



Legal Services at Stand Downs

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Logistics

- Asking questions during the webinar:
 - All participant phone lines are muted.
 - You will be unable to ask questions by phone.
 - Submit questions through the on screen questions box.
- After the webinar you will receive an email with a link to the recording and the survey.
- Handouts available
 - Tab on GoToWebinar dashboard
 - Linked on NCHV.org

Legal Services at Stand Down

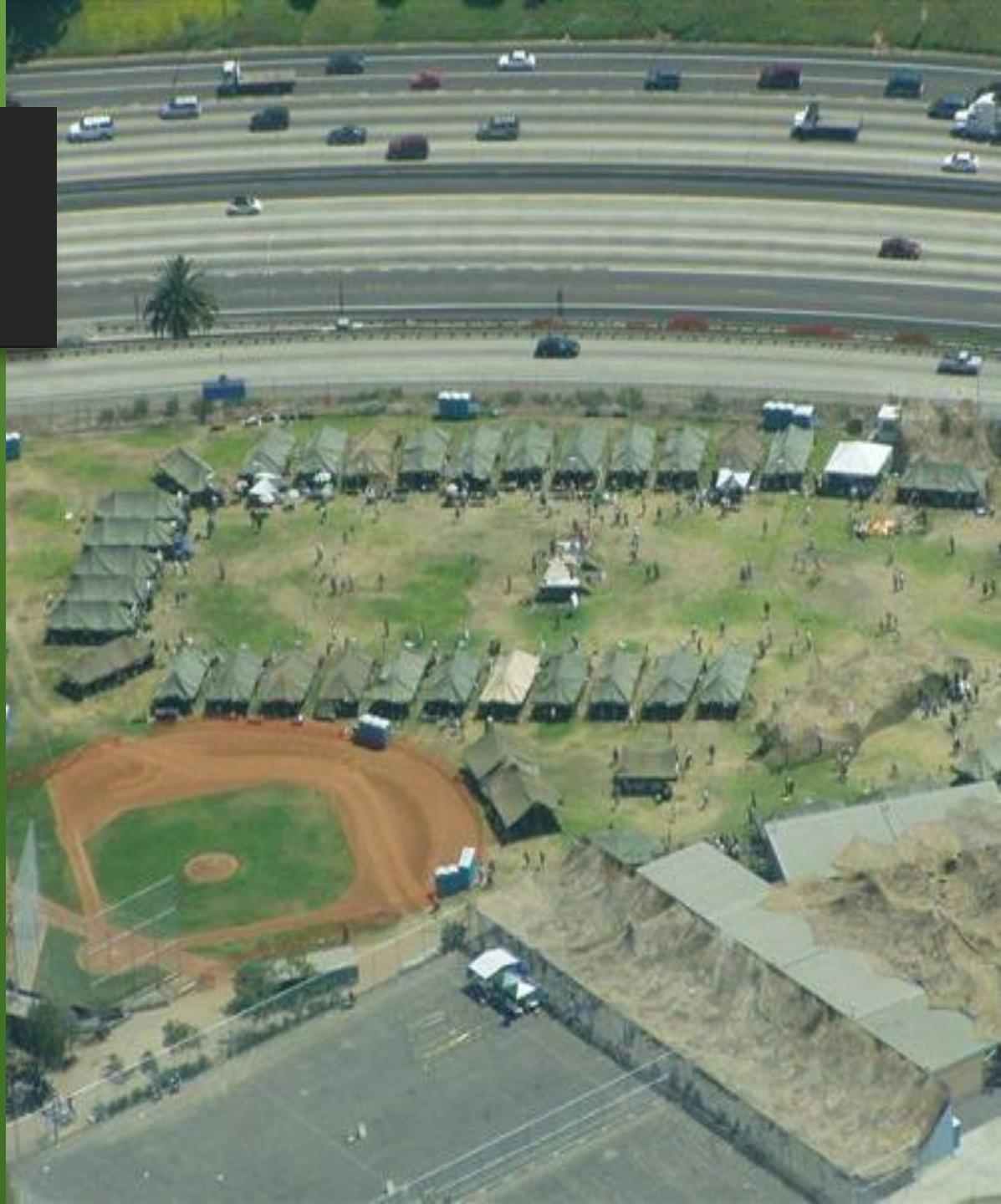
Courts and Civil Legal
Services

Presentation Overview

- Stand Down Events: History and Growth
- Legal Services at Stand Down
 - Court Components
 - Homeless Courts
 - Stand Down Courts
 - Child Support Courts
 - Legal clinics at Stand Down
 - Scaling the legal component to your event

What is Stand Down?

