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**“Valentines Day for Veterans” Includes Lunch, Haircuts and Styling,
and Unveiling of an Upgraded Computer Lab and Employment Center**

Los Angeles, CA — On February 14th, 2011, New Directions and members of its supporting community will express thanks to veterans with a special “Valentine’s Day for Veterans” program. The students of Brentwood and WISH Charter schools are making sure each veteran receives a personalized Valentine’s Day card. For lunch, Fatburger is sending a team with their famous “Fatmobile” to serve burgers to the New Directions program participants. Rounding out the day, students and stylists from Marinello Schools of Beauty will provide haircuts for both men and women veterans in the New Directions program.

An additional highlight of “Valentines Day for Veterans” is a ribbon cutting ceremony to unveil the newly upgraded Computer Lab. Equipment, software, and technical support were provided by a generous grant from the TDF Foundation of Washington, D.C. The space on the second floor of New Directions’ Building 116 includes a closet for interview suits, a private room for mock interviews, and a state of the art computer lab with both PCs and Apple computers, along with a flat screen TV mounted at the front of the classroom so that students can easily see what is on the instructor’s screen without having to move from their own work stations. The Employment Center and Computer Lab are at the heart of the vocational program operated by New Directions, and are essential to helping formerly homeless veterans prepare for reintegration into the job market by learning computer skills, resume building and online job searching.

Founded in 1992, New Directions, Inc. is a 501(c) 3 public benefit corporation that provides comprehensive services to hundreds of homeless veterans each year in five transitional housing facilities. Today it is estimated that between 6,000 and 8,000 veterans live on the streets of Los Angeles.

More information about New Directions can be found at www.ndvets.org.