



VA Medical Center  
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## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Bring Veterans off the Street**

MARTINSBURG, W.Va. – The Martinsburg Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) is asking for the community’s assistance to bring Veterans off the street during this latest arctic blast.

Over the next 72 hours the eastern panhandle will see snow fall over five inches with a wind chill reaching -15 degrees. During the last arctic blast the Martinsburg VAMC brought a total of 10 people off of the streets, and several of those were eligible Veterans who enrolled into some of our programs. Please help us spread the word so we can get more Veterans off the streets.

On a single night over 55,000 Veterans are homeless in the United States, according to the Department of Housing and Urban Development annual report. “The number of homeless Veterans has decreased by half over the past six years, but our mission is far from over.” said Timothy J. Cooke acting medical center director. “As a nation we need to work together to bring our nation’s heroes off the street.”

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## 222 – Bring Veterans off the Street

If you or someone you know is a homeless Veteran and is in need of a warm place to sleep and a hot meal, please call 1-877-424-3838.

For more information on Veteran Homelessness, visit the VA Homeless Veterans website at [www.va.gov/homeless](http://www.va.gov/homeless).

*The Martinsburg VA Medical Center mission is to honor America's Veterans by providing exceptional health care that improves their health and well-being. Located in West Virginia, the medical center offers a comprehensive range of services, including internal medicine, ambulatory surgery, audiology and speech pathology, dental, nursing home, nutrition, podiatry, prosthetics, women's health, mental health, and rehabilitation medicine. With a service area of nearly 130,000 Veterans in West Virginia, Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania, the medical center operates four VA-staffed Outpatient Clinics in Cumberland, Hagerstown, Fort Detrick, Md., and Stephens City, Va. and three contract clinics in Franklin and Petersburg, W. Va. and Harrisonburg, Va.*