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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** National Executive Committee  
Board of Directors  
Department & Chapter Officers  
National Staff

**FROM:** J. Marc Burgess, National Adjutant

**SUBJECT:** **DAV Magazine Story on Homeless Veteran Initiatives**

**DATE:** November 5, 2014

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The leaves are falling from the trees, signaling the season of sweaters, hot cocoa and hay rides. Autumn's dropping temperatures are not welcomed by all our ranks, however. Throughout the United States, we have nearly 50,000 brothers and sisters in arms without a place to call home.

No one who served our country should be huddled under a bridge, in shelters or camped out in the woods. I am encouraged by the recent decline in overall veteran homelessness, but until every man and woman who served has a roof over their head, DAV will continue to work with government and nonprofit agencies to end this national tragedy.

Through the Charitable Service Trust, DAV supports organizations nationwide that serve homeless and at-risk veterans by providing food, shelter, social services and programs that promote self-sufficiency.

In our fraternal ranks, members across the country have stepped up and are doing their part to combat veteran homelessness in their community. If your Department or Chapter is involved in an effort designed to address veteran homelessness, we want to hear about it and are considering a story in DAV Magazine about nationwide efforts.

Please share your initiatives and programs with Charity Edgar in our Communications Department at [cedgar@dav.org](mailto:cedgar@dav.org) or call her at (202) 314-5221. A program that works in your Chapter could also benefit veterans in another community across the country. And though we cannot promise that all submissions will be shared, we are nonetheless grateful to learn more about what is going on in your communities.

Your successes could help other DAV members support our brothers and sisters in arms with the greatest needs. Thank you for your unmatched dedication to your fellow veterans.

J. Marc Burgess