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## PRESS RELEASE

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## MCVET to host "Stand Down" for Homeless Veterans in Baltimore

Stand Down will link homeless and at-risk veterans to multiple community services at one convenient location on June 2-3, 2018.

Baltimore, Maryland (May 23, 2018) – National non-profit, Maryland Center for Veterans Education and Training (MCVET), is hosting its first **Stand Down** in

partnership with several local, state and federal agencies including Department of Veterans Affairs, The Baltimore Station, Project PLASE, and the Baltimore City and Maryland Veterans Commissions to connect homeless and atrisk veterans to comprehensive services for long-term solutions. The two-day event will be held on June 2-3, 2018 at War Memorial Plaza, 101 N. Gay Street in Baltimore, Maryland. Maryland State Delegate Patrick Young, a Marine and Iraq War veteran who serves as House Vice-Chair for the Maryland Veterans Caucus, will open the first day of the event as Keynote Speaker. "Little Big Shot" and MCVET's "Super Hero", Tyler Stallings, will serve as Stand Down Ambassador. Baltimore City Mayor Catherine Pugh along with other community, business and political leaders will be in attendance to lend their support.

For both days registration begins at 8:00 am and services offered will include housing, employment, medical care, clothing, hot meals, benefits, resources, haircuts, and much more. "MCVET is committed to serving the needs of homeless veterans in our community," says Jeffery Kendrick, MCVET Executive Director. "Stand Down presents great opportunities to promote health, wellness and connections to valuable VA and community resources for this vulnerable population." Some of the vendors for Stand Down include Mission BBQ and Sharp Dressed Man.

## **About Stand Down**

Stand Down is an event that is held in cities all over the United States to provide food, clothing, services and referrals to homeless veterans. The name "Stand Down" comes from a term used in times of war. Exhausted combat units, requiring time to rest and recover, were removed from the battlefields to a place of relative security and safety. Today, Stand Down is referred as a grassroots, community-based, intervention program designed to help the nation's estimated 60,000 homeless veterans "combat" life on the streets. Maryland's Interagency Council on Homelessness 2016 Annual Report revealed 520 veterans were homeless in the state.

## About MCVET

MCVET, accredited by CARF (Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities), is a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization headquartered in Baltimore, Maryland. Since December 1993, the non-profit has served over 9,000 homeless veterans garnering a success rate of 70% for those fully employed, further educated and permanently-housed. Veterans within the program earn an average hourly rate of \$17.62. MCVET's 110,000 square feet facility offers transitional housing and services including mental health and substance abuse support, case management, education and employment. For more information about MCVET and to become a corporate sponsor, visit www.mcvet.org

