



Building a Healthy Veterans Community \$3 Million Capital Campaign

CASE FOR SUPPORT FOR A NEW SERVICE CENTER



The Veterans Association of Bristol County (VABC) was founded in 1987 by Vietnam veterans to fill a substantial void in human services for local veterans and active members of the United States Armed Forces.

As a small and flexible nonprofit

collaborating with numerous community partners, VABC maximizes its resources and experience serving veterans. With a mission to provide meaningful and compassionate support to veterans and their families, VABC ensures a higher and healthier quality of life for Bristol County veterans.

Hunger, homelessness, addiction, financial duress, and medical and mental health challenges affect a significant number of the

25,000 veterans (U.S. Census, 2023) who reside in this region. Nearly 10% of this vulnerable population are disabled and live at or below the poverty line. Most veterans in dire need of essential human and health services remain hard to reach.

Fortunately, VABC is a trusted and recognized resource. This reputation has fueled a significant reliance for services that have been delivered, for far too long, from a modest and outdated building located at 755 Pine Street — until now!

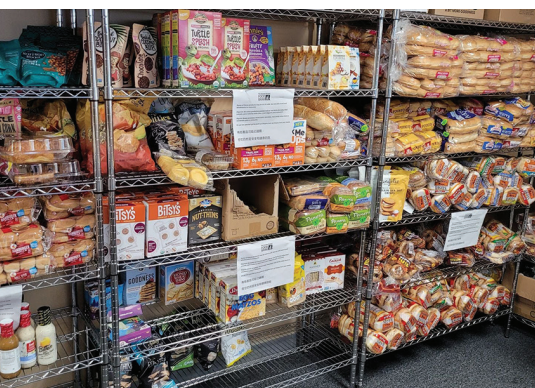
“Each month, the assistance with food makes an immense difference for my family. It ensures that we have enough to get through the month without worrying about going hungry. Their support means we can focus on other essential needs, knowing that there’s a meal on the table, bringing us comfort and relief during challenging times.”

— M.B., Veteran

SERVICES & PROGRAMS

- ❖ VABC distributes 25,000 pounds of food per month to over 500 veterans and their families. Lunch is prepared and served daily while a monthly food pantry operates at capacity. VABC maintains a rescue food room to help relieve urgent nutritional deficits.
- ❖ VABC operates a clothing center to distribute essential, quality clothing and shoes. The clothing center maintains a store-like environment to ensure a dignified experience and rotates its inventory seasonally.
- ❖ Recognized statewide for its effectiveness, the SHEROES program honors and engages women veterans in fellowship including workshops, activities and speaking programs.
- ❖ Weekly programs include Peer Support Groups and Coffee Socials to promote camaraderie and friendship for veterans combatting isolation and mental health challenges.
- ❖ Physical and mental wellness programs include painting, kayaking, hiking, biking, and stress management sessions. Rhythms of Service is a music therapy program.

VABC actively solicits recommendations from veterans to develop new services and activities that improve the quality of life of veterans.





DEMAND ON THE RISE

VABC rigorously collects, analyzes and reports service data. To facilitate this best practice, veterans sign in through a customized computer kiosk to select the services to receive on that day. Captured information is readily available for internal assessment and reporting. This system was installed in July 2023 with funding from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Veterans Services.

Due to sustained demand, VABC operates at capacity with consistent overcrowding within its current facilities. This has created severe operational constraints and an evident need for a larger facility to fulfill this vital mission.

