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MACV NEWSLETTER - June 2021



Minnesota State Fair's Kickoff to Summer Was a Blast!



MACV thanks everyone who stopped by our tent at the Minnesota State Fair's Kickoff to Summer to learn more about MACV or check in with us. Our staff and volunteers had a great time, especially since co-locating representatives from longtime partners Every Third Saturday and the Uptown VFW Chapter make for lovely company. We hope to see you at the State Fair in August, and look forward to the Great Minnesota Get-Together! It's been too long.



In the News

MACV to benefit from collaboration between Duluth Pack, Operation Hat Trick



MACV is thrilled by the partnership developed between outdoors outfitter Duluth Pack and Operation Hat Trick. The two organizations have earmarked 12% of proceeds from sales of select Duluth Pack products to fund MACV services in Northern Minnesota. Learn more about this opportunity to support Veterans below!

[Link to story](#)

Lavender Magazine Explores the LGBTQ+ Military Experience



Lavender Magazine, one of MACV's most committed partners, published a piece exploring the experiences of LGBTQ+ members of the military for its June PRIDE edition. It might not find what you think!

[Read more here](#)

MACV 101: Chronic Homelessness

School may be out for kids, but not for us!

Here at MACV, we have a certain way of talking about homelessness. In the world of housing and human services, providers and stakeholders need to have a common language so we can understand the problems we encounter and the solutions which work the best. This month, the newsletter team launches the MACV 101 series so you can get an inside look in the housing world.

This month, we explore **chronic homelessness**. According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness, chronic homelessness describes people who have experienced homelessness for at least a year — or repeatedly — while struggling with a disabling condition such as a serious mental illness, substance use disorder, or physical disability. Many of the Veterans who remain homeless after ten years of coordinated work to end Veteran homelessness in Minnesota fall under this category, with 68 of the 280 Veterans on the Minnesota Homeless Veteran Registry qualifying as such.

How do we fix it? One proven intervention is permanent supportive housing. Many chronically homeless Vets are just not cut out for mainstream housing. They need extra support like financial assistance, case management, and other services for the long haul, not just until they "get back on their feet." You know who has permanent supportive housing specialized to the needs of military Veterans? You got it: MACV!

*Want to learn more? Let us know what you think and what we should cover next! Just shoot us an [email](#) or leave a comment on **MACV's social media**.*

Home At Last!



MACV Veteran Asia moved from transitional housing into her own place last week. She was able to move in almost fully furnished due to some donations we secured. Look for more stories about the journey Asia has undertaken in the past few months and years to come, but for now we want to celebrate this huge accomplishment. What a win!

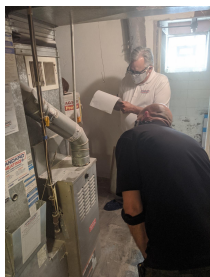
Volunteer with MACV

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.

Housing Property Updates



Longtime partners Standard Heating & Air Conditioning simultaneously donated air conditioning units, as well as their time and expertise to update the A/C systems in our houses. They completed

this important work just in time for the record-setting heat wave we experienced last week. The age of some MACV houses require special expertise and ongoing advisement on how to get the best return on investment in terms of heating and cooling, which play vital roles in the health of our residents.



The Heartland Outlet, an outlet store which supports the HEART ministry of Hosanna Church, donated or sold flooring materials at heavily discounted prices for three MACV-

owned transitional homes in 2021 alone. Their store also sells household items like furniture and small appliances directly to low-income consumers with vouchers for the store. Ministries like HEART and social enterprises like Heartland Outlet address this need by making furniture and basic amenities accessible even for our lowest income clients.

Between these two partners, MACV's houses are in better shape than ever. We look forward to engaging with our volunteers and stakeholders to make sure MACV transitional housing offers Veterans the best setting to get their lives back on track. MACV thanks partners like Heartland Outlet and Standard Heating & Air Conditioning for such great work and collaboration with our operations team.

Partner Spotlight: Faribault Extended Stay



Faribault Extended Stay

Extended Stay Property Coordinator Kasey Ylinen embodies the attitude MACV looks for in our community partners every day she comes to work. Tasked with managing Extended Stays like the property in Faribault, Ms. Ylinen advocates for her residents because she sees it as her job.

Businesses like the Extended Stay have a unique role in addressing the housing needs of local communities. Low-income Veterans who otherwise face unsheltered or "street" homelessness sometimes use the Extended Stay as temporary housing which turns into a long-term stay. The Extended Stay Faribault has four or five such residents staying there at present, with MACV staff delivering services to help the Veterans find long-term housing.

Kasey is no stranger to the challenges created by some of the Veterans who live at the property, but, in her words, "I am not going to put a Veteran on the street. It's just not going to happen. This is our responsibility to help these people."

