



The Center's Review

A newsletter for donors and friends of:
The Philadelphia Veterans Multi-Service & Education Center, Inc.

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www.PhilaVets.org
215-923-2600

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Congratulations to the Winners
of the Doo Wop Raffle Tickets!

1st Prize - Sony Flat Screen TV,
The Military Order of the Purple
Heart Chapter 170!

2d Prize - iPod Touch, Pat Ref-
ferty!

3rd Prize - Garmin GPS Unit,
Nicole Chima!

Don't forget to use
GoodShop.com and desig-
nate PVMSEC this holiday
season. PVMSEC can re-
ceive a percentage of each of
your purchases online to
help veterans in need!

Chief Executive Officer's Message

Dear Fellow Veterans, Friends and Supporters,



We would like to update you on some exciting news that has been happen-
ing within the past few months.

The Philadelphia Veterans Multi-Service & Education Center, Inc. (PVMSEC) received a \$60,000 grant in October, 2009, to expand its capacity to train women veterans for green jobs. This grant is part of the *Moving From Red Green: Working Women in the Green Economy*, a Business and Professional Women's (BPW) Foundation initiative funded by the Walmart Foundation. PVMSEC was one of four pilot sites across the country selected in a competitive process to receive funds through the *Moving from Red to Green* initiative. *Moving from Red to Green* connects women to the emerging green economy by both gauging women's interest and providing green job training. We believe the emerging green economy offers immense employment potential for women veterans. Many women who serve in the armed forces are drawn to and have experience serving in non-traditional jobs; they are well suited to pursue careers in the green economy and we are extremely excited to be part of this initiative. If you would like further information about this program please contact Lincoln Strehle at 215-923-2600.

Additionally, PVMSEC has partnered with HELP USA, a national non-profit organization, to provide permanent housing with supportive services for homeless veterans in the Philadelphia area. Furthermore, over the past couple of months we have pursued a partnership with New Courtland Elderly Services, a local non-profit organization dedicated to serving the Philadelphia Senior Citizen population, for an expansion of services for Senior Veterans living in Philadelphia. With the average age of the Vietnam Veteran at 61, there will be an extreme need for senior veteran housing in the Philadelphia area. PVMSEC has recognized this need and began our first planning stages for a senior veteran housing facility in Philadelphia. This facility will offer a variety of housing options for Senior Veterans which include: 30 units of transitional senior veteran housing for homeless veterans, 50 units of permanent housing for senior homeless veterans and 30 units of permanent housing for senior veterans and their families. Together, with New Courtland Elderly Services, we will continue to pursue this vision and keep you updated on our progress for this initiative.

Sincerely
Yours in Veteran Services,

Chief Executive Officer



#4308



#48126

4th Annual Philadelphia Doo Wop Festival Recap

The 4th Annual Philadelphia Doo Wop Festival held on August 8, 2009 was another successful event! Thank you to all of our sponsors and supporters that attended the festival for their continued support of the veterans in our area!



Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans: They Need our Help!



Photo by: Karen Focht

Upon returning home from Iraq and Afghanistan, many veterans struggle with the memories of their combat experiences and their reactions to it. Some veterans experience Post

Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) or have a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). Reports from the Department of Defense Mental Health Task Force highlight the growing mental health problems that troops returning from Iraq and Afghanistan are experiencing. Nearly 50 percent of National Guard members and reservists report symptoms of mental disorders and many veterans find it difficult to access military-provided clinical care and support groups. As a result, veterans can have problems in their relationships

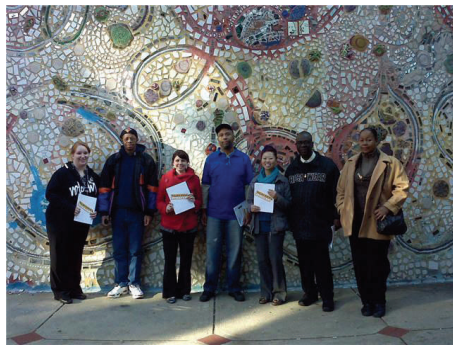
with family and friends and experience difficulties obtaining and retaining employment. It is imperative that these veterans receive the proper help to address emotional needs in order to adjust successfully in careers and family life after their deployment.

PVMSEC is capable of providing this help onsite, enabling a connection to much needed VA medical and behavioral health services. Housed in just under 5,000 square feet at our location in downtown Philadelphia is a Community Based Outreach Clinic (CBOC). Operated by the Philadelphia VA Medical Center, this CBOC is 1 of only 72 of its kind in the nation providing mental health and medical services to veterans. PVMSEC has the ability to assess their needs, and provide immediate mental health and medical assistance to those veterans in need through our partnership with the Philadelphia VA Medical Center. The

mental health services that we provide are individual, family and group PTSD counseling, substance abuse and prevention assistance, and suicide prevention and awareness. Psychiatrists, Psychologists, and Social Workers are also stationed at our CBOC to provide veterans with immediate mental health services and appointment based services.

