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### ***VMC, B&W Y-12 and the DAR Honor Veterans***

Knoxville, TN – This Veteran's Day will be the best one yet for James Harmon. This Veteran's Day, James will be spending it in his new home. James served in the United States Army from '59 – '62 and was homeless before moving into his apartment just before Halloween.

On November 11<sup>th</sup> at 11a.m., James and other Veterans will be honored at a lunch sponsored by B&W Y-12 and the Daughters of the American Revolution at Volunteer Ministry Center's (VMC) new facility located at 511 N. Broadway. Army Brigadier General Burt Tackaberry (Ret) is the featured speaker for this event. All veterans will be provided with a winter coat and other necessities.

Approximately 18% of the homeless in Knoxville/Knox County are veterans. Striving to end homelessness through permanent supportive housing, VMC has assisted several veterans in moving from the streets to a place their own. "We owe all of our veterans sincere gratitude for their service to our country and for preserving our freedom", says Ginny Weatherstone, CEO of VMC. "To be able to help a homeless veteran get into housing is the least we can do to express our gratitude."

The Volunteer Ministry Center was established in 1987 by concerned individuals and churches from the downtown area who observed a growing number of homeless people on the streets during the day time hours. Over the past three years, VMC has gradually adapted its programming to place a greater emphasis on efforts to help the homeless into housing as quickly as possible. Case Management is a key component of this model. Accountability is required within the case management relationship. VMC has placed over 250 individuals in housing over the last three years with ongoing case management as a feature of each placement.

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