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[www.domesticabusecouncil.com](http://www.domesticabusecouncil.com)

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For Immediate Release:

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According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs website, the entire VA department has put its energy and resources to ending veteran homelessness. Women veterans have particular challenges when returning to civilian life which may put them at a higher risk of becoming homeless. The Domestic Abuse Council, Inc. through its Second Choice transitional housing program is seeking to help women veterans.

Upon their return, women veterans may face different obstacles to transition to civilian life. For example, they may be more likely to take over the role of raising children and they may have been victims of military sexual trauma. As of September 30, 2012 there were approximately 165,000 female veterans in Florida and 1.5 million in the US. Florida is third in the nation with the largest population of female veterans.

The VA website projects the veteran population from fiscal year 2010 through 2040 will decline from 23 Million to just under 14 Million. During that same 30 year time span, the female veteran population will increase from just under 10% of the total veterans to nearly 18%. Essentially the female population will double. Currently, 46% of female vets are 35-54 years old. Poverty rates are highest for the youngest women.

The Domestic Abuse Council of Volusia County, Inc. has a program called Second Choice. This transitional housing program is designed to help single women with or without minor children. The program is a temporary. Residents may remain in the program for a maximum of 24 months. It helps prevent homelessness, assists the women to become self-supporting and aids them in securing permanent housing. Individuals have to qualify based on several criteria.

To learn more about Domestic Abuse Council call 386-257-2297 ext. 15 or go to [www.domesticabusecouncil.com](http://www.domesticabusecouncil.com). The Domestic Abuse Hotline is 1-800-500-1119.

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Services

- ❖ Emergency Shelter ❖ Transitional Housing ❖ School Based Prevention Programs ❖
- ❖ Court/Legal Advocacy ❖ Community Education and Professional Training ❖