

ABOUT VETERANS F.I.R.S.T.

Veterans F.I.R.S.T. stands for **F**ederal **I**nvestment **R**ecognizing our **S**ervicemen and women in **T**ransition.

It was developed in 2003 by Harbor Homes, Inc., a private non-profit agency providing quality residential and supportive services to homeless individuals and families for over 25 years. Veterans F.I.R.S.T. supports honorably discharged homeless veterans as they work to become self sufficient and integrate back into the community. The program offers a second chance for those brave individuals that have kept our nation safe and secure.

Funded with an initial grant by the Dept. of Veterans Affairs in September 2003, the program is overseen by the Homeless Coordinator at the VA Medical Center in Manchester, N.H.

Veterans F.I.R.S.T. currently operates out of two locations in Nashua, N.H.; a 9-bedroom communal living facility and a 20-unit apartment building in the downtown area.

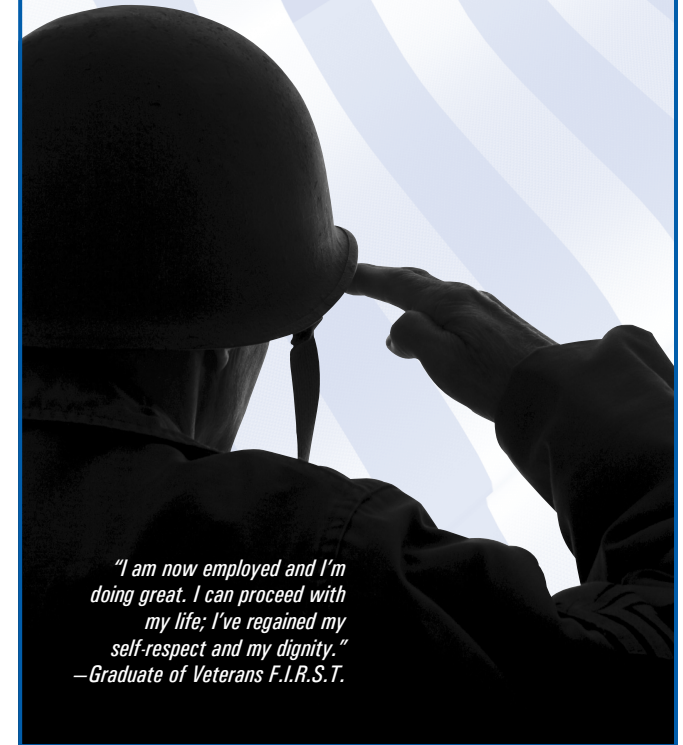
Veterans F.I.R.S.T.

A Harbor Homes, Inc. Transitional Housing Program
46 Spring Street
Nashua, NH 03060

Helping Homeless Veterans Improve Their Lives Since 2003

Veterans F.I.R.S.T.

A Transitional Housing Program for
Homeless Honorably Discharged Veterans
and Their Families



*"I am now employed and I'm doing great. I can proceed with my life; I've regained my self-respect and my dignity."
—Graduate of Veterans F.I.R.S.T.*

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603-882-3616



www.harborhomes.org

PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS

Veterans F.I.R.S.T. participants have up to 24 months to take active steps to improve the quality of their lives. During their stay, they are provided the necessary supports to make positive changes in a safe, secure environment.

Participants must demonstrate a personal commitment to rebuilding their lives. Therefore, all veterans are required to find employment, better their education, volunteer, or otherwise engage in community service activities during their participation in the Veterans F.I.R.S.T. program.

All individuals must remain sober and substance-free for the duration of their stay. Anyone with past substance abuse issues will be required to attend local AA/NA meetings. Support is also available through the Greater Nashua Council on Alcoholism Inc., a local substance abuse treatment program affiliated with Harbor Homes, Inc.

*"Without Harbor Homes,
I don't know where I'd be today.
This program saved my life."*

– Graduate of Veterans F.I.R.S.T.

SERVICES

Veterans F.I.R.S.T. provides transitional housing to eligible homeless veterans for up to 2 years. All participants are provided with housing, access to a phone, access to the internet, space for parking, and case management services.

Within the first week of their arrival, veterans will be required to develop an individualized service plan with their case manager:

- Identifying and resolving past housing issues.
- Identifying and applying for benefits.
- Maintaining recovery from substance abuse.
- Mental illness management.
- Obtaining employment.
- Finding permanent housing.

Case management for residents focuses on the transition of all veterans to permanent housing and employment within a 24-month period.

GETTING INVOLVED

Veterans F.I.R.S.T. relies on your support! Donations and volunteers are always needed. Call 603-882-3616 x1173 to find out how you can help.

ELIGIBILITY

To qualify, a veteran must be homeless, able to furnish proof of an honorable discharge (DD-214), and display a true desire to rebuild their lives. Applications are processed in the order received, and placement is made based on a variety of factors including space availability.

If you, or someone you know, would benefit from the Veterans F.I.R.S.T. program, please call the Program Manager at 603-882-3616 x1173.

COST

All veterans within the program are responsible for paying up to 30% of their monthly income towards program expenditures. Eligible veterans will not be turned away due to lack of funds.

FUNDING

Funding is provided by the Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Federal, State, and City grants, private foundations, as well as private and corporate donors and the generous support of the community.