



**VA Health Care Upstate New York
VA Western New York Healthcare System**
3495 Bailey Avenue | Buffalo, NY 14215
222 Richmond Avenue | Batavia, NY 14020
www.buffalo.va.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Evangeline Conley, Public Affairs Officer
Phone: (716) 862-8753 Cell: (716) 512-9338
E-mail: Evangeline.Conley@va.gov

**“Stand Down” Event
For Homeless and At-Risk Veterans**

Reminiscent of safe-havens for soldiers in the Vietnam War, a **“Stand Down”** will be held on **Wednesday, June 29 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.** at Coca-Cola Field, One James D. Griffin Plaza, and Buffalo, New York. The Stand Down will link and provide multiple Veterans services and program information at one convenient location.

This event will connect homeless and Veterans at risk of being homeless with information and services including immediate housing unit availability, legal advice and services, VA health care and other Veterans benefits information, education and employment opportunities, free haircuts, safe-sex contraceptives and education, social and family services, women Veterans information, and more. Bring your DD-214 discharge papers or military ID.

“VA Western New York Healthcare System is committed to serving the needs of homeless Veterans in our community,” says Kristen Weese, VA Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program Manager. “Each year, nearly 400 Veterans attend the annual Stand Down. Stand Downs present unique opportunities to promote health, wellness and linkage to valuable VA and community resources for this vulnerable Veteran population. Many Veterans are only one paycheck away from being homeless.”

Transportation is available from Buffalo VAMC, VA Homeless Program, and the Buffalo City Mission and lunch will be provided by LaNova Pizzeria. Community partners sponsoring this event include VA Western New York Healthcare System, WNY Veterans Housing Coalition, The Veterans One-stop Center (VOC) of Western New York, VA Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program, Goodwill, Buffalo Bisons and Coca-Cola Field.

For more information please contact (716)862-8885 or email VeteranStandDown@yahoo.com.

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