. Huge thank you to the brewery for their support and bringing awareness to Veteran homelessness in Minnesota. Your efforts raised \$3,094 for local Veterans in need. The outpouring of support was terrific and we are overjoyed by your partnership!

Volunteer with MACV

Volunteering with MACV connects you with our vibrant community while contributing to the end of Veteran homelessness in Minnesota. If you would like to volunteer or receive notifications of potential opportunities, click the link to update your contact information and complete a short survey to let us know more about your individual or group skills.

[Volunteer Sign-Up and Survey](#)

Once you are notified of a volunteer opportunity that matches your interests with an identified need for the Veterans we serve, you can count on engaging with a robust introduction to MACV and its work, as well as valuable training to help you succeed in your role.

Future Army Officers Tear It Up!

Volunteers from Minnesota Army National Guard OCS Class 65 came out on a cool spring morning to help us tear down a garage for our next project. Thanks for taking care of your brothers and sisters in arms, Class 65!



Upcoming Events

Eagle Group Virtual Job Meeting: Tuesdays (weekly), 5pm - [Join Online](#)

Online Interviewing Skills: Thursday (weekly), 1pm - [Request Invite](#)

Running for Heroes 5K: Sunday, May 16, 8am - [Sign up](#)

State Fair Kickoff to Summer: Fri-Mon May 27 to 31 - [Sneak Peek](#)

Salute to Service Women Golf Classic: Tuesday, June 22 - [Sign up now](#)

Veterans Career Fair: Wednesday, June 9 - [Get Registered](#)

IGYSIX Ride: Sat, July 10 - [Rider Registration](#)

Golf Tournament at Deer Run: Wednesday, Sept. 1 - [Get Registered](#)

Tee It Up for the Troops: Monday, Sept. 13 - [Sign Up](#)

For more events, check out our [Upcoming Events](#) page at www.mac-v.org.

Donor Spotlight

City of Duluth

The City of Duluth has generously awarded \$50,000 to MACV for our outreach and housing work in Duluth!

We have partnered with the City for several years and through a number of funding awards. Our remarkable North Minnesota team is integral in the ongoing relationship with this funder, and we are proud to consider ourselves a partner with the City of Duluth in the fight to end Veteran homelessness. Thanks for your support, Duluth!





We are thrilled to announce the award of a one-time grant from the Ordean Foundation, which serves the Northeast region of Minnesota. The end of Veteran homelessness in Duluth and the surrounding area is within our sights this year, and the Foundation's award is meant to give MACV the lift we need to close the final gap between our goal and where we stand today. Thanks for your faith in our mission, Ordean!

Thank You to Last Month's Donors

Annual Gifts over \$50,000

National Guard Support Our Troops Fund
Minnesota Masonic Charities
Duluth CARES

Gifts over \$5,000

Ordean Foundation
Sharon Bookin Foundation

Gifts over \$1,000

Trademark Title Service Inc.
Minnesota Adult & Teen Challenge
Apple Valley Home Depot
US Bank
VFW Auxiliary Post 6208
Ronald and Bonnie Loidolt Household

Gifts over \$100

Michael J Brenteson Household
Norma Pederson Household
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 0251
Big Lake Storage, LLC
City of Wahkon, Mille Lacs County
Stephen Lillyblad Household

Gifts over \$100 continued

Todd Jacobson Household
Masonic Chapter #37
Susan Friest Household
Ann P Weimann Household
Jill Bremseth Household
Tammy Kane-Nyane Household
Ann P Weimann Household
Abby Hennes Household
Honghanh Nguyen Household
Dionne Household
Sandra J Kaul Household
Darren Maturi Household
THOMAS KIVEL Household
Richard Wilson Household
Ronald Morss Household
David Biegging Household
Larissa Mrozek Household
Richard Wilson Household
VFW Auxiliary Post 1350
William and Yvonne Long Household
Alan Gierke Household
Greg Mohwinkel Household

Susan Niedenfuer Household
Paula Baumberger Household
Arlene Lensing Household
Ronald & Debra Schultz Household
Susan Munson-Regala Household
J.P. Pawluk Household
Heidi Christopherson Household
Minnesota Masonic Charities
Goldman Household



You Can Help End Veteran Homelessness

Our team is working hard to stabilize Veterans across Minnesota.

Hope is on the horizon. Many of us are looking forward to the months ahead with hope for renewing the parts of life we put on hold for the past year.

Minnesota nonprofits and schools are working hard to help keep us healthy, meet basic needs, and gather around common goals, interests, and experiences. They are also addressing the long-term economic crisis of the pandemic, which puts even more Veterans at-risk of homelessness.



[Join the fight to end Veteran homelessness](#)

[Visit our website](#)