



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**Veteran's Affairs Committee**  
**Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks ~ Lodge 2679**  
**937 Carter Drive, Calabash, NC 28467**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**“CALABASH ELKS DONATE TO ‘GOOD SHEPARD CENTER’ ”**

**~ Helping Homeless Veterans at SGT Eugene Ashley Memorial Center ~**

*By Michael Trescak*

The Veteran's Affairs Committee (VAC) of the Calabash Elks Lodge ~ 2679 recently made a \$500.00 cash donation to the “Good Shepard Center” located in Wilmington, NC. The funds are earmarked for their SGT Eugene Ashley Memorial Center, which provides Transitional Residence and Recovery Programs for homeless veterans.

The mission of Good Shepherd Center is to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, and foster transition to permanent housing. The Ashley Memorial Center was specifically established to provide homeless Veterans with a safe place to live, grow, and become empowered as they make the transition to sober living and economic self-reliance. Since its inception in 2001, the Ashley Center program has succeeded in returning 92% of participating Veterans to permanent housing. Over 55 men have graduated from the program to date. To learn more about the Ashley Center, visit their Web Site at <http://goodshepherdwilmington.org/project/ashley-center/>

The mission of the Veteran's Affairs Committee of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, Lodge ~ 2679, is to provide occasional funding, fraternal activities, and general support for our local Veterans, various Veteran's Programs, and our Military located throughout the South-Eastern North Carolina area, as well as for our Retired and Wounded Warriors located in the Fort Bragg area of Fayetteville, NC, and Camp LeJeune in Jacksonville, NC. For more information about other ways our Elks Lodge supports our Veterans' and Military Community, visit their web site at [www.CalabashElks.Org](http://www.CalabashElks.Org) and click on the [Veterans Affairs] TAB.

Key Words: “ELKS” – “Homeless Veterans” – “Donation”

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Photo Follows



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*Pictured above making the presentation of a \$500.00 check to the Good Shepard Center in Wilmington, NC on behalf of the Veteran's Affairs Committee (VAC) of Elks Lodge ~ 2679 located in Calabash, NC is (Left to Right), - Gail Childers, , Veteran's Affairs Committee Member, and - Stacy Geist, Associate Development Director of the Good Shepherd Center.*

*Photo Contributed*