

WHAT'S NEW AT OPERATION STAND DOWN NASHVILLE, INC?



07/21/2011

3RD QUARTER 2011

Expansion Reinforces Mission (Lisa Kiss)



**NEW SERVICE CENTER,
MOVE IN DATE AUG 2009**

As of August 2009, Operation Stand Down Nashville has a new home. While we didn't move far, it has brought about significant changes.

Our new space is 16,500sf of infinite possibilities. The new space boasts room for several fully staffed departments, each with their own enclosed areas: A community room spacious enough to accommodate groups as large as 125 people; separate classrooms

to host training sessions for our clients; and a large, separate area which has been turned into a brand new thrift store. The customer service area is open and inviting, offering comfortable seating and a TV monitor which displays all the upcoming events hosted by OSDN as well as job openings and any job fairs in and around Nashville. This increase in space has allowed us to also increase the number of services we can now offer to our clients. In the last year alone we have hosted several social service agency fairs. Nashville Cares sponsored a HIV Awareness day. During that event, clients were given literature and free HIV tests. Prevent Blindness set

up a mobile eye clinic in our spacious parking lot for the afternoon and 68 clients received free eye exams and glasses. We recently teamed up with MeHarry Medical College and TSU to offer free dental care to individuals with dental issues. Last year, attorneys and judges from the local courts donated their time and expertise to sit down with our clients at a one-day Legal Stand Down.

The list of services we are now able to offer our clients due to the increase in space and personnel is too far-reaching to mention in the space of this article: You are simply going to have to visit us and see the changes for yourself.

Veterans First (J.C. Smith)

At Operation Stand Down Nashville, we are constantly cultivating relationships with employers who want to hire qualified individuals. The Patriot Partnership Program is a program designed to keep employers motivated to hire **Veterans First**.

The Patriot Partnership Program is Operation Stand Down Nashville along with agencies and employers working together for workforce solutions, giving employers access to a qualified

workforce with identified skills specifically for their organization's needs. One of the many incentives for participation is inclusion on OSDN, Inc.'s website. All services are at no cost to the employer or our veteran client.

OSDN had its first quarterly Patriot Partnership Program Career fair in May of 2011. OSDN was able to extend our support and resources to the veterans, enabling community businesses and industries the ability to immediately place them in

employ. We screened, assessed and referred veteran clients, then case managed those clients for nine months into their prospective jobs. We also assisted with peripheral job needs such as work boots, tools, clothing and safety equipment.

To find out more about this program or to find out how you can become a Patriot Partner please e-mail us at patriot@osdnashville.org. Thank you for supporting us in these new initiatives.



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- ◆ Expansion Reinforces Mission
- ◆ Veterans First
- ◆ Let's Get Thrifty!
- ◆ Board of Directors
- ◆ Heroes Breakfast
- ◆ Hope On The Streets





DANIEL GILLIAM, OSDN EMPLOYMENT COUNSELOR, ASSISTING A WITH AN INTERVIEW ENSEMBLE.



LAYOUT OF THE SPACIOUS NEW THRIFT STORE

Let's Get Thrifty!! (Tami Meske)

With more than 1,270 hours of volunteer time and over 10,000 donated items to date, the OSDN Thrift Store will celebrate its grand opening on Sept 15th at 10AM at its location next to Operation Stand Down Nashville, Inc. (OSDN) Veterans' Service Center, 1125 12th Avenue South, Nashville, TN. The ceremony will be hosted by Robert Tuke, President of the Board of Directors, with a special appearance by Mayor Karl Dean for the ribbon cutting and remarks. Everyone is invited to the grand opening. Immediately following the ribbon cutting, the store will be open for business. Popcorn and beverages will be

available to enjoy.

The Thrift Store is bright, clean, neat and provides a warm welcoming shopping experience. The clothing is a wonderful mix of gently used items. It has three spacious dressing rooms available for patrons to try on merchandise. The Thrift Store business hours will be 10 to 6 Tues thru Sat. The Thrift Store will be open to the public and closed on major holidays. The store will also provide on-the-job training for Veterans who want to learn the retail industry.

We would like to take this opportunity to extend our humble appreciation to the Frist

Foundation for their generous support which enabled OSDN to remodel and purchase the equipment necessary to make this endeavor a great success.

Come visit our new store. You'll be glad you did!

Proceeds from the Thrift Store will be used to aid OSDN in its continuous effort to assist Veterans in need. A donation of gently used clothing in all sizes is always welcome.

Volunteers interested in assisting or patrons with questions regarding the Thrift Store, please email us at walkamile@osdnashville.org.

"If you GIVE a man a fish, he eats for a day. If you TEACH a man to fish, he eats for a lifetime."

