

October 11, 12 & 13



2013 Military and Veteran

STANDDOWN

Dignity. Respect. Empowerment.

Stand Down: A military term designating that a combat unit is temporarily moved out of the field and back to base camp for rest and rehabilitation.

Now, Stand Down is also a term used for organized community events for at-risk and homeless veterans and their families. Stand Downs provide a safe place to "rest" for a few days, offering a variety of services such as food, shelter, clothing, health screenings, VA and Social Security benefits counseling, and referrals to a variety of other necessary services, such as health care, housing, employment, and substance abuse treatment.

Goodwill Southern California will host a 3-day Stand Down at the Los Angeles Historic Park, October 11, 12 and 13. This temporary "tent-city" will serve over 1000 men, women and children, by offering more permanent solutions to the daily struggles faced by many U.S. military members, veterans and their families.

The Program The typical homeless veteran entering a Stand Down for the first time can be described as anxious, hopeless, suspicious, alienated, and often disoriented. The goal of the program is to quickly resolve these issues so that real growth and healing can begin. By meeting basic needs such as food and shelter, and providing a forum for open and honest discussion with a host of psychologists, counselors, spiritual advisors and other veterans who have turned their lives around, we initiate the process of helping people move beyond their challenges and towards a more stable and fulfilling lifestyle. **We will also have a host of services and support specifically geared to meet the needs of female veterans and veterans with families.**

But we can't stand alone.

We need **community partners** and an army of **volunteers** to properly and effectively address the needs of these service men and women.

Community Partners

We will host several workshops taught by knowledgeable professionals from the community that introduce participants to a variety of relevant topics (e.g. veteran benefits, relapse prevention, Gulf War Syndrome, homeless hygiene and foot care, etc.). Our workshop format is modeled on a professional conference; maximizing the time and professional support so that each participant feels engaged and empowered.

Please call **323.539.2102** or email **stand.down@goodwillsoocal.org** for more information on how you or your business can help.

Volunteers

Whether it's serving food in the chow line, making rounds as a veteran host, finding the right fit in the clothing tent, giving someone a haircut, or restocking supplies – volunteers make all the difference in the healing process!

Please call **323.223.1211 x2309** or email **volunteer@goodwillsoocal.org** for more information about volunteer opportunities.



GoodwillSoCal.org

This 3-day event is a gateway to additional follow-up services, resources, training and employment opportunities to help veterans long-term.