SERVICE TREND

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Households Served	3,932	4,479	4,897	4,385
Units of Service	10,898*	10,943*	30,018**	33,994**
New Veterans	134	234	415	223

* Hand Counted

** Data Collection System

CONDITIONS THAT MOTIVATE THE MOVE TO 145 GLOBE STREET

- ❖ Limited parking spaces and minimal street parking creating dangerous conditions for people and vehicles.
- ❖ No loading dock to accept large quantities of food pantry goods from the Greater Boston Food Bank and other suppliers. Volunteers are relied upon to handle goods at risk of injury.
- ❖ Lack of appropriate storage space for food supplies prompting some supplies to be turned away.
- ❖ An outdated and overcrowded kitchen inhibits the ability to meet demands for prepared nutritious meals.
- ❖ Relying solely on the handicap ramp to handle all deliveries and donations, and move shopping carts to and from veterans' vehicles creates significant and unnecessary gridlock.
- ❖ No private spaces to accommodate individual counseling and peer meetings.
- ❖ No on-site opportunity to build an addition or manage transitional and permanent housing.

STRATEGIC GOAL

On October 31, 2025, VABC acquired the Tuscan Building, located at 145 Globe Street in Fall River. This 24,000 square foot building is ideally suited for VABC's expanding programs and will be modified to house a commercial kitchen, food pantry, dining space, clothing center, community meeting rooms, and spaces for third party veterans' services, including health and wellness providers, and VABC administrative and program offices.

To achieve this strategic goal, VABC has launched a \$3 million capital campaign to fund the acquisition of 145 Globe Street, the remodel of this new Veterans' Services Community Center, and the retirement of its mortgage to become debt-free.



THE OUTCOMES OF THIS TRANSFORMATIVE PROJECT INCLUDE:

- ❖ **Increase operational footprint** by 300% from 4,000 to 12,000 square feet of program space
- ❖ **Increase prepared meals** and rescue food service by 100% to 2,600 units per month
- ❖ **Increase food pantry donations** by 100% to 50,000 pounds per month
- ❖ **Expand the number of households serviced** by 70% to 6,000 households annually
- ❖ **Expand group programming** to include culinary arts training, career training, financial literacy, addiction recovery meetings, health and wellness classes, music, and more
- ❖ **Expand private services** to include intake and referrals, mental health counseling and clinical services, and drop-in services with third-party health professionals
- ❖ **Expand collaborations** and host events for veterans and the community at large
- ❖ **Improve the physical and mental health and quality of life** of more vulnerable veterans
- ❖ **Provide new housing opportunities** for homeless and vulnerable veterans
- ❖ **Assist an overburdened network** of health and human service providers, food pantries and others by increasing service to more veterans
- ❖ **Relocate the Disabled American Veterans** (DAV) Chapter 9 William S. Green, with a membership of nearly 600 veterans, and other veterans organizations to create a community hub

To complete building improvements and relocate vital veterans' services to 145 Globe Street by Spring 2027, VABC urgently seeks charitable contributions of any amount. Naming opportunities are available for donors who wish to make generous contributions and grants, perhaps over multiple years.

Please consider supporting this VABC project to establish a regional hub of veterans' services and a community center for all Bristol County veterans, their families, and active members of the U.S. Armed Forces. *Thank you.*

For a tour of VABC and an overview of the urgent needs of veterans in our community, please contact

Ken Levesque at **508-679-9277** or **k.levesque@thevabc.org**
or Kolby Driscoll at **kolby@vantageinphilanthropy.com**

Thank you.

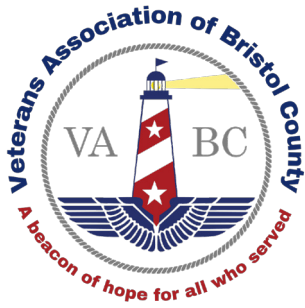


Veterans Association of Bristol County - VABC

755 Pine St, Fall River, MA 02720

508.679.9277 **thevabc.org**





Building a Healthy Veterans Community **Capital Campaign Contribution & Pledge Form**

- ☐ I / We will make a tax-deductible contribution or multi-year pledge in the amount of:
- ☐ \$500,000 ☐ \$250,000 ☐ \$100,000 ☐ \$50,000 ☐ \$25,000 ☐ \$10,000
- ☐ \$5,000 ☐ \$1,000 (Memorial Brick Campaign) ☐ OTHER _____
- ☐ My / our donation is enclosed (check payable to Veterans Association of Bristol County).
- ☐ Please send invoices on _____ (month) for my / our yearly pledge payable over:
- ☐ 1 Year ☐ 2 Years ☐ 3 Years ☐ 4 Years
- ☐ My / our company will match this contribution. Enclosed is the matching gift form.

