

**Veterans and Family Support
Department of Missouri
JANUARY/FEBRAURY 2026**

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New Year Challenge: Supporting Homeless Veterans

District Backpack Drive for VA Hospitals



Warm Hearts for the Cold Season

As we welcome the New Year and temperatures begin to drop, it's important to remember those in our community who are most in need. With the colder weather upon us, I am issuing a challenge to every district: Let's come together to support homeless veterans by donating backpacks filled with essential items.

District Challenge Details

- Each district is asked to contribute at least two backpacks for homeless veterans.
- All collected backpacks will be distributed among the four VA hospitals in our area.
- Districts should bring their donated backpacks to the upcoming winter conference.

How You Can Help

Your participation will make a meaningful difference in the lives of veterans who have served our country. Consider including warm clothing, hygiene products, non-perishable snacks, and other useful supplies in each backpack.

Together, we can show our gratitude and support by making sure our veterans have what they need to face the winter months. Thank you for your generosity and commitment to this important cause.

Conference Information

Please remember to bring your donated backpacks to the winter conference. More details about the conference schedule and drop-off locations will be shared soon.

Let's start the New Year by making a positive impact—one backpack at a time!

Be the Reason a Veteran Smiles Today