Things Are Lookin' Up (Lisa Kiss)

Of the many changes within OSDN, there is one significant change outside.

Almost a decade before we moved into our new location, this space was occupied by a grocery store. The owner of the grocery store ultimately moved out and moved on to explore new ventures. The community leaders, although supportive of our mission, saw great need for

another grocery store. Despite the skepticism, we ultimately took up residence when no other franchises showed interest in the property. The community surrounding this location has seen the steady, yet positive transition that OSDN's presence has initiated.

Now, two years later, the community is growing into a safer, more welcoming

environment. A businessman bought the five and dime located next to us and is making serious strides towards creating a thriving grocery store. The police officers that frequently patrol this neighborhood have made several positive remarks on the change in atmosphere since our occupation two years ago. We like to think that we had a small role in this beneficial effect on our community.

We're On A Mission (Lisa Kiss)



MISSION GREEN TRAINEE IMPROVING THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF A HOME ON FORT CAMPBELL.

The Green Economy holds a clear promise to build sustainable communities that are energy efficient, safe and healthy. This movement provides the opportunity to give Veterans career paths that offer them economic security to support themselves and their families. Green jobs will draw on many of the skills currently used in building and trade fields.

July 1, 2011, OSDN was awarded

a US Dept of Labor Grant that enabled the Employment Department to provide training that would prepare our clients to enter into careers in green industries.

OSDN has collaborated with Tennessee State University (TSU), The Actus Community Fund(ACF), and Campbell Crossing LLC, to create a curriculum for training individuals in general

construction, the retrofitting of homes to ensure energy efficiency and auditing. This is a two-week course, which includes classroom instruction and hands-on practical application.

If interested in learning more about the Mission Green Training Program, please contact the OSDN Employment Department at MissionGreen@osdnashville.org

311 “Thank You”s! (Tami Meske)

Volunteerism fosters positive effects on our clients and our community. Everyone has a talent to give. Wanting to pair great people with the worthy causes OSDN strives for every day, encouraged us to establish a fantastic volunteer program that tapped into our volunteers’ skills and knowledge. Our volunteer program has successfully created a more meaningful experience for our volunteers and produced amazing benefits for our clients.

By bringing only the essentials; a willingness to participate and a desire to help out honorably discharged veterans, our

volunteers have freely given us the MUCH appreciated gifts of a piece of themselves, time, sweat, work and effort. From sorting and tagging clothing for our newly opened thrift store, to teaching classes and even assisting our front desk with the veterans who come to us, the variety of tasks our volunteers perform is vast.

Interested in volunteering? When people volunteer, it not only helps OSDN and our clients, but also creates a new dimension in the lives of our volunteers and the veterans that are served. To become a

volunteer, please call us at 615.248.1981 or email walkamile@osdnashville.org.



LADIES FROM ONE OF OUR VOLUNTEER GROUPS DEEP FRYING THE CATCH OF THE DAY DURING THE 2010 STAND DOWN EVENT.

So far in 2011:
311 Volunteers
2167.05 Hours

“Congress should stop treating veterans like they're asking for a hand out when it comes to the benefits they were promised, and they should realize that, were it not for these veterans, there would be nothing to hand out.”

-Nick Lampson
Former Congressman [TX]
House of Representatives

Coffee, Conversations and Connections (Mandy Wood)

Every Thursday evening, Operation Stand Down hosts a social event, “The Veterans’ Café”. This event is designed to encourage Veterans from all over the Nashville area to gather together in a social setting and enjoy the company of fellow Veterans.

The Veterans’ Café provides

sweet and savory refreshments, hot and cold beverages, games, socializing, movies, and occasional live entertainment. Recently, we celebrated the birthday of one of our Café regulars. In addition to the normal offerings, cake and ice cream was served to the guests.

We invite one and all to join us

at The Veterans’ Café every Thursday evening for coffee, conversations, and connections. Come enjoy the companionship of fellow veterans each Thursday evening from 5:00 pm to 8:00pm in the Community Room of Operation Stand Down Nashville.

We hope to see you there.



Board of Directors (Robert Tuke)

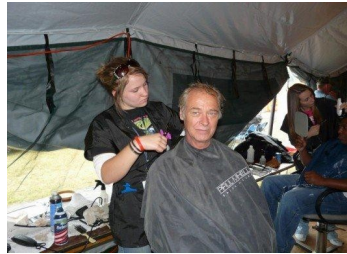


OSDN BOARD PRESIDENT,
ROBERT TUKE

We are very pleased to have a new and expanded Board of Directors at OSDN. We have accounting and financial experts, public relations and marketing professionals, small business executives, people in the security business, a police officer, and lawyers. Most, but not all, are veterans, yet all agree that the mission of Operation Stand Down is a worthwhile one. All have the common goal of providing the oversight and financial support necessary to

help the excellent leadership and staff of OSDN to adapt to new challenges, overcome obstacles, and improvise operations to meet the needs of Nashville’s Veterans. The new Board members look forward to working with the leadership of OSDN in it’s future endeavors. We have an exciting adventure ahead of us.

