

Jewish War Veterans, Post 64

When Mr. Edward Kline heard about veterans needing temporary housing he immediately wanted to help. Edward is a member of the Jewish War Veterans, Post 64 located in Las Vegas, Nevada. The Post was nominated for the Secretary's Award for Outstanding Achievement in Service for Homeless Veterans by the Las Vegas Community Based Outreach Clinic for Homeless Veterans. The Jewish War Veterans, Post 64, a group of World War II veterans, made a commitment to help homeless veterans. Mr. Kline is instrumental in this benevolent organization contributing the much needed funds and resources in order to support the needs of homeless veterans. They have provided food, clothing, transportation and rental assistance since the onset of the program. In 2000, with the establishment of the grant and per diem program, there was frequently a need to assist veterans until they were admitted into the per diem program. This became the framework of the "Independence Day Program". The program is solely funded by the Jewish War Veterans through the sale of "poppies". The program rents rooms from a local hotel, which started with two beds has now increased to six. This program allows up to ten days of emergency housing with food and transportation provided while veterans wait to be admitted to per diem/transitional housing programs, return to work or placed immediately after discharged from the hospital. Over the last five years, more than 800 veterans have participated in this program at a monthly cost of over \$1200.00. There has been an 80% success rate with accomplishing the initial goals of either entering programs or returning to work.

Post 64 members and their wives remain highly involved in the day to day operation of the program and work closely with the CBOC team. They are dedicated, hard working, and compassionate. The Community Based Outreach Clinic is eternally grateful to this organization for the tremendous amount of time and financial support that they have given our homeless veterans and our program.