

From the CEO  
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## NEW ENGLAND CENTER FOR HOMELESS VETERANS

17 Court Street, Boston, MA 02108 617-371-1800 www.nechv.org  
PROVIDING HOMELESS VETERANS WITH THE TOOLS FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING



# A New Decade: A New Chapter



NECHV President and CEO, Larry Fitzmaurice

This month, we mark a 20 year milestone – two decades have passed since our organization first opened its doors to homeless veterans. In February of 1990, a press conference was held at this location on Court Street, announcing the start of a shelter, specifically for veterans, which would provide 100 beds, counseling, training and job assistance.

In the two decades that followed, this “shelter” has evolved into a “center” offering a vast array of programs and services, far beyond the scope of its humble origins.

Over 16,000 veterans have sought assistance from us throughout the years. Veterans from eras ranging from WWII through the present era have been helped here.

As we begin a new decade of service to veterans, we also begin a new chapter, with a younger generation of veterans seeking our assistance. This brings new challenges and initiatives.

The national and state ***Housing First*** initiatives seek to change the emphasis from Shelter to Permanent Housing and, as a transitional facility, we share that Mission. Our approach focuses on assuring that our veterans are fully supported in their journey to independent living and in assisting them in sustaining that independence ... both in their employment and in their housing situations.

We do that through our:

- Model apartment program
- Rental assistance program
- Veterans' Training School
- Case management staff
- Employment and Housing specialists

We are also in collaboration with housing developers who provide housing for veterans while we provide the tenants. We then can follow through with job and tenant support to foster retention and with further education and clinical support once our clients are settled into independent living arrangements.

**AND ...**

Thanks, as always, to our Board for their support, the Gold Star Mothers, staff, volunteers and our generous benefactors. And, to our respected clients, **keep up the good work that you are doing and take advantage of what is offered here including the training programs. Stay strong and persevere!**

*Larry*

Laurence D. Fitzmaurice  
President and CEO