- Events that provide services to homeless veterans while creating a sense of community and camaraderie.
- Started in 1988 in San Diego, CA
- Now more than 200 events around the United States
- Many, but not all, Stand Down events feature legal services and/or a court component



NCHV Stand Down Classifications

Type	Duration	Eligibility	Shelter	Housing Referrals	Health	Employment	Other Services
Stand Down	3+ days	Homeless veterans and their families only	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Meals, Legal, Personal Care, IDs, Benefits, Community-Building Activities
Homeless Veteran Resource Fair	1-2 days	Homeless veterans and their families only	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Meals, Legal, Personal Care, IDs, Benefits
Homeless Veteran Health Fair	1 day	Homeless veterans	No	Yes	Yes	No	
Homeless Veteran Job Fair	1 day	Homeless veterans	No	Yes	No	Yes	

Stand Down Courts

San Diego Homeless Court Model

- To counteract the effect of criminal cases pushing homeless defendants further outside society, this Court combines a progressive plea bargain system, alternative sentencing structure, assurance of “no custody” and proof of program activities, to address a full range of misdemeanor offenses.
- Resolving criminal matters is a very real benefit for these veterans. At the conclusion of the first Stand Down in 1988, one hundred and sixteen of the five hundred participants stated their greatest need was resolving outstanding bench warrants. Court proceedings were held on site during Stand Down 1989 as 130 veterans resolved 451 cases with benefit of liberal plea bargains and alternative sentencing tailored to the needs of the individual. The court resolved 4,895 cases between 1989 and 1992 for 942 homeless veterans through Stand Down.
- The alternative sentencing structure is not coercive or punitive in nature, but designed to assist the individual with reintegration into society. With this in mind, the individual, not the court, selects the service agency that will address his/her greatest need. That selection becomes the court sentence/order. For many participants who have already determined which agency they desire assistance from, it is simply a matter of designating that agency as the court sentence.



Stand Down Court Training

Taking the **Court** to **Stand** **Down**

For more information contact:

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**Homeless Court at Stand Down:
A Collaborative Effort to Assist Homeless Veterans,
Strengthen Communities and Maximize Court Resources**

**July 21-22, 2017
San Diego, CA**

PRESENTED BY

**The American Bar Association
Commission on Homelessness and Poverty**

and

National Coalition for Homeless Veterans

Join us at San Diego's Stand Down to observe the nation's first Homeless Court in action, and learn how to replicate the program in your community. Child Support Court and civil legal services will also be held onsite.

**Space is Limited -
Sign up Today!**

Child Support Court at Stand Down

- Developed at the San Diego Stand Down
- Child support office runs registered veterans through their system to ID potential cases for resolution
 - Review and Adjustment
 - Arrears Management
 - Restoration of Drivers License
- Child support notifies veteran of court hearing to address child support case(s)
- Child support agrees not to issue orders or pursue enforcement action that will alienate the veteran.



Minnesota Stand Down Court Model

- Judges can issue orders and address legal matters in any Minnesota judicial district due to a statewide jurisdictional order from the MN Supreme Court.
- Judges hear both criminal and civil matters, as appropriate
- Uses San Diego model of giving veterans community service credit for accessing supportive services at the Stand Down event
- Court administration on-site to update court records
- Prosecutors present from largest local cities and counties; one suburban prosecutor is chosen to represent remaining counties

Rural Stand Down Courts

- Follows basic model of larger, urban Stand Down Courts
- Court staff participate remotely, with time set aside on the judge's calendar to hear cases in the late afternoon.
 - Judges invited to attend, but don't have to.
 - Non-contested issues resolved via phone/email
- Statewide jurisdictional order obtained

Technical Assistance for Stand Down Legal

American Bar Association's Commission on Homelessness and Poverty

- On-site or remote assistance in developing a court or legal component
- Help identifying local legal and court contacts
- Covers the breadth of legal models

