# "Serve & Earn"

Homefront Advantage Program

A Housing Safety Net for U.S. Military Families

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### **Program Vision and Goals**



This program is designed to provide affordable and flexible housing solutions for U.S. military personnel, veterans, and their families. We aim to ensure that military families have access to safe and secure housing, and are not burdened by excessive housing costs. The program also offers the option to transfer and split benefits among dependents, allowing for greater flexibility and support.

# U.S. Housing Crisis Statistics



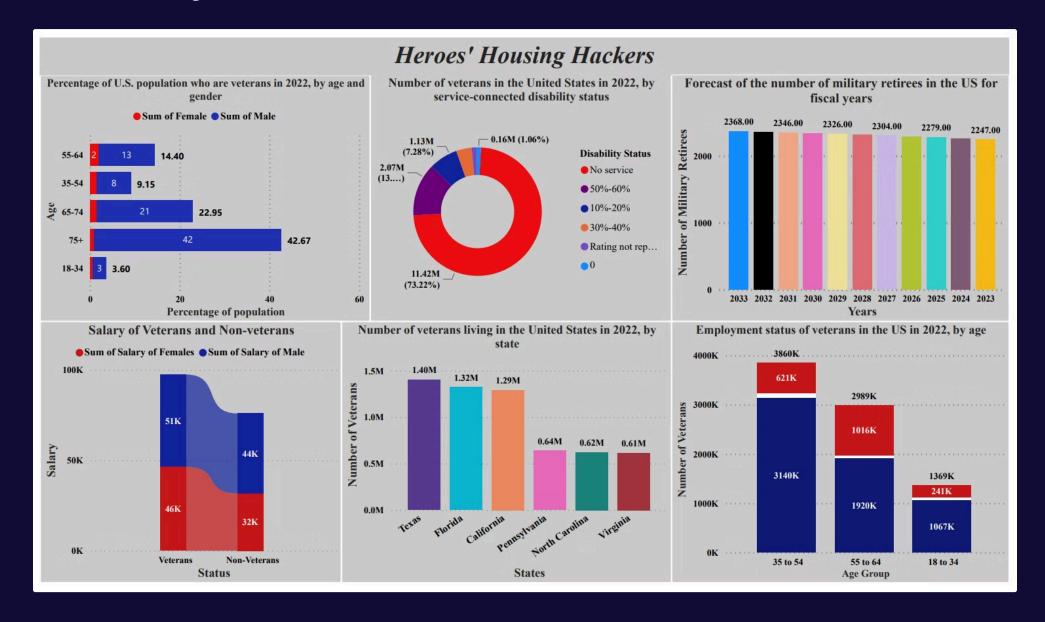
#### **Cost-burdened Renters**

U.S. renter households spend over 50% of their income on housing.



#### **Homeowner Affordability**

Homeowners face affordability issues as housing costs rise.



## Rental Burden on Military Families

#### **Rising Rental Costs**

In areas near military bases, rental prices are inflated due to high demand and limited housing supply. Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) often doesn't cover rental costs in high-demand areas like California, Virginia, and Hawaii. Military families are frequently forced to pay more than the 30% income threshold, considered the tipping point for being "cost-burdened."

#### Short-Term Rental Challenges

Military families typically move every 2-3 years due to PCS orders. Short-term leases tend to come with higher monthly rents or additional fees. This transient nature of military life means military families may lack the stability to secure long-term, affordable rental options and are sometimes forced into temporary or substandard housing.

#### **Housing Near Bases is Scarce**

In some locations, the availability of affordable rental housing is limited. For example, families stationed near Joint Base San Antonio or Camp Pendleton face significant competition for rental units, and local rents often exceed the BAH. The lack of on-base housing options exacerbates this issue.

#### **Out-of-Pocket Housing Expenses**

When rent exceeds BAH, military families must cover the additional expenses out-of-pocket, which may include utilities, security deposits, and other costs associated with moving or temporary housing during PCS transitions. Many military families frequently dip into savings or incur debt to meet these housing expenses, further straining their finances.

## How the Homefront Advantage Works







#### **Savings and Matching**

Military personnel contribute 7% of their income to a savings account, matched by the U.S. government up to \$15,000 annually.

The government match ensures soldiers build substantial housing savings over time, earning 3% compounded interest.

#### **Transferable Benefits**

The program allows full transfer of the savings and matching benefits to spouses or dependents, similar to the GI Bill's educational benefits.

#### **Splitting Benefits**

Service members can split their benefits among multiple dependents, enabling flexibility in using the savings for various housing needs.

## Example:

### Savings Breakdown after 20 Years of Service

\$4,200

Year 1

John contributes \$4,200 and receives a matching \$4,200 from the government, totaling \$8,400.

\$42,000

Year 5

After five years, John's contributions and matching funds have accumulated to \$42,000.

\$84,000

Year 10

By year 10, John has saved \$84,000 with the matching funds.

\$244,172

Year 20

After 20 years of service, John has accumulated \$168,000 in contributions and matching funds, which, with interest, totals \$244,172.



### **Splitting Benefits Among Dependents**



#### Family Benefits

Sergeant John's savings can be split among multiple dependents, providing flexible support for housing needs. This ensures each family member benefits, building intergenerational wealth and providing housing security across multiple family members.



