



**NEW ENGLAND CENTER
FOR HOMELESS VETERANS**

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NEWS RELEASE

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EXCITEMENT SURROUNDS THE APPROACHING MARINE WEEK IN BOSTON
Boston's Homeless Veteran Population is Eager to Welcome Marine Week Boston

BOSTON—The city of Boston will open its doors to more than 600 Marines who will work on community projects and share their stories with Bostonian's during Marine Week Boston, from May 3-9. One of the Marines' priorities during the week is to volunteer, with a number of spring cleaning projects at the New England Center for Homeless Veterans (NECHV) on May 3-5.

The NECHV, located at 17 Court St. in Boston, is housed in a 10-story facility. Participating Marines with Marine Week Boston will be volunteering their services from 9 a.m.–3.p.m. on each day to help maintain the Center's facility supporting more than 300 homeless U.S. veterans who are currently residing at the NECHV.

“NECHV has begun preparing to receive the Marine's help,” said Larry Fitzmaurice, President and CEO of the NECHV. “We have a series of projects for the Marines to assist with. There is much work to be done here, and the Center's veteran clients are excited to welcome the Marines to their home.”

The active-duty Marine presence at NECHV goes a long way to boost the homeless veterans' morale. Marines who have recently returned from Iraq and Afghanistan are scheduled to share their stories during the lunch hour at NECHV during the three days that they are helping at the Center.

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“We are very excited to be working with the New England Center for Homeless Veterans,” said James “Spike” Scott, volunteer outreach coordinator for Marine Week Boston. “It is paramount that we use this time here as an opportunity to ‘give back’ to Boston. Our volunteer outreach projects are opportunities to show the Greater Boston area that Marines come from communities just like these and we have a vested interest in leaving a lasting, positive impact.

“Once a Marine, always a Marine, and we are coming to NECHV because they are our brothers and sisters, regardless of their service,” he added.

During Marine Week Boston, the Marines will also be volunteering at community parks, performing music at Boston landmarks and hosting physical fitness challenges for children to promote an active lifestyle.

About MARINE WEEK BOSTON:

This week-long event will showcase the unique characteristics of America’s Corps, allowing Bostonians and the greater Boston community to interact with individual Marines and celebrate the Corps’ past, present and future. **Events are free and open to the public.** The official Marine Week Boston event schedule will be updated regularly and can be found at: www.Marines.mil/MarineWeek

About NECHV:

Now in its 20th year of service to veterans, the New England Center for Homeless Veterans is one of the nation’s leading providers of programs and services geared specifically to homeless veterans. With a mission to “extend a helping hand” to veterans who are addressing the challenges of addiction, trauma, severe and persistent mental illness and/or unemployment, the veterans who receive help at the NECHV are committed to sobriety, non-violence and are working for personal change. This nonprofit organization is recognized as one of the most effective private veteran’s transition programs in the country. Information on NECHV can be found at: www.nechv.org

For more information about Marine Week Boston volunteer outreach projects, contact James “Spike” Scott at 757.621.9201.

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