



Embargo until 2:30 pm (CST)
Friday, October 16, 2020

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VETERANS COMMUNITY PROJECT DEDICATES LAND FOR TINY HOUSE VILLAGE SERVING HOMELESS VETERANS IN ST. LOUIS

VCP to provide housing and support services for Veterans in need

ST. LOUIS, MO (October 16, 2020) –Veterans Community Project (VCP) has officially dedicated land in the Jeff Vander Lou neighborhood to build a campus that includes a village of tiny houses for Veterans experiencing homelessness and a Veterans Outreach Center to provide walk-in support services for any Veteran in the St. Louis metro area.

According to a recent survey conducted by the St. Louis City Continuum of Care, more than 300 Veterans experience homelessness within the St. Louis region.

“As a veteran myself, I care a great deal about the quality of life of our Missouri veterans, and no veteran should ever be without a home,” **Governor Mike Parson** said. “While we can never repay the sacrifices they have made, we can support them and show our thanks through programs like the Veterans Community Project. We are excited to see the program expand and commend all of the partners involved to make this happen and provide critical services for our veterans in the St. Louis region.”

VCP was founded in Kansas City, Missouri by a group of combat Veterans who resolved to stand in the gaps of a broken system that leaves too many service members behind. They serve any Veteran who took the oath to defend our Constitution regardless of discharge status, length of service, or type of service. The Kansas City campus has already served more than 4,100 at-risk Veterans and successfully transitioned more than 40 formerly homeless Veterans into permanent housing since its opening in 2018.

“Everywhere VCP goes, we save lives,” said Afghanistan veteran and former Missouri Secretary of State **Jason Kander**, who now serves as President of Veterans Community Project. “And thanks to strong partnerships at the state and city level, we have the opportunity to serve our brothers and sisters in St. Louis, as well.”

Located on a 5-acre property in the heart of St. Louis, the Veterans Community Project campus will consist of 50 tiny homes, ranging from 240 – 320 square feet, and the VCP Village Community Center. The community center will serve as “base camp,” providing case management services, education, health and wellness programming, and social activities for the Veterans who live in the Village.

The Veterans Outreach Center will be a “one-stop” resource for any Veteran requiring support services such as emergency rent and utility assistance, food and hygiene kits, employment supports, military documentation and benefits navigation, and case management.

Veterans Community Project – St. Louis is developed in partnership with The City of St. Louis, Missouri, The Missouri Veterans Commission, and Veterans United Foundation. Veterans United Foundation has awarded \$500,000 towards the realization of the St. Louis campus.

“Veterans United Foundation is excited to help Veterans Community Project get its start in St. Louis,” said **Dr. Amanda Andrade**, chief people officer at Veterans United Home Loans. “We look forward to the great work VCP will do helping Veterans get back on their feet in the community, just as they have across the state in Kansas City. With our expanding presence in St Louis, we are excited that we get to continue our work with VCP, and we would love to encourage other companies to partner with this great organization too.”

Veterans Community Project is expected to begin housing Veterans in Fall 2021.

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About Veteran’s Community Project (VCP)

Veterans Community Project is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation founded by a group of combat Veterans in Kansas City, Missouri who resolved to stand in the gaps of a broken system that left too many of their brothers and sisters behind. By providing critical support services and an innovative transitional housing model, VCP has served thousands of at-risk and homeless Veterans since 2016. Using Kansas City as a blueprint, VCP is expanding its program to 8 cities by 2022 starting with Longmont, Colorado and St. Louis, Missouri. VCP’s long-term goal: ending Veteran homelessness nationwide. For more information, visit www.veteranscommunityproject.org.



Renderings for Veterans Community Project located on Aldine Ave between N Spring Ave and N Grand Ave (63113)

(Reminger Design)