

David E. Clinkscales Presented with the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award by Marquis Who's Who as a leader in the field of entrepreneurship

Tuskegee Alabama, March 24, 2021 — Marquis Who's Who, the world's premier publisher of biographical profiles, is proud to present David E. Clinkscales with the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award. An accomplished listee, Mr. Clinkscales celebrates many years' experience in his professional network, and has been noted for achievements, leadership qualities, and the credentials and successes he has accrued in his field. As in all Marquis Who's Who biographical volumes, individuals profiled are selected on the basis of current reference value. Factors such as position, noteworthy accomplishments, visibility, and prominence in a field are all taken into account during the selection process.

After multiple years as a district executive of the Birmingham Area Council for the Boy Scouts of America in Birmingham, Alabama, Mr. Clinkscales was appointed as senior district executive in South Florida Area Council. Subsequently in 1993, he founded The Clinkscales Group Inc. in South Florida. Additionally, Mr. Clinkscales worked with a multiple talent staff to promote entertainers, music, comedy shows, fund raisers and political campaigns. Lately 2017, founder of Red Bag Toy Drive a homeless veteran with children service organization. Helping our less fortune veterans transition back into mainstream society.

Serving his country in the U.S. Army Reserves (1986-2008), Mr. Clinkscales later operated on the Model City Administering Board in Miami from 1990 to 2000 and as the founding director of the Power Learning System in Miami in 1996. Becoming involved in local politics, he further flourished as a campaign manager for State Representative Kendrick Meek in Miami. Clinkscales is currently an elected official for the Town of Franklin, Alabama, in which he was instrumental in the rebirth of the small town. He's an active legislative representative for the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen. Mr. Clinkscales' involvement in political affairs emerged from his experience as a lobbyist for the United Way and Boy Scouts, having raised money for these non-profit organizations for many years.

Mr. Clinkscales has been active on the board of directors for Chapel Cove Homeowners in Pembroke Pines, Florida 1997-2007. Likewise, he has served as an independent representative for Excel/Sprint Communications in Miami since 1996. He is a life member of the American Legion, life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, life member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, and founding member of the Positive African American Role Models and 500 Role Models of Excellence in Miami. Mr. Clinkscales additionally found success with the Miami local chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen international.

Born in Tuskegee, Alabama, Mr. David Clinkscales studied locally, earning a Bachelor of Art in political science at Alabama State University in 1987. In 1978, he was recognized as an Eagle Scout by the Boy Scouts of America. Now a celebrated lifetime Marquis listee, Mr. Clinkscales has been featured in the 26th edition of Who's Who in the South and Southwest.

Don't leave our Veterans out in the cold. Here at Red Bag Toys, we are a Homeless Veteran Service Organization

We Help Veterans Transition from Homelessness to Homeownership

It's easy to take basic needs like food, water and clothing for granted. Unfortunately, many of those who have put their lives on the line for our country don't have access to the essential resources that we ourselves enjoy every day. Here at Red Bag Toys for Homeless Veterans in the Black Belt Community, we're working to change that, by giving our veterans a helping hand, not a hand out.

Our hands-on program focuses on helping veterans all across the country overcome homelessness. We work closely with our local charities like United Way agencies, American Legion, VFW, and VA to provide veterans with a positive and productive living environment as they work toward owning a home

Set veterans on the path to self-sufficiency

At Red Bag Toys we create caring homes for our veterans, find practical ways to help veterans reconnect with society. Through our program, veterans in need can:

- Register to vote
- Assist in reconnecting with family
- Get Veterans benefits and financial assistance
- Find accountability partners
 - Veteran Administration
 - Veteran Crisis help line
 - Disability Claims assistant
- Develop life skills and coping mechanisms
- Enroll in educational programs

Housing for Homeless Veterans in Alabama

Did you know that veterans make up a significant portion of the homeless population? Here at Red Bag Toys, we believe that every veteran should have a roof over their head. That's why we provide pathways towards housing for homeless veterans in the Alabama's Black Belt Community and Southeast US

We also assist homeless veterans with their financial, mental and physical needs. If you want to know how to support veterans, volunteer, or donate to our cause. Call 334-391-0250 today to provide housing for homeless veterans.

