

# National Coalition for Homeless Veterans

Heather Pritchard  
May 29-31, 2013





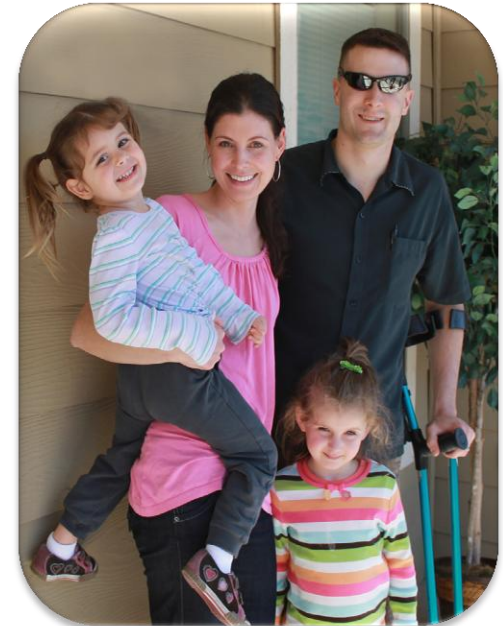
# SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED US ALL

## **Mission:**

To Ensure Every Veteran has a Safe Place to Call Home

## **Commitment:**

\$80M over five years to address veterans housing needs



★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
**DOING MORE  
FOR VETERANS**



# REACHING COMMUNITIES



Community Impact Grants



National/Foundation Grants



Team Depot

How We Help



Framing Hope



Disaster Relief



# IMPACT (2011-2012)



# PARTNERS

The Home Depot Foundation is proud to be working with some of the nation's best nonprofits.



**NATIONAL COALITION**  
*for* **HOMELESS VETERANS**



# MOORE, OK



# MOORE, OK





# TEAM DEPOT



# TEAMS DEPOT AND RUBICON





# FOUNDATION

## OUR MISSION

TO ENSURE EVERY VETERAN HAS A SAFE PLACE TO CALL HOME

## OUR COMMITMENT

\$80 MILLION OVER 5 YEARS & THE SWEAT EQUITY OF THOUSANDS OF ASSOCIATE VOLUNTEERS

[www.homedepotfoundation.org](http://www.homedepotfoundation.org)

[www.facebook.com/homedepotfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/homedepotfoundation)

[www.twitter.com/homedepotfdn](https://www.twitter.com/homedepotfdn)



2013 National Coalition for Homeless Veterans Conference:  
The Role of Philanthropy in Development of Affordable Housing

Twitter:

@HarigBlaine

@leagueofcities

How are communities coordinating services for veterans to ensure effective and efficient delivery?

- Phoenix, AZ
- Tacoma, WA

## Phoenix, AZ

Existing supports: Outreach workers, case workers, friends/family

Navigators blend elements of these to provide: peer-based, client-centered support that supplements existing care

Area stakeholders developed, United Way provided next stage support, City of Phoenix has issued RFP using CDBG resources

## Tacoma/Pierce County, WA

Gates Foundation supported Building Changes around family homelessness  
*Prevention, Coordinated Entry/Assessment; Rapid Re-Housing; Tailored  
Programs/Services; Economic Opportunities; Evaluation*

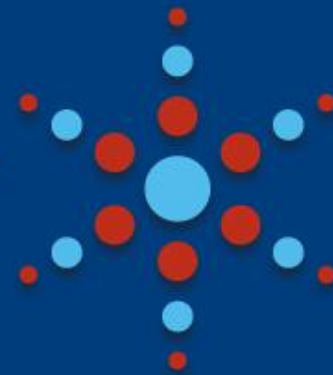
NLC working with: State DVA; Metropolitan Development Council; Catholic  
Community Services; Tacoma Housing Authority; City of Tacoma; Pierce  
County; Regional VA office; State Legislators

Resource alignment with Veteran prioritization





# Community Blueprint



An Initiative of:

