

10 years 2008-2018

MHVI MILWAUKEE HOMELESS
VETERANS INITIATIVE

**“GROWTH
STARTS
WITH THE
DECISION
TO HELP.”**

~Meir Ezra

HELPING HOMELESS AND AT-RISK VETERANS REACH AND MAINTAIN THEIR HIGHEST LEVELS OF INDEPENDENCE SINCE 2008.

MILWAUKEE HOMELESS VETERANS INITIATIVE
ANNUAL REPORT 2018



**6300 W. National Avenue
West Allis, WI 53214
414-257-4111**



**Pampering our female veterans
at the WOVIN Pampering event**



**Veteran family enjoying
the Back to School fair**



Fun at the Back to School Fair



**Our busy
Food Pantry**



**Collecting much needed
food for our pantry**



WOVIN Pampering event

HELPING HOMELESS

DEAR FRIENDS,

Many would argue that the United States of America wouldn't be what it is today without those who fought for our freedom. It is our US veterans that are the true heroes of our nation. Yet, many veterans who return need additional assistance, which sometimes is overlooked, or the resources are not available.

That is where MHVI steps in. We are there to help our forgotten heroes. We work with veterans to stabilize their lives – from ensuring their basic needs are met, to helping with transportation issues, to supporting reintegration into their communities. MHVI provides free services to veterans and their families.

It is only with your help and support that we can provide the services veterans desperately need. Our programs operate without government funding and without fee for service. We depend solely on donations from individuals, foundations, businesses and organizations to keep our programs running.

On behalf of all the veterans, their families, our Board and staff, I would like to thank you for making 2018 successful. We appreciate you!

Sincerely,

Debbie Buchanan

Do things for people not
because of who they are or
what they do in return, but
because of who you are.

~ Harold Kushner

2018 SUCCESSES

Outreach Program

MHVI was built on finding those veterans who need our services most – those living in homeless shelters, gathering at meal sites or living on the streets – and connect them with our services. In 2018 we reached 311 veterans getting them involved with our services. We also distributed 122 toiletry kits.

Crisis Management

This service formally began in April, 2018 when a Case Manager was hired. Veterans receive individualized services by a Case Manager who helps them overcome crisis situations. Together, they build a care plan, setting short and long term goals, connecting them to community services and checking to see they are following through on the referrals made. They focus on basic needs to ensure they have secure housing, medical care, clothing and food. We served 350 veterans in 2018 through Crisis Management. This program formally began in April, 2018 when a Case Manager was hired. Therefore, the numbers served reflect 9 months.

Home Support

When a vet secures safe and stable housing they often face a situation many of us do not consider - they have nothing to put in their home. That is where MHVI steps in providing everything needed - furniture, household goods, bedding, toiletries, kitchenware, groceries, cleaning supplies and more. In 2018, we assisted 575 veterans by providing in-kind items and provided 230 deliveries.

Emergency Food Pantry

Ensuring veterans have access to food, our food pantry provides groceries to vets and their families in short-term crises who need immediate help but cannot access regular food bank or nutrition programs. A total of 484 grocery packages were provided in 2018.

Bikes for Stripes

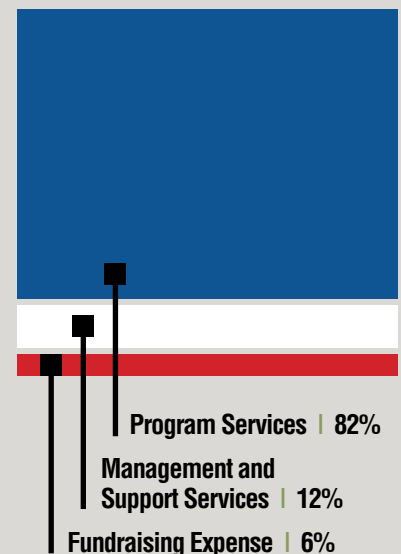
Transportation can be a major barrier for veterans preventing them from getting to medical appointments, job interviews/work or other places many of us take for granted. To help overcome this barrier, we provide used bicycles, helmets and locks to veterans. 94 veterans received bikes in 2018.

Women Veteran Initiative (WOVIN)

WOVIN was designed to educate, advocate, and increase public awareness of the increasing number of at-risk, homeless and under-served women veterans and to help those women seeking information to help themselves and their families. In 2018 we served 82 female veterans.

FINANCIALS

Operating Revenues	\$797,795
Operating Expenses	\$817,608
Program Services	\$666,682
Management and Support Services	\$ 98,346
Fundraising Expenses	\$ 53,580
Net assets end of 2017	\$549,244
Net assets end of 2018	\$484,991



Board of Directors 2018

As of November 1, 2018

Executive Committee

Matt Peterson, *President*
 Mary Kuhnmuensch, *Vice President*
 Jenifer Rutten, *Secretary*
 Jacob Heinitz, *Treasurer*

Board Members

Michal Dawson	Eric Weiss
Tim Kenney	Adam Wickersham
Ald. Chantia Lewis	Tom Williams
Urszula Tempska	Daniel Wycklendt
Hon. Robert E. Webb, Jr.	

Ex Officio

Debbie Buchanan, *Executive Director*

DONORS

We would like to thank the many individuals and businesses who support MHVI regularly through financial and in-kind donations. While too many to list, we appreciate each and every one of you. We exist because of you!

We are grateful to the following Foundations and Corporate Sponsors who also help make our mission, possible.

FOUNDATIONS

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Judith Schmidt
Nancy Stivender
Tom Williams

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American Legion Auxiliary Unit #27
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American Legion Post 440
American Legion Post 449
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American Legion Rose Harms Post 355
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Vietnam Veterans of America Chap 448
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Wines for Humanity
Wis Vietnam Veterans Ch 1

THANK YOU