



**Department of  
Veterans Affairs**

# **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 15, 2011

Giving Veterans and their families a hand up and not a hand out is the goal of a Veterans Stand Down in Sioux Falls on September 23, 2011. This event is part of VA's efforts to reach all Veterans and its commitment to ending homelessness by 2015.

The Sioux Falls VA Health Care System, Sioux Falls Vet Center, and area Veterans service organizations are sponsoring this stand down event for all area homeless Veterans and Veterans in need. The term stand down is taken from military terms meaning a respite from combat. In this case, it is a respite from the hardships of homelessness and hardships.

This stand down will be held at the VFW Post #628 at 3601 S. Minnesota Avenue on Friday, September 23 from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM: Shuttle service will run every half hour from 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM from the corner of Russell and Minnesota Avenue; the Vet Center on 14<sup>th</sup> and Cliff Avenue; and the Union Gospel Mission at 8<sup>th</sup> and Weber.

On-the-spot help including meals, clothing, community housing referrals, medical and dental treatment, readjustment counseling, legal assistance, Women Veteran services, and more will be available. Area agencies have partnered with VA in making this event possible.

We respect the privacy of the veterans attending the stand down and would be pleased to provide the press and media with news availability and interviews upon request. Please contact the Vet Center at 605-330-4552.