

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



Answering the Call for 20 Years



NECHV President and CEO, Larry Fitzmaurice

Twenty years of history is a great stretch by most standards. It is a time for reflection; looking back on accomplishments and considering where more might have been done. It is a time for foresight; looking further down the road to see what obstacles may lie ahead.

And so, with this momentous 20th anniversary upon us, we're taking the time to do both.

Without the New England Center for Homeless Veterans (NECHV), over 16,000 veterans would not have found sobriety, employment or emotional stability. Without the NECHV, 170,000 meals would not be served every year to the men and women who served their country honorably. Without the NECHV, thousands of formerly homeless veterans would not have found permanent housing or reintegration with estranged family members.

With your ongoing support, we *have* been there and we will continue to be, as steadfast in our resolve as the airmen, sailors, soldiers and Marines were when they defended this great country of ours.

Our doors were opened at 17 Court Street in 1989 as a place to have a hot meal and a warm bed; a place to heal and network with fellow veterans. Today, the New England Center for Homeless Veterans is the country's largest veteran specific homeless shelter of its kind, providing for not only the day-to-day needs of our veterans, but for their long term success as well. Through our Veterans Training School, Housing Placement Program, Job Placement and Retention program, and our Clinical Services Department which assigns a Case Worker to each resident, we make self reliance a reality.

Prior to the nineties, the 10 floors on Court Street were empty and unused. And, at the same time, that's how many of our client veterans felt too--empty, forgotten, packed away with the things we don't need anymore. What were dusty rooms in 1989 are now clean and well appointed classrooms, living quarters, clinics and offices. These rooms are now filled with veterans learning how to become productive citizens.

As the conflict in Iraq begins to slowly wind down, and deployments increase in Afghanistan, we expect to see a heavier influx of returnees who will be seeking our services in the very near future. In fact, **as of September 2009, we have welcomed over 150 veterans from these current conflicts. We expect this number will grow.**

You have been there for us in the past and now we are asking you to please help us meet the growing needs of our country's defenders by considering making a generous gift to the NECHV.

Twenty years ago we answered the call to make a difference in the lives of thousands of veterans and today, with your help, we continue this important mission.

With best wishes,

Larry

Laurence D. Fitzmaurice
President and CEO