POINTS OF LIGHT



# Advisory Council Members and their Organizations

- American Red Cross
- TAPS
- U.S. Chamber of Commerce
- Student Veterans of America
- Armed Forces Services Corporation
- Military Child Education Coalition
- Operation Homefront
- The Mission Continues
- ServiceNation: Mission Serve/Got Your 6
- National Military Family Association
- American Legion Auxiliary
- Military Officers Association of America
- Blue Star Families
- America's Promise Alliance
- USO
- Give an Hour
- Veterans Innovation Center
- OWFS – JCJS – Col. David Sutherland

# Blueprint 101: What is it?

**The Community Blueprint is a set of tools and practices that provide a framework for communities to produce positive, measurable outcomes for veterans, military members and their families.**

**It consists of  
TWO things**

**Blueprint Toolbox**

**Community  
Blueprint Network**

# Blueprint 101: Blueprint Toolbox



The 'Toolbox' has eight (8) drawers aka **IMPACT AREAS:**

1. Employment
2. Reintegration
3. Family Strength
4. Housing
5. Volunteerism
6. Financial & Legal
7. Behavioral Health
8. Education  
(K-12 & Higher Ed)

**Each IMPACT AREA has a set of tools (aka COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS).**

Ex: Under the "Employment" IMPACT AREA, some of the 'COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS' include how to run Hiring Events, Resume Writing Workshops, and Mock Interview Workshops.

# Blueprint First Steps

- “Launched” Oct 9 2012
  - Phase 1: 30 VLC members out to 11 communities, Oct 2012
  - Phase 2: 45 VLC Members set to begin March 2013

# Where We Are Now (March 2013)

- There are currently 41 Blueprint Communities in 22 states, and DC.
- Of these, 20 sites (22 organizations) host our Veteran Leader Corps (VLC).



# Where We Are Now (March 2013)

Blueprint Community	VLC Host Organization (# VLCs)
1. Miami, FL	American Red Cross - South Florida Region (7)
2. Los Angeles, CA (NE)	Goodwill Southern California (2)
3. Los Angeles, CA	Volunteers of America L.A. (8)
4. Santa Ana, CA	Veterans First (5) One OC (1)
5. Lanham, MD	VOA Chesapeake (5)
6. Augusta / Harlem, GA	Georgia Serves (1)
7. Brunswick / St. Mary's, GA	Georgia Serves (1)
8. Savannah / Hinesville, GA	Georgia Serves (1)
9. Newark, NJ	GI Go Fund (3)
10. Cincinnati, OH	Easter Seal TriState (2)
11. Las Vegas, NV	Easter Seals Nevada (2)
12. Lakewood, WA	The Unfinished Mission (3)
13. Omaha, NE	Lutheran Family Services (3)
14. Chicago, IL	Illinois Veteran Affairs (1)
15. Lafayette, IA	Purdue University (5) Metro Volunteers (5)
16. Denver, CO	Easter Seal Colorado (2) Veterans Green Jobs (2)
17. Macon, GA	Volunteer Macon (2)
18. Huntsville, AL	Still Serving Veterans (4)
19. Atlanta, GA	HandsOn Atlanta (2) Goodwill North GA (3)
20. Boston, MA	Volunteers of America Massachusetts (2)

