

## Elks National Veterans Service Commission 2025-26 APPLY FOR A FOCUS GRANT!

Currently, tens of thousands of veterans are living their day to day without a home. Each with a different story, they all shared a common pledge to support and defend this country. The Elks have partnered with the Department of Veterans Affair to help end veteran homelessness, with a special focus on the 13 cities where the number of homeless veterans is highest.

Lodges in and around the 13 cities, listed at right, are eligible for a Focus Grant of up to \$10,000. Grants can be used to prevent veteran homelessness, help veterans exit homelessness, or assist previously homeless veterans to adjust.

Check out some exciting examples of Focus Grant projects:

- Provide tents, sleeping bags and other outdoor supplies to veterans facing homelessness.
- Hold budgeting and home management classes for veterans who aren't used to living on their own.
- Help veterans search for jobs in the community and buy work clothes.
- Host monthly meals and social events for veterans at local transitional housing facilities.
- Stock and manage a supply closet of food, hygiene and other items for veterans staying at a transitional living shelter.
- Partner with Veterans Service groups to hold Stand Downs and resource fairs throughout the year.

## Apply for a Focus Grant to join the fight against veteran homelessness. You can make a difference!



Applications will be open from April 1 to June 30, 2025 (or until all funds have been distributed).

Remember that Focus Grants are large-scale projects that require active Elks involvement. Applications must be detailed and comprehensive. Budgets must be as exact as possible.

Focus Grant applications are accessible through the grants dashboard. Visit <u>elks.org/vets</u> for more information. Questions? Contact the ENVSC at 773.755.4736 or Vets@elks.org.

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