HOPE ON THE STREETS - 18th Annual Event (Randy Ammons)



VETERAN RECEIVES A HAIR CUT FROM A VOLUNTEER STYLIST.

The 18th Annual Operation Stand Down Nashville outreach event for homeless veterans was held on October 22 through 24, 2010. 408 veterans were provided medical, dental and vision screenings, medical treatment including immunizations, legal assistance, a three day stay in a secure, safe environment, showers, clothing, one on one assistance from social service agencies, three good meals per day plus snacks, and many other services. Over a hundred government agencies, community organizations, and businesses

supported the event with 800 plus volunteers working hard with big hearts to ensure success. Eligible veterans are welcome to all services provided at Stand Down without strings attached. Our hope is that exposure to OSDN's year round programs and those offered by our community partners will lead veterans to take the first steps off of the streets and back toward independent responsible living.

The 19th Annual Operation Stand Down Nashville for homeless veterans will be held on Thursday November 3 through Saturday, November 5, 2011. It will be held on the grounds of the Tennessee Preparatory School on Nolensville Road in Nashville.

Please note that we have changed the days of the event from Friday through Sunday to Thursday through Saturday. This will allow more agencies to

provide services to veterans for two days during their normal work week rather than just on Friday. *Will you be there?*

We need your help. Contact us at walkamile@osdnashville.org to see how you can be a part of this great mission.



CLIENT RECEIVING MEDICAL ATTENTION FROM ON-SITE HOSPITAL PERSONNEL .

1125 12th AVENUE SOUTH
Nashville, TN 37203

Phone: 615-248-1981
Fax: 615-248-1987

E-mail: walkamile@osdnashville.org

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.OSDNASHVILLE.ORG



OSDN PLANS 1st Annual "HEROES BREAKFAST" FUNDRAISER (Lynda Enjen)



**OKLAHOMA SENATOR
LT. COL. STEVE RUSSELL,
US ARMY RETIRED**

The OSDN Board of Directors announced the 1st Annual Heroes Breakfast fund raiser. The purpose of the event is to honor Outstanding Veterans, our heroes.

This year, the Keynote Speaker is Oklahoma Senator, Lt. Col. Steve Russell, Author of "We Got Him", a memoir of the hunt and

capture of Saddam Hussein. In June 2003, two Iraqi businessmen approached an American outpost, claiming to know important information. What they revealed invigorated American soldiers to pursue one of the world's most notorious dictators. This is their story.

WHEN: Monday, October 31st, 2011. VIP reception begins at 7:30AM, breakfast will be served at 9:00AM.

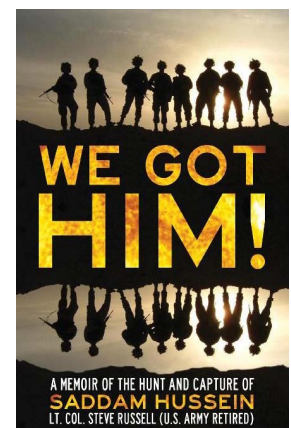
WHERE: Loew's Vanderbilt Hotel in Nashville.

To attend this event, varying types of tickets can be purchased by contacting the Fund-Raising Committee at [615-517-5714](tel:615-517-5714) or by visiting the OSDN website at www.osdnashville.org. Individual tickets for the Breakfast are \$50

each, Table Captains can purchase tickets for \$1000 and sponsorships from \$500 to \$5000 are available.

KraftCPAs PLLC is one of the first Bronze Sponsors of the event. Every dollar raised from this event will help in providing services to veterans who need our support. Last year Operation Stand Down Nashville assisted over 2,000 veterans who came through our doors. There are many more who have not yet received the assistance they so bravely earned. With your help, we can reach these Heroes.

We have made it our mission to help these veterans. Find out how you can help by visiting our website or by emailing us at walkamile@osdnashville.org.



"AN EXTRAORDINARY PERSONAL GLIMPSE OF THE WAR. A MONUMENTAL CREDIT TO HIMSELF, HIS TROOPS, AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA."
— the late Robin Moore, author of *The Green Berets* and *The French Connection*

This event is sponsored by the following organizations: We thank you for your generous support.