Providing a road to recovery

When veterans chose to serve our country, they sacrificed a lot to defend our way of life. The least we can do is help them get back on their feet.

Most veterans face problems that run deeper than what is on the surface. Making lasting changes starts with a positive, supportive environment. You'll find that our staff and facilities provide just that to struggling veterans. Red Bag Toy's Caring Homes for Veterans and Veterans with children is dedicated to ending veteran homelessness one veteran at a time.

Who is a veteran?

In general, most organizations use U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) eligibility criteria to determine which veterans can access services. Eligibility for VA benefits is based upon discharge from active military service under other than dishonorable conditions. Benefits vary according to factors connected with the type and length of military service. To see details of eligibility criteria for VA compensation and benefits, view the VA.gov website.

Mental health:

Veteran status was unrelated to inmate reports of mental health problems. Combat service was not related to prevalence of recent mental health problems. Just over half of both combat and non-combat veterans reported any history of mental health problems. Veterans were less likely than non-veteran prisoners to have used drugs. Forty-two percent of veterans used drugs in the month before their offense compared to 58% of non-veterans. No relationship between veteran status and drug/alcohol dependence or abuse was found.

Convictions and sentencing:

Veterans had shorter criminal histories than non-veterans in state prison. Veterans reported longer average sentences than non-veterans, regardless of offense type. Over half of veterans (57%) were serving time for violent offenses, compared to 47% of non-veterans. Nearly one in four veterans in state prison were sex offenders, compared to one in 10 non-veterans. Veterans were more likely than other violent offenders in state prison to have victimized females and minors. More than a third of veterans in state prison had maximum sentences of at least 20 years, life or death.

Sources

The 2016 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress Veteran Homelessness: A Supplemental Report to the 2010 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress; Housing and Urban Development Congressional Research Service Report for Congress: Veterans and Homelessness; Libby Perl; February 2012 Homeless Incidence and Risk Factors for Becoming Homeless in Veterans; VA Office of Inspector General; May 2012 The 2012 Point-in-Time Estimates of Homelessness, Volume 1 of the 2012 Point-in-Time Annual Homeless Assessment Report; Housing and Urban Development The 2015 Point-in-Time Estimates of Homelessness, Volume 1 of the 2015 Point-in-Time Annual Homeless Assessment Report; Housing and Urban Development Ending Veteran Homelessness Together: One Veteran at a Time.

DEMOGRAPHICS OF HOMELESS VETERANS

- 11% of the homeless adult populations are veterans
- 20% of the male homeless populations are veterans
- 68% reside in principal cities
- 32% reside in suburban/rural areas
- 51% of individual homeless veterans have disabilities
- 50% have serious mental illness
- 70% have substance abuse problems
- 57% are white males, compared to 38% of non-veterans
- 50% are age 51 or older, compared to 19% non-veterans

INCARCERATED VETERANS

In May 2007, the Bureau of Justice Statistics released a special report on incarcerated veterans. The following are highlights of the report, "Veterans in State and Federal Prison, 2004," which assessed data based on personal interviews conducted in 2004:

Numbers and profiles:

There were an estimated 140,000 veterans held in state and federal prisons. State prisons held 127,500 of these veterans, and federal prisons held 12,500. Male veterans were half as likely as other men to be held in prison (630 prisoners per 100,000 veterans, compared to 1,390 prisoners per 100,000 non-veteran U.S. residents). This gap had been increasing since the 1980s. Veterans in both state and federal prison were almost exclusively male (99 percent). The median age (45) of veterans in state prison was 12 years older than that of non-veterans (33). Non-veteran inmates (55%) were nearly four times more likely than veterans (14%) to be under the age of 35. Veterans were much better educated than other prisoners. Nearly all veterans in state prison (91%) reported at least a high school diploma or GED, while an estimated 40% of non-veterans lacked either.

