How can we address and prevent veteran homelessness in our communities?

Veterans are special members of our community because they risked their lives to give us freedom. It is very important to help them because they did so much for us. We can do many things to address and prevent veteran homelessness, such as creating events or fundraisers, finding homes and jobs and providing them with access to everything that they need.

First, we can advertise a need or event and request donations and volunteers. Asking our community to get involved to help veterans is really fun and exciting. I often volunteer with Three Square Food Bank, which is an organization that collects and distributes food to people who need it. Even if you are not talking to people and handing them their food directly, we are still making a difference by providing people with what they need.

Second, we can help with finding homes and jobs for homeless veterans. Recently I found the organization U.S. Vets. They provide housing for veterans and their families. They also offer a lot of other accommodations to get homeless vets off the streets. We can help by donating money and time to U.S. Vets and other organizations that help veterans with their housing needs.

Third, we can also help to give homeless veterans access to things they need. We can donate clothing and hygiene items to a local shelter that will distribute them to needy veterans, donate money to veterans’ causes, and direct people in need to organizations that will give them things for free. For example, my ALA group donated gently used purses filled with female hygiene products such as soap, conditioner, razors and lotion to female veterans facing homelessness. This was a fun and easy project that benefited a lot of women. We also can provide veterans with transportation to VA hospitals for their medical care or even donate directly to the hospital. I did a project where I made hats and bought blankets for the
chemotherapy department at my local VA hospital. The project worked very well and I was happy to see that I could help the veterans of my community.

To get involved with veteran homelessness in my community, we can create events or fundraisers, help them find homes and jobs and provide them with access to medical care and food. These are just a few ways to address and prevent veteran homelessness in my community.