

FEMALE SOLDIERS.  
FORGOTTEN HEROES.



*Unlocking the Possibilities*

For seven years, Applied Behavioral Rehabilitation Institute, Inc. (ABRI) has successfully offered services to homeless male Veterans in Connecticut through its transitional housing program, *Homes for the Brave*. These program graduates represent over 550 men. Based on these successes and the current needs of homeless Veterans, ABRI has decided to expand its services. ABRI is proud to announce that we have begun planning “Female Soldiers: Forgotten Heroes” which will open a *first* transitional supportive housing program for homeless female Veterans in the State of Connecticut.

According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, 7,000 to 8,000 female Veterans are homeless in the United States, the most in the nation’s history. Currently, 8,000 soldiers from Connecticut are deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. 25 percent of these soldiers are women. According to Preston Maynard, Director of Homeless Service Programs at the VA’s Errera Community Care Center, Connecticut has 106 transitional supportive beds for homeless Veterans, but less than 10 are for women. The VA estimates that between 3,000 and 4,000 Veterans are homeless in Connecticut, and 10 percent of them are women. We expect their numbers to grow as more soldiers return home.

To address this need, ABRI has partnered with the Kick for Nick Foundation and the VA to create a program that is tailored to the needs of the female Veteran. Kick for Nick, headed by Shalini Madaras, has adopted the program and will continue to be involved through the project’s completion. “Female Soldiers: Forgotten Heroes” will be dedicated to, and in memory of PFC, Nick Madaras. ABRI and Kick for Nick hope to provide transitional housing for 15 female Veterans.

We look forward to keeping our supporters informed of the events and achievements that are related to this exciting endeavor. For more information on “Female Soldiers: Forgotten Heroes”, please contact Amanda LeClair at (203) 338-0669 or by email at [aleclair@homesforthebrave.org](mailto:aleclair@homesforthebrave.org). You can also visit our website, [www.homesforthebrave.org](http://www.homesforthebrave.org), for more information.