



NATIONAL COALITION *for* HOMELESS VETERANS

At Your Service

HVRP Grantee Best Practices

Partnerships – Promoting Stability

Community engagement and partnerships can improve job placements, but there are other benefits to partnering with local organizations. Donated goods can support veteran stability after job placement.

These donations can often be sizable. Darryl Harper of Career and Recovery Services, spoke of working with a key partner to his organization, “Project LIFT steps in and takes that new apartment from just a house to a home. [Project LIFT] supports us. Over the past two years we’ve gotten over \$28,000 worth of donated furnishings.” Harper first met his Project LIFT contact when speaking with other service providers while attending a job fair.

Rolanda Clements-Martin of Goodwill Industries of Houston explained, “We work with a company called RKI in Houston, and they have been wonderful in hiring a lot of our veterans that have [criminal] backgrounds [...] not only [hiring] them but they start them at sixteen, eighteen dollars an hour.” In return, her organizations makes sure veterans will “have done some training and we’ve done some training and paid for them to prepare to go into the workplace.” Goodwill Industries of Houston relies on “very small, intimate job fairs for them on-site. We do pre-screening, we help the clients with the application online so when RKI comes in, we know that these people are ready.” The partnership with RKI has developed to such a degree that, “[RKI] sends us [...] a list of the jobs that they have available, so we get people prepared for those jobs and, ultimately, they hire them.” By investing in targeted training for its veteran clients, Goodwill Industries of Houston has encouraged a smooth transition into employment for its veterans.