

Emergency Food & Housing — U.S. Veterans (Quick Reference)

Updated: November 2, 2025 • If in immediate danger, call 911.

Crisis & Same-Day Help

- 988 → Press 1 (Veterans Crisis Line); Text 838255
- 877-424-3838 — VA Homeless Veterans
- Dial 211 — coordinated entry, shelters, food near your ZIP
- Walk-in: nearest VA medical center or CRRC for hygiene, mail, case management

Housing Programs (fast overview)

- HUD-VASH — voucher + VA case management (permanent housing)
- SSVF — rapid rehousing & prevention; deposits, arrears, mediation
- GPD — transitional housing with services; bridge to permanent
- HCHV/Contract Beds — emergency beds linked to VA care

Food Help

- Today: 211 for nearest pantry, hot-meal sites, mobile distributions
- Ask VA/CRRC for pantry boxes or meal tickets
- Monthly: SNAP (EBT), WIC (pregnant/postpartum & kids <5), Meals on Wheels (seniors/disabled)

Tonight's 5-Step Plan

- 1 Call 877-424-3838 for same-day shelter & coordinated entry
- 2 Call 211 for a bed and a hot-meal site
- 3 Go to VA/CRRC for intake, hygiene, document help
- 4 Screen for SSVF & HUD-VASH
- 5 Apply for SNAP; book legal/benefits clinic

Docs to Bring (faster intake)

- Photo ID; proof of veteran status (DD214/VA letters/screenshots OK)
- Income/benefit letters; recent lease/eviction notice
- Contacts (family/landlord/case mgr), med list & meds, phone charger
- No docs yet? Ask for presumptive eligibility & help retrieving records

Legal • Benefits • Money (highlights)

- Eviction prevention via SSVF; ask about arrears & mediation
- VA disability (expedited if homeless); VA Pension (needs-based)
- SSI/SSDI via Social Security; VR&E; for training/education
- HVRP & Workforce programs for employment

More at: use the HTML page for state & ZIP tools and full details.