## **PRESS RELEASE**



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## West Virginia American Water and Utility Workers Union of America Local 537 to hold Veterans Donation Drive Thursday in Huntington and Barboursville

Donation drive aims to restock shelves at Homeless Veterans Resource Center

**HUNTINGTON, W.Va. (Nov. 8, 2016)** – West Virginia American Water's Huntington District and the Utility Workers Union of America (UWUA) Local 537 have once again joined forces to host a Veterans Day donation drive to benefit the Homeless Veterans Resource Center on 9th Street in downtown Huntington. This employee-led initiative seeks to fulfill a critical need related to homeless veterans in the local community.

"UWUA Local 537 has always supported our veterans, and we are proud to continue doing so with this second annual donation drive," said Greg Lanham, West Virginia American Water employee and UWUA Local 537 Huntington District President. "Last year, through the generosity of our community, we provided several thousand dollars in cash and in-kind donations of food, clothing and hygiene items to benefit men and women who served our country and needed our service in return."

Items needed include non-perishable food items (especially easy open/pop-tab cans and ready-to-eat meals and snacks) hooded sweatshirts (size L/XL), white t-shirts (size M/L/XL), blankets, shampoo, deodorant, paper towels, toilet paper, dishwashing soap, disinfectant cleaners and dog food. Cash donations will also be accepted. Donation boxes will be clearly marked with signs stating "Help Support Our Veterans!" featuring the logos of West Virginia American Water and UWUA.

Donations will be collected from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 10 at these locations:

- Food Fair 115 6th Avenue in Huntington
- Food Fair 6350 U.S-60 in Barboursville
- Kroger 19 7th Avenue West in Huntington
- Kroger 6360 U.S-60 in Barboursville
- Save-A-Lot 920 14th Street West in Huntington
- Save-A-Lot Eastern Heights Shopping Center in East Huntington
- Shoppers Value 549 Camden Road in West Huntington
- West Virginia American Water Huntington Office 4002 Ohio River Road

The VA's Homeless Veterans Resource Center provides homeless veterans with counseling, job assistance, housing referrals, group educational classes, as well as laundry and shower facilities and a food pantry. The center serves dozens of veterans daily and hundreds each year.

West Virginia American Water will match employee and community donations dollar-fordollar up to \$1,000. For additional information on how you can help, please contact West Virginia American Water's community relations specialist, Megan Hannah, at 304-340-2088 or call the Homeless Veterans Resource Center at 304-529-9142. Special thanks to all of the local business that agreed to serve as donation collection sites.

West Virginia American Water, a subsidiary of American Water (NYSE: AWK), is the largest water utility in the state, providing high-quality and reliable water services to approximately 550,000 people. Founded in 1886, American Water is the largest publicly traded U.S. water and wastewater utility company. Marking its 130th anniversary this year, the company employs more than 6,700 dedicated professionals who provide regulated and market-based drinking water, wastewater and other related services to an estimated 15 million people in 47 states and Ontario, Canada. More information can be found at www.westvirginiaamwater.com.

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