

**Item Title:** Proclamation Recognizing Capital Area Veterans Stand Down Day

**Specific Action Requested:**

**That the Board of Commissioners proclaims November 1, 2019 as Capital Area Veterans Stand Down Day.**

**Item Summary:**

The Capital Area Veterans Stand Down will be held on November 1, 2019 at the South Wilmington Street Center, 1420 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, between the hours of 8:30 AM and 2:00 PM. The Veterans Stand Down is a nationwide grass-roots, community-based intervention program designed to help the nation's estimated 40,056 homeless veterans on any given night "combat" life on the streets.

During the last fiscal year, the South Wilmington Street Center served 242 veterans. This event is designed to assist local veterans experiencing homelessness access a wide range of services and connect with service providers in one place, on one day with the goal of becoming employed, obtaining housing and achieving stability in their lives.

Veterans Stand Down is supported by the homeless service provider community, by citizens, businesses, and community and faith organizations. The event is sponsored by Wake County Affordable Housing and Community Revitalization, Wake County Community Services, NC Department of Commerce Division of Employment Security, Raleigh Vet Center, and the Durham Veterans Affairs.

On any given night, approximately 31 veterans access the South Wilmington Street Center. Last fiscal year, 11% or 242 of the 2,119 guests served at the center were veterans. During the Veterans Stand Down event, veterans are connected to food, haircuts, referrals, health & dental care, counseling, life skills training, employment, legal, HUD Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing vouchers for housing, and many more services. Last year's event served 143 participants.

**Attachments:**

1. Proclamation