Blueprint Community	Main Organization
21. Delaware	Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs
22. Fairfax, VA	Volunteer Fairfax
23. Fayetteville, NC	Give an Hour
24. Norfolk / Hampton Roads, VA	Give an Hour
25. Jacksonville, FL	HandsOn Jacksonville
26. Philadelphia, PA	Global Citizen/Mission 365
27. San Diego, CA	National Veterans Transitions Services, Inc.
28. Tyler, TX	MOAA (Rose Hill Chapter)
29. Valdosta, GA	Valdosta Veterans First
30. Iowa City, Iowa	University of Iowa Veterans Center
31. San Antonio, TX	San Antonio Area Foundation
32. Vestal, NY	Southern Tier Veterans Support Group
33. Vero Beach, FL	Veterans Council
34. Harford County, MD	MOAA (Susquehanna Chapter)
35. Robeson County, NC	Gateway Missional Agency
36. Fairborn, OH	Operation Fairborn Cares
37. Phoenix, AZ	USA Cares
38. Washington, D.C.	Paralyzed Veterans of America
39. Saranac Lake, NY	Homeward Bound Adirondacks
40. Kearny, NJ	Kearny VOICE
41. Temecula, CA	Inland Empire Champion Collaborative Courts

# Blueprint 101: Where we are. Where we are going.

- Currently in 41 communities, 20 VLC host sites
- Scaling to 200+ communities by 2014
- 16,000 veterans will be trained as volunteer leaders or serve as service project volunteers (at least 1 activity, minimum 2 hours)
- 8,000 veterans will receive job readiness support (at least 1 activity, minimum 2 hours)
- Providing robust pipeline for volunteer opportunities (SAUS)



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# POINTS OF LIGHT

*We put people at the center of change.*

DONATE

VOLUNTEER

HOME

WHO WE ARE

PROGRAMS

EVENTS

CIVIC INCUBATOR

CORPORATE INSTITUTE

BLOG

MILITARY INITIATIVES

DISASTER

NATIONAL SERVICE

RECOGNITION

DIGITAL PRODUCTS

HANDSON TECH

## HOUSING STABILITY AND HOMELESS ASSISTANCE



Homelessness in a developed nation is inexcusable, but homelessness among the military community is even more shameful. These citizens have sacrificed for their country, often risking their lives to protect American freedoms.

In the United States, 200,000 veterans will be homeless at one point during a year's time, with approximately 107,000 veterans being homeless each night. Nearly one fifth of the homeless population is veterans, though only 8% of the general population can claim veteran status. Learn more about [housing stability and homelessness among veterans](#).

The following are community solutions for addressing housing stability and homelessness among veterans. These community solutions were identified and developed by a national coalition of over 55 veteran and military-serving organizations nonprofits and government agencies.

### SIGN UP & SERVE

Find volunteer opportunities to support the veteran/military community

### SHARE THIS SITE



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Community  
Blueprint



serving with veterans, military  
service members and their families





## Find City Solutions

Center for Research & Innovation

Economic Development

Emerging Issues

Finance

Governance & Civic Engagement

Housing & Community Development

▶ Housing & Land Use

▶ Neighborhoods & Communities

▶ Housing Rehabilitation for Veterans with Disabilities

▶ City Practices

▶ Understanding the Need

▶ Community Resources

[Home](#) | [Find City Solutions](#) | [Center for Research & Innovation](#) | [Housing & Community Development](#) | [Housing Rehabilitation for Veterans with Disabilities](#)

## Housing Rehabilitation for Veterans with Disabilities

In the coming years, our nation's cities and towns will welcome home more than 1 million veterans. They will join more than 20 million veterans in the United States who have served our country since World War II. Each of these veterans brings tremendous talents and gifts. They all deserve our welcome, our acknowledgment of their commitment to this country and our sensitivity to the needs that they and their families face as they return to civilian life.

Elected officials and municipal staff can provide critical leadership and leverage local, state and federal resources to support the work of non-profits, military service organizations, faith communities, educational institutions, local businesses and foundations to ensure success in the post-service lives of all veterans. To help local government better support military veterans and their families, NLC is working with the Home Depot Foundation to target the housing rehabilitation needs of disabled veterans.

### Understanding the Need

Knowing the extent of veteran needs in your city or town is a critical first step in making an impact. Not all needs are the same. Some veterans have experienced chronic homelessness and/or have severe injuries requiring long-term supportive services. Other veterans have more moderate disabilities that can improve with monitored treatment and therapy. Still others may require

### SPOTLIGHT

#### Featured by:



### FOUNDATION

A joint initiative of the National League of Cities and the Home Depot Foundation.

