

BALTIMORE Jewish Times

Coming Home

The obstacles of transitioning from military to civilian life can be daunting

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BY JUSTIN KATZ

Chili Fundraiser for Vets

The Baltimore Station, a residential treatment program that helps veterans with poverty, addiction and homelessness, is hosting a Stars, Stripes and Chow: Chili Edition fundraiser on Nov. 7. Attendees can sample different chili recipes made by teams of first responders and members of the military and the Baltimore Station.

The event will also feature a panel of guest judges including Baltimore City councilmen Nick Mosby and Eric Costello; *Baltimore Sun* food critic Richard Gorelick and a question-and-answer session with Hall-of-Famer Cal Ripken Jr.

"Most programming [like the Station's] is a shorter stay, but since ours is longer, the success rates are higher, and there is more opportunity for someone to become stable," said John Friedal, executive director at the Baltimore Station.

Friedal explained the Station's average resident stays for 13 months, but the program allows for an up to two-year stay.

"It's a comprehensive program that deals with mental, physical and holistic health," said Friedal. "The generous amount of time works well [to tackle] all of the demons that may have led to homelessness and substance abuse."



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