Furthermore, PVMSEC coordinates family support services with VA assistance to provide the veterans families with the necessary tools to deal with the personal, emotional and lasting effects of war. The early intervention and outreach services that PVMSEC provides will drastically lessen the impact of their problems and challenges they face upon their reintegration back into society and the veteran can then concentrate on building their future. *Please contact us at 215-923-2600 for further information.*

Activities Program Builds Self-Esteem



Veterans at the Painted Bride Art Center

In the minds of many, especially the homeless, recreation and leisure activities are last, if acknowledged at all, on a long list of sought after services. In an ongoing effort to develop a recreational program that addresses the needs and interests of the unique population that we serve, The Philadelphia Veterans Multi-Service and Education Center's staff has recently joined forces with local businesses, franchises, museums, and organizations in order to provide homeless veterans with activity-based services that encourage socialization and reintegration. Much more than having activities to keep them busy, recreational activities are being planned to build self-esteem, develop or foster skills, and to reconnect homeless veterans into social networks away from the streets and shelters. By way of generous donors and motivated participants/staff, PVMSEC has been able to organize several bowling outings, visits to local museums, and even enjoyed a baseball game. It is the hopes of PVMSEC (especially the Vets!) that this new aspect of the day program continues to thrive.

Donors Corner



We would like to thank our good friend, John DeBella, and the staff at 102.9 WMGK FM for all of their hard work during the 3rd Annual John DeBella Veterans RadioThon that was held on June 12th, 2009. The RadioThon has raised more than \$250,000 for PVMSEC over the past three years. John DeBella and the employees of WMGK really go above and beyond the call of duty for veterans in our area and for that we are forever thankful!

\$50,000 - Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Charitable Service Trust; \$1,685 Donated in Memory of Heather Loomis; \$1,600 - 6th Annual AOH Div. 51 "Fill the Cart - Help a Vet in Need"; \$1,040 - Jim Kelly and Family's NETSnVETS Golf Tournament; \$1,000 - Montgomery County Patriots Motorcycle Club; \$500 - Christopher Phillips; \$500 - Connolly Foundation; \$500 - The John and Barbara Byrne Charitable Fund; 41 Bags of Tokens - Fannie Mae Employees; Fannie Mae Employees also volunteered and painted PVMSEC's 3rd floor (homeless veteran day service program). Thank you to all!

Help Veterans in Need . . . They fought for us now its time to fight for them!

We cannot continue our mission without your help...any size donation will make a huge impact on veterans lives.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home _____ Cell _____

Email Address _____

Method of Payment:

Check enclosed payable to *PVMSEC* (Address on next page)

Charge My

VISA MASTCARD DISCOVER AMEX

Card # _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

The Philadelphia Veterans Multi-Service & Education Center

Yes! I want to help PVMSEC serve the veterans of this great nation. Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution of:

\$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 \$25 Other \$ _____

On Behalf of the thousands of veterans we serve, thank you for your support!

To make your gift online visit: www.PhilaVets.org

PVMSEC is a registered charitable organization. The official registration and financial information of The Philadelphia Veterans Multi-Service & Education Center may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling Pennsylvania (800) 732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

The Philadelphia Veterans Multi Service & Education Center, Inc.



"Proudly Serving Veterans Since 1980"

213-217 N. 4th Street
Philadelphia PA 19106

Phone: 215.923.2600

Fax: 215.925.8460

Web: www.philavets.org

Our Mission is to provide employment, training and related educational services to all facets of the community, especially veterans, regardless of their station in life. Also, to provide social and human services counseling and referrals to less fortunate clients experiencing barriers in finding their way back into the mainstream of society.

Services / Programs

We provide a variety of free services to honorably discharged veterans in the tri-state area including:

- **Employment and Training**
- **Services to Homeless Veterans**
- **Transitional / Permanent Housing**
- **Referral Services**

Attention: Desert Shield/Storm Veterans

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has launched a new benefit program to recognize your service: The Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans' Bonus. Please relay this information to your family and friends who served during this time.

The program provides a one-time payment to anyone who:

- Served in active duty (including mobilized Guard and Reserve) in the Persian Gulf theater between August 2, 1990 and August 31, 1991
- Received the Southwest Asia Service Medal
- Was a legal resident of Pennsylvania at the time of their service.

Eligible veterans receive payment of \$75 per month (up to \$525) for every month of active Gulf War service. An additional bonus of \$5,000 is available for surviving families of those killed in action.

To learn more about the program or how to apply, visit:

www.persiangufbonus.state.pa.us

Or call toll free: 1-866-458-9182

Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veteran Affairs

There are a number of ways to make an impact on a Veterans life:

Mail in a check payable to PVMSEC at: 213-217 N. 4th Street Philadelphia, PA 19106

Leave a Lasting Legacy: Name The Philadelphia Veterans Multi-Service & Education Center, Inc. as a beneficiary in your will or ask us about obtaining no cost life insurance to benefit Veterans. Call 215-923-2600 Ext: 43 for more details

United Way: Employees working in organizations supporting United Way can use Donor Choice #4308 to directly donate to PVMSEC

Combined Federal Campaign: Federal employees can donate directly to PVMSEC by using CFC Contribution Code #48126

Web www.PhilaVets.org

Call 1-800-923-VETS