With the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, 2021 has come with challenges but also successes for St. Michael’s Veterans Center.

As a nonprofit that thrives on community gatherings, we were forced to limit in-person events in 2021. We looked for new ways to stay connected and took advantage of our beautiful outdoor courtyard for outdoor gatherings like the coffee shop, movies and meals. Staying focused on our mission kept us moving forward.

We had a huge win in December when St. Michael’s Veterans Center was awarded Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) from the Missouri Housing Development Commission (MHDC) that generate over $11 million to build the final phase of housing on our campus. The new housing will provide 62 permanent homes for veterans experiencing homelessness or living with a disability. We can’t wait to welcome even more veterans and their families to the SMVC campus in two years.

We’re honored to work with dedicated staff, volunteers, and community partners who understand and support the mission and values of SMVC.

We can’t do it with you. Your support has and will continue to make a real, lasting impact on the lives of the veteran community.

With gratitude,

Susan Engel
Executive Director
123 veterans lived at SMVC in 2021

85% of veterans were homeless before living at SMVC; 15% qualified because they are living with a disability

98% of SMVC veterans remained permanently housed

92% of SMVC veterans chose to remain housed at SMVC

100% of veterans engaged one-on-one with social services

85% of veterans worked on goals with social services

10% of veterans engaged with social services to avoid eviction

31% increased income through employment or VA/federal benefits

11% increased health care benefits

29% improved mental health and substance recovery support
FEBRUARY
► Valentine’s Day brought the SMVC community together for special treats.

MARCH
► Bank of America local branches conducted a drive to collect personal care and household cleaning items for SMVC’s Dignity Closet.

MAY
► The SMVC Coffee Shop reopened with outside seating and with SMVC veteran hosts.

JUNE
► SMVC continued the tradition of hosting a Flag Day event with a community meal, flag retirements and an essay and drawing contest.

► Embracing outdoor living during COVID, a veteran volunteer presented a movie outside in the SMVC courtyard on a beautiful summer night.

JULY
► SMVC veterans were treated to a Royals game on Armed Forces night by a veteran Rotary group.

AUGUST
► Working together, SMVC, VA Whole Health and Monkey Brain Art offered this popular art class for SMVC and Kansas City veterans on the SMVC campus.

SEPTEMBER
► SMVC started a weekly recovery group with a member of Alcoholics Anonymous.

► SMVC successfully housed a veteran impacted by COVID and experiencing homelessness through its ESG Rapid Rehousing program.
OCTOBER

- Students in the Creating Community Solutions class at Notre Dame de Sion High School learned more about veteran trauma and developed a program to increase connections with veterans.

NOVEMBER

- A Rotary Club that is veteran focused planned and executed a traditional military Organization Day with games and a picnic.

- The UAW from the KC Ford plant once again shared a Thanksgiving meal with SMVC veterans.

- The Spencer C. Duncan Foundation made a generous grant to support the Dignity Closet.

DECEMBER

- St. Michael’s Veterans Center was awarded Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) from the Missouri Housing Development Commission (MHDC) that generate over $11 million to build the third and final phase of housing — creating 62 permanent homes for veterans experiencing homelessness or living with a disability.

- Women from the Plaza Rotary group planned a holiday gathering for the women living at SMVC.

St. Michael’s Veterans Center empowers veterans toward healthy reintegration with their families and communities through permanent housing and supportive services.

We provide a dignified place to live and an opportunity for veterans to become their best selves. St. Michael’s Veterans Center’s (SMVC) professional staff customize wraparound solutions to support veterans’ goals around employment, physical and mental health, trauma and addiction management with the means and support necessary to achieve long-term health, employment and financial stability.

Our campus is a home and a community where veterans can live their best lives and give back to their community.
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St. Michael’s Veterans Center

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