

2016 East Bay Stand Down

Alameda County Fairgrounds Pleasanton Ca

Greetings WWR Family,

The time is again upon us; the 2016 East Bay Stand Down (EBSO) is next month and we're looking for any & all of you to come out and help as we gather to help support our local homeless & at-risk veterans with the hopes of helping turn their lives around & offering them the help they so richly deserve. We, the WWR and others in the VSO community have been asked to help provide Night Safety services before, during and after the EBSO. The dates of the actual Stand Down event are Thursday September 15th to Sunday September 18th but there is a need for help both before and after. There is a position in the Night Safety crew for anyone and everyone; from the ambulatory to the infirmed are needed as we have both moving/roving positions and stationary places where we provide watchful eyes as we keep the campus safe for our participants and volunteers alike. No former training or previous experience needed, just a flash light, some comfortable shoes (maybe a jacket) and the desire to spend some quality time with your fellow WWR family members and some veterans are the only real requirements. The shifts are 12 hours in length but those that need to can work partial shifts to best suit schedules. Any questions about our roll, please contact me directly.

For anyone that hasn't been part of the EBSO before, I urge you to check out the website, eastbaystanddown.org/ as it will give you just a surface level view of the importance of this event. The men & women that we service over these four days are veterans, service members from all branches and backgrounds one could imagine. Their common threads are simple; first and foremost they have served our Nation and been honorably discharged from one of the branches of the US military. The second thread that binds is their place in life, one that leaves them in a position where challenges have left them living on the streets, in their vehicles or in otherwise less than favorable conditions. Each one has a story and has their challenges but all are worthy of our time, love, support and most importantly, our compassion.

These men and women, they aren't homeless per say, in most cases a home isn't four walls and a roof but more so a place where one feels safe, loved and secure, where they can find peace and rest easy. The participants at the EBSO need something more than a home, they need hope. We are gathering to help combat, curtail and eliminate the hopelessness many of them feel as they look at the world around them and feel lost. Although it might seem an inapproachable goal, I guarantee you the revolutions & revelations that occur over those days are the starting points for miraculous transformations that only need a simple spark to rekindle the fires of hope and light the path that leads to the life these heroes deserve to live. The simple question you must ask yourself is how badly do you want to be that spark? I hope you'll join us and help light the way.

Click link below for the EBSO Volunteer Sign-up sheets, look for "Safety-Night) and add yourself to the calendar date(s) you are available. If you have any challenges signing up please let me know and I'll help make it happen.

NO-WALK ON VOLUNTEERS. ALL MUST SIGN UP BEFORE THE EVENT!

Thank you in advance for your consideration and God Bless.