

**MILWAUKEE VA SOLDIERS HOME NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK DISTRICT
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL OVERVIEW****What is the Community Advisory Council?**

The Community Advisory Council for the Milwaukee VA National Soldiers Home Historic District (Milwaukee Soldiers Home) is comprised of various partners and stakeholder groups interested in the protection, repair and rehabilitation of the District. The Council is convened by a consortium of parties interested in the historic site including the Milwaukee Preservation Alliance, the National Trust for Historic Preservation – Midwest Office and the Soldiers Home.

Purpose:

The Community Advisory Council (CAC) aims to convene a comprehensive group of people representing a diverse cross section of interested parties to:

- Identify a vision for the future use of the Milwaukee Soldiers Home historic buildings;
- Provide advice, counsel and support to assist in executing that vision in partnership with the VA;
- Offer a voice to key stakeholder groups and organizations interested in the future of the Milwaukee Soldiers; and
- Motivate the greater community and the VA to take steps to put the District back into the service of Veterans.

Involvement:

Members of the Council are asked to:

- Assist in envisioning a future use for the District's historic buildings;
- Participate in planning strategic next steps for the District.
- Communicate the District's history, importance and potential for future use to advocates, media and the broader community;
- Increase the District's visibility and importance in the community;
- Assess and advise on the perspectives of the District's key stakeholders in the future use of the site; and
- Provide insight and recommendations to decision makers on the local, statewide and national levels.

Members are asked to join the Council in meeting on a quarterly-basis to discuss these items and outline strategic next steps. Members are asked to maintain regular communications, as needed, between quarterly in-person meetings.

Philosophy:

The National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Milwaukee Preservation Alliance, the Soldiers Home Foundation and the other members of the Community Advisory Council believe that immediate action is needed to protect, repair and restore the great historical asset that exists in the Milwaukee Soldiers Home. The CAC believes that with wise stewardship, the rehabilitation of currently unused or under-used buildings in the District will allow the site once again to be a place of enhanced services to veterans while honoring the sacrifice of veterans of all wars.