

## REDEPLOYING AMERICAN VETERANS

NORTH CAROLINA NON-PROFIT 501(C)(3)

Joining Forces to House Unhoused Veterans by 2030, Train Them for Local Jobs, Establish Financial and Food Independence, and Produce the Leaders of Tomorrow

Presented By: Jimmy Plater, President and CEO, Extension Enterprise Group (E2G)



### INTRODUCTION

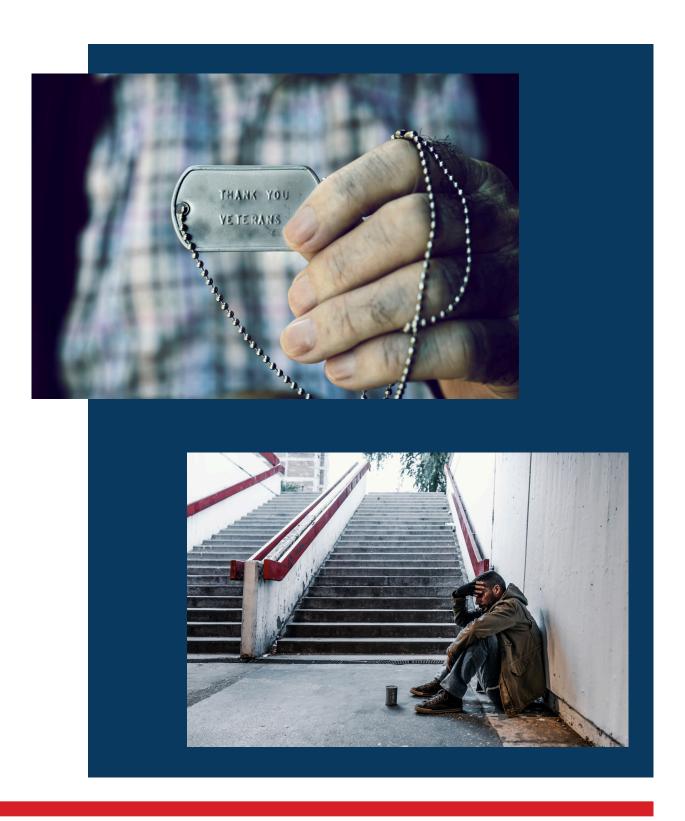
Executive Summary - Joining Forces to Unlock the Power of Veterans

GOAL: Eliminate Veteran Homelessness by 2030. Then Focus on Ending Homelessness for All.

"As long as one Veteran is without a place to call home in the country they served, there is work to be done."

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

The VA has said that "ending unhoused veteran homelessness is possible." This requires leadership and collaboration.





### STATISTICS MATTER

As the number of veterans declines over the next 25 years, their demographics will shift. There has been a 7% or more increase year on year. According to Mission Roll Call, the number of unhoused veterans <u>rose 14%</u> from 2022 to 2023.



#### **Unites States:**

As of 2023, there are approximately 18.3 million veterans in the United States.



#### North Carolina:

Metro areas with the highest number of homeless veterans are Asheville/Buncombe County and Raleigh/Wake County.



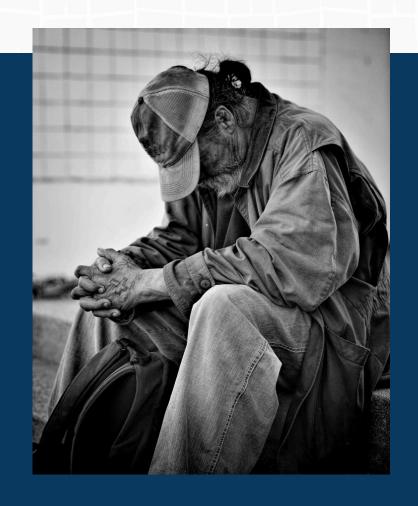
#### Population:

As of 2024, approximately 32,882 unhoused veterans in the United States (about 22 out of every 10,000 veterans nationwide).



### Majority:

Women, Hispanic, and Black adults, and adults under 50 will all make up larger shares of the total veteran population.

