



**The IOP Garden**

**Where Veterans overcoming health issues meet, maintain the garden, and stay connected.**



Pictured above: Left – The IOP Garden. Right – The Palo Alto VA.

## **To Plant a Garden is to Believe in Tomorrow**

And the Veteran's Foundation is anxious for every Veteran to believe in tomorrow. Here's how we're helping thanks to the combined generosity of our donors...

- There's something deeply therapeutic about working with the earth, isn't there? People often say that "hands in the soil, soul in the soil" is a good way to express that feeling. The tactile connection with nature, the act of planting, or even just tending to a garden has been linked to mental and emotional healing. It's like grounding yourself, reconnecting with something simple and pure.

Through the generosity of our donors, the Veterans Foundation has **helped Veterans receiving addiction treatment and outpatient intensive care** at the VA. Veterans overcoming health issues meet, maintain the garden and stay connected.

- Through Veteran Foundation support, we have **supplied personal care products, socks and other sundry items for Veterans under VA health care.**
- The Foundation **supported Veterans in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development – VA Supportive Housing program**, a collaborative effort between the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) that **provides housing vouchers and supportive services to homeless Veterans.** The program aims to help Veterans find and maintain permanent housing by combining HUD's Housing Choice Voucher rental assistance with the VA's case management and clinical services.
- The Veterans Foundation **contributed to Veterans inflicted with PTSD** who are unable to take advantage of the VA's Puppies Assisting Wounded Servicemembers (PAWS) program so no Veteran will be left behind.
- And the **Veterans Foundation contributed to the Western Blind Rehabilitation Center (WBRC)**, part of the VA Palo Alto Health Care System, which offers comprehensive blind rehabilitation services to Veterans and active-duty service members with vision loss. These services, delivered both in-person and through telehealth, aim to help individuals regain independence and adjust to vision loss.