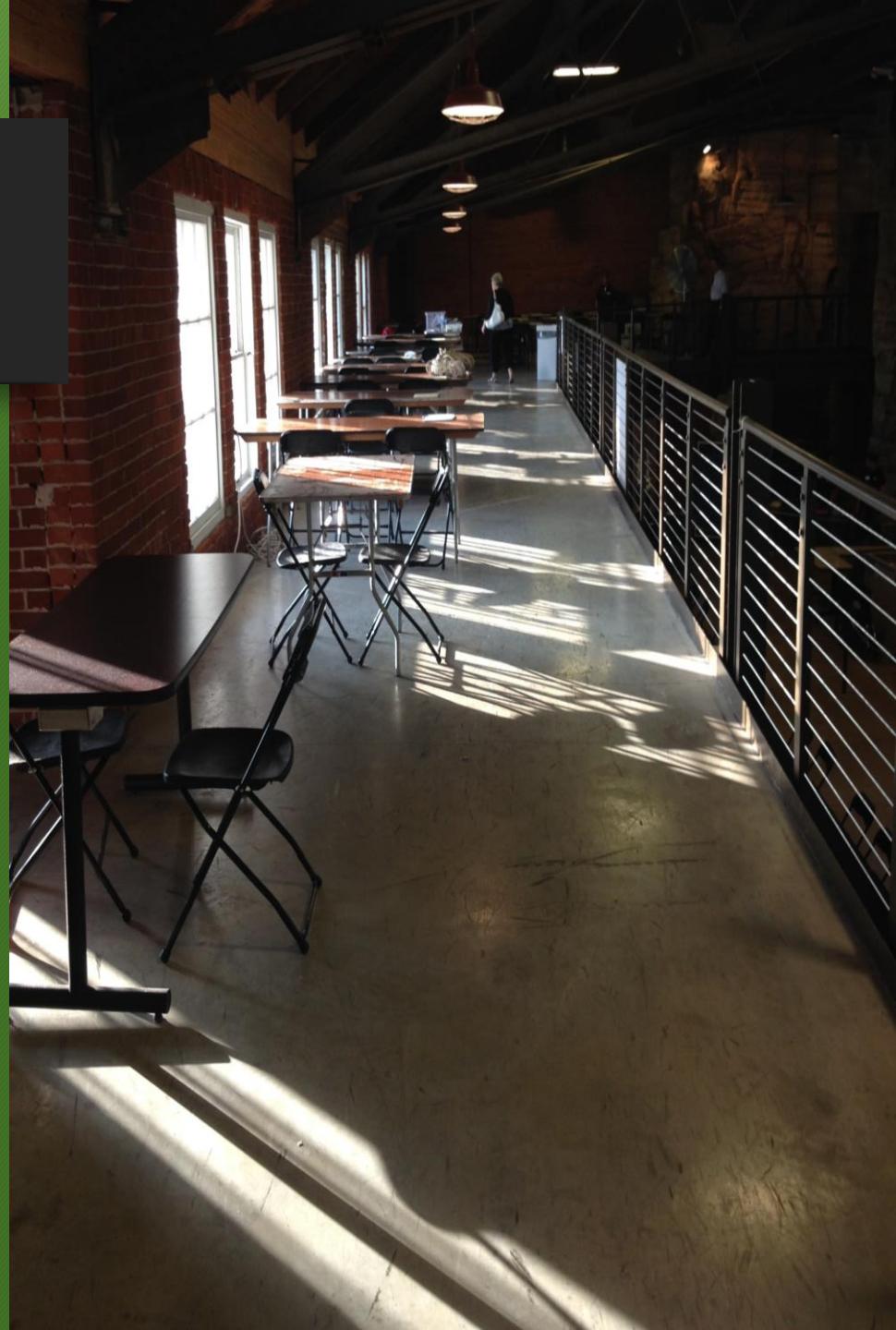
www.americanbar.org/homeless

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Types of Legal Services at Stand Down

- Program Outreach and Referrals
- Brief Legal Advice and Services (legal clinic model)
- Court Components
 - Homeless Court
 - Stand Down Court
 - Child Support Court



Program Outreach and Referrals

- Legal programs and partners provide basic information about their services and eligibility.
- Typically does not include advising veterans on their rights, but may result in connections to representation services.
- Legal service providers can be placed with other service providers and there's little need for a set-aside space or confidentiality concerns.
- You have to start somewhere - this will introduce the legal providers to your service population and help them understand the importance of providing legal services to at-risk and homeless veterans.

Brief Legal Advice and Brief Services

- Veterans have access to one-on-one consultation with an attorney
- In addition to advice, veteran may receive brief services, including but not limited to:
 - Phone call on behalf of the veteran
 - Assistance drafting legal paperwork
 - Assistance drafting correspondence
 - Requesting documentation on behalf of veteran
- Does not have to be limited to civil issues
- If veteran needs further assistance or representation, legal clinic can make referral to appropriate services when available.

Building a Stand Down Legal Clinic

- Identify legal partners
 - Legal Aid programs
 - Pro Bono programs
 - Bar Associations
 - Law Schools
- Include community partners
 - Child Support
 - Drivers License services
- Logistics
 - Data gathering and tracking
 - Technology (wifi, printing, etc.)



Thank you!

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THANK YOU