Military backgrounds:

The U.S. Army accounted for 46% of veterans living in the United States yet 56% of veterans are in state prison. In 2014, the percentage of Alabama's state prisoners who reported prior military service in the U.S. Armed Forces (10%) was half of the level reported in 1986 (20%). Most state prison veterans (54%) reported service during a wartime era, while 20% saw combat duty. In federal prison two-thirds of veterans had served during wartime, and one quarter had seen combat. Six in 10 incarcerated veterans received an honorable discharge.

ABOUT HOMELESS VETERANS

- Most homeless veterans are single, and come from poor disadvantaged communities
- 37% of homeless veterans have families and children (children are high on our list of concerns)
- 45% suffer from mental illness; -50% have substance abuse problems;
- 47% served in the Vietnam Era; -67% served at least 3 years; and
- 33% were stationed in a war zone; -5% reside in rural area (U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs)

A large number of displaced and at-risk veterans live with lingering effects of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and substance abuse, compounded by a lack of family and social support networks. A top priority is to secure, safe and clean housing that offers support services. Veterans need a coordinated effort that provides housing, nutritional meals, physical health care, substance use treatment and mental health counseling, and job assessment, training, and placement assistance.

In many cases a veteran who serves his/her country - during peacetime or at war - experiences emotional, physical, and/or medical effects of that service. These effects can also have long term residual impacts upon the veteran's mental stability and over all emotional well-being. It affects the very way the veteran perceives and interacts with his/her family, employer, co-workers, and their community. These effects can result in contact with law enforcement officials. Many veterans seem adverse to either admitting that they have a problem or to even identifying themselves as a veteran at all.

Red Bag Toys caring homes for veterans provides screening, assessments, and individualized care management. Red Bag Toys Managers work in conjunction with VA primary health care, mental health care, substance use treatment, and other community based resource systems to serve the veteran's individual needs.

An Individual Service Plan (ISP) is a long-range plan to address the housing, medical, counseling, education, vocational, legal, financial, social and spiritual needs of the veteran. The ISP is developed by the Care Manager in conjunction with the veteran upon entry into the program. The ISP is reviewed weekly, progress is documented, goals are updated, and adjusted, as necessary.

For a number of reasons, not all homeless veterans are forthcoming regarding their military service. For some, they do not realize that the fact they served in the military may qualify them as a veteran eligible for benefits. It is critical that staff and volunteers are aware of these issues and are informed of how to approach the veteran in a conversation that will garner the information necessary to assist the veteran, while taking into account their diverse backgrounds.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) states that the nation's homeless veterans are predominantly male, with roughly 9% being female. The majority is single; live in urban areas; and suffer from mental illness, alcohol and/or substance abuse, or co-occurring disorders. About 11% of the adult homeless populations are veterans.

Roughly 45% of all homeless veterans are African American or Hispanic, despite only accounting for 10.4% and 3.4% of the U.S. veteran population, respectively.

Homeless veterans are younger on average than the total veteran population. Approximately 9% are between the ages of 18 and 30, and 41% are between the ages of 31 and 50. Conversely, only 5% of all veterans are between the ages of 18 and 30, and less than 23% are between 31 and 50.

America's homeless veterans have served in World War II, the Korean War, Cold War, Vietnam War, Grenada, Panama, Lebanon, Persian Gulf War, Afghanistan and Iraq (OEF/OIF), and the military's anti-drug cultivation efforts in South America. Nearly half of homeless veterans served during the Vietnam era. Two-thirds served our country for at least three years, and one-third were stationed in a war zone.

About 1.4 million other veterans, meanwhile, are considered at risk of homelessness due to poverty, lack of support networks, and dismal living conditions in overcrowded or substandard housing.