LAST NAME FIRST NAME MIDDLE INITIAL

BUSINESS / FOUNDATION

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

PREFERRED PHONE EMAIL

- ☐ I / We wish to be recognized publicly as: _____
NOTE: Brick recognition forms will be sent separately.
- ☐ I / We wish to have our contribution remain anonymous.
- ☐ I / We wish to learn more about volunteer opportunities.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE DATE

Please mail your contribution or pledge to:

Ken Levesque, Executive Director
Veterans Association of Bristol County
755 Pine Street, Fall River, MA 02720

Alternatively, please email your completed pledge form to k.levesque@thevabc.org

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR VETERANS SERVICES COMMUNITY CENTER!



New Veterans Services Community Center

DONOR NAMING RECOGNITION

The Veterans Association of Bristol County (VABC) is honored to serve veterans who have served the United States of America and now face challenges to their independence and dignity. VABC is transitioning to a higher level of service with a more versatile, larger building in the City of Fall River. In October 2025, VABC purchased a permanent home at 145 Globe Street and will remodel this building for its programming requirements. To achieve this strategic goal, VABC has launched its ***Building a Healthy Veterans Community in Bristol County*** Capital Campaign to own, without debt, its building, and establish a building maintenance fund and permanent endowment. VABC wishes to recognize its supporters with these donor naming rights:

\$2 million

Reserved for Bay Coast Bank

Reserved for Robert F. Stocio

FIRSTFED Charitable Foundation

Reserved for Charlton Charitable Trusts

\$250,000

\$250,000

\$250,000

\$100,000

\$100,000 (2)

Reserved for BankFive

\$75,000

\$75,000

Reserved for Bristol County Savings Bank

Building Headquarters

(signage on three exterior sides)

Main Entrance

Reception Area and Services Kiosk

Commercial Kitchen

Food Pantry

Clothing & Household Goods Center

Commons

Food Rescue Room

2nd Floor Large Program Hall

Flagpole

2nd Floor Lounge and Program Suite

2nd Floor Gallery

Commons Coffee Bar

[CONTINUED ON REVERSE]



Clothing & Household Goods Center



Food Rescue Room



Reception Area Armed Services Glass Panels



Commons Feature Walls

\$50,000

\$50,000

\$50,000

\$50,000

\$50,000

\$50,000

\$25,000 (6)

\$10,000 (5)

\$10,000

\$10,000

\$5,000

\$5,000

\$5,000 (3)

\$5,000 (3)

\$4,000 and Below

\$500 (25)

Executive Director Office

Business Manager Office

Outreach Coordinator Office

Clothing & Household Goods Center Program Office

Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Chapter 9 Office

Loading Dock

Reception Area Armed Services Glass Panels

Commons Feature Wall

Kitchenette

Wheelchair Lift

Clothing & Household Good Center Furnishings

Clothing & Household Good Center Technology

Administrative Office Furnishings

Administrative Office Technology

Building Maintenance Fund

Main Stairwell Riser

Naming opportunities are subject to change with donor consent when floor plan(s) are finalized. Donations of all amounts will be recognized on a prominently featured Campaign Donor Wall. VABC welcomes contributions for general operations, and contributions and bequests to its Building Maintenance Fund and Permanent Endowment.

Please contact Ken Levesque, Executive Director, at **508-679-9277**
or **k.levesque@thevabc.org** to reserve your naming rights or for details on how to
make a bequest or estate plan that includes VABC as a beneficiary.

Thank you.