*"The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional to how they perceive the veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their nation."*

- George Washington

[Learn More](#)



# Questions?

[www.nlc.org/veteranshousing](http://www.nlc.org/veteranshousing)



# ***Veterans Build:*** Habitat for Homeless Veterans



## *Agenda*

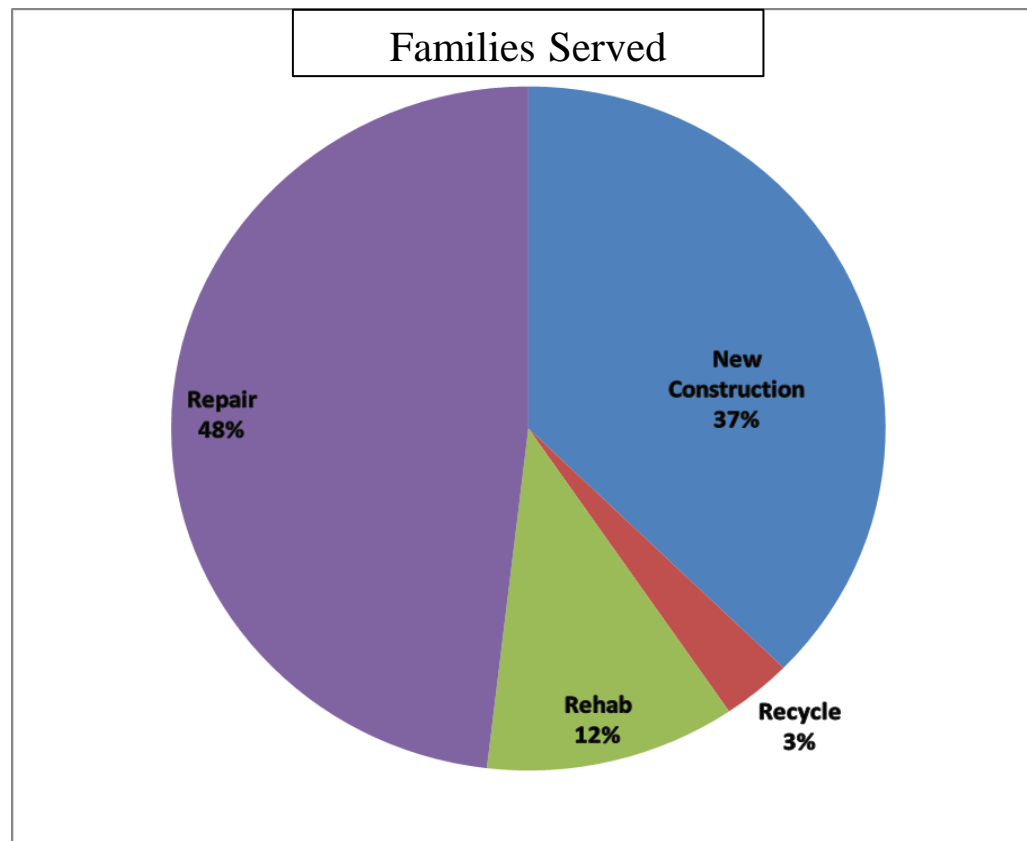
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- **Background**
  - Habitat today: Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative
  - Veteran needs
  - Environmental scan
- **Veterans Build**
  - Program design
  - Serving homeless veterans

## Habitat Today

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*Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative:  
Serving more families through an expanded array of housing products*





## Habitat Today

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*Evaluating veterans' need for Habitat engagement*



## ***Housing needs***

- Nearly 4 million veteran households pay more than 30% of income for housing.
- More than 1.5 million of these households pay more than 50% of income for housing.
- Nearly 1 million veterans who own homes are severely cost burdened, despite having access to VA loans and other assistance.
- Despite falling home prices, many returning veterans do not earn enough to purchase a median-priced home and some do not earn enough to afford a typical two-bedroom rent.
- Veterans with severe housing cost burden are more likely to have a disability than other veterans.

