



save the family  
FOUNDATION OF ARIZONA

## Valor on Eighth – Housing & Services for Veteran Families



**4x**

Female veterans are four times as likely to become homeless as male veterans.



**50**

Valor on Eighth offers 45 units of affordable housing and 5 live-work units addressing the needs of formerly homeless veteran women and their families.



**1**

Valor on Eighth is currently the only affordable housing community of its kind in Arizona.



### Need

According to the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans, the most effective programs for homeless and at-risk veterans are community-based, nonprofit, “veterans helping veterans” groups. Programs that seem to work best feature housing with the camaraderie of living in structured, substance-free environments with fellow veterans who are succeeding at bettering themselves.

While female veterans comprise 17% of the entire veteran population, they are four times as likely to become homeless as male veterans. For those with children and a service-connected disability, the cost of childcare, transportation, food and children’s healthcare exacerbate their downward spiral into homelessness.

### Background

In 2017, in partnership with Gorman & Co., BMO Harris Bank, Arizona Department of Housing, Local Initiatives Support Corporation, Maricopa County Human Services Department, Enterprise, City of Tempe, U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development, and Sustainable Communities Collaborative, ARM of Save the Family constructed a 50-unit community targeted to low-income and formerly homeless female veterans with children.

Valor addresses the community shortage of affordable housing while also providing impoverished and formerly homeless veteran families with ongoing supportive services so they can improve their lives, move out of poverty, and secure mainstream housing.

### Program

Valor opened its doors in February 2018 and includes 45 affordable units and 5 live-work units. Residents receive a full range of supportive services, from specialized case management support for veterans and career development to financial literacy and parenting classes. The community includes a playground, a teen room, computer lab, several community rooms and meeting spaces, a fitness center, dog run, and on-site bike storage.

### Goals

Our goals for families residing at Valor on Eighth are focused on helping them remain stably housed, increase income, complete financial/budgeting education, participate in career development services and access supportive services. Children also receive special support provided by Save the Family’s Community Youth Advocate. Ultimately, we want families at Valor to improve their circumstances and move to homeownership and lifelong stability.

### Investment

Naming opportunities are available and needed to ensure supportive services are provided at no cost to families living at Valor.