

HOMELESS SENIOR DISABLED VETERAN FAMILY IN NEED (8-4-23)

FUNDRAISING: [Givesendgo.Com/GAXXJ](https://www.givesendgo.com/GAXXJ) is the crowd funding account set up by Keystone Heights AM Legion Post 202's adjutant, George Owen. Please distribute as you see fit to raise truly needed support.

- a. Funds will initially be used to extend stay in retail shelter² and support their obtaining the very basic needs (**clothes, personal needs, meal support**)
- b. When appropriate, funds will help with household needs and moving expenses when home established as they do not have anything but some clothes.

Coordination:

VA Resources: VFW 8255's Veteran Service Officer in Middleburg (Mrs. Shawna Mitchell 813.447.2717 / MitchellShawna07@Gmail.Com ("Sean-ah") is assuming primary POC for their assessment, intake, introduction and coordination of VA health and benefits – working with the Putnam County VSO: Bill Buquo.

HUDVASH & Permeant Housing: With several responses and pokers in that fire, we'll address that POC in next update. Family is open to the living in any of the three regional opportunities*. Also looking to ensure any support does not disqualify them as homeless.

Shelter, GENERAL and OTHER Resource Coordination: UWNEFL's Mission United Veteran Care Coordinator, Tonya Cook (TonyaC@UWNEFL.Org 904.390.3278). The Veteran has very limited coordination and communication capabilities and Tonya is acting executive assistant to our mission in supporting this family to self-sustainability. Please funnel or copy opportunities, offers, suggestions, et al and coordination items for the family through Tonya in addition to whomever else.

- **NEEDS** (immediate while in shelter as the primary need is permanent housing):
 - o **Donations to stay in shelter, buy basics**, etc while in shelter.
 - o Palatka/Putnam/Clay St Johns area folks who can volunteer:
 - For future rides to appointments that will come up
 - Make and deliver dinners or just snacks and food, etc.
 - Email/print and pick up or deliver forms and documents for all the applications they'll have to fill out
 - o *Leads to 3/2 or 2/2 housing options as the inventory in their price range is very limited and the answer may be a unit that isn't on any zillow or property manager's listing.

ADMIN:

1. Please be conservative with "Reply All."
2. Love all help- please reach out to one of the coordinators for now. In coordination with the Veteran family, the above and anyone else who wants to join in are attempting to prevent the family from being overwhelmed. They have telephone, digital and coordination challenges.
3. Volunteers and support WELCOME. **Did we mention we are fundraising** and every \$\$ helps this verified vulnerable Veteran family?

POC:

1. Pastor Beverly Canty, Higher Dimension of Hope, Palatka, FL (386.916.8109 BCanty75@ATT.Net)
2. Tonya Cook, United Way NEFL's Mission United (904.390.3278 TonyaC@UWNEFL.org)
3. Joe Snowberger, United Way NEFL's Mission United (904.476.7861 JoeS@UWNEFL.Org)

Need(s):

1. Emergency funds to extend temporary stay at motel to work on identifying housing solution. Mission United identified funding to extend them thru Friday, Aug 11th and is searching for more with the hope we can keep them off street until find housing. Motel is averaging \$70 a day, just under \$500 a week with a constant push to keep that rate. All contributions can be made directly to Sleep Inn Palatka. (Will share name and pertinent info to any responders, keeping family dignity in tac as best as possible.) or,
2. Alternative short term/temp shelter stay at discounted rate or free while searching for solution. All recognize it is temp and will end.
3. Housing Researcher/ Housing: Need assistance to research and list any and all potential 3/2 or 2/2 housing situations within \$650 - \$1200 range within area to take to Gainesville AOR SSVF or other programs for support consideration. They can manage up to \$800 by themselves with initial deposit and start-up support with a very lean life style.
4. Other Resources and Agencies that can weigh in and offer better ideas and connections to housing to help this family and prevent them back on sidewalk. **PLEASE SHARE anywhere appropriate.**

Mission United™, a community-based collective impact initiative, acts as a *Veteran-peer support concierge* that leverages

United Way Northeast Florida's connections to human, social and Veteran services and resources to assist Florida's largest population of military Servicemembers, Veterans and their families address barriers to living their best lives.