



The MCVET Way...

Understanding the gravity and the magnitude of the problems of experienced by homeless veterans, MCVET founders were uncompromising in their belief that an effective program to serve this vulnerable population would need three components: 1). A seamless continuum of care, including wrap-around supportive services, 2). A military-structured format; and, 3). A veteran-helping-veteran approach.

Implementing this methodology, MCVET serves 250+ veterans each day, with **Housing and Support Services**, including:

A Day Drop-In Facility, where up to fifty homeless veterans can obtain a degree of comfort by: showering, getting a fresh change of clothes, having access to water and vending machines, obtaining crisis intervention counseling, and having a quiet place to rest, while visiting with other veterans in similar circumstances.

Emergency Housing is the first phase for veterans committing to the MCVET Program. The Emergency Housing Program can house up to 50 veterans. They may reside in Emergency Housing for up to thirteen weeks, during which time, their military status is confirmed, they receive Veteran's Administration benefits counseling, and they are assigned a case-manager, who works with our veterans to identify the causes of homelessness and outline employment and education goals.

Transitional Housing accommodates up to 120 veterans. Veterans who have successfully completed their stay in the Emergency Shelter Program and who need continued supportive services in order to return to employment and permanent housing, may stay in MCVET's Transitional Housing for up to two years.

Single Room Occupancy enables veterans to remain at MCVET, while beginning the process of independent living. SRO with Emergency and Transitional Housing provides a full continuum of housing, counseling, and job placement services. Veterans, who are not currently enrolled in MCVET's program, can apply to reside in our 79 SRO units.

In addition to sheltering and feeding veterans, who transition through our-tiered housing program, MCVET provides **Case Management, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Counseling**. During the first sixty days of residency at MCVET, each resident is assessed by a trained case manager to determine if they meet the criteria of being homeless, and, in accordance with the mission of the program, their status as a veteran is verified. Residents are referred to Veterans Affairs for physical and mental health assessments and treatment as needed. At MCVET, we conduct addiction recovery classes daily and veterans receive individual counseling, assistance with post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, and family problems. Health Care for each veteran is coordinated by MCVET case managers and provided at Veterans Affairs Medical Centers located in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware and West Virginia, or by local private physicians selected by our residents. On-site vision services are provided by "Society for Sight".

MCVET's **Education, Training, and Employment (ETE)** program begins while veterans are in the Emergency Housing. The goal of ETE is to involve the residents of MCVET in higher education or skilled training programs that will enable them to secure first-rate employment and higher paying salaries. MCVET's ETE Program Coordinator tracks each resident's progress until he or she completes their respective program. The employment service component of ETE is done in conjunction with the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulations (DLLR). This comprehensive program includes intensive job development with employers, job searches and assisted job placements, guidance in resume preparation and interview skills training.

MCVET's methodology has been successful in alleviating poverty and homelessness among veterans. **We are honored that our job training program was recognized by the Department of Labor as a "Best Practices Employment Assistance Training Program" and that the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has declared our program as a "National Model" for community-based organizations providing seamless, comprehensive service delivery systems for homeless veterans.**