PRESS RELEASE

The WorkPlace Receives $150,000 Grant from The Cigna Group Foundation To Support Veterans' Mental Health and Housing

Bridgeport, CT, March 4, 2026 – The WorkPlace, a leading provider of services supporting veterans and their families, has received a $150,000 grant from The Cigna Group Foundation, the philanthropic arm of The Cigna Group (NYSE: CI). This grant will expand the organization's efforts to improve mental health outcomes for veterans by increasing access to safe, stable housing and wraparound support, which is a critical component of long-term wellbeing.

"This investment from The Cigna Group Foundation allows us to deepen our commitment to veterans who are navigating complex challenges," said Joseph Carbone, President and CEO, The WorkPlace. "With this support, we can provide a one-stop linkage for Veterans to access housing solutions, career training and social supports, to help veterans build the foundation they need for lasting mental and emotional wellness."

The funded initiative will establish the Veterans' Health, Employment, and Housing (VHEH) Center. This Center will function as a centralized hub that addresses the most pressing challenges facing Connecticut's Veteran population. Stable housing has consistently improved health outcomes, reduced stress, and supported recovery among individuals managing depression, posttraumatic stress disorder, or other long-term health conditions.

"Veterans experience disproportionately high rates of homelessness, and the impact on their mental health can be profound," said Ellie Polack, President, The Cigna Group Foundation. "By supporting The WorkPlace's innovative programming, we are helping ensure that those who served our country have access to the stability and support they deserve. Safe housing is a cornerstone of health."

The Cigna Group Foundation's Improving Veteran Mental Health grant program aims to help veterans who are facing an elevated risk of homelessness relative to the general population. By partnering with nonprofit organizations that leverage evidence-informed programs and services to help local or underserved veterans feel stable where they live, it can create a lasting impact on their mental health.

The Cigna Group Foundation has a long history of impactful partnerships with nonprofits, and in 2024 announced a philanthropic and community engagement initiative that has committed more than $27 million in grants over three years to nonprofit organizations focused on improving youth and veteran mental health and by reducing barriers to health equity.

More information on the Improving Veteran Mental Health grant program can be found here. Additional information about The WorkPlace's programs can be found at workplace.org.

About The WorkPlace

The WorkPlace conducts comprehensive planning and coordinates regional workforce development policy and programs to prepare people for careers while strengthening the workforce for employers. As national leader in the field, The WorkPlace regularly shares ideas and best practices with lawmakers, foundations, think tanks and other workforce development organizations around the country. For more information, visit workplace.org

About The Cigna Group

The Cigna Group (NYSE:CI) is a global health company committed to creating a better future built on the vitality of every individual and every community. We relentlessly challenge ourselves to partner and innovate solutions for better health. The Cigna Group includes products and services marketed under Cigna Healthcare, Evernorth Health Services or its subsidiaries. The Cigna Group maintains sales capabilities in more than 30 countries and jurisdictions and has more than 180 million customer relationships around the world. Learn more at thecignagroup.com.

About The Cigna Group Foundation

The Cigna Group Foundation is a private foundation funded by contributions from The Cigna Group (NYSE:CI) and its subsidiaries. The Cigna Group Foundation aims to support, collaborate, and convene with nonprofit organizations addressing society's greatest health challenges. In addition to increasing access to programs and care in geographies demonstrating significant need, the Foundation responds with humanitarian aid relief during critical times and strengthens colleagues' support of causes through matching donations and volunteer rewards. To learn more, visit www.thecignagroup.com/community.

Media Contact
Tom Long
tlong@workplace.org
(203) 313-5507

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