



## Elks National Veterans Service Commission 2023-24

# **APPLY FOR A FOCUS GRANT!**

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, with a special focus on the 12 cities where the number of homeless veterans is highest.

Lodges in and around the 12 cities listed at right are eligible for a Focus Grant 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.  
San Diego ♦ Los Angeles  
San Francisco ♦ Loma Linda  
Miami ♦ Tampa-Orlando  
Las Vegas ♦ Phoenix**

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 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 monthly meals and social 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 will be open from April 1 to June 30, 2023 (or 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 are accessible through the grants dashboard. Visit [elks.org/vets](https://elks.org/vets) for more information. Questions? Contact the ENVSC at 773.755.4736 or [Vets@elks.org](mailto:Vets@elks.org).