

**Operational Call Highlights**  
**December 8, 2008**  
**VA Grant/Per Diem (GPD) Program**

- Participants were reminded that this call is for the organizations that were awarded funding under the GPD Program and are operational. The call is scheduled for the second Monday of the month, 3:00 Eastern Time.
- It is expected that there will be a Capital Grant round in 2009. VA hopes to announce the NOFA early in the calendar year. Unlike several other federal agencies, VA does have their budget for FY 09. This should help the GPD Program in getting the NOFA out earlier than past years.
- Please review your grant proposals for outreach efforts that were listed as part of the “Targeting” section. It is expected that VA homeless programs will be enhancing outreach efforts for 2009. Please discuss with your liaison your organization’s outreach plans and how they can link with the medical center’s efforts.
- The Special Needs Grant funding will be announced in 2009. Those programs that have special needs funding should carefully review the NOFA when it is published regarding the application process to ensure continuation of their programs.
- Utilization rates at several programs have been low. Participants on the call discussed methods to increase utilization through outreach to community agencies and coordination with VA medical centers.
- Reminder: Program inspections will be conducted by the VA medical centers between January and March. Please review your proposals, especially regarding the data demonstrating that you’ve met program objectives. Additionally, part of the inspection this year will include a review of emergency response plans. These plans should be in-line with your area emergency response and the designated city, county, or state Emergency Management Coordinator.
- The next call is scheduled for January 12th, 2008 at 3:00 Eastern Time. You will receive a fax reminder of the call and the dial-in number.