

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE April 16, 2021

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Initiative to End Homelessness Among Veterans**

In May of 2019 an initiative to end veteran homelessness began, with primary support from the Metro Dallas Homelessness Alliance (MDHA). In order to achieve this, a Direct Service Providers Workgroup was established and MDHA added Dedicated Navigation Staff Support to work with landlords to identify units and move veterans into housing faster. The initiative seeks to end veteran homelessness through a measured process of housing 50 veterans per month, broken out into 100 day ‘challenges,’ and has housed 667 veterans since May 2019.

Due to COVID-19, the 2nd, 100-day challenge was suspended but the initiative still housed 75 new participants. Due to this, the goal of 50 participant housing placements per month will need to be increased to address the months during the pandemic where this goal was not met. In spite of this, the initiative is now poised to resume its 100 day surges and expects to meet its goal of ending veteran homelessness by December 2021.

The program is also actively working with the VA and SSVF providers to overcome challenges related to data collection and entry required to effectively identify and track our active homeless veteran population. This initiative is positioned to support the City of Dallas Veteran Affairs Commission. Should you have questions, please contact Christine Crossley, Director of the Office of Homeless Solutions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Kimberly Bizer Tolbert'.

Kimberly Bizer Tolbert
Chief of Staff

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Chris Caso, City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager

Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Dr. Eric A. Johnson, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion
Directors and Assistant Directors