Mission United helps homeless veterans get back on their feet, working to end homelessness among veterans through a network of programs, training, outreach and support services.

THE ISSUE
In 2011, there were more than 2,000 homeless veterans in the Greater Atlanta area. As of the 2017 HUD Point in Time Count, this number has been reduced to fewer than 1,000. Many are living on the streets or in shelters, lacking the foothold to find their place as productive citizens. While 80 percent of these veterans qualify for supportive services, only 32 percent gain access to services without the assistance of a support organization.

UNITED WAY’S ROLE
United Way aims to end homelessness among veterans through the Regional Commission on Homelessness (RCOH) and Mission United. Our efforts combine peer outreach, intensive case management, supportive housing, financial coaching, job training and connections to employment to help homeless vets get back on their feet. Through RCOH, United Way works with multiple nonprofit partners as well as the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Legal Aid Society to provide funding and services for veterans.

THE RESULTS
Historically, 75 percent of veterans served through Mission United gain permanent housing, and 25 percent gain permanent jobs. In 2017, United Way helped house more than 500 veterans and connected over 130 veterans with full-time employment. These Veteran households assisted with moving assistance included over 200 children. Additionally, Mission United was instrumental in reducing the number of homeless veterans in Greater Atlanta from 21 percent to 9 percent of the homeless population. The City of Atlanta and Dekalb County have been recognized as the first two regions in Georgia to be federally confirmed as having effectively ended veteran homelessness.