



Elks National Veterans Service Commission 2021-22

FOCUS GRANTS

Every night, more than 40,000 veterans are living on the streets. Each with a different story, they all shared a common pledge: to support and defend this country. The Elks have partnered with the Department of Veterans Affairs to help end veteran homelessness. The VA has asked the Elks to put a special focus on the 10 cities where the number of homeless veterans is highest.

To do that, we need your help! Lodges in and around the 10 cities listed at right are eligible for Focus Grants of up to \$10,000. Grants can be used to prevent veteran homelessness, help veterans exit homelessness, or assist previously homeless veterans to adjust.

**Chicago ♦ New York ♦
Seattle ♦ Washington, D.C.
♦ Miami-Dade ♦ San Diego ♦
San Francisco ♦ Los Angeles
♦ Loma Linda ♦ Las Vegas**

Check out some exciting examples of Focus Grant projects:

- Pack Welcome Home Kits for veterans moving into new homes. Hold a supply drive to gather common household items. Involve churches, schools, community groups and more to spread the word.
- Hold budgeting and/or home management classes for veterans who aren't used to living on their own. Help veterans search for jobs in the community and buy work clothes.
- Host weekly meals and regular events for veterans at local transitional housing facilities.
- Stock and manage a supply closet of food, hygiene and other items for veterans staying at a transitional living shelter.
- Partner with Veterans Service groups to hold Stand Downs and resource fairs throughout the year.

Apply for a Focus Grant to join the fight against veteran homelessness. You can make a difference!



Applications become available online April 1, 2021 and will remain open until all funds have been distributed.

Remember that Focus Grants are large-scale projects that require active Elks involvement. Applications must be detailed and comprehensive. Budgets must be as exact as possible.

Focus Grant applications and Final Reports are accessible through the grants dashboard. Visit elks.org/vets for more information. Questions? Contact the ENVSC at 773.755.4736 or Vets@elks.org.