

“Step up and do one thing for a veteran”

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Recently, I met Max, a veteran at the Drexel House trying very hard to redefine his life. Like too many veterans, his life had spiraled out of control and he became homeless.

Max was lucky. He found himself at the Drexel House where staff and volunteers gave him the tools to pick himself up and get his life back on track. After years of struggle, he had a roof over his head and a plan for his future.

There was just one more problem. Max was in dire need of dental work, and without this help, he faced significant obstacles in finding employment.

Anyone familiar with the Federal VA Benefits system knows that dental care is a luxury not provided to most veterans. So, I approached a local dentist about the problem, and he agreed to help.

With the dental work completed, Max’s newfound confidence led to huge changes in his life. He started a painting business and feels in control of his own destiny!

The simple act of one person reaching out and doing one thing for a veteran, was the difference for Max. And while the local dentist did donate his time and money, the call for help wasn’t an overwhelming burden because it was only one call.

This Veterans Day, imagine if we all answered one call, if we all agreed to “Step up and do one thing for a veteran”.

I know that many of you are already doing one thing, or maybe two or twenty – and we owe you our heartfelt thanks! Dedicated volunteers ensure Veterans in the Veterans Homes enjoy bingo, holiday meals, gift stores, and special visits! Other volunteers schedule fundraisers, Stand downs, Welcome Home events and provide final Honors making Washington a great place for veterans and their families.

Wouldn’t it be wonderful if all these volunteers could see more of their friends and neighbors helping?

The possibilities of what can be accomplished, if we all commit to doing just one thing, are endless.

Who do you know, that if asked to do just one thing, would be willing to “Step up and do one thing for a veteran”? **Don’t be shy, ask them to join in helping veterans and families! Need help or inspiration? Give us a call at 1-800-562-0132 option ‘1’.**



About Drexel House

At Drexel House, Catholic Community Services provides a continuum of housing care in a safe environment that fosters respect and dignity, with an emergency shelter for 16 men, 25 low-income affordable furnished studio apartments for men and women transitioning into permanent housing, and 10 permanent low-income affordable furnished studio apartments for chronically homeless and disabled men and women. Drexel House serves homeless men and women who are the poorest and most vulnerable, living on the streets, in forests, and in abandoned buildings and cars. Case management, referrals, transportation and supportive services are provided on-site.