#### **Housing Security**

This flexibility ensures the entire family benefits from John's service, building intergenerational wealth and providing housing security across multiple family members.



### Why the Homefront Advantage Will Work in the U.S.

# Affordable, Transferable Benefits

The program allows military personnel to build long-term housing savings, matched by the government, and provides flexibility to split and transfer benefits across dependents.

# Addressing Disabled Veterans' Needs

Disabled veterans can use government-matched funds to modify homes for accessibility, combining Homefront Advantage with VA grants like the Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) Grant.

#### Proven Global Models

Programs like Singapore's
HDB, Philippines' Pag-IBIG
HDMF, and Brazil's Minha Casa
Minha Vida show that publicprivate partnerships,
government subsidies, and
matched savings models work.

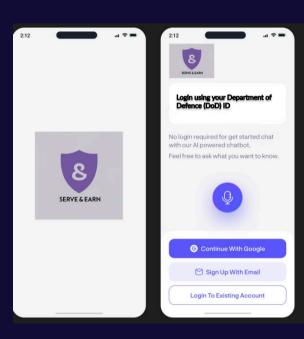
#### Scalability

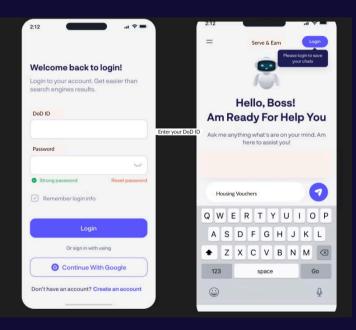
With Military Housing Bonds and public-private partnerships, this program can scale to support cost-burdened populations across the U.S.

### How the Programs Work Together

**Equity and Wealth** that Sergeant John would acquire after 5 years, based on his \$400,000 home purchase using various programs:

Program/Category	Amount/Wealth Generated	Details
VA Loan	\$400,000	Covers the entire home purchase with zero down payment.
Homefront Advantage Savings	\$150,000 total (savings & match)	\$10,000 for closing costs; remainder for repairs, future use, or family transfer.
SAH Grant (Accessibility Modifications)	\$109,986	Adds value to the home by making it fully accessible.
Down Payment Assistance (DPA)	\$10,000	Covers insurance and property taxes.
Equity from Mortgage Paydown (After 5 Years)	~\$20,000	Amount paid down from the loan principal after 5 years.
Equity from Home Appreciation (After 5 Years)	~\$86,500	Home value increase based on 4% annual appreciation.
Remaining Homefront Savings	~\$140,000	Available for future home repairs, investments, or transfers to dependents.
Total Wealth and Equity (After 5 Years)	\$356,486	Total wealth includes equity from paydown, appreciation, SAH Grant, and remaining savings.





### AI + High Touch

Historcial Data driven VA trained ChatBot that is voice to text transcribed to communicate effectivly the needs of the family. The solution can also be assessed at the Vet Admin

### Why Homefront Advantage is a Winning Solution



#### **Tailored for Military Needs**

The program specifically addresses housing affordability and stability for military families, while offering transferable benefits like the GI Bill.



#### **Incorporates Global Successes**

Drawing from Pag-IBIG HDMF, HDB, and Minha Casa Minha Vida, Homefront Advantage applies proven global models to the U.S. housing market, with additional flexibility to split benefits among dependents.

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# Long-Term, Sustainable Impact

The program's reliance on Military Housing Bonds and recycled loan repayments ensures financial stability and scalability, creating a lasting housing safety net for military families.

# Policies That Would Need to Change for Homefront Advantage

# Expand VA Loan Benefits to Include Savings Match

Currently, the VA Loan program lacks savings support. The Homefront Advantage Program proposes implementing a savings-matching program to help military families build long-term homeownership savings.



Create a Military Housing Bond program to attract private capital for building affordable homes for military families. This ensures an adequate supply of affordable housing for military families.

# Tax Incentives for Military Housing Bonds

Introduce tax breaks for investors in Military Housing Bonds, encouraging broader participation from institutional and private investors and providing a sustainable funding model for housing initiatives.

# Introduce Transferability and Split Benefit Policies

Allow military families to transfer and split housing benefits to spouses and dependents. This empowers families to plan for future generations and promotes financial security.

# Increase Funding for VA's Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) Grant

Increase the funding cap for the SAH Grant, allowing veterans to combine it with the Homefront Advantage Program to make homes accessible for veterans with disabilities.

# Key Steps to Implementation by 2026



#### **Expand VA Benefits**

A simple adjustment to VA housing policies could include a savings match program. This change builds on the existing VA loan infrastructure and could be implemented by 2025.



#### Launch Military Housing Bonds

The government could issue Military Housing Bonds to fund affordable military housing. These bonds will attract investors by offering tax breaks and patriotic investment opportunities. This plan could launch by 2026.



# Coordination with State and Local Programs

The Homefront Advantage
program will collaborate with
state-run Down Payment
Assistance programs to provide
additional financial support.
States like Virginia already offer
assistance to veterans, and these
programs can be easily integrated
with Homefront Advantage.

### Call to Action

Support the Homefront Advantage Program

Invest in Military Housing Bonds.

#### Help Ensure Affordable Housing

For military families, veterans, and their dependents.

