

SAVE THE SOLDIERS HOME CASE FOR SUPPORT

Every hero deserves a home

The Milwaukee Soldiers Home, on the grounds of the Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center overlooking Miller Park, was built in 1867 as **a place of healing** for veterans returning from the Civil War. As one of his last acts before being assassinated, President Lincoln signed legislation to create a national system of homes for disabled veterans. Since then, thousands of Wisconsin veterans have called the Milwaukee Soldiers Home their safe haven. We can honor these men and women and support those who have so nobly served our country in this century by restoring these iconic buildings to relieve the plight of homeless veterans. For people who have served our country so proudly, spending their nights on the streets of Milwaukee or in shelters waiting for permanent housing is unthinkable. Furthermore, veterans at risk of homelessness number in the thousands, from those doubled up with family or friends to veterans in transitional housing. Every hero deserves a home.

This truly wonderful, historic and nationally significant project was made possible by a group of women from Milwaukee who raised \$110,000, a staggering amount of money in the 1860s, to make this vision a reality. **It is now our turn to restore this historic campus to the purpose for which it was intended – the service of veterans – and we are in the home stretch.**

PROJECT DETAILS

- Adaptive reuse of six historic buildings including preservation of interior and exterior features
- 101 units of one-, two-, and three-bedroom housing for veterans and their families, including units specifically for women
- Community spaces for veterans and on-site veteran supportive services

PROJECT COST

- The total cost is \$40 million
- The project is made possible through an Enhanced Use Lease (EUL) agreement with the Department of Veterans Affairs
- The project will be financed through Low Income Housing Tax Credits, Federal and State Historic Tax Credits, and grants
- A capital campaign to raise \$3 million in private support from foundations, corporations, organizations and individuals will leverage \$37 million in additional funding that will come to the Milwaukee community for this project
- Mick Hatch, Patti Keating-Kahn, and Carl Mueller are co-chairing the capital campaign
- A Leadership Team of community volunteers is overseeing all campaign activities
- An Honorary Committee of community leaders from Milwaukee, Wisconsin and the veterans community have endorsed the project

PROJECT PARTNERS

- Milwaukee Preservation Alliance; Greater Milwaukee Foundation; Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee; The Alexander Company; Center for Veterans Issues; Uihlein Wilson Architects; Quorum Architects; JP Cullen