



Media Advisory

Homeless Stand-down Donations Needed

What: Homeless Stand-down

Who: Polk County Veteran Affairs, Veterans Administration Medical Center, Veterans Benefits Administration, State of Iowa, local churches and services organizations

When: Friday, September 13th – Gates open at 5 p.m. and close at 8 p.m.
Saturday, September 14th – 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Sunday, September 15th – 8 a.m. – Noon

Where: East of the State Capitol

Donations Needed:

The following items are needed no later than September 1, 2013.

Paper plates, silverware, new coats, jeans, pants, underwear, socks, shoes and boots, winter hats, gloves, long under, t-shirts, sweatshirts, hygiene products (men and women), food items, gift cards to local stores such as hardware, grocery and discount stores. Cash donations also welcome. Large food donations will be needed throughout the weekend. Please go to

https://www.facebook.com/VaCentrallowaHomelessVeteransStandDown?ref=br_tf#!/VaCentrallowaHomelessVeteransStandDown/ or contact Kimberly Neal, Stand-down Chair, at 515-669-8637 for

questions or to arrange a donation.

Media is invited to come and talk with the planners and volunteers of the event from Thursday, September 12th starting at 8 a.m. through 4:30 p.m. on Friday. Cameras will not be allowed during the event.

Background: Polk County Veteran Affairs, Veterans Administration Medical Center, Veterans Benefits Administration, State of Iowa, local churches and service organizations will be holding a stand-down event for area homeless individuals September 13 – 15th. This event is open to all homeless or anyone at-risk of being homeless. Sleeping tents for men and women will be provided throughout the weekend. Flu shots will be available for eligible Veterans. Free haircuts will also be provided. Veteran service organizations will be on-site all weekend to assist Veterans in filing compensation or pension claims. VA Medical will be on site to provide health assessments to Veterans. A Military Chaplain will be on site throughout the weekend. Central Iowa Shelter Services (CISS) will provide information and assistance. Free cell phone application assistance will be provided. Free transportation to and from the stand-down during operational hours, as well as transportation from the stand-down to CISS for those wishing to use shower facilities will be provided. For those who need transportation to the site, call 515-661-8959 during operational hours. Health assessments will be provided by Primary Health Care for nonVeterans. Iowa Workforce Development will provide assistance with employment needs. Polk County Veteran Affairs will assist Polk County Veterans who are budget eligible for financial assistance for food or shelter needs.

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