

OPERATION VANGUARD

A MISSION OF  Reach Services

FACTS ABOUT HOMELESSNESS:

Between 2020 and 2021, the number of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness decreased by 10 percent. This represents the largest one-year decline since 2015 to 2016. In 2021, 19,750 veterans were experiencing sheltered homelessness, representing eight percent of all sheltered adults experiencing homelessness in the United States. Veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness accounted for 11 out of every 10,000 veterans in the country. These numbers come from point-in-time counts, which are conducted, community by community, on a single night in January every other year. *Statistics from The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development February 4, 2022*

FACTS ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY:

The point-in-time count conducted in July 2022 observed 531 sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals in Vigo County. We know that typically 30% of those experiencing homelessness are Veterans, so out of the 6,942 Veterans in Vigo County, approximately 160 of them are homeless. Too many! *Reach Veterans Services & U.S. Census Bureau*

“This fiscal year we have housed or prevented homelessness for 100 homeless veterans and their families in Terre Haute, IN” -*InteCare Supportive Services For Veteran Families (SSVF)*

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

SUPPORT OPERATION VANGUARD AND JOIN OUR HOMELESSNESS CHALLENGE!

The 2022 Operation Vanguard event raises awareness and vital funds for homeless and at-risk Veterans in the Wabash Valley. Your participation and donations directly impacts this community. We will be hosting our annual “Homelessness Challenge” and invite our community’s participation. The event is designed to encourage our community to raise funds for our Veterans and also emulates the struggles that homeless individuals experience daily. During this time, participants will be living in cardboard boxes or tents outside of our office building at 1400 Hulman Street. Donations of money and food or hygiene items will be collected from the public as well.

DETAILS: Operation Vanguard begins November 11th, 2022 after the Veterans Day parade. Our Opening Ceremony will occur at 3:00pm at the new Veteran’s Village tiny home site at Maple Ave. & 23rd Ave. Our Homelessness Challenge begins immediately after at 1400 Hulman and continues throughout the weekend, ending on November 14th, 2022 at Noon.

OUR CHALLENGE: The back of this flier is a pledge form if you want to help us raise funds for this event. To participate, fill out your information and the amount you hope to collect in pledges. You will be able to turn in your pledges during or after Vanguard. In addition, if you are brave enough to accept the full Homelessness Challenge, look for more information about that on the back as well. We hope you will join us for Operation Vanguard 2022!



The 9th Annual Operation Vanguard Pledge Sheet

Your Name/Business: _____ Phone: _____

Pledge Goal: _____

Do you accept the full Homelessness Challenge? ** yes no

Thank you for helping us raise funds for this event! We encourage you to contact your own community, friends, co-workers, or family members and set a goal of at least \$200 in pledges. These funds will allow our Veterans Services team to further our mission of

serving those whom so selflessly served us. Any size of donation is accepted and appreciated. **REMEMBER EVERY DOLLAR COUNTS!** Make your connections, collect your pledges, and then turn this form into us any time during or after Operation Vanguard. If you want to take your participation to the next level, join the Homelessness Challenge** and commit to the full experience of the Operation Vanguard camp. Feel free to use multiple pledge sheets!

Name or Business	Phone	Address	Amount Pledged

****The full Homelessness Challenge:** Challenge yourself to camp out with us during Operation Vanguard. The experience is designed to give a glimpse into the struggles the homeless in our community face. Set your pledge goal and commit to joining us at our campsite if you do not meet your goal. It's that simple. Challenge yourself!

HOW ELSE CAN I HELP?

Share the word! During our challenge we will have barrels at the Operation Vanguard Site to take donations from the community. We will accept: Non-perishable food, food gift cards, household and hygiene items. Monetary donations are always welcome - no gift is too small. We will take cash, coins, check, or card. Alternatively, if you would like to give but live too far away, or are unable to attend the event, you can mail a donation to **1400 Hulman Street Terre Haute, IN 47802** or you can donate online at www.reachservices.care/vanguard. For more information, contact us at 812-232-6305.