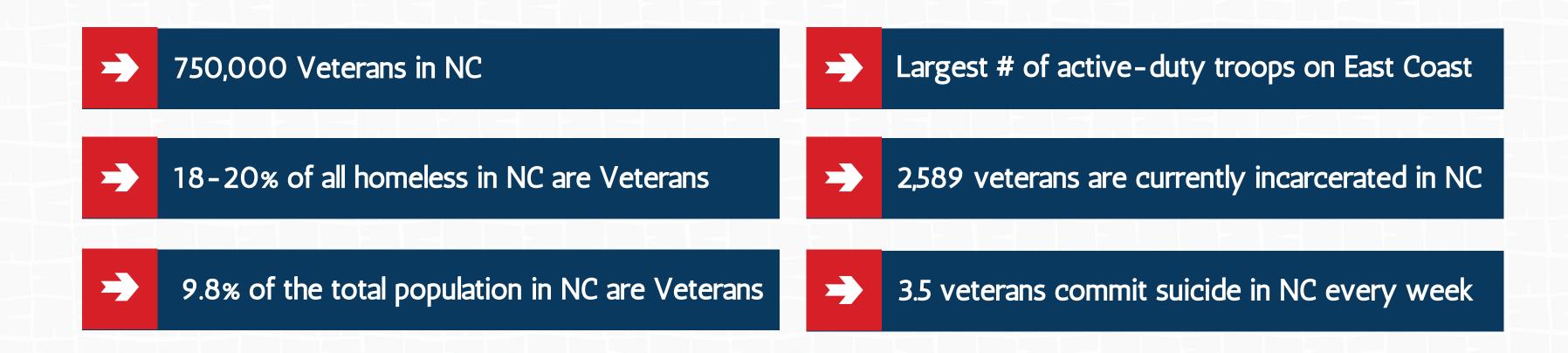




### **NORTH CAROLINA IN DETAIL**

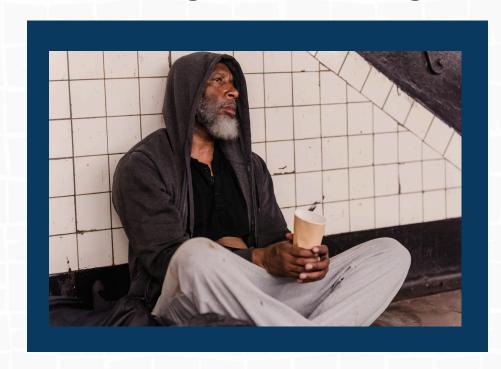
North Carolina is a Haven for Veterans, but the State Also Has Challenges With Unhoused Veterans.

Calculated in 2023, North Carolina has one of the largest military footprints of any state in the country, representing all our branches of service and totaling 90,679 active-duty service members and 41,622 in National Guard and the Reserve. The military and defense industries are the second largest employers in our state, and the military has an economic impact of \$66 billion annually.



### THE CHALLENGES

Prolonged separation from traditional supports, such as family and close friends; stressful training and occupational demands; mental or physical injuries sustained in the military; and joining the military at a young age before acquiring skills that could be transferred to civilian jobs, all contribute to the problem. Additionally, the following are contributing factors:





Landlord discrimination
Limited housing inventory
Unattainable housing costs
Landlord refuses to accept vouchers

Stable Jobs That Pay Livable Wages

Current jobs don't keep up with inflation
Increase in cost of living
Skills mismatch
Possible criminal records

Insufficient Networks

Lack of legal services

Current aid is insufficient

Gaps in Service Providers

Transportation system limited hours Mental and physical health Administrative gaps

# THE SOLUTION



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## POTENTIAL SITES

City/Metro	# of Unhoused Vets	Community Colleges	Military Bases
Fayetteville	28	Yes	Fort Bragg
Jacksonville	17	Yes	Camp Lejeune
Durham	100	Yes	Fort Bragg/Army Research Office
Goldsboro	35	Yes	Seymore Johnson AFB





## **2025 PLANS**



We have many plans for this year. In effort to move forward, we are seeking volunteers to write grants. Our local tiny home community initiative needs an advocate to find the appropriate land. We need involvement with zoning regulations and building code requirements for modular homes (tiny cottages).

To create community-centered growth, we need local partners to provide mental health and therapy and physical therapy. We have started to leverage digital reach by creating a website and LinkedIn page.

Financial contributions are always helpful in pushing this mission forward. We have a strict process of managing funds. Every penny goes towards RAV and benefits unhoused Veterans.



### CITY AND STATE BENEFITS

- Relieve the burden on state and city resources and budgets, such as emergency healthcare, law enforcement, etc
- Accelerate transition off the streets, contributing to residents' and visitors' safety, public health, and well-being
- Increase qualified labor pool and decrease the unemployment rate
- Position cities within these states as prosperous "total military AND vet-friendly cities"
- Leverage all the goodwill generated by working on a shared national priority meeting the needs of men and women who find themselves unhoused, after they have served in the US military, and whose homelessness is often a direct result of that military service
- Support local training institutions from grants receieved
- Opportunity to host conferences, workshops with the public and private sectors, to learn more about the model, thereby increasing tourism and community recognition





## SOCIETAL OUTCOMES

Providing individualized support for veterans in employment, financial stability, and housing yields broad societal benefits, including economic gains, reduced public service burdens, improved mental health, and stronger communities.

Reduce suicides and the negative mental effects of knowing someone who committed suicide.

Contribution to the economy through consistent work and taxes.

Reduce reliance on emergency services, healthcare, and crisis intervention, saving public funds.

Alleviate pressure on state and county shelters and public resources.

Reduce the risk factors associated with criminal behavior and recidivism.

Reinforce military values and encouraging future service.

Increase job retention and productivity, benefiting employers and the broader workforce.

### **RAV LEADERSHIP**



### Proven, Veteran, Multi-Sector Experience as Trusted Innovators and Leaders



Jimmy Plater Sr. CW5(R) Founder/President



Jerome McNair CW4(R) Vice President



Ferd Irizarry BG(R)
Principal Advisor



Cory Lamkins Program Director



Amber Davis
Assistant Director

# THANK YOU

Thank you for attending this presentation! We hope you are more aware of our Veterans in need. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us



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