



VA Medical Center  
510 Butler Avenue  
Martinsburg, WV 25405  
[www.martinsburg.va.gov](http://www.martinsburg.va.gov)  
[www.facebook.com/martinsburgvamc](https://www.facebook.com/martinsburgvamc)  
[www.twitter.com/martinsburgvamc](https://www.twitter.com/martinsburgvamc)



## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
January 9, 2014

Contact:  
Mike McAleer  
304-264-4482  
Cell: 304-596-7198  
[michael.mcaleer2@va.gov](mailto:michael.mcaleer2@va.gov)

### **Fight to end Veteran homelessness is not over**

MARTINSBURG, W.Va. – The Martinsburg Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) extends a thank you to the community for spreading the word about getting homeless Veterans off the streets during the recent arctic blast.

“Thanks to cooperation with media outlets getting the word out and our utilization of social media, the medical center was able to provide shelter to a number of Veterans and their families,” said Timothy J. Cooke, acting medical center director. “If individuals were unable to make it to the medical center we went to their location and picked them up.”

The operation was successful in enrolling 100 percent of all eligible Veterans who came in during the arctic blast into VA medical center programs, but the fight is not over. The medical center asks for the communities and partner agencies continued support to get the men and women who defended this country off the streets. No Veteran should be homeless.

-more-

## 222 – Fight to end Veteran homelessness is not over

On any given night, there are an estimated 100,000 Veterans on the streets, according to Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki. “Those who have served this nation as Veterans should never find themselves on the streets, living without care and without hope.” said Shinseki. The secretary has set a goal, to end Veteran homelessness by 2015.

Homeless Veterans in need of a warm place to sleep and a hot meal, please call 1-877-424-3838.

Anyone can download and print a flyer with VA contact information from the Martinsburg VA medical center web site at [www.martinsburg.va.gov](http://www.martinsburg.va.gov).

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

-30-

*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.*