

HOMELESS VETERANS OUTREACH AWARD

Information Sheet

In January of 2003, the Economic Commission requested that each Department appoint a homeless Veterans Task Force chairman, who should coordinate the Department's activities and report on them to the Department Adjutant and to the Economic Division at least once a year. The Homeless Veterans Outreach Award, instituted in 2005, recognizes Departments for their activities toward eliminating homelessness among veterans and prevention of future homeless veterans.

Deadline: The National deadline for submission of nominations of employers of veterans is no later than January 15th. Nominations received after that date will not be eligible for consideration for the national award. **The Department of Maine deadline for submission of nominations of employers of veterans is December 30.**

Criteria: This award will be given to The American Legion Department that demonstrates American Legion family involvement in homeless veteran initiatives that show outstanding support for activity in any or all of these areas: **volunteerism, prevention, supportive housing, advocacy and fundraising.**

Have you appointed a Homeless Veterans Task Force Chairman? Does he/she have a committee? How often do they meet? Are your members working with the Sons of The American Legion? The American Legion Auxiliary? Are they working with agencies within the Departments of Defense, Labor, and Veterans' Affairs? Are they working with local and county agencies, shelters, and faith-based and community-based organizations?

Tell us how many of your members are involved in your programs. Do programs operate year round or once a year? How are your activities organized?

Please tell us in narrative form what you are doing toward the goal of ending homelessness among veterans.

The Homeless Veterans Task Force executive committee will review the reports during Washington Conference, and the winner chosen by the National Economic Commission Award Subcommittee.

Procedure: Nominations that arrive without supporting information **will not** be eligible for the national awards.

Nomination Form: A copy of the official nomination form, which is the same for all three-employer size categories, follows. Additional copies may also be obtained by writing or calling the National Economic Commission, The American Legion, 1608 K Street NW, Washington, DC 20006; phone 202-861-2700, or online at www.legion.org

Award: The commission provides free plaques to each Department that submits nominations. It is recommended, however, that Posts and Departments recognize their other nominees with plaques or awards that can be purchased for a nominal cost through Emblem Sales. The National Winner will receive a large plaque to be presented by the National Commander at the Annual National convention and will receive a stipend to help defray the cost of their representative's travel to the convention city to accept the award.

NATIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSION OR FAX TO 202.833.4452

1608 K STREET NW OR E-MAIL A SCANNED COPY

WASHINGTON, DC 20006 ECON@LEGION.ORG

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HOMELESS VETERANS OUTREACH AWARD

Nomination Form

The American Legion Department of: _____ Date: _____

Entry Check List:

- 1,500 Words, typed and available in MS Word Format
 - Provide general program information: Program title, contact name and information, short program description, list of other organizations involved in this program, annual budget.
 - Define program objectives and how this is a Legion Family effort
 - Identify the number of homeless veterans in your community, list stand-down activity, community providers you work with, and fundraising efforts.
- Outline program success & impact
 Include Articles/Pictures
 Contested Coversheet

Only those nominations that include adequate documentation on the nominee's employment practices concerning veterans will be considered for the National Homeless Veteran Outreach Award. It is recommended that the nominator provide a copy of the company's written policy on employment of veterans if available, a description of how the employer supports veterans' activities in the community, and any other reasons why the nominee should be selected to be the Homeless Veterans Outreach Award winner.

Nominations by Posts and individuals must be sent to The American Legion, Department of Maine, 5 Verti Drive, Winslow, Maine 04901-0727 by December 31st so that the Department will have time to review all nominations received and make the selection of its winners.

Approved Signature: _____ Date: _____

Post Adjutant

Approved Signature: _____ Date: _____

Department Adjutant

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