Ylinen initially reached out to MACV when a Veteran residing at the Extended Stay posed a problem both in paying on time and general behavior. Working with social service providers has become an increasingly large element of her responsibility to serve the local community with a high-quality hospitality experience. Tasks stemming from this approach can include writing letters of recommendation for potential landlords or problem-solving residents' challenges, a duty which can arise at any time.

The Extended Stay team's commitment to identifying solutions which meet the needs of Veterans while keeping other residents and the property itself safe and comfortable makes this temporary housing solution an ideal connection for our staff in Southern Minnesota. "Everybody needs a second chance," explains Kasey. "Everybody needs a fresh start sometimes. We're the place where you can come and do that."

Upcoming Events

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

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

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

Veteran Resource Fair: Thursday, June 24th - [Rochester Soldiers Memorial Field Park](#)

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

Veteran Resource Fair: Sunday, July 11 - [Mankato ISG Field](#)

Tribute Fest: Aug. 26-28 - Bayfront Festival Park - [Tickets](#)

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

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

Edina Realty Night Light Gala: Friday, Nov. 5 - [Link to Foundation](#)

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

Donor Spotlight

Twin Cities Closet Company

Twin Cities Closet Company, located in Shakopee, donated \$6,200 to MACV through their employee giving program in May. This is the first financial contribution to MACV from the company, and we could not have more gratitude that TCCC's employees thought of us. Thank you for your generosity!



Merrill Lynch



Merrill Lynch, a Patriot Level Sponsor of the 2021 Salute to Servicewomen Golf Classic, contributed \$10,000 to MACV services. This funding supports Veteran women at-risk or experiencing homelessness. Merrill Lynch has acted as the Classic's Patriot Presenting Sponsor for several years now, and every year we consider ourselves fortunate for this steadfast support. Thanks for your help!

Ramsey County Bar Foundation

Ramsey County Bar Foundation contributed \$1,000 to support MACV's Vetlaw program operations in the East Metro. The Foundation has contributed funding to MACV every year since 2012, which adds up to \$16,500 with this year's grant. Reliable support for our legal services helps Veterans overcome the nontraditional barriers sabotaging their housing stability. Thank you for your continued help,



Tee It Up for the Troops

Tee It Up is a national group which holds golf tournaments for Veteran groups, and



contributed \$1,250 to the Salute to Servicewomen golf tournament happening on June 22. These incredible donors have contributed \$135,355 over the years to MACV. We could not do our work without supporters like Tee It Up for the Troops. Thank you so much.

Mount Zion Lutheran Church

After 95 years as part of the Uptown Minneapolis faith community, Mount Zion Lutheran Church decided to close its doors this year. Incredibly, they decided to donate \$30,000 to MACV after simply hearing about our work from WCCO's Home for the Holidays coverage as part of their dissolution. Unsolicited gifts like what we received from Mount Zion play a critical role in how responsively we can serve Veterans in need. Thank you for such unprecedented generosity, Mount Zion. All the best.



Thank You to Last Month's Donors

Annual Gifts over \$50,000

Bob Woodruff Foundation
National Guard Support Our Troops Fund
Minnesota Masonic Charities
Duluth CARES

Gifts over \$5,000

Mount Zion Lutheran Church
Twin Cities Closet Company
Merrill Lynch
Community Solutions

Gifts over \$1,000

Ramsey County Bar Foundation
Leonard K. Mikulay Foundation
Edina Realty Foundation
Delgreco Household
Marlys Thomas Household
Tee It Up for the Troops



Gifts over \$100

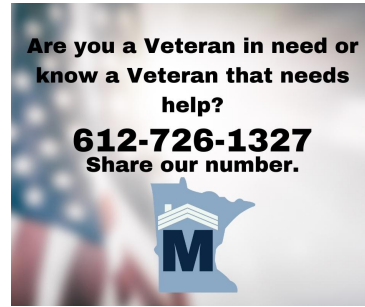
Transamerica Life Insurance Company
Gene Sandler Household
Steve Koepke Household
Sandra Korthuis Household
David Fong's Chinese Household
Greg Mansfield Household
Wayne Peterson Household
Suzanne Asher Household
Minnesota Pack MODD Dog Robber
Keel Household
James Schuetz Household
Amanda Yun Household
Walter White Household
Darren Maturi Household
Jane Dewenter Household
Teresa Hyde Household
Thomas Kivel Household
Stephen Lilyblad Household
Mahtomedi VFW and Legion Baseball
Ronald & Debra Schultz Household
Ron Anderson Household
CAF America
Cargill
Edward B. Magarian Household
John J. Bryant Household
Holly Bloom Household
Walter White 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](#)