## *Employment needs*

- The unemployment rate for post-9/11 veterans ages 18 to 24 is 30.2%, compared with 16.1% for non-veterans the same age
- A substantial subset of veterans struggles economically. Approximately 1.4 million veterans (6.7%) live in poverty.

## *Veteran Volunteer Needs*

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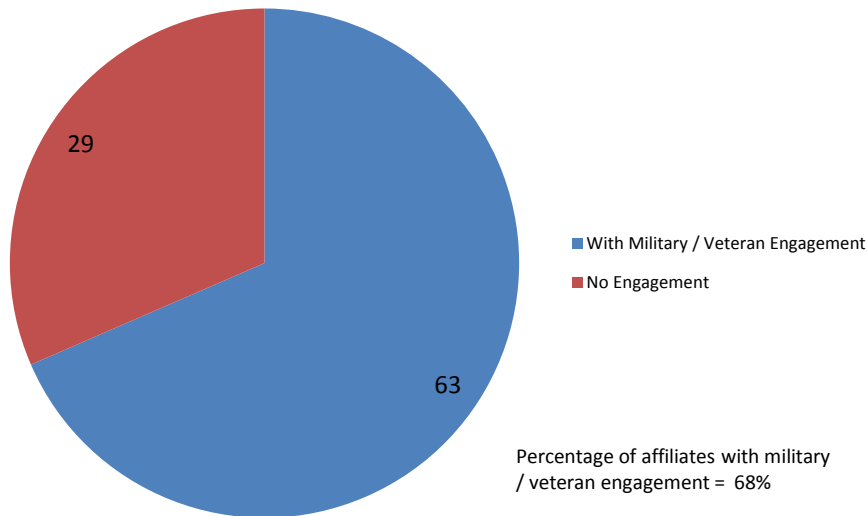
### **2009 Iraq/Afghanistan Veteran Survey**

- Strongly agreed or agreed that serving their communities is important: **92%**
- Have not volunteered because they have not been asked or do not have enough information on service opportunities: **69%**
- Non-volunteering veterans willing to serve at least 11 hours/month: **30%**
- Non-volunteering veterans willing to serve at least 6 hours/month: **62%**

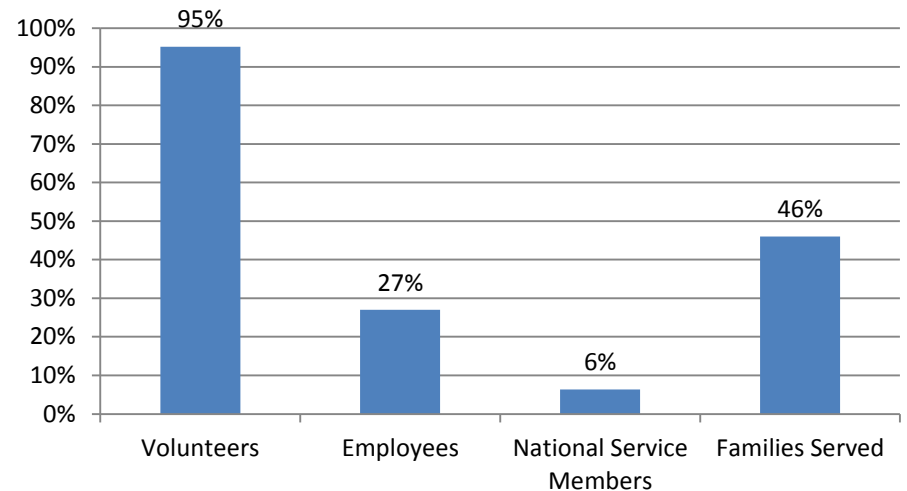


## HFHI Survey Results - Military / Veteran Engagement

### Affiliate Military / Veteran Engagement



### How Affiliates Engage Military & Veterans



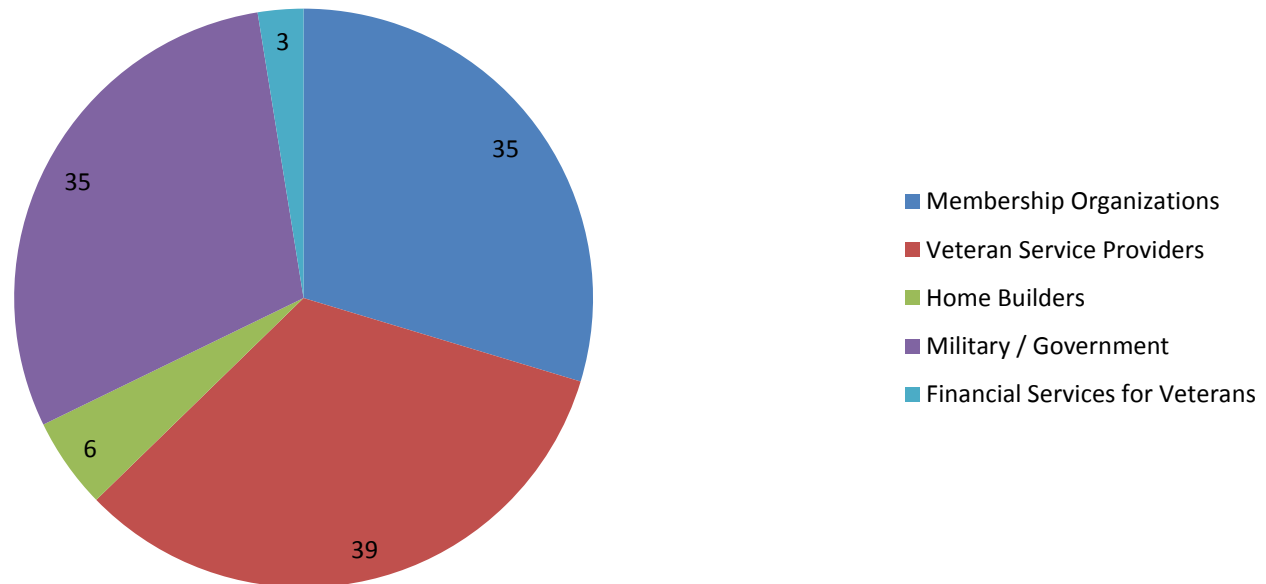
63 affiliates (68%) of 92 respondents actively engage military / veterans in their programs. 32% of affiliates completing the survey do not currently engage the military population in their programs, but they are universally interested in supporting and participating in a nationwide veteran program.

95% of military / veterans are engaged as volunteers with 46% of affiliates engaging military / veterans as Partner Families. Military or veterans are staff members in 27% of affiliates and 6% of all affiliates have AmeriCorps members on staff.

## *HFHI Outreach to Veterans Organizations*

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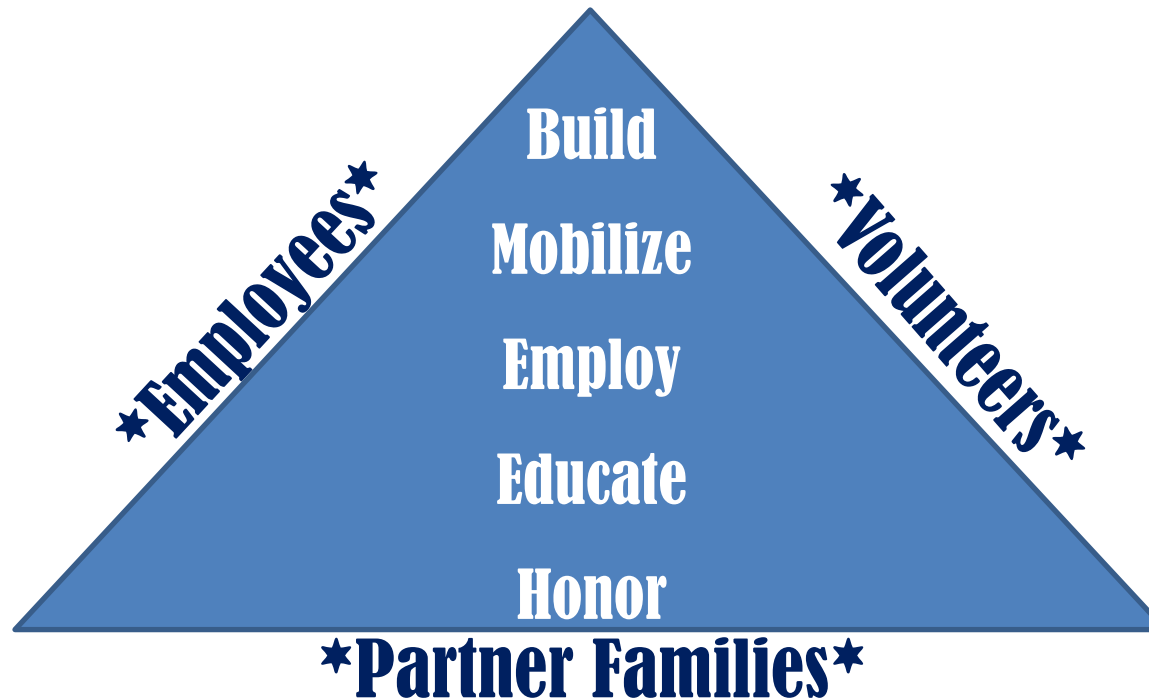
### **Veteran Organization Outreach**



(Nov 2011) Outreach to 118 of total 154 identified organizations related to military and veterans. 74 (63%) Veteran-Focused Nonprofits, including The American Legion, The Mission Continues, VFW, Iraq/Afghanistan Veterans of America, Student Veterans of America and others. Outreach to 35 (30%) military members, government officials or government departments. 6 (5%) home builders for veterans with “give-away” programs. 3 (3%) financial service organizations with emphasis on military / veteran needs.



*A program to engage military families and veterans nationwide*



## ***Build***

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- Homeownership
  - Traditional Habitat model
  - Bank-owned REO
  - VASH
  - Transitional housing partnerships
- Repairs / homelessness prevention
  - A Brush With Kindness
  - Ramps and rails
  - Weatherization
  - Critical home repairs



## ***Build***

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*Partnering to repair homes with  
veterans and their families.*

## ***Mobilize***

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- NCHV
- Habitat on the Hill
- Online advocacy
- Veteran volunteers

## ***Warrior Transition Battalion: Tacoma, WA***

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Continuing a three-year partnership, more than 30 wounded, ill or injured soldiers from Joint Base Lewis-McChord joined with Tacoma-Pierce County (Washington) Habitat volunteers to help build homes in partnership with low-income families in July 2011.

Lt. Gen. Eric B. Schoomaker, the US Army Surgeon General, visited the construction site to see firsthand his soldiers contributions to the community.



## ***Employ***

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- Job skills training
- Affiliate staff
- Fellowships / internships
- National Service

## ***Educate***

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- Military culture competency for staff and volunteers:  
I Support Vets
- Financial literacy and homeownership readiness for veterans: VeteransPlus

## *Honor*

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- Days of recognition and service:
  - Veterans Day
  - 9/11 Day of Remembrance
  - MLK Day of Service
- Special events

## **Veteran Build on the Mall**

*sponsored by The Home Depot Foundation*



# Habitat for Homeless Veterans



*Thank you!*

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**Habitat**  
for Humanity®

Veterans  
Build