Success

- Each veteran at Piquette develops an individualized service plan, in consultation with Piquette staff, within three months of moving in. This plan specifies goals and outlines a timetable for accomplishing them.

- More than half of the Piquette tenants participated in a class or program to enhance their job readiness in 2011. One fifth obtained employment, and 12 are pursuing a degree.

- 92% of the Piquette veterans say they are “significantly better off” since they moved in. Most report that their health has improved and they now feel more a part of the community.

- HVRP served 108 veterans and placed 46 in jobs in 2011.

Colonel David Sutherland, Special Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, during a visit to Piquette Square called it “the gold standard of meeting the needs of veterans.”

The Detroit Free Press praised Piquette Square in an editorial: “Piquette is one of the most effective and innovative projects of its kind, providing a model for Detroit, and the nation, of how private and public agencies can work with the community to help citizens who have fallen to the bottom of the economic ladder become self-sufficient and whole again.”
Southwest Solutions and our partners offer a comprehensive array of programs to assist veterans who are homeless, formerly homeless, or at-risk of becoming homeless. These programs provide services and resources to help the veterans avoid or recover from homelessness, develop self-sufficiency and reintegrate into the community.

**Piquette Square for Veterans**

Piquette Square for Veterans provides permanent housing and comprehensive supportive services to help the formerly homeless veterans develop healthy and independent living skills. The project is located in Detroit’s New Center area, close to the VA Hospital.

- Piquette Square consists of 150 affordable one-bedroom units that are subsidized through vouchers from Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA). The new four-story building opened in June 2010 offers many amenities, including spacious community rooms, a computer center, a library, and more.
- Piquette Square offers access to mental health counseling, substance abuse treatment, job training, computer labs, educational programs and other support services. In addition to on-site staff, Southwest Solutions partners with numerous human services providers, government agencies and veterans’ groups to provide these services.

**Homeless Veterans’ Reintegration Program (HVRP)**

The Homeless Veterans’ Reintegration Program (HVRP) assists homeless veterans with resources, vocational training and job opportunities. In addition to helping individuals gain employment, HVRP connects them to the educational, counseling and support services they may need. HVRP is funded by the federal Department of Labor. To be eligible for HVRP services, an individual must be homeless and a veteran.

**Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF)**

The Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program helps eligible veterans and their families stabilize their housing situation and connect to services and resources they need. The program serves veterans who are at risk of becoming homeless or who have become homeless, and then provides short-term financial assistance to pay rent and other housing related costs. Case managers assist veterans and their families to obtain VA and other public benefits, mental health and substance abuse treatment, and opportunities for skill building, job training and education.

**Veterans Resource Facilitator**

The Veterans Resource Facilitator assists donors and volunteers who want to support the veterans at Piquette Square through financial contributions, material donations, and special events and programs. Financial contributions are vital to maintain the support services at Piquette. The Veterans Resource Facilitator is Chery Allen, and she can be reached at 313-874-7014 x.350 or callen@swsol.org.

**Veterans Community Resource and Referral Center (VCRRC)**

The Veterans Community Resource and Referral Center (VCRRC) at Piquette Square is a “one-stop” treatment center for homeless veterans in need. The VCRRC is operated by the Detroit VA Medical Center. It provides access to a wide range of services, including healthcare, housing, employment, benefits, and education.