



CEDRIC B. GLOVER
MAYOR

ROD RICHARDSON
Director of Communications

505 Travis Street Suite 200
Shreveport, Louisiana 71101
Tel. 318.673.5008
Fax.318.673.5099
Cell.318.525.7039

rod.richardson@shreveportla.gov

PRESS RELEASE

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Mayor seeks to end homelessness for Shreveport vets

Mayor Cedric Glover is joining state and local leaders across the country who are accepting the "Mayors Challenge to end Veteran homelessness."

A press conference announcing details for the local initiative will be held Wednesday (September 10) at 10:30 a.m. at Hope for the Homeless, 2350 Levy St.

This promise to end homelessness for U.S. Veterans was started by First Lady Michelle Obama with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The idea is that mayors and federal agencies will work with local nonprofits to devise strategies to assist and house all homeless Veterans by the end of 2015.

On Wednesday Mayor Glover will be joined by Christa Pazzaglia, executive director for Hope for the Homeless, and Crystal Jones-Taylor, with HUD's field office in New Orleans, to field questions about the program.

"This isn't just a noble effort but one I consider absolutely critical to any attempt we make to enhance our city and address the immediate need to provide housing for these brave men and women who have dedicated themselves to preserving the freedom and democracy we enjoy today," Mayor Glover said.

The Federal Government is providing resources to strengthen homeless assistance programs. These include identifying the most vulnerable Veterans, especially those experiencing chronic homelessness.

"Like all of us, our Veterans deal with a lot of issues every day, but if we can prevent them from slipping into homelessness, that's another whole level of trauma that we can prevent," Pazzaglia said.

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