

JANUARY 2026 HOSPITAL PROMOTIONAL

Ongoing Challenges

As we start 2026, we continue to face many of the same obstacles that persisted throughout the previous year. The rising cost of living and increasing time commitments are affecting each of us in significant ways. These realities make it important to consider what our Veterans are going through during these challenging times.

Veterans Facing Unique Struggles

Many Veterans are putting in great effort to secure benefits that would enhance their health and overall well-being. While some are actively seeking improved medical care and more consistent living situations, others are searching for safe and comfortable housing options. These efforts reflect the diverse needs and circumstances among our Veteran community.

Homelessness Among Veterans

One critical question remains: how many Veterans are currently without shelter and living on the streets? This is a concern that needs our attention and reflection, especially as we honor the sacrifices made by those who have served. As we move into the new year, their well-being must remain a priority for all of us.

Although the solution to helping homeless Veterans is not simple or clear, even small acts of kindness can make a difference. Donating basic care items to hospital closets or Veterans institutions—especially during

the colder months—can provide much-needed comfort. Simple items like socks, gloves, hats, and scarves can help, and offering a small care package to a Veteran on the street is a meaningful way to show we care.

We have a long journey ahead to continue supporting and remembering our Veterans. It is important to recognize that many of us are part of this organization because of a Veteran. Whether they are in hospitals, on the streets, or visiting our own post, these are the individuals we must strive to support.

Consider reaching out to the Veterans in your own post. Taking a moment to have a conversation and ask how they are doing can lead to surprising and meaningful connections.

Let's start the NEW YEAR at home with our Veterans at our Home Post let's see what they are all about.....

Barbara Santillanes

